



Some Questions & Answers

Where can I walk? Providing it is not private property, you can walk where you choose.

What is a Right of Way? A RoW is a footpath or bridleway designated by a waymarker symbol. Not all paths are Rights of Way. A public road is a RoW.

Where can I get ideas for a walk? From members, newspapers, local books, maps or simply reverse a known route! It can be enjoyed from an entirely different aspect!

What if members already know the area? It doesn't matter. Members welcome new leaders and know everyone has to start somewhere!

Do I need to buy a map? No, that can wait!

What does pioneering mean? All walks should be walked beforehand to ensure that there will be no unpleasant surprises and to make sure the leader knows the route.

What if I get lost? It wouldn't be the first time! If it should happen, smile, say sorry and retrace your steps to a place that you know is correct and resume the walk. If in doubt, don't hesitate to ask for help.

The worst-case scenario is more likely to occur in remote areas where routes are unmarked and the weather is liable to sudden change – and that's not going to be just yet!

Must I sort out parking and food stops? Yes, parking is a serious concern, as you must ensure that cars don't cause obstructions, block lanes or field gates. Obtain permission before you tell people to use a pub car park.

Food and comfort stops should also be identified beforehand – members will be re-assured by your attention to detail!

Don't be put off – leading walks is enjoyable!



Advice for Learners

Advice and help is always close at hand.

Walk with the leader on your next walk and ask any questions that you may have. Most leaders will be pleased to share their knowledge and experience.

Get a friend to help you sort out the route and to act as co-leader on the actual day. Then if you make a mistake or are unsure, you can consult with your friend, look knowledgeable and stride out purposefully – No one will be any the wiser!

Choose a short walk to start so that you place fewer demands upon yourself!

Remember that every leader – however experienced – gets apprehensive beforehand about leading a walk.

When leading a walk, don't forget to enjoy it also!

Don't be afraid to ask for assistance!

Don't be afraid to lead a walk!

Other information including the Club Rules may be found on the Club's website www.shfrc.org.uk

The club positively encourages all active members to lead walks.

New leaders are needed to ensure continuity and variety of walks.

Resolve to lead a walk soon!



STOURBRIDGE HF RAMBLING CLUB



Don't just follow! Lead!

If you enjoy walking in the fresh air and countryside, you are a potential walk leader! It's not difficult and can add a fresh interest to your walking activities!

This leaflet has been produced to encourage you to take the extra step and lead members on your very own walk!