

To all members:

A number of us have recently been discussing the accuracy of directions to walk starts and the ease in which problems can be reported to the Emergency Services if required! As a result I've compiled the following which I hope you will find useful.

A note on the use of smartphone apps to help you navigate to walk starts and when you're walking:

OS Maps: An increasingly popular and useful tool for finding locations, walks recording and sharing.

[OS Maps App | Get unlimited GB mapping online & on your phone \(ordnancesurvey.co.uk\)](https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/app/)

Ways in which you can determine your locational position:

My favourite one is: [OS Locate app - find where you are \(ordnancesurvey.co.uk\)](https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/app/)

n.b. this also allows you to share your position over the internet.

Fuller description of all Ordnance Survey Apps

<https://shop.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/apps/>

A recent example - Using the start point for "the Steves" walk at Temple Balsall on 11th August. The nearest post code is B93 0AN, but this is only an approximation as post codes are only more accurate in urban areas, which is a bit of a problem in the countryside!

There are three alternatives which give extremely accurate location points:

1. Using the **grid code** SP215770, this can be located using the OS Maps app (or can be found on the appropriate 1:25000 scale OS Explorer map).
2. **What 3 words** divides the world into three metre squares and allocates three words to each location, which can be shared.

<https://what3words.com/products/what3words-app/>

Using What 3 words gives you: <https://w3w.co/neater.ferried.goes>

In the case of an Emergency use OS locate or what 3 words which can be used to identify your location to the appropriate service.

3. A link to the **Grid Reference** site will provide you with a whole set of location details, by using the grid reference above: [Grid Reference Finder](#)

A Useful Guide to Grid References

[A beginners guide to grid references | OS GetOutside \(ordnancesurvey.co.uk\)](#)

Rob Swainston

Footpaths Secretary

robertswainston@hotmail.com