

**SANDBACH FOOTPATH GROUP - SFG Summer Weekend Walks,  
18-19-20th July and 25-26-27th July 2025**

**Friday 18th July:**

Unless otherwise stated, no need to book, just turn up.

**Walk 1. 2pm from SUFC (D1.),** Tall Chimneys walk. Rail Trail, down steps by Dancing Bridge, canal to Malkins Bank, Stannerhouse Lane, up to Tall Chimneys, Houndings Lane, Mill Hill Lane, FP23, up steps by Dancing Bridge, Rail Trail and return to SUFC for optional refreshments. About 5 miles, no stile. Return at about 4.30pm to SUFC for optional refreshments. Leader Brian A

**Walk 2. 7pm from Plant Lane canal car park (D2.),** Moston. Figure of 8 walk. Short easy walk taking in canal, lanes back to start, then Watch and Red lanes and finally canal. Return about 8.30pm. 3 miles, no stile. Leader Trevor B.

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**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> July:**

**Walk 3. 10am from Salt Line car park Hassall Green (D3.), 10m 14 stiles.** Out to Smallwood via Arclid and Martins Moss to the Bluebell pub at Spen Green for lunch at about 12.30pm and then back via the South Cheshire Way and the canal to Hassall returning about 3.30pm. Pub lunch about £13. Distance is about **10 miles with 14 stiles**. Leader Richard V.  
**Booking reqd.** Please email to [sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com) asking to book Walk 3.

**Walk 4. 2pm from Fanny's Croft (D4.), Alsager.** Field paths circular walk, calling in at the Plough (Wacky Warehouse) for optional refreshments and toilets. About 4 miles, no stile. Return at about 5 pm. Leader Alison G.

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**Sun 20<sup>th</sup> July:**

*Bookings will be first come first served. The first 10 or 12 for each walk (3 or 5) will be successful. Please email again to change/cancel.*

**Walk 5. 10am from Middlewich Big Lock on Finney's Lane (D5.).** Three canals Trent & Mersey, Wardle (very short), Shropshire Union, and Coalpit Lane. Returning to the Little Lock café for refreshments at about 12.30pm.  
**Booking reqd.** Please email to [sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com) asking to book Walk 5.

**Walk 6. 2pm from Old Knutsford Road (D6.),** near rode Heath. About 4 miles, no stile. Field paths to Bratt's Wood and Brick House, then Hall Green. Lawton Woods to canal and return. 2 stiles, but the farm gates may be open to by-pass. Return at about 4.30pm. Leader Alison G.

**Walk 7. 7pm from Third Avenue (D7.),** Sandbach Wildlife Corridor via Houndings Lane, about 5 miles, no stile. Filterbed and Offley Woods, via controlled crossing and Dingle Wood. Return at about 9pm. Leader Trevor B.

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**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

**Walk 8. 2pm from SUFC (D1.), The Bidneys.** Rail Trail to Dancing Bridge, down steps leading to the canal, through Maddocks Wood, under Rail Trail, across "The Bidneys" fields. Then up a few steep steps, via a gate, crossing road, over stile across field and over an another stile (awkward) to Betchton Road. Right on canal via Wheelock over little bridge through the estate. Return, via Rail Trail, to SUFC for optional refreshments. About 4.3 miles, 2 stiles, one awkward. Return about 4.15pm. Leader Eileen D

**Walk 9. 7pm From Third Avenue (D7.).** Sandbach Woods, Brook, Dingle, Offley, Filterbed Woods, returning via Brook Wood, no stile, about 4 miles. Leader Trevor B.

Unless otherwise stated, no need to book, just turn up.

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**Sat 26<sup>th</sup> July:**

**Walk 10. 10.30am Salt Line & Borrowpit Meadows (D3.).** Meet at Salt Line car park Hassall Green. Please car-share if possible, to save car parking spaces. About 3.8 miles, no stile. Return about 12.30pm. Leader Trevor B.

**Walk 11. 2pm from Lawton Hall Drive (D8.).** Lawton Woods and field paths, 4.5 miles, no stile. Return at about 4.30pm. Leader Alison G.

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**Sun 27<sup>th</sup> July**

**Walk 12. 10.30am from Plant Lane canal car park (D2.),** Moston. Moss Lane, cross A534 at lights, then Marsh Green Road, and a green track to Wood Lane, leading to Hollins Green. Then Field paths, over two bridges with 2 stiles each and through Albion Lock estate, crossing A533 and onto canal to return. About 4.3 miles, 4 stiles. Return about 12.45pm Leader Mel Y

**Walk 13. 2pm Arclid Quarry from St John's, Church Lane (D9.),** Sandbach Heath. Walking the boundary of Arclid Quarry (now mostly reclaimed and green), Reynolds farm and return on Church Lane. About 3.5 miles, no stile. Return about 4pm. Leader Trevor B. Please bring a donation for the Church car park, to pass to leader.

**Walk 14. 7pm from Wheelock Green Bank (D10.), Corn, Salt & Silk.** A stroll through the Industrial History of Wheelock and Malkins Bank, led by Richard H, our guru for local history.

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**Destinations.** For directions to the starting place destinations (D...), see below.

