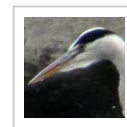




February Fossil Walk 2017

Barbara Sharples



Route Summary

A reworking of the Feb Fossil walk from Feb 2014. A few stiles, muddy, hill near start but a stretch of canal near the end. Lots of interesting local history.

Route Overview



Category: Walking

Rating: Unrated

Surface: Average

Date Published: 27th January 2017

Difficulty: Easy

Length: 7.760 km / 4.85 mi

Last Modified: 28th January 2017

Description

This time we started and finished at the Victoria Hotel, St Johns Street, Great Harwood. The route along the local 'white path' towards Rishton is good. We turned right off the path at the end of the new cemetery land and headed towards Lee Lane. You can see the gate and PRO sign on your right as you join Lee Lane. Cross the road and enter the field, heading directly in front of you and you will see the footbridge to your right. Over the footbridge and up the fenced path over all the stiles until you get to the farm house. Through the gate and up the hill towards the stile. Once over the stile carry on forward until you reach the old farm track that is now just an FP (FP54). You will reach Y hill on your left and Smalley Delph quarry on your right which is lovely when the gorse is flowering SD719319.

Note: We could not find the FP to take us to SD719318, SD718317 (waterfall) to SD718318 footbridge into Star Delph.

We continued ahead on FP52 but expect to meet horses in this area - some will nip your clothing and they will certainly follow and pester you.

Note: At SD717318, and a stile near a gate, we had to take a detour on FP 45, over a footbridge, SD716318, through a field to meet Wilpshire Road SD715317 in order to avoid the pestering horses!

Your route should be down FP44 from SD717318 to SD718317 (waterfall) and the footbridge at SD718318 into Star Delph over the footbridge. Take time to do the circular walk around Star Delph to view the fossil and the waterfall.

Choose your trail



Star Delph Quarry (also known as Harper Clough Quarry) lies hidden next to the Wilshire Road.

Star Delph is known for a pattern on the rock face, which is the fossilised record of the root pattern (called stigmara) of a large plant known as a lepidonendron.

Leave Star Delph at the stile on Wilshire Road SD718316, turn left and be cautious as you walk down the busy road. Turn right at the farm house and head towards Cunliffe quarry along the track through one farm and down to the next farm. Circle the farm via two gates on to Cut Lane. The route takes you over a bridge and the old Great Harwood Loop railway line and on to the canal. Follow the canal towpath back towards Rishton going under the B6535 Harwood Road until you reach the Spring Street canal bridge. Leave the canal and then take a slight right and left to follow the Ladybird Trail route to Tottleworth Bridge circa 1912. Carry on over the little bridge to the railway bridge, up the steps and turn right back to your start.

Waypoints

Choose your trail

