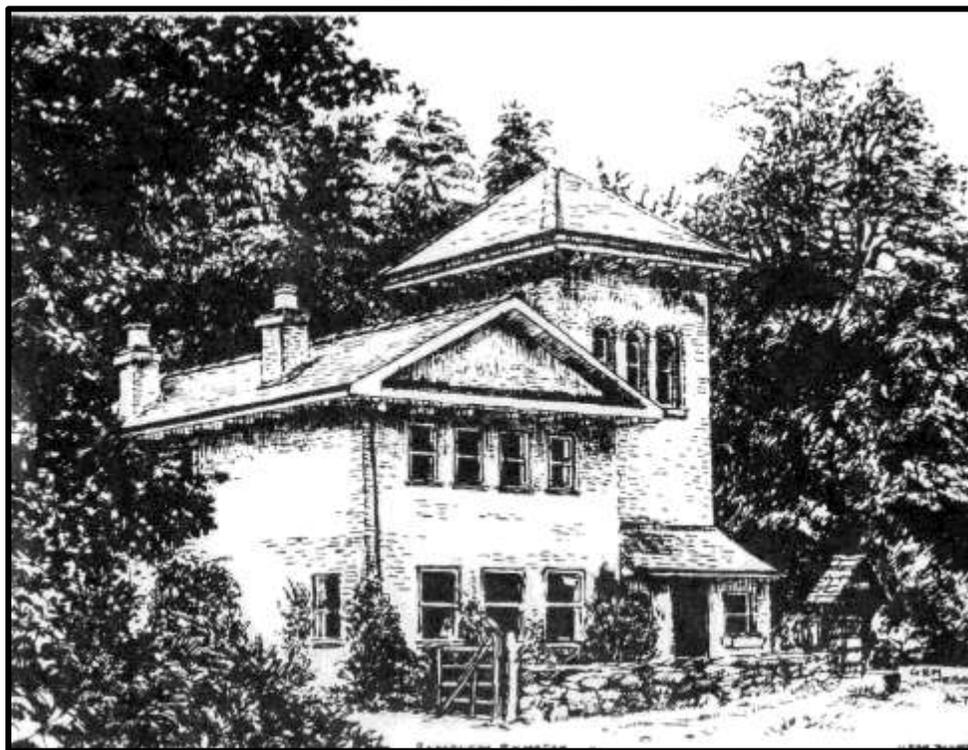


Welcome to the **Ramblers Retreat** Country Tea Room

Dimmingsdale, Alton, Staffordshire Moorlands. ST10 4BU

Established 1981



Nestled in Dimmingsdale in the beautiful Churnet Valley is the Ramblers Retreat, a family-run Country Tearoom.

Since 1981, our family has offered a range of traditional, homemade meals and snacks to visitors to this beautiful valley.

Whether you choose to eat in our cosy snug, airy conservatory or our beautiful woodland gardens, we guarantee you'll find the atmosphere extremely homely, warm and welcoming. And as well as enjoying a delicious meal, you can also take in the beauty and tranquillity of Dimmingsdale by strolling through the valley using one of the established woodland walks.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Ramblers Retreat and Dimmingsdale and we look forward to welcoming you again in the near future.

Menu

www.ramblersretreat.co.uk

01538 762736



How to order...

Full table service is provided in the snug & conservatory. Simply take a seat and one of our team will look after you.

If sitting in the garden, summerhouses or Potting Shed, simply place your order & pay at our garden window. You will be given your drinks immediately & provided with a pager that will buzz when your food is ready for collection.

Please remember, all food is freshly prepared therefore please allow time for preparation. We will endeavour to deliver your meal as soon as practicably possible; however, there may be a delay during busy times.

As a family run business, we are incredibly proud of our tearoom and work exceptionally hard to consistently provide high standards of food and service. Our aim is to ensure you leave the Ramblers Retreat feeling thoroughly delighted and pass your experience on to your family and friends. Therefore, if you have any questions, queries or concerns during your visit, please bring it to the attention of a member of staff immediately & we will do our utmost to satisfy your requirements or rectify any problems straight away so you can continue to enjoy your visit. Thank you

For your convenience, bills are produced per table when dining inside or per order if dining outside. All prices include VAT at the current rate of 20%.

Ramblers Retreat, Dimmingsdale Lodge, Dimmingsdale, Red Road, Alton, Staffordshire
ST10 4BU. Telephone: 01538 702730 www.ramblersretreat.co.uk

Proprietors: Helen Smith and Gary Keeling (and of course Margaret Keeling now deceased).

