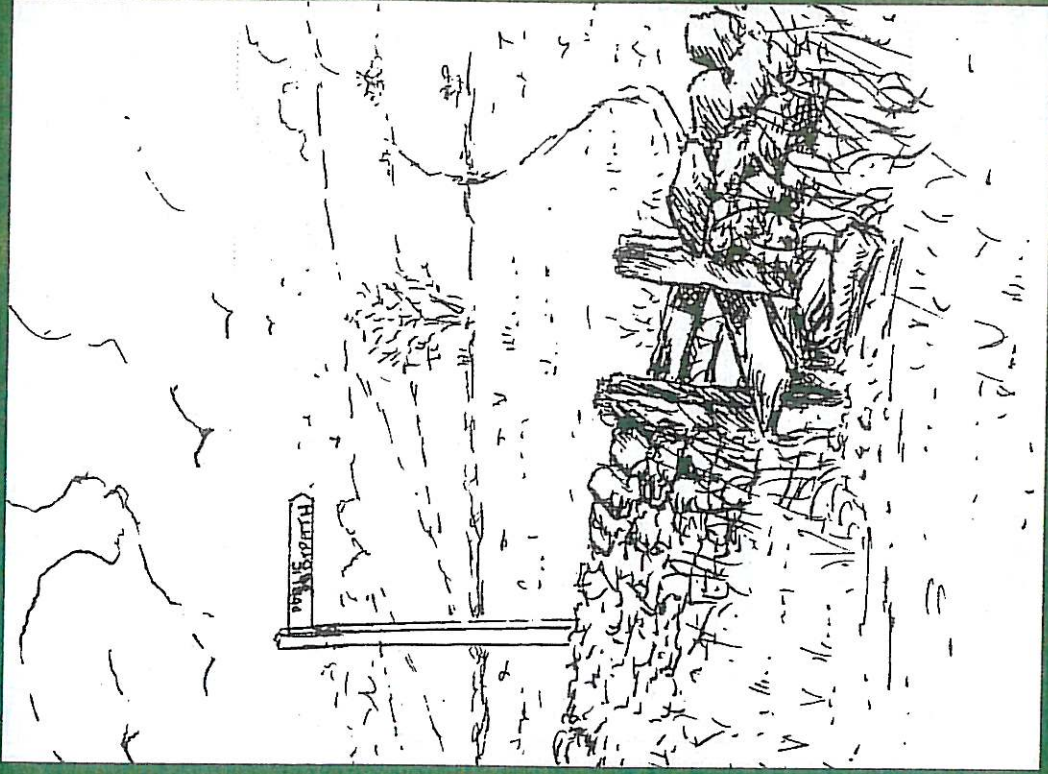


Walking the Paths of GREAT HARWOOD

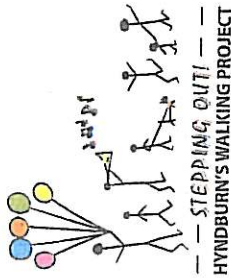


A GREAT HARWOOD CIVIC SOCIETY
PUBLICATION

GREAT HARWOOD

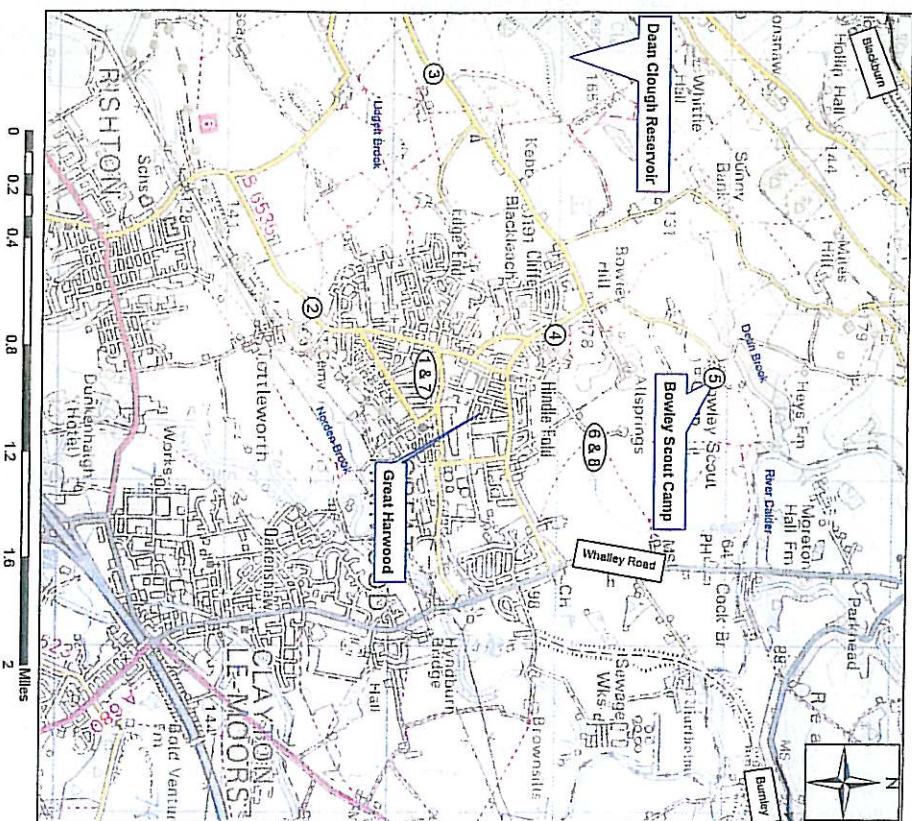


CIVIC SOCIETY



First Printed by MW Print Commercial Colour Printers in 1985
Revised copy 2009

Great Harwood



Great Harwood and surrounding countryside.

Starting points of walks:

1. Round the Houses
2. Beyond the Lidgett
3. Dean Clough
4. Back O' Bowley
5. Whalley Banks
6. Calderside
7. By Hyndburn Bridge
8. Nature Trail

summer months the camping ground can be covered with tents.

- Your rough lane now joins a well surfaced road which leads on the left to the Camp and Lower Dean Farm.
- (3) A little higher up the hill, on the same side as Lower Dean Farm another farm called Dean Farm once stood where John Mercer, the self taught chemist and Great Harwood's most eminent son, was born. John spent much of his youth with relatives at a cottage higher up the road.
- Your way now lies straight up the hill but turn round occasionally to admire the view and perhaps to get your breath. Proceed forward, ignoring all side turnings, until you see a stile on your left near the top of the hill. The rocky outcrop on your right is Bowley Hill seen to much better advantage from its other side.
- Pass over the stile and carry on across the field keeping close to the wall.

Stop at the first opening in this wall and look out to the Ribbles Valley. On a clear day Pen-y-Ghent can be seen. You are now at a height of some 600 feet, the highest point of the walk. Exposed trees show clearly the direction of the prevailing wind.

- Go over the next stile through some woodland, across a private road to another stile. From this stile follow the hedge line. At the end of the hedge turn left. Go down the field to the next stile at the bottom right corner of the field where White Poplar trees have been planted. Tan House can be seen across the field to your left.
- Tanning of leather gave Tan House its name.*
- Climb over this stile and cross the road into Memorial Park, which contains many interesting trees and shrubs. Head downhill towards the War Memorial.

Running down the northern boundary of the Park is a fine piece of Beech woodland through which you may wander.

- And now you have completed your Walk. The starting point, Allsprings Lodge, is at the bottom of the Park. It is hoped that you have enjoyed the walk. Try it again at another time of the year – it will have other pleasures to offer.



























the bottom of the field. The frequency of "Hollins" in the place names of the area (Old English hōleġn = Holly) demonstrates that this tree was common in earlier times.

