

**THE BRISTOL POST**  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Tyntesfield**

Stoke Lodge Ramblers was set up by Pat and Don Walter after they placed an advert in a newsletter and on a notice board in the area.



Stoke Lodge Ramblers who are celebrating 30 years together

They were then in their 40s and wanted to explore Bristol and further afield in an informed way by studying the history of the area along the way.

Other walking topics include the churches of an area, its wildlife and its flowers.

Thirty-two people attended the first meeting and yesterday many members of the original group attended for the celebration at Tyntesfield in Wraxall.

Most members are now in their 70s and 80s, as well as two members – David Legg and Dorothy Morris – in their 90s.

Three members even attended yesterday's events in wheelchairs with carers.

Over the years the group has walked all around Bristol, as well as further afield including the Mendips, the Cotswolds, and the Black mountains.

The group has even taken trips abroad to Austria and Provence in the south of France.

Members also take a weekend away together once a year – last year they visited North Wales and this year they are off to Derbyshire.

The group now meets weekly in Cross Elms Lane, Stoke Bishop and runs three different length walks so that all members can participate.

These include an eight mile, a five mile and a three mile walk led by members.

Mr Walter, now 78, yesterday led an eight-mile circular route around Tyntesfield.

Mrs Walter, now 77, told the Bristol Post: "We have had such a great time over the years.

"We have made many great friends and have managed to stay together all this time.

"When we started the group in our 40s we never thought it would continue for 30 years – we are now in our late 70s and have some members in their 90s.

"We have gone all over the country together and even further afield.

"Now that we are getting older we have also developed a social arm of the group, where we do theatre trips and visit houses and gardens.

"The group is still going strong and we hope to continue for more years yet."