

# Steve Lack

## Ramblers Chairperson & Walk Leader

### Tell me a bit about your volunteering role?

As Chair of Hull & Holderness Ramblers I organise the committee and make sure different roles are being carried out (Membership Secretary, Walks Organiser, Footpath Secretary, Treasurer). I liaise with official bodies such as the council, Highways England, Environment Agency, Transpennine Trail and England Coast Path. I respond to planning applications that Ramblers have a legitimate interest in. As Chair I am a member of the Ramblers Area Council. I update the facebook pages and website but that doesn't have to be Chair's job. I lead walks to set an example and encourage others.

### Why do you volunteer?

I did it initially to keep the group going; it was nearly defunct and I think Ramblers is a valuable charity. I was in at the deep end! 40 years of working in local government and trade unions prepared me for committee work; organisations are all bureaucratic and some people may have been put off by that.

### What have you gained from doing this?

It's rewarding to see new people joining the club and getting a lot out of walking. I've learned quite a lot about the regional and national functions of Ramblers; locally it's mainly about organising walks, but nationally there is a lot of lobbying of councils and government on environmental and rights of way issues.

### What would you say to someone who's thinking of getting into volunteering?

Do something you enjoy or care about or want to learn something from. Tell them what you want (company, fitness, building a CV, new skills, qualification, good cause etc.) and what you can offer. Talk to people who are already involved. See if there are other similar opportunities around, you may have a choice. Try a few if you're not sure. Remember you can walk away from volunteering if it doesn't work out.

