

This risk assessment relates only to the *generic* features of a common activity; it does not cover those *specific* to a location or group. It therefore must not be used without completing the local review, making additions as necessary to take account of local circumstances. However, such a local review need not be timeconsuming. Use the box at the bottom to create the local review, or add extra pages as necessary. **SEE ACCOMPANYING SAFETY NOTES**

ACTIVITY ASSESSED	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT DATE
23. GUIDED WALKS	STEPHEN BOLSOVER	11 th May 2016
In a guided walk the HNCf volunteer(s) are acting as guides only. Their responsibility for the safety of the party relates only to the sites visited and the possible dangers posed by them to a normal healthy adult. The visitors who have attended the walk retain the primary responsibility for their own safety and for assessing the terrain and possible dangers. For example, a visitor who is unsteady on their feet should make their own decision as to whether an uneven path is safe for them to walk along. The safety of children remains primarily the responsibility of the parent or other person who brought the child to the event. All our reserves are small, so that parties can rapidly return to inhabited streets if problems arise.		
HAZARD potential for harm	RISK LEVEL	PRECAUTIONS to remove hazard or reduce risk level. One precaution may tackle several hazards.
Guided walks represent a potential threat to the safety of those taking part. Some walkers may have health conditions or disabilities. Children in the party may behave inappropriately and put themselves and others of the party in danger.	L	The route should be planned in advance and those attending warned if conditions to be encountered differ from those one would normally expect in reserves of our type – for example if a stream has to be forded, deep mud crossed that required footwear more substantial than walking shoes, or bramble thickets penetrated that could scratch unprotected skin. If the sun is shining and the walk involves significant periods in the open, the guide should suggest to the group that skin is protected by clothing or sun screen. However, this can only be a suggestion – the wellbeing of the visitors remains their own responsibility.
RISKS AND PRECAUTIONS SPECIFIC TO THE SITE OR DAY ASSESSOR ASSESSMENT DATE APPLICABLE DATES (This is likely either to be one specific day, or “until further notice”.)		

Risk level: L = Low, M = Medium, H = High