

Bonfire season starts the first weekend in September and runs through until the end of November. Bonfire Societies hold their own torchlit processions through the county, visited by other Societies (we all support one another) our dedicated team of walkers travel to visit different carnivals to take part in the processions, promoting our local community, and upholding the tradition of Bonfire. As a member, you are welcome to join us as a Walker - any age welcome. You aren't expected to go to every event. Some walks are longer/more testing than others, so an enjoyment of walking is recommended!

Once you have given it a go, it's easy to catch the Bonfire bug! It's fun, and we wear our Society outfits with pride. Each year, as the season approaches, that excitement will start to build!



IMPORTANT: Costumes must be made appropriately flame retardant. We can recommend: <u>Fire-Check retardant Spray.</u> Apply liberally before attending following user guidelines.

All Walkers are representing Rotherfield & Mark Cross Bonfire Society. As such while we encourage fun and enjoyment, we expect our members to follow any instructions from the R&MCBS Core Team, appointed marshals, and the emergency services.

All Walkers must abide by the following:

No use of horns/whistles are to be used during a procession

No fireworks or bangers should be used within a procession

Walkers need to walk in rows of three, with a clear space between each person on a row.

Walkers must maintain the formation at all times, avoiding any gaps with the Society in front

Torches are to be carried at arm's length

Do not wave torches around, and keep them a safe distance from any bystanders or vehicles

Do not pass any torch to a member of the public

Those on outer ranks should hold torches in the hand closest to the pavement and to the side, those in the centre ranks should hold them straight up

Burnt torches should be dropped safely - away from bystanders and vehicles

Any children in the procession must be supervised at all times

Any drunk, disorderly or reckless behaviour will not be accepted during any Bonfire Society event - any walker found behaving inappropriately will be asked to leave the procession Children under the age of 12 are not permitted to carry a lit torch

When attending other Sussex Bonfire events, members should respect the rules of the host society and adhere to our own

Anybody in breach of the above will be asked to leave. If no Core Team representative is attending a Bonfire event, a Walker will be delegated the responsibility of ensuring rules are upheld



Please wear the appropriate Bonfire costume when walking at any Bonfire event, this consists of:

Smugglers: Rotherfield striped jumper, white trousers (no other colour) red and white paisley neckerchief, black bowler or top hat if you have one

Pioneers: Jester's costume and either jester hat or mask. We are happy for walkers to add LED lights to their costumes and wear face paint/glitter

If walkers are not wearing the required costume, they will not be allowed to participate