Payment may be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Ramblers Retreat) or
Debit/Credit Card.

A 25p fee will be applied to any credit/debit card transactions of £10 or less.

All prices include VAT. (VAT No. 435696615). October 2017.

We also have a Children's Menu and specific menus for Vegetarians & Vegans, Gluten and Dairy Free Diets. However, *if you have any food allergies or intolerances it is imperative you discuss your individual requirements with a member of staff before placing your order.*

Breakfast

The most important meal of the day!

Breakfast is served until 11:30am

Staffordshire Breakfast	£8.85
An excellent way to start the day! A full plate of bacon, sausage, fried egg, mushrooms, beans, grilled tomato & Staffordshire Oatcake, served with either brown or white toast <u>plus</u> tea or cup of coffee	
Vegetarian Breakfast	£7.95
A full plate of two fried eggs, mushrooms, beans, grilled tomatoes & Staffordshire Oatcakes, served with either brown or white toast <u>plus</u> a pot of tea or cup of coffee	
Bacon or Sausage Breakfast Roll	£5.10
A Bacon or Sausage Roll served in a brioche bun (add an egg for 40p)	
Fried Eggs (two eggs) on Toast	£4.65
Two fried eggs served on white or wholegrain extra thick farmhouse bread	
Beans on Toast	£4.65
Baked beans served on white or wholegrain extra thick farmhouse bread	
Filled Staffordshire Oatcakes	£5.75
Two Staffordshire Oatcakes served with salad garnish and crisps: Choice of fillings: Bacon & Beans; Bacon & Cheese; Cheese & Beans, Cheese	
Slice of toast	£0.85
White or wholegrain extra thick farmhouse bread. Add jam or marmalade for 35p!	
Toasted Teacake & Butter	£2.30
Add jam for 35p!	

Starters

- Homemade Soup of the Day**.....£4.35
served with roll and butter. Also available as a main!
- Potato Shells**.....£5.35
filled with Mature Cheddar and topped with Bacon, served with a salad garnish
- Smoked Mackerel**.....£5.85
Two hot smoked mackerel fillets accompanied by wholemeal bread & butter & salad garnish
- Garlic Bread topped with Mature Cheddar**.....£4.95
served with a salad garnish

Main Courses *(Served up to 1 hour before closing)*

Don't forget to see our daily specials too!

- Homemade Pie of the day**.....£8.95
Served with chips or new potatoes, gravy & garden peas. Add seasonal vegetables for 75p.
- Chilli Con Carne**.....£8.85
Served with rice or chips and salad garnish (gluten free and vegetarian options available)
- Chickpea, Sweet Potato & Spinach Curry (Vegan)**.....£8.75
Served with rice or chips and salad garnish.
- Hand Carved Ham, Egg, Homemade Chips & Peas**.....£7.95
- Staffordshire Oatcake Pizza (V)**.....£7.95
A Staffordshire Oatcake topped with a tomato, onion & herb sauce and smothered with mature cheddar cheese. Served with chips and salad garnish or house salad.
- Ramblers Platter**.....£7.95
A selection of local cheeses, hand carved ham, pickles, breads, salad garnish and fruit chutney
- Beefburger**.....£7.95
A large chargrilled beefburger served in a Brioche bun, topped with onion rings accompanied by chips, salad garnish and barbecue sauce. (Why not add bacon & melted cheese for 75p extra!)

Our menu grows at weekends!

Be sure to take a look at our weekend specials, featuring our delicious Staffordshire Roasts and much more!

(V) Indicates the meal is suitable for vegetarians. Please note, some of our products may contain nuts or traces of nut and are made in a kitchen where nuts are handled. Great care is taken to remove all bones from fish & chicken dishes, however some may remain.

Light Bites

Sandwiches

Made to order from a choice of white or wholegrain extra thick farmhouse bread.

Accompanied by salad garnish & crisps.

Club.....	£5.75
(Chicken, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayonnaise)	
Hot Bacon, Brie & Cranberry.....	£5.75
Hand Carved Ham & Fruit Chutney.....	£5.55
Hot Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato.....	£5.55
Tuna Mayonnaise & Cucumber.....	£5.55
Cheddar Cheese with Fruit Chutney.....	£5.15
Cheddar Cheese with Red Onion.....	£5.15

Baguettes

Made to order and made from a choice of white or wholegrain 10-inch French bread baguettes.

