

NEW LEADERS – WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOUR FIRST LEAD

This document is based on the guidance to new leaders that came out in May 2024. The instructions have been put together based on my interpretation of the guidance – let me (Paul K) know at rambles@wirralramblers.org.uk if you encounter any problems.

First you will need to set up a My Ramblers account,

go to **Sign up & volunteering**

Create a My Ramblers account

and follow the instructions, making sure you check your email inbox to verify it.

New to volunteering? You will need to be added to the Ramblers' systems as a volunteer so you are able to access our online training. This can be done by the Wirral Ramblers Membership Secretary, contact wirralramembership@gmail.com, who can add you to the Wirral Ramblers list of volunteers. Once you receive an email confirming you are set up as a volunteer you may need to wait up to 48 hours before accessing the online training.

What training do I need to do to be a walk leader with the Ramblers?

All new walk leaders must do three things:

1. Read and sign up to the [Walk Leader Handbook](#)
2. Complete the Walk Leadership Foundations e-learning (approx. 60-90 minutes)
3. Complete the Preventing & Managing Incidents e-learning (approx. 60 minutes)

These are all available in our [online training](#) once you become a Ramblers volunteer. If you join our Ramblers Wellbeing Walks team, you will also shadow a walk leader and attend an in person session with your programme co-ordinator.

You can access any training courses that are relevant to your volunteering role, some of which will be mandatory, in our online training library.

To access training, go to Ramblers website and:

Click on the following in succession: **Go Walking, Walk Leadership, Getting started as a walk leader**

Go to **3. Complete our walk leadership online training**

and click on **We have three [online walk leadership training](#) modules:**

Click on either of the **Training Library** icons and then click a further **Training Library** icon that appears.

You will be asked to enter your account via user name and password. This will open a page listing the three mandatory walk leader training modules and two volunteer training modules:

1 Prevention and Managing Incidents
Foundations

2 Walk Leader Handbook

3 Walk Leader

4 Safeguarding Module One

5 Volunteer Welcome

Consider registering your phone for emergencySMS

What is emergencySMS?

If you cannot make a voice call on your mobile, you can contact the 999 emergency services by SMS text from your mobile phone. EmergencySMS is part of the standard 999 service. Every year the Club organises hundreds of led walks, the vast majority of which occur without incident. But when an accident occurs it's vital that the emergency services can find the person in trouble as quickly as possible.

If you can't get through when calling 999 you can also contact the emergency services via SMS text message.

How do you use emergency 999?

You will need to register your phone:

1. To register, text 'register' to 999
2. Wait for a reply, which should be read in full
3. Reply with the message, YES

4. You'll get a final response saying your number is now registered. There is no need to send a further reply

In an emergency

If you have an occasion to text the emergency services, send a short but specific message to 999 that states:

- Your location (either a grid reference or as much information as you can give about where you are and how you got there)
- The nature of the emergency
- The number of people in the group
- What clothing and equipment you (and your group) have
- If the casualty has any pre-existing medical conditions

An example message would be:

'Ambulance. Man having a heart attack. Pen y Pass car park, Snowdonia, Grid ref SH647556.'

For more information go to - www.emergencysms.org.uk