

New Chairperson for RVCG



At the AGM in April, Neil Porter was elected as the new Chairperson of RVCG.

Neil has been captivated by the Rivelin valley since moving to Sheffield in 1974; the avenue of lime trees was such a beautiful sight but it took some time before he learnt the valley's fascinating history.

He lives in the valley and delights in the fact that despite its proximity to the city centre it is remarkably rural. Since retiring Neil has devoted his energies to conservation matters. He has a background in carrying out local surveys around Sheffield for the British Trust for Ornithology and has been the Chairperson on the Stanage Forum and served as a representative of the Sheffield Bird Study Group.

From these roles he is well aware of the challenges in finding the balance between promoting the benefits of the local trails, flora and wildlife and managing the increasing visitor pressure is not easy. On top of that there are added challenges from the effects of climate change which as seen recently with the damage that storms have caused along the river. He is looking forward to the challenge of chairing the RVCG and working alongside a very committed and hard-working committee. He thinks the initial priorities will be working with the council to restore the damage done by Storm Babet and making progress on establishing parts of the valley as a Local Nature Reserve.