

The duties of the 'back marker' can be various and depend upon the size of the group and the walking environment. A back marker might not be appointed because the group is small.

Appoint a back-marker (preferably, someone who knows the route as well as you) on the day and make sure he or she is known to the party, and that everyone knows the back marker's function; eg., to close gates (see the country code) and to ensure that no member of the party falls behind unseen. However, it is the leader's responsibility to ensure that contact is not lost with the rear of the party through a gap opening up in the middle.

Some groups provide their back marker with a whistle to attract the attention of the leader. Other have two-way radios!

It can be important if much road walking is to be undertaken to provide a luminous jacket so they can easily be seen by traffic.

It is an idea to rotate the back markers, although some walkers prefer to 'bring up the rear'!