- **Proceed along the lane as indicated.**
- (2) This lane is part of a very ancient bridle way from Clitheroe to Belthorn, near Oswaldtwistle Moor. Strings of pack horses, known as "lime gals", carried lime from Clitheroe along this track returning laden with coal. It was the responsibility of each township through which the bridle way passed to keep its own portion in repair. Look out for Foxgloves along the bank. The Foxglove is a biennial over-wintering the first year as a rosette of leaves and flowering in its second year, producing its seed then dying. The farm which you next reach is Hey's Farm. This is another old farm house whose records date back to the 17th Century. The Damson trees in the enclosure between the lane and the farm obscure the farmhouse. This farm is known locally as 'Berry's Farm' as its 35 acres were farmed by a family of that name for more than a hundred years.
- **Consult your map carefully at the cross roads. Do not go up the hill or down through the farm gates, but choose the middle route.** Splendid views open out before you of Hameldon and the Calder Valley. If you look back at Berry's Farm, you can see that the chimney breast is built on the outside of the house and the hood moulds round the front windows give it a pleasing appearance. Farms built later in the 18th Century in this area were plain and austere. A little further along the lane it is well worth looking back to the Sabden Valley and the hill beyond. Greater Stitchwort is plentiful here along the hedge and banks in season.
- **The road soon turns down a rough slope to a stone bridge across Dean Brook, the same brook which you crossed down stream by the 'clapper bridge'.** Woodland stretches both up and down stream and there is plenty to interest the bird watcher. The woodland is natural in its appearance and species composition and is present on the first accurate maps of the area drawn up around the year 1600. Such ancient semi-natural woodlands support a range of woodland flowers. The Wild Garlic grows freely here with Cuckoo Pint in the shady places and Herb Robert in the stone walls of the bridge. Enchanter's Nigella and Wood Avenas may also be found. Dean Wood has been selected as a Biological Heritage Site which makes it one of the best and most important sites for wildlife in the county.
- **Take the very rough road up the hill which is bordered on the left with Beech and on the right with Sycamore.** The wooden building in the field on your left is the headquarters of Bowley Scout Camp, the training ground for NE Lanes Scout masters. In the

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About this leaflet—Updated 2009

In updating this leaflet we have tried to keep to the original format and include all the drawings and routes that had made the leaflet so successful. However as things have changed we have had to modify some of the routes and the information given. We have included a route that explores the town of Great Harwood making it suitable for pushchairs. We have also included shorter routes for people who are new to walking, so they can practise their direction following and maps skills, before heading out into the countryside. To make things even easier we have graded all the routes, so you know exactly what you are setting out to do before you leave your house.

All the routes are circular with an identified starting point. However you can start and finish them anywhere on the loop. Once you've walked the routes a few times why not try walking them in reverse. It is always a good idea to familiarise yourself with the map and directions first. Times given for all walks are approximate and should be only used as a guide. The time it takes you to walk a route will be dependent on how fast you walk and how familiar you are with the route. Most routes can be linked together so once you feel ready to increase your activity levels why not try putting 2 or 3 routes together and walk them as one.

Remember any walking is better than none, but to gain health benefits from walking you should be walking at a brisk pace, that makes you breathe faster, feel a little warmer and makes your heart beat a little faster.

Happy walking!

Fran Riley, 'Stepping Out' Walking Coordinator.

The Stepping Out Project is Hindburn's Walking for Health project. It is part of NHS East Lancashire's Healthy Lifestyle Team. Our project aims to encourage more people to take up walking as an enjoyable form of physical activity. We have a programme of Led Walks and a series of Independent Walking Packs. For more information please contact us on 01254 356800 or email: steppingoutproject@hotmail.com

clapper bridge. Do not miss the Himalayan Balsam here, a tall plant with pink blossoms and seed pods, which when ripe, explode and scatter their seeds when touched. This plant, as its name suggests, is an introduction which has become completely naturalised and has spread along watercourses to most parts of this country. Along the riverbank among the boulders you may find in Spring large specimens of Butterbur, a plant related to the Colt's-foot. The flowers are followed later by very large leaves rather like the cultivated rhubarb but by no means so edible.

Return to the gate and cross the bridge. The Dean Brook flows from Dean Reservoir some 1 ½ miles away.

• Cross the bridge, and continue to a pile of stones on your right, overshadowed by a fine Horse-Chestnut tree, which is all that remains of Waterside Farm. The stone-lined track leading from it to Hey's Farm can still be seen. Head left uphill, turning right at the end of the hedge. From the top of the bank the path continues on a fairly level course about thirty yards from the hedge on your right.

The view down the river is very fine with the background of Clerk hill and Wiswell Moor.

• Cross another stream using the two large flag-stones. Look out for the small yellow/green flowers of Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage, together with Brooklime and Himalayan Balsam close to the water's edge and a good stand of Giant Horsetail.