Accompanied by salad garnish & crisps.

Club.....	£6.25
(Chicken, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayonnaise)	
Hot Bacon, Brie & Cranberry.....	£6.25
Hand Carved Ham & Fruit Chutney.....	£5.95
Hot Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato.....	£5.95
Tuna Mayonnaise & Cucumber.....	£5.95
Cheddar Cheese with Fruit Chutney.....	£5.65
Cheddar Cheese with Red Onion.....	£5.65

Add a side of homemade chips for £2

Toasted Sandwiches

Made to order from extra thick farmhouse bread, accompanied by a salad garnish and crisps. Choice of wholegrain or white bread.

Mature Cheddar & Hand Carved Ham
Hand Carved Ham & Chutney
Bacon, Brie & Cranberry
Mature Cheddar & Bacon
Mature Cheddar & Red Onion
Mature Cheddar & Tomato
Mature Cheddar Cheese with Chutney
Mature Cheddar & Tuna
Hand Carved Ham, Red Onion & Tomato
£5.65

Staffordshire Oatcakes

Two oatcakes served with salad garnish & crisps.

Oatcakes are a North Staffordshire specialty. This regional delicacy is simply a type of pancake made from Oatmeal cooked on a griddle. Choose one of following fillings:

- Bacon & Baked Beans
- Mature Cheddar & Bacon
- Mature Cheddar & Chutney
- Mature Cheddar & Red Onion
- Mature Cheddar & Baked Beans

£5.85

Jacket Potatoes

Accompanied by a salad garnish and crisps.

- Chilli Con Carne & Mature Cheddar
- Chilli Con Carne
- Mature Cheddar & Beans
- Mature Cheddar & Red Onion
- Tuna Mayonnaise & Mature Cheddar
- Tuna Mayonnaise

£5.85

Sides

Bowl of Home-made Chips.....	£2.60
House Salad.....	£3.65
Roll / Bread and Butter.....	£0.85

Desserts

£4.60

Remember! Desserts is stressed spelled backwards, so don't stress! Eat cake!

Don't Forget Our Daily Specials Too!

All of our desserts are made with love and care by our amazing kitchen team, the majority of which, using recipes inspired by Margaret, Gary & Helen over the years. Our homemade desserts are served with a choice of real double cream (whipped) using cream from our local dairy, vanilla ice cream or custard.

Maggie's Famous Lemon Meringue Pie

Our most famous dish, re-named after our most famous lady! This was the dessert which helped Margaret Keeling's little tea room become the success it is today!

Gateau of the Day

Please see our Specials for today's choice

Chocolate Fudge Cake

A rich, smooth chocolate cake.

Fruit Crumble

Please see our Specials for today's choice.

Bread & Butter Pudding

Made to our own secret recipe.

Bakewell Tart

A shortcrust pastry base filled with jam and almond sponge topped with icing.

Homemade Fruit Pie

Please see our Specials Board for today's choice.

Gluten Free Chocolate Cake

A simple, yet rich chocolate cake.

Organic Dairy Ice Cream Sundae (Marshfield's Organic Ice cream)

3 Scoops of ice cream. Choice of Vanilla, Chocolate, Strawberry, Mint Choc Chip, Salted Caramel or Rum & Raisin

Smaller Treats

Cream Tea for One	£4.95
Pot of tea served with a sultana & cherry scone served with butter, strawberry jam & real whipped double cream	
Cream Tea for Two	£8.95
Pot of tea for 2 served with 2 sultana & cherry scones and butter, strawberry jam & real whipped double cream	
Sultana & cherry Fruit Scone and Butter	£2.25
Add Jam for 35p!	
Toasted Teacake and butter	£2.30
Add Jam for 35p!	
Muffins	£2.45
A choice of Toffee Apple or Triple Chocolate	
Victoria Sponge	£2.50
Triple Layer Lemon Cake	£2.50
Golden Syrup Flapjack	£2.35
Caramel Shortbread	£2.30
Chocolate Brownie	£2.50
Honeycomb Tiffin	£2.50

Coffee

Filter Coffee.....	£2.35
Espresso.....	£1.80
Americano.....	£2.35
Latte.....	£2.45
Cappuccino.....	£2.45
Flat White.....	£2.45
Mocha.....	£3.30
Roasted Hazelnut Latte.....	£3.10
Caramel Latte.....	£3.10
Gingerbread & Cream Latte.....	£3.30
Milano espresso with freshly steamed milk, served with gingerbread flavour syrup and topped with cream & a mini gingerbread man	

All coffees available as decaf

Soya Milk also available

Tea

Pot of English Tea (Per Person).....	£1.95
Specialty Teas.....	£2.15
Earl Grey, Assam etc.	
Fruit & Herbal Teas.....	£2.15
Decaffeinated Tea.....	£2.00

Ask your server about our large specialty, fruit & herbal tea selections!

