

# THE RUSSELL SOCIETY: FIELD TRIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 2026

## Introduction

To ensure that everyone who organises or takes part in field trips understands the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved, these are set out below.

The Field Trip Organiser (FTO) in an area is the person responsible for arranging field trips. Each trip is then coordinated on the day by a Field Trip Coordinator (FTC). In many cases the FTO and FTC will be the same person.

Volunteers must note that they are responsible to the Russell Society (RS) for their own individual Health and Safety and wherever possible for those around them at all times.

## Field Trip Organiser (FTO)

- Produces a field trip programme for the year.
- Undertakes FTC role directly or delegates to another person.
- FTO, or delegated FTC, arranges access and permissions from all relevant parties.
- FTO issues the programme to the Newsletter Editor in time for inclusion in the Spring Newsletter. Late arranged trips should be advertised on the member's page of the RS website.
- Liaises with delegated FTC, if necessary, during production of the Risk Assessment and Indemnity Form for each trip.
- Organises storage of completed Risk Assessments and Indemnity Forms, including forward of completed Indemnity Forms to the Vice President within one week of each trip (unless agreed with FTC that they forward forms direct).
- Receives completed field trip reports and distributes/ files these as appropriate, including forwarding to Newsletter Editor.
- May or may not attend specific trips.

## Field Trip Coordinator (FTC)

- Arranges access and permissions where not undertaken by FTO.
- Produces Risk Assessment and Indemnity Form.
- Checks with site management/owners (as far as reasonable) re suitability of the Risk Assessment and to note any specific site instructions.
- Gets the Risk Assessment reviewed by another experienced Russell Society member and where applicable, the site management.
- Books members onto trip and ensures attendees are members, otherwise they cannot attend.
- Records arrival and departure of attendees.
- Ensures that Indemnity Form is completed before the trip starts.
- Sends the Risk Assessment and Indemnity forms in advance to attendees to make sure they understand and agree the risks and requirements.
- Briefs attendees before the trip starts on Risk Assessment and any special instructions, also reminds individuals that by signing the Indemnity Form they are responsible to the RS for their individual safety and that of others around them.
- Whilst individuals are responsible for their own Health and Safety and for complying with the Risk Assessment the FTC may give additional instructions during the trip.
- If excavators/diggers are to be used then see specific Russell Society conditions for their use.
- Seeks a volunteer to produce the field trip report and issues the report to the FTO/Newsletter Editor.
- Will act as the focal point to arrange action in the event of an accident.
- To notify the RS of any Health & Safety issues brought to their attention via the Incident Report Form.

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- Forwards / arranges storage of completed forms as agreed with FTO.

### Attendees

- Book field trip places via the FTO or delegated FTC. (All members attending a trip must have paid their membership).
- Complete the required forms after reading and accepting their contents.
- Note and adhere to the Risk Assessment and any special instructions on the day of the trip.
- Follow any instructions provided by site management.
- Attendees are responsible for their own actions, whilst preserving the right for the FTC (and others) to issue instructions and for these to be complied with immediately.
- As part of the field trip the volunteer agrees to offer their services for all reasonable activities to ensure the safety of themselves and others including warning others re potential Health and Safety breaches.
- As a volunteer to also contribute to recording what is found, and if asked, to produce a field trip report for the benefit of the RS and third parties as may be required.
- Report any Health and Safety concerns immediately to the FTC.
- Note the RS insurance only covers members and not guests. Guests are thus not permitted on field trips. Short term membership may be available in some circumstances.