• Proceed onwards with the hedge on the left.

This hedge is rich in variety. Alder, Sycamore, Willows, Hawthorn, Hazel, Dog Rose, Oak, Honey Suckle and Ash are present. Can you identify all these? Using a formula devised by Dr. Max Hooper based on the number of different species in a 30 yard stretch of hedge it would seem that this particular stretch of hedge could well be some 700 years old! The Hazels produce the well known catkins in early Spring but rarely, if ever in this immediate locality, the nuts in autumn.

• The next gate is located across the small stream ahead. Your path continues with the hedge and stream on your right.

Half way through the field the hedge contains an abundance of Blackthorn. Unlike our other thorn, the Hawthorn, the Blackthorn produces its blossom before the leaves. Its fruit is the Sloe, used to make Sloe Gin, but these Blackthorns are not very fruitful.

• The path continues through the gate on the left and left up the field to a gate which leads into a lane to the right of a stone barn. This is the furthest point on your walk. Turn left at this point along the lane to return back to Great Harwood.

Before moving away from the gate notice Holly in the overgrown hedge at

course. The steep banks formed as the river continues to erode this drift are thickly clothed with vegetation. Most of the trees you have already seen on your walk are here and must be self sown. In spring the flowers include Bluebell, Wood Anemone, Lesser Celandine and Dog's Mercury. There are various ferns including Bracken, Male Fern and Lemon-scented Fern. The trees where you stand on top of the bank are mainly Beech and must have been planted. This is a good vantage point from which to watch birds but it is no longer possible to see Moreton Hall, which crowned the high ground across the river until it was demolished soon after World War II.

• **As you pass through the kissing gate you will find a bench provided on the other side if you need to take a rest. A most attractive path runs along the edge of the steep bank towards a knoll on which stands a Scots Pine.**

Although your path heads downhill, past this knoll, it is worth your while to take a path off to your right and head uphill briefly. The sandy soil, which is well suited to the Scots Pine (undoubtedly planted), is dominated by Wavy Hair-grass. Return to the path and notice the many Silver Birch trees with bracken underneath on the level ground on the left hand bank. This tree also does well on a sandy soil and is so happy here that its seeds produce an abundance of self sown seedlings, providing replacements for what is a short-lived tree.

• **The path now goes down steeply to Dean Brook.**

On the moist shady bank on your right grow Herb Robert, Barren Strawberry, Wood Anemone, Bluebell, Wood Sanicle, Wild Garlic, Hedge Woundwort, Wood Speedwell, Enchanter's Nightshade, Meadowsweet, and the Giant Bellflower in season. Just before the gate some young Wych Elm trees remain, having survived the ravages of Dutch Elm disease, so called because the Dutch have done a lot of research into the disease, not because it originated there. The disease is caused by a fungus that is spread innocently by two species of Elm Bark Beetle. Whilst this is not the first time that elm disease has affected the countryside, this strain is very strong and has unfortunately killed most of our Elm trees, but luckily one or two are more resistant and have survived. The young regrowth, however, once it reaches a certain size becomes susceptible once again, but hopefully will continue to survive until the disease eventually weakens and the trees can grow to maturity once more.

• **A clapper bridge crosses Dean Brook beyond the gate. However, before going through the gate it is worth continuing along the path to view the River Calder which can be seen rushing down to Whalley – a magnificent sight when in flood. The bed of the river is full of boulders washed out of the glacial drift. Retrace your steps to the gate and the**

FOREWORD

Great Harwood is situated on the edge of some of the most beautiful countryside in England, and more than two thirds of the area within its boundaries consists of fields and moorland. It is completely surrounded by green belt land.

The footpath map of the township shows it to be criss-crossed by a multitude of footpaths and bridleways. It was not always like this. Some paths were hundreds of years old, when the Heskeths lived at Martholme. There was also the bridleway over the Whalley Nab used by the Galloway ponies carrying lime from Clitheroe to Belthorn.

