

Community Stars – Refreshments stand

A rock for ramblers

The Rock is an area west of Telford that is steeped in history, with many mines, Victorian industrial sites and chapels in the vicinity. The recently created Lawley and Overdale History Trail takes in some of the key sites, enabling ramblers to appreciate the history all around them.



Sadly, many of the chapels and facilities marked on the trail map are now closed, which gave the congregation at The Rock Primitive Methodist Chapel an idea. There weren't many places for walkers to find refreshments on their travels, so The Rock filled the gap by opening its doors and offering tea and coffee. The church itself used to be on a crossroads, and occupies a prominent position on the last leg of the history trail. The local history group stopped there on their very first walk and everyone was welcomed with hot drinks and biscuits.

The history buffs took the opportunity to look around the historic building and were so taken with the chapel that they now hold their regular meetings there.

“ Opening the Chapel for walkers was something we could do for the community and was an opportunity for us to get to know different people from the district. ”

Maureen Rollason
Treasurer, The Rock

Church details

- The Rock Primitive Methodist Chapel, Telford
- Telford Circuit, Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District
- Average congregation: 10 to 15

What you'll need

- A space to welcome thirsty walkers
- Coffee, tea and biscuits
- Toilet facilities
- A volunteer or two

Catering by numbers

- A 7.5-mile long trail
- The entire walk can take 4 hours
- 1835: the year Primitive Preaching started in the Rock
- 0p: the price charged for a cup of coffee!



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