Hot Chocolate

Hot Chocolate.....	£2.45
Made with a Cadburys Hot Chocolate & hot steamed milk	
Luxury Hot Chocolate.....	£3.30
Made with a Cadburys Hot Chocolate & topped with cream, Cadburys flake & served with Marshmallows.	
Caramel Fudge Hot Chocolate.....	£3.30
Made with a Cadburys Hot Chocolate, caramel syrup & topped with cream & Cadburys flake	
Matchmaker Hot Chocolate.....	£3.30
Made with a Cadburys Hot Chocolate, mint syrup & topped with cream & Mint Matchmakers	
Brownie Hot Chocolate.....	£3.30

Made with a Cadburys Hot Chocolate, topped with cream & Chocolate Brownie

Cold Drinks

Folkington's Fresh Orange Juice.....	£2.50
Folkington's Cloudy Apple Juice.....	£2.50
J20 Apple & Mango.....	£2.35
Heartsease Farm Sparkling Blackcurrant.....	£2.40
Bottlegreen Citrus Presse.....	£2.40
Elderflower; Cranberry & Orange; Pomegranate or Cox's Apple	
Fentimans Botanically Brewed Beverages.....	£2.40
Ginger Beer or Dandelion & Burdock	
San Pellegrino.....	£1.95
Orange or Lemon	
Coke.....	£1.50
Diet Coke.....	£1.50
Lemonade.....	£1.50
Buxton Mineral Water.....	£1.60
Sparkling or Still	
Pineapple Juice.....	£1.75
Glass of Milk.....	£1.15
Orange or Blackcurrant Squash.....	£1.00
Tonic Water or Slimline Tonic.....	£1.75
Bitter Lemon or Tomato Juice.....	£1.75
Blackcurrant Fruit Shoot.....	£1.60

Luxury Milkshakes £4.25

Made fresh with Marshfield Organic Dairy Ice Cream

The Double Chocolate One	
Chocoholic heaven ice cream blended with whole milk and topped whipped cream, a chocolate flake and chocolate sauce	
The Salted Caramel One	
Salted Caramel ice cream blended with whole milk and topped whipped cream and caramel sauce	
The Mint Matchmaker One	
Mint Choc Chip ice cream blended with whole milk and topped whipped cream and matchmakers	
The Super Strawberry One	
Strawberry ice cream blended with whole milk and topped whipped cream, strawberries and strawberry sauce	
The Funky Banana One	
Banana ice cream blended with whole milk and topped whipped cream and caramel sauce	

Wine

Standard Glass (175ml).....	£3.95
Small Glass (125ml).....	£3.55
Bottle.....	£13.95

White Wines:

Pinot Grigio
Chardonnay

Red Wines:

Merlot
Shiraz

Rose Wine

White Zinfandel

We also sell Prosecco £15.95 for 750ml bottle or
£4.50 for 20cl bottle

Spirits

Whiskey / Gin / Vodka / Brandy / Baileys / Tia Maria 25ml measure.....	£3.65
Sherry or Martini 50ml measure.....	£3.55

We are a tea room...

We therefore don't have any alcohol on draught,
however we have created a selection of well-
known and local beer, larger, wine and spirits
which we hope you will enjoy just as much.

Beer, Lager & Cider

Peroni Nastro Azzurro.....	£3.95
(660ml) 5.6% vol	
Peroni Nastro Azzurro.....	£2.95
(330ml) 5.6% vol	
Stella Artois.....	£2.95
(330ml Bottle)	
Shandy (lager or bitter)	
½ pint £2.15	Pint £3.25
Magners Original Cider.....	£2.95
(330ml Bottle)	
Old Mout Mixed Berry Cider.....	£3.70
(500ml Bottle)	
Newcastle Brown.....	£3.70
(500ml) 4.7% vol	
Speckled Hen.....	£2.95
(335ml) 5.2% vol	
Guinness.....	£3.55
(440ml) 4.1% vol	
Tetley's Original	
½ pint £2.10	Pint £3.30

