



# Working with Volunteers Workshop

## LAF National Conference

### 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

The opportunities for volunteers to work with LAFs.

# Introductions

## Who are we

- Edwina Edwards – Peak District LAF Chair
- Joan Dryburgh – Derby and Derbyshire LAF Chair
- Fiona Groves – LAF Regional Coordinator East Midlands

## What we hope to cover

- How volunteers can be involved
- LAF experiences – two LAF examples from the Peak District and Derby and Derbyshire LAFs
- Sharing of experiences from other LAFs
- How could it work with LAFs
- Some things to think about
- What do we want to take forward?

# In what ways can volunteers get involved?

- Surveys – wildlife, disease, visitor, condition of routes, community involvement,
- Education – visits to site, visits to schools
- Visitor Services – rangers, wardens, guides, visitor centres, information points, refreshments, activities and events (cycling, walking, play, health)
- Practical/conservation work and tasks
- Any more?

# Working with Volunteers

## The Peak District LAF



## Taylor lane Rotherham ramblers



- The sort of thing that Volunteers do
- Mechanism for volunteer engagement – is through close working with The Peak National Park and DCC Authorities
- How the LAF gets involved



# Working with Volunteers Derby and Derbyshire LAF

## **The Task**

Members of DADLAF were asked to look at the 9 Open Access sites in Derbyshire (outside of the Peak Park) and replace any missing O/A discs.



Which members of the LAF  
volunteered?



**Richard, Howard and Joan**



**Howard, Richard and David**

# Also.....

**Geoff**



**John**



On the job.....



**Squeeze stile in Bumper Piece – very tight!**



**David wielding Stone Age tool at Bumper Piece**



**Richard at Holy Moor**



# Some more views of Open Access land



**Entrance to F/C land near Matlock Moor (2)**



**Searching for access**



**The only access point into Matlock Moor**



**On the boundary of O/A land at Bumper Piece**



**Steps at Holy Moor**



**At entrance to Highoredish site**



**Entrance to The Fabric near Ashover**





**O/A signs at the Fabric**



**Footpath entry to Haven Hill**

# WHAT ARE OTHER LAFS DOING?

What are the issues?

# How might volunteering work best within LAF responsibilities and duties?

What roles are appropriate for volunteers to do and what roles are not?

Why should we get involved?

What support do volunteers need?

Who co-ordinates the activity?

Who provides the tools?

Can it be done through:

- LA, National Park Authorities; District and Parish Councils
- Landowners /service providers: LA, RSPB, Forestry Commission; Wildlife Trusts, NT, WT, the Conservation Volunteers, Charities, Trusts, members society, Friends of group etc.
- National bodies – e.g. NE, EA

# What you need to think about - Health and Safety and legal

The health and safety implications of volunteers will depend on the nature of the volunteer group/individual and the nature of the work being undertaken. Volunteers can be split into 2 broad categories:

- volunteer(s) who are acting on their own initiative but with the permission of the landowner
- volunteer(s) who are acting at the request of or under direction of a landowner, organisation, society or charity

Insurance will depend on the nature of the work, how it is being carried out and who is the managing organisation

Where a volunteer(s) has been asked to carry out a specific task good practice is that the individual or group is informed in writing or through guidance and training about:

- the scope of the voluntary activities, including a description of the work/task(s)
- any limitations, e.g. areas where the volunteer(s) must not go or work, any equipment which the volunteer(s) are not permitted to use
- any hazards on the premises or associated access and carrying out work
- the emergency procedure, e.g. what to do in the event of an accident;
- their responsibilities with regard to health and safety – including ensuring their own safety, provision of first aid and/or welfare equipment and accident reporting
- their responsibilities within any other codes of practice or specific guidance

# Resources

- Volunteering England:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/goodpractice/information>

Also a publication: On the safe Side – Risk, risk management and Volunteering

- Natural England:

[http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/liability\\_tcm6-9802.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/liability_tcm6-9802.pdf)

[http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/land%20managers%20rights%20and%20responsibilities\\_tcm6-9796.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/land%20managers%20rights%20and%20responsibilities_tcm6-9796.pdf)

[http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/ca%20150-1%20liability\\_tcm6-27731.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/ca%20150-1%20liability_tcm6-27731.pdf)

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/linkingpeoplecommunities/volunteering/volunteersdirectory/hands.aspx>

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/linkingpeople/communities/volunteering/default.aspx>

# More Resources

Wildlife Trust – Urban Greenspace Support Pack

[http://www.sociologia.unimib.it/DATA/Insegnamenti/2\\_1931/materiale/urban%20greenspace%20support%20pack%20-%20reading%20for%20group%202.pdf](http://www.sociologia.unimib.it/DATA/Insegnamenti/2_1931/materiale/urban%20greenspace%20support%20pack%20-%20reading%20for%20group%202.pdf)

Naturally Active – Guidance

<http://www.naturallyactive.org/article.aspx?SectionID=20>

- Working with People, Groups and Communities

<http://www.naturallyactive.org/article.aspx?ArticleID=1424>

Nature Net

<http://www.naturenet.net/law/>

<http://www.naturenet.net/people/volunteers.html>

Visitor safety in the countryside

<http://vscg.co.uk>



What do we want to take forward?

FEEDBACK.....