**D1. Sandbach United Football Club (SUFC)**

**From Sandbach, driving.** Follow Crewe Road out of Sandbach towards Wheelock, but at the traffic lights, turn right onto Hind Heath Road. SUFC large car park is about a mile on the right.

**From Elworth, driving.** Follow Middlewich Road towards Sandbach, then turn right onto Abbey Road, then at the roundabout turn left and SUFC large car park is on the left.

**From Sandbach, walking about 1.5miles.** Follow Middlewich Road out of Sandbach, ignoring Park Lane and Moorland Road on the left, then go left onto Abbey Road eventually coming to a roundabout. Immediately before the first exit from the roundabout, follow the wooded walkway on the left (Wheelock Rail Trail) and after about 200m arrive at SUFC. We meet in the car park to the right of the Rail Trail.

**D2. Plant Lane canal car park.** Follow Middlewich Road out of Sandbach to Elworth. At traffic lights go straight, over iron railway bridge, then go immediately left, just before the Fox Inn, into Moss Lane. The lane bends left then right and immediately after canal bridge is the car park on the left. If congested, there are a few spaces on the road.

**D3. Salt Line car park, Hassall Green.** (*You are recommended to follow the driving instructions below, rather than Google Maps which might go down narrow lanes, with large farm vehicles*).

From Sandbach traffic lights follow the road called The Hill over M6, then in about a mile turn right into New Inn Lane. At a little green triangle with a tree, ignore the road fork to the right, then keep on, ignoring minor roads right and left, go over the canal, under the M6 and very soon the Salt Line car park will be on the right, overflow car parks are beyond main car park.

**D4. Fanny's Croft, Alsager.** If you know your way through Alsager, head for the station, over the level crossing and Fanny's Croft is on the right, car park is off the Croft to the left.

**OR,** if you don't want to drive through Alsager, follow the instructions below:

From Sandbach traffic lights, follow the road called 'The Hill' (A533), over M6 and after about 3.5 miles, at T-junction, go right (A50), then after about 0.6 mile go right on B5077, left at first set of traffic lights, over the level crossing and Fanny's Croft is on the right, car park then on the left.

**Notes,** if the car park is full, park in Oak Avenue opposite Fanny's Croft, or nearby residential roads. Alison in yellow Hi-Vis will be waiting at entrance to Fanny's Croft to direct you.

**D5. Middlewich Big Lock and Finney's Lane.**

Follow Middlewich Road through Elworth to Middlewich (about 5 miles). At the traffic lights in Middlewich, go left. Quite soon, be ready to turn first right at a filter lane and into Pepper Street and go immediately left (you should see a brown sign to The Big Lock pub). The road bends right where it becomes Webb's Lane. Follow this for about 0.3 mile and the Big Lock pub is at the end, with parking on Finney's Lane to the left.

**D6. Old Knutsford Road.** From Sandbach traffic lights, follow the road called "The Hill", over the M6 and keep going for about 2 miles to Rode Heath. At the T-junction with the A50, turn right, then next left into Old Knutsford Road and park before the canal aqueduct (bridge).

**D7. Third Avenue, Sandbach.** Follow Crewe Road out of Sandbach, Third Avenue is on the left. Park in nearby residential roads.

**D8. Lawton Hall Drive.** From Sandbach traffic lights, follow the road called 'The Hill' (A533), over M6 and after about 3.5 miles, at T-junction, go right (A50), then after 0.5 mil, A50 forks left (or next left at traffic lights, if you miss it) and continue on A50. After about 0.6 mile, ignore sign for Lawton Manor, and then very soon go next left into Lawton Hall Drive. Park on this Drive, or there is a car park to the right, park in the un-marked gravel area, not between the painted lines intended for residents parking.

**Note,** Alison in yellow Hi-Vis will be waiting at entrance to the Drive; she will direct you from there.

**D9. St. John's Church, for Arclid Quarry.** From Sandbach traffic lights, follow the road called 'The Hill' (A533), immediately after the chip shop. Go left into Heath Road, after about 0.5 mile go left into Church Lane, over M6 and just before a left corner park in St John's Church car park. Donations for the Church car park much appreciated, leader can pass them to the Church.

**D10. Wheelock Green Bank.** Follow Crewe Road out of Sandbach, over canal and river, down to Wheelock, Green Bank small car park is on the left after river (opposite Shampaan Restaurant). If full, go back up Crewe Road and left after canal, park in Forge Fields.

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We suggest a 50p donation per walk, or £5 October to October, whichever is the least. The donation is voluntary, no-one is counting, but it helps to pay for insurance, website, etc.

You can pass donations to the leader of a walk, or if you prefer a bank transfer, here are the SFG account details.

sort code      30 12 59

A/C number    18742868

A/C name      The Sandbach Footpath Group

Many thanks.

**Sandbach Footpath Group**

We have insurance for negligence (e.g. accidentally releasing cattle onto a road), but not personal accident insurance, so walking is at your own risk, just the same as if you were walking on your own.

email:            [sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sandbachfootpathgroup@gmail.com)

website:        [sandbachfootpaths.org](http://sandbachfootpaths.org)

Facebook:      sandbachfootpaths    or search for Sandbach Footpath Group