It was in 1762 when most paths were created. This was the year that an Act was passed allowing the enclosure of the moor. Up to this time, the moor, although owned by the Lords of the Manor, was used by the inhabitants of Great Harwood. They were allowed by law to take their animals to graze on the moor, cut peat for their fires and bracken for bedding their beasts. The Act of 1762 permitted the moor to be divided between the two Lords of the Manor, Sir Thomas Hesketh and Mr Alexander Nowell. New farms were planned, farmhouses built, and walls and fences erected around the new fields. Cart roads, bridle paths and footpaths were constructed from farm to farm and to the nearest highway. Some of these paths go through the yards of farms still standing.


When the reservoir was built, farming was continued for a time, but constant complaints about animals fouling the land, brought it to an end. The land reverted to moorland, tenants left their farmhouses and only a few traces of those old homesteads are left.

The aim of Great Harwood Civic Society is to assist in the preservation of these footpaths and bridleways. The members have been walking the footpaths and have noted the abundance of wild life. They have admired the variety of trees and flowers, both in spring and summer. They have paused to admire the distant views of Longridge Fell, Pendle Hill and the Valley of the Calder, the Rossendale Hills and the townships nearby. The booklet sets out six circular walks which cover most footpaths of Great Harwood. The walks can be done in both directions so making twelve walks in all. We hope the public of Great Harwood and visitors will get hours of enjoyment from them and be surprised at the beauty and interest which abounds in this corner of East Lancashire.

Great Harwood Civic Society April 1985

LEVELS


All walks are graded and also state their suitability for pushchair use.

Level 1-  Slight hills and/or some steps or stiles.

Level 2  - Slight hills and/or some steps or stiles.

Level 3  -Some hills and/or steps or stiles.

 **Pushchair Friendly** – Along fairly even surfaces, eg. Tarmac pavements and all weather footpaths.

 **Pushchair Passable** – Can be accessible with a pushchair but over some uneven surfaces. A little harder than the pushchair friendly route and accessibility can be affected by the weather.

 **Not Pushchair Friendly** – Not suitable for pushchairs due to steps or stiles & uneven surfaces.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Jack Holden of Great Harwood who made the drawings for the original leaflet in 1985.

Our thanks are also due to Lancashire County Council's Environmental Projects Team for providing us with the maps for this leaflet.

Harwood with leases dating back more than 500 years. The front and interior of the farm house were altered in 1930 and again in the 1990's but the large chimney breast remains. An inventory of Edward Mercer, who died here in 1726, shows that there was a goodly store of oats and barley in his barn.

• Pass in front of the farm house and proceed down the footpath.
Beyond the garden, Alder and mature Sycamore trees line Egg Syke Brook. Brooklime is present in this brook and plants lining its banks include Common Nettle, Cleavers and Thistles. Across the fields on your right, at the proper season, Lapwing, Curlew, Snipe and Sky Lark are to be heard and seen as well as common garden birds such as Blackbird, Thrush, Hedge Sparrow, Wren, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Blue Tit and Great Tit. The Cuckoo rarely fails to visit the area and Magpies, Rooks and Gulls are present at all times of the year.

• Beyond a gate on the left, a break in the hedge allows another view of Allsprings Hall.

There is a good stand of Bird Cherry in the hedge on your right where the path reaches the next stile. It is easily recognised by the loose spikes of fragrant flowers in Spring.

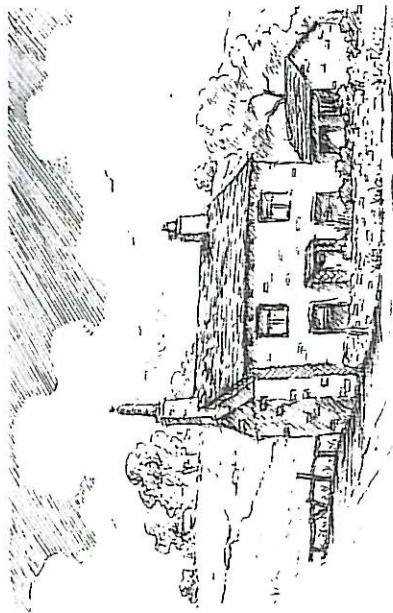
• Go through the kissing gate where the footpath crosses Egg Syke Brook.

In the damp hollow on your right is a group of Alder trees, which are the remains of Egg Syke Plantation. This is a tree which bears catkins early in the year followed by cone-like fruits. It is usually to be found growing in wet places. Its