



# The Bogtrotters

The Dunstable & District  
Walking & Hostelling  
Group

Call it walking, hiking or rambling this is what the Bogtrotters do. We also organise longer weekends away and tours in Britain and Abroad. Our members are drawn from Dunstable and its surrounding area.

The group was formed in September 1965. Our programme consists of local full and half day walks, midweek meanders, a varied social programme and trips away. We provide activities for all levels of walking ability, and we aim to provide regular walking and social activities in a friendly, supportive group.

For details of our walking programme see

[www.dunstablebogtrotters.co.uk](http://www.dunstablebogtrotters.co.uk)



WhatsApp

Have a look at our facebook page to see what we have been up to.

Once a member keep up to date on our WhatsApp Group

## Guidance for those attending Dunstable Bogtrotters events.

- ◆ You walk with the Bogtrotters at your own risk.
- ◆ You must ensure that you have suitable equipment, footwear and clothing, and enough food and drink for the activity being undertaken. You should carry your own first aid kit.
- ◆ Do not leave the walk without telling the leader. Keep in front of the back marker when there is one and make sure that the walk leader or back marker knows if you temporarily leave the walk for a comfort break or other reason.
- ◆ Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult member of their family, who will remain responsible for them at all times.
- ◆ We do not allow dogs on our walks except for assistance dogs
- ◆ Before a walk starts participants are entitled to obtain a clear and, as far as possible, accurate description of the walk. Be aware however that not every route is walked in advance and even when a path is familiar things may have changed since we were last there. Different walk leaders have developed different styles of walk introduction. Some give a formal health and safety talk, others a more general descriptive talk and others dislike the enforced formality and give only a fairly perfunctory introduction!
- ◆ If you are in any doubt about the walk you are going to undertake, or your own ability to complete it, you should raise your concerns with the walk leader first..
- ◆ On local walks or weekend trips participants may choose to share cars or take their own. Before leaving the meeting place make it clear to the walk leader if you are prepared to take passengers, if you are willing to use your car to transfer drivers when this is necessary and if you will need to leave the walk early. Drivers are not able to charge a fare for helping with transport, however a voluntary donation is usually made by their passengers.
- ◆ Some walks are planned to be accessible by public transport. However bus times and services are subject to change so walk details will sometimes vary from those set out in the programme. It is advisable to contact the walk leader to obtain up-to-date information if public transport is involved.
- ◆ Photographs of our activities, sometimes with the names of those participating, often appear on our website. If you do not wish to be photographed and possibly appear on the web, tell the event leader and they will include this notification in their introduction.
- ◆ When walking as a member of the public on public footpaths in England and more generally in Britain there are well established and understood laws which govern the relationship, rights and obligations of the land owner to the walker and vice versa. When walking with a Bogtrotter walk leader you remain a member of the public, as does he/she. Nothing in the relationship between you as a walker and your walk leader adds to or alters this. By walking with us you do not improve upon your existing rights that are already well established in law.
- ◆ Guests are welcome to join us for 2 or 3 walks after which they will be expected to enrol as members. Individual membership fee is currently £10 per year (01 September to 31 August.)



The Bogtrotters  
Dunstable & District Walking & Hostelling Group  
Membership Form

Dunstable & District Walking & Hostelling Group  
Privacy Statement and General Data Protection Policy

Membership Details	
Name:	
Address1:	
Address2:	
Address3:	
Address4:	
Postcode:	
Home phone number:	
Mobile number:	
Email Address:	
Emergency Contact Name:	
Emergency Contact Number	
I give my consent for the above data to be held by the Group. I understand that I have the right to be removed from the records, see what information is held relating to me and have my history removed	Yes/No
Note: If you decide not to opt-in to providing this data, you will no longer receive notification by email or post relating to the Group's activities. You will still remain a member of the walking group.	
Signature	
Date of signing	
Please complete and return to Julian Clark-Lowes 74 Leafields, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5LX	
Please retain a copy of this completed document.	

This policy outlines how and why we collect and use personal data

The personal data collected is provided by each individual member when they complete and submit the membership form. The information submitted is processed by the Membership Secretary. Members are asked to renew their membership each September. If membership is not renewed the personal data is kept for one year and then archived. If you no longer want to be a member of the group and want your person details removed please contact membership@dunstablebogtrotters.co.uk

**How we use your personal information**

We use your personal information. to keep you up to date regarding the programme of events, trips and club business' and to manage membership administration, including membership renewal reminders and payment processing. These communications are administered by the membership secretary (communications made by email) and contact team (for members who do not have an email address and need these communications to be made by post).

