



SOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form:

Assessor: Josh MacCallum Stewart and Jonathan Cook

Date of Assessment 24.02.24

Location: Ouse Valley

Brief Description: Half day (under 3 miles). Meet at NT Monk's House car park, Rodmell (///cadet.advances.cuddled) at 1.30 p.m.
Walk along the river until dusk looking for raptors, owls and birds coming to roost. Leader: Josh MacCallum-Stewart.

Suggested clothing: Warm, waterproof clothing depending on weather conditions; strong footwear. In summer, sun hat and appropriate clothing for sunny weather.

Fluids: Please bring sufficient fluids appropriate to the weather conditions.

| Hazard | Who might be harmed | Evaluation of Risk (Low/Medium/High) | Risk mitigation measures | Comments |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Bad weather | All | Unknown | Check forecast before walk | |
| Lightning storms | All | Unknown | Check forecast before walk | |
| Snow and ice | All | Unknown | Check forecast before walk | |
| Darkness, cloud and fog | All | Unknown | Check forecast before walk | The latter part of this walk is during dusk hours, and greater care should be taken on walking surfaces as a result due to unseen trip hazards |
| Hot weather | All | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Uneven walking surfaces | Less mobile participants | Low | Leader awareness | The latter part of this walk is during dusk hours, and greater care should be taken on walking surfaces as a result due to unseen trip hazards |
| Muddy conditions | All | Low | Leader awareness | The footpaths are extremely slippery after |

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | | | | damp periods and alternative routes may be sought on the day pending the circumstances. Walking boots with good tread or Wellingtons, similarly with good tread are highly advisable. |
| Standing water/flooding | All | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Slippery surfaces | Less mobile participants | Low | Leader awareness | The latter part of this walk is during dusk hours, and greater care should be taken on walking surfaces as a result due to unseen trip hazards. The footpaths are extremely slippery after damp periods and alternative routes may be sought on the day pending the circumstances. Walking boots with good tread or Wellingtons, similarly with good tread are highly advisable. |
| Trip hazards | Less mobile participants | Low | Leader awareness | The latter part of this walk is during dusk hours, and greater care should be taken on walking |

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | surfaces as a result due to unseen trip hazards |
| Stiles/gates | Less mobile participants | Zero | | There is one stile on the Rodmell side of the river which can be avoided by walking along the lower bank. |
| Barbed wire/fences | Less mobile participants | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Obstructive vegetation | All | Zero | | |
| Stinging/thorny plants | All | Zero | | |
| Falling trees/branches | All | Zero | | |
| Biting insects | All | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Snakes | All | Zero | | |
| Farm and other animals | All | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Cycles and horses | All | Zero | | |
| Cars and other vehicles | All | Low | Leader awareness | |
| Desk assessment of mobile phone coverage in the walk's area https://www.signalchecker.co.uk/ | All | Low | Leader carries a charged mobile phone or ensures that a participant is carrying a charged one | Rodmell has good outdoor signal for all major telephony providers |
| If a serious accident occurs during the event. | All | Low | SOS walking groups are not required to have trained first aiders present and advice is to contact the emergency services immediately. | in the event of a serious incident, even if there happens to be a member present who has attended a first aid course. |
| First Aid kits | All | Low | SOS walk leaders carry a basic small first aid kit, which SOS will supply. This does not imply that the leader has qualifications to | Please note that the contents of these kits will become expiry dated and SOS will replace these when required. A central |

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| | | | use this content, but will act in a common sense way should a situation arise. | register of who was sent these kits will be maintained for ongoing replacement. |
| Shingle management operations | All | Unknown but possible | Leader awareness | |

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