Local Beers

£3.70

Ramblers – Wincle Brewery, Macclesfield

(500ml) Crystal malt and brambling cross hops give this country amber ale a subtle balance of malt and autumn fruit hoppiness. 4.0% vol

Sir Philip – Wincle Brewery, Macclesfield

(500ml) This premium bitter has light malty overtones, balance with the classic pairing of fuggles & challenger hops. 4.2% vol

Foundation Stone – Limestone Brewery, Stone

(500ml) A combination of biscuit and juicy fruits combines to create this glorious golden pale ale. 4.5% vol

Ein Stein – Limestone Brewery, Stone

(500ml) Sophisticated pale ale made with English & German hops. 5%vol

Did you Know?

Dimmingsdale:

- ❖ In the 1800's, the Earl of Shrewsbury transformed Dimmingsdale from a scene of industrial iron and lead smelting squalor to a private country paradise.
- ❖ Dimmingsdale is an enchanting and extremely beautiful place anytime of the year. The woodland is a mixture of broad leaf trees & spectacular Scots pines, providing a haven for wildlife – foxes, badgers, muntjac deer, woodpeckers to name but a few. In addition, the valley has an abundance of beautiful & interesting flora & has been designated a site of scientific special interest.
- ❖ We know that Dimmingsdale is one of the most beautiful places in the Staffordshire Moorlands; however, its beauty has also been recognised nationwide. It was featured in the Sunday Times as one of the best Winter Walks in the UK and Midlands Television recognised it as one of the most beautiful places to visit in autumn due to the spectacular autumnal colours.
- ❖ The Legend of the Chained Oak – within the valley is an old Oak tree smothered with chains. Legend has it that in the 1830's a beggar woman put a curse on the Earl of Shrewsbury – for every branch that fell off this Oak tree a member of his family would die. A branch did fall off the tree & a member of his family did die, so immediately the Earl had chains wrapped around it to stop any more branches falling off.

The Ramblers Retreat:

- ❖ The Ramblers Retreat (formerly Dimmingsdale Lodge) was a Gatehouse within the Earl of Shrewsbury's estate strategically placed alongside Earls Drive – the main thoroughfare through the estate.
- ❖ In the 1900's the Earl's estate was divided into lots and sold. Dimmingsdale Lodge was purchased and used solely for residential purposes until the 1960's, after which it was left vacant and fell into disrepair. In 1978, the Lodge had a dereliction order placed on it, however Gary and Margaret Keeling decided to buy it and restore it back to its natural beauty.
- ❖ After much hard work, Gary and Margaret moved into the Lodge in 1980 and made it their home. However, whilst gardening, walkers frequently commented that it would be lovely to have a cup of tea after a walk. So in 1981, Margaret opened up her lounge to serve tea and scones and the Ramblers Retreat was born!
- ❖ The Ramblers Retreat is a family run business Margaret Keeling opened the business in 1981, Gary shortly joined her and Helen, their daughter joined them in 2002.
- ❖ We buy a lot of our ingredients from local suppliers. This allows us to support our local community, reduce our environmental impact and ensure the quality of our ingredients are consistently high –
 - Milk, eggs & cream are supplied by our local dairy; Wheat Brothers from Bradley, Cheadle;
 - Our vegetables and fruit comes from Fresh View in Stoke on Trent who source it from local farms if possible;
 - Our meat is supplied by Price & Fretwell Butchers in Derbyshire who source all meat from Local Farms;
 - The cheese for our Platters is from the Staffordshire Cheese Company, near Leek.
 - Our damsons are supplied from a farm in Hollington and our customers and we hand pick other fruits from local fruit farms when in season;
 - We sell Buxton Mineral Water ;
 - We offer a range of local beers brewed in Staffordshire, Cheshire & Derbyshire (used in our Steak Pie!);
 - We grow our own salad items during the summer & even our customers supply us with fruit!
- ❖ We work extremely closely with Forestry Commission and local conservation groups to ensure Dimmingsdale maintains its beauty and tranquillity. The majority of the areas Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Meetings are held at the Ramblers Retreat – details of meetings can be found on our notice board.
- ❖ We've won many awards over the years – The Taste of Staffordshire Awards – Tearoom of the Year, NFU Best use of Local Produce Award; Heartbeat Awards for healthy food and we were nominated as one of the Best Tea Rooms in the Midlands through Midlands Today.

Sadly, Margaret passed away suddenly in March 2017, however Helen, Gary and our wonderful team continue her legacy!