Circumstances where it may be necessary to share your personal contact details with specified members of the club include

- \*committee members have each other's contact details to carryout committee business
- \*if you are a walk leader, your contact details may need to be shared with other walk leaders to enable programme planning.
- \*Walk leaders also publish a contact number for each walk listed in the programme
- \*when agreeing to go on an organised trip your contact details may need to be shared with others going on the same trip to enable decisions, essential processing and information to be administered in a timely fashion to ensure a successful trip
- \*if a member opts to join the WhatsApp group their mobile number can be seen by others in the group.

Otherwise personal details are not shared with other members or any other organisation.

Please take time to read risk assessment so you can action the control measures when walking					
Identified Risk/Hazard	What risk do they pose?	Who is at risk?	Risk rating	Control Measures taken to reduce risk	Risk rating achieved
ACTIVITY: TRAVELLING TO/FROM WALK					
Traffic Collision	Injury/death of travellers	All	L	Car travel: None passengers covered by car owner's insurance. Public Transport - Passengers to be responsible for assessing risk when stepping on and off bus and adjust actions accordingly	L
ACTIVITY: WALKING/RAMBLING					
Getting Lost on the route	Varies depending on locality and terrain. Extended walk due to path not being found. Risk can range from physical discomfort to danger	All	M	Details of locality of walk published along with estimated finish time. Take into account weather conditions and local knowledge before and during the walk. Carry relevant maps ( and compass if unfamiliar territory) and mobile phone	L
Poor Group control	Group Split or loss of walkers	All	M	Count members at start of walk: select back marker if required. Regular stops and headcount. Communicate regularly. Any member wanting to leave the walk early must inform the group leader	L
Rough, uneven and slippery terrain	Injury from fall	All	M	Leaders brief at the beginning of the walk, mentioning any known difficulty or hazards. Unhurried pace on difficult sections. Communication between members as hazards are approached/identified. Members advised to wear correct footwear.	L
Poor fitness/health of walkers	Slow movement. Late return time. Loss of daylight hours.	All	M	Published walk brief. Range of walks offered to suit different fitness/ability levels. Leader brief at beginning of walk. Walker should consult Walk leader before the start of the walk if they have concerns about their ability to complete the walk. Leader empowered to refuse anyone who is considered not fit enough to do the walk. Once on the walk walkers need to be responsible for their own health and safety as outlined in this risk assessment	L
Walkers not properly equipped e.g. incorrect clothing/footwear/lack of food and water	Getting cold and wet. Slipping on uneven/wet ground. Loss of energy, dehydration, headache	All	M	Information is published on what to wear and bring on walks. Leader empowered to refuse to take anyone who is not sensibly attired.	L
Adverse weather conditions	Getting lost, wet or cold	All	M	Leader to check weather forecast for time of walk and decide if walk to be cancelled, adjusted or changed to different location. Make use of Map, compass and backmarker as appropriate on walk. Leader to have a escape route if possible and have the discretion to abandon walk if necessary	L
Walkers becoming tired or cold	Increased risk of trips/slips if tired or cold	All	M	Have breaks at suitable times as appropriate to the length/difficulty of the walk. If group getting cold a quicker but safe space may be needed and breaks may not be appropriate. See also above - adverse weather conditions.	L
Animals - e.g. horses, cattle	Members becoming frightened. Disturbance or agitation of animals. Injury.	All	M	Leader to ensure everyone stays in group when crossing field of animals. Close gates. To stop and wait for riders to pass if not sufficient passing space. At Leader's discretion deviate from right of way.	L
Styles, gates, bridges, streams and ditches	Injury to person. Damage to property	All	M	All walkers to warn of hazards (known or identified on route) e.g. broken, wobbly or high stiles. Help offered to less able walkers. Avoid climbing gates, but if this is necessary climb near hinge. If necessary, find an alternative route	L
Roads and Railway Crossings	Accident and injury to people and vehicles	All	M	Members to follow leaders' instructions. Generally to walk in single file behind leader on right hand side of the road unless visibility of and to traffic is better on left hand side e.g. road bends etc.). For rail crossings to read and follow any safety notices	L
Injury, illness, death	Need first aid treatment. Delay or abandonment of walk		L	Encourage walkers to bring first aid kit as not considered necessary to have a qualified first aider on walk. Have mobile phone to be able to ring emergency services, use map to give grid references	L