

## KNOWLE RAMBLERS Guidance for Walk Leaders

Thank you for offering to recce and lead a walk, your time and commitment are greatly valued.

### **Well before the walk**

- Give clear information to the chair person of information to be sent out to members. Your phone number/email address, details of the walk, day and date, length of walk, start time, directions to the start point, lunch arrangements, and details of parking arrangements. This should be at least a week in advance of the walk.
- Click on the PollsEZ link found in the members email so you know who will be on your walk.
- Make sure there should be enough car parking spaces available at the start point.
- If parking on private land, e.g. a pub car park, make sure this is OK with the owner/landlord

### **The Start of the walk**

- Arrive at starting point in time to:
- Introduce yourself as the leader
- Welcome everyone, particularly visitors.
- Take £1 fee, name and contact details from visitors
- If the group is large, appoint a back marker
- Describe the walk briefly, giving the distance and mention any points of special interest, also any potential hazards
- If there are toilet facilities at the start or on route mention these
- Count the number on the walk
- Enjoy the walk!

### **During the walk**

- It is the general rule that the leader should be at the front of the party: However, this does not prevent the leader from dropping back at times and in this case those in front should be told where to wait.
- The leader should be aware that not all people want to, or can, walk at the same rate particularly on a difficult section and should therefore ensure that the party does not become strung out.
- When walking on a public road if there is no pavement keep the group close together and where necessary in single file. When crossing the road, the leader should identify the optimum place for the group to cross. Walk facing oncoming traffic except when approaching a blind right hand bend.
- Any hazards e.g. the approach of a vehicle, should be called out to the group, by the leader or back marker, as appropriate.
- **If we need help in an emergency when out walking in the countryside we are advised to call 112 rather than 999. dialling 112 from a mobile telephone enables the service to pinpoint your exact position**
- Should any accident or incident occur notify the chair person at the earliest opportunity. A written report from the leader should follow in 24 hours.

### **Guidance for leaders can be found in books that can be borrowed from Knowle Ramblers**

Navigation and Leadership published by The Ramblers [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)  
Follow the Map the Ordnance Survey Guide <http://wtp2.appspot.com/wheresthepath.htm>  
[www.walkingbritain.co.uk](http://www.walkingbritain.co.uk) [www.dash4it.co.uk](http://www.dash4it.co.uk) - Explorer Maps 30% discount

If you are unable to lead your walk, contact the person responsible for the walk programme as soon as possible.