

Where we came from...

The Peak & Northern Footpaths Society can trace its roots through time - we evolved from the "The Manchester Association for the Preservation of Ancient Public Footpaths" of 1826.

Since then the route to today's protected state for paths on Definitive Maps has taken many twists and turns and our members and our affiliated Societies have followed every one, especially the major milestones:

- Rights of Way Act 1932
- National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949
- Highways Act 1980
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- Rights of Way Act 1990 (the ploughing & cropping Act)
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (the "right to roam" Act)

We have saved many urban footpaths for pleasant, traffic free walking.



...and where we are going.

The law requires that we be consulted by highway authorities when they consider diverting or closing a right of way. Local members' views are taken into account when we give our response. Our opinions are valued highly by the authorities we work with but in cases where we cannot agree with them, or cannot reach a satisfactory conclusion, we are prepared to go to Court - and we do.

Protecting paths is about more than just chasing up problems, that's why we put money into improving the path network with work such as planting our helpful signposts and building useful bridges.

The Peak & Northern Footpaths Society is a registered charity run by unpaid volunteers. Our history speaks proudly for itself. We rely on the support of people like you to continue our essential work in the future.

Join us today - we need you and you need us!



Peak & Northern Footpaths Society

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Peak & Northern Footpaths Society



**Protecting Footpaths
and
Helping Walkers**

www.peakandnorthern.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 212219

Calling all ramblers, strollers, fell walkers and dog walkers.

To everyone who uses public paths in the countryside and in towns.

If you're like us, you enjoy nothing better than escaping the hassles of daily life and recharging your batteries with a walk. Whether it is a day out in the country, walking on an urban path to get to the shops or schools, or exercising the dog, well maintained paths are an invaluable asset.

You'll know how frustrating it is if you find your way blocked, someone tells you that you shouldn't be there or you have to run the gauntlet of uncut vegetation. The Peak & Northern Footpaths Society has been dealing with problems like these in your area, and many others, since 1894 and we're here to help you enjoy your paths without hindrance.

We follow up reports of path problems with local authorities and work with them to reach a satisfactory result. Our teams of Footpath Inspectors regularly patrol paths in town and country to ensure that they are easy for people to use.

The extensive local knowledge of our members is backed up with our comprehensive library of maps and legal records maintained by experienced volunteers at our headquarters.

**We know your area...
...and we are on your side!**

This is where we exert our influence.

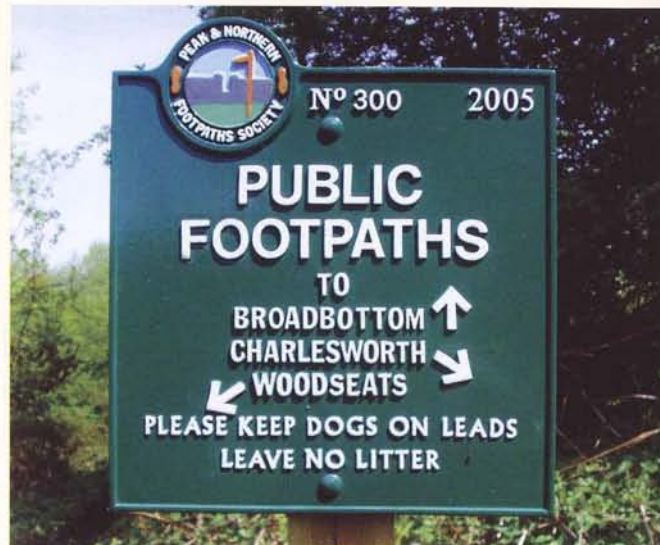


Our footpath teams are active in:

Cheshire • Derbyshire • Greater Manchester
Lancashire • Merseyside • Staffordshire
South Yorkshire • West Yorkshire

...including the Peak District National Park.

Our distinctive and informative Signposts, often in remote locations, help walkers daily.



How you can help.

Become a Member.

By supporting us through membership you are taking a big step towards protecting the network of paths. Our Society is fully inclusive and we represent the needs and interests of footpath users of all abilities. As we champion the rights of all path users at the tables of local highway authorities, our voice is listened to in proportion to the numbers we represent. Every membership counts - yours will make a difference.

Those who want to get more involved in our work can volunteer to help us by learning how to become a Footpaths Inspector, joining the team of volunteers co-ordinated by our Stockport headquarters or by planting and maintaining our signposts. Volunteering can be tailored to suit the time you can give, be it several days a week or a few hours a month.

In return for their support, all Members:

- Receive the Annual Report and Handbook
- Are sent "Signpost", our quarterly newsletter
- Are invited to our major meetings to have their say and meet other members
- Can join in our monthly walks
- Have access to our extensive map library covering their area
- Are only a phone call away from the advice of experienced rights of way volunteers
- Have the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping to protect the network of paths not only for today's walkers but also for future generations