

Saturday 18th September *Our first real life and in person event since*
Walk The District 2021 *the pandemic - lets make it one to remember!!*

Brethren,

The time has come to dust off your walking boots or at least have some comfy shoes at the ready. Yes Walk The District 2021 is on the horizon and 18th September will be with us faster than you would care to think.

This year will see our third event and it will be bigger, better and even more enjoyable than ever. There will be a role for everyone either walking (anything from a few hundred yards to the full 23 miles), acting as a support driver, visiting Bacup or Todmorden Masonic Halls offering encouragement (and a brew) or simply cheering us all along the way.

There will be four distinct sections to the walk this year and brethren, partners, potential new candidates and friends are all welcome to take part. Everyone can do as much or as little as they choose. Please let me know where you would like to start and finish. The four different stages are;

- Summit to Rochdale,
- Rochdale to Bacup,
- Bacup to Todmorden,
- Todmorden to Summit

Stage One

As you will see we will start off at 7.30am from the Summit Pub on Todmorden Road, Summit, Littleborough. Those aiming to complete the whole walk should start from here. There will be parking on the pub car park and on the roadside too. There will be access to the toilets at Richard Street between 9.00am and 10.00am.

Stage Two

The second stage from Rochdale to Bacup is probably the longest one and I have allowed two and a half hours for this (as you will see from the below table).

Stage Three

A welcome brew will be available at Bacup before our intrepid walkers set off again, onwards and upwards - literally as brethren and all make their way over the hill to Todmorden.

Brethren at Todmorden are holding a Heritage open day at the same time and it will certainly add to the occasion to see everyone visiting to show support (and a brew).

Stage Four

The fourth and final stage will be a pleasant stroll along the valley floor from Todmorden to Summit. It will be great if all the walkers can keep as close to the timetable as possible and all leave Todmorden at the same time. I'm sure the prospect of a well-earned pint at the Summit Inn will encourage some to walk a little faster from this point - after all we wouldn't want to queue for a pint at the pub now would we!!



All those with yellow tee shirts from two years ago are most welcome to wear them again and to cap it off (sorry for the pun) we have ordered 100 designer baseball caps with our own Rochdale District Freemasons logo on the front. They are just £10 each and I'm sure they will be very popular. Please place your order early to avoid disappointment.

I have a vision of 100 baseball caps making their way around the route and I hope we can make it a reality.

	Route	Time	⁴ Support Drivers	Participants	Notes
1	Summit to Rochdale	7.30 - 9.30			Comfort break at Richard Street if needed
2	Rochdale to Bacup	9.30 - 12.00			Alan Butterworth will open up at 11.30am for brews
3	Bacup to Todmorden	12.00 - 1400			Brian Smith will open up for refreshments and Heritage
4	Todmorden to Summit	14.00 - 16.00			Well earned drink in the pub

In addition to being a great social event and one that promotes freemasonry across the district we also raise money for ELMC too. I am mindful that lodges have not had many opportunities to raise money for good causes this year and so I haven't set a target for this event. Nonetheless, it would be great if lodges and individual brethren could make a donation and I will keep you updated with our running total.

There is a dedicated account for donations and of course cash and cheques will be most gratefully accepted too.

Account Details

S Taylor
Lloyds Bank
77-01-05
73019560

Home Address

42 Union Road,
Wardle,
Rochdale,
OL12 9QA

Baseball Caps can also be paid for using any of the above methods - please let me know if any money deposited is for ELMC or for your "essential attire."

Support Drivers

We will need a number of support drivers on the day all of which play a vital role in the success and safety of our event. If you would like to volunteer please send me your contact details along with the times you will be available on the day. I have already roped Dave Jones in to get the ball rolling.

I will look forward to hearing from everyone soon.

John Taylor
District Charity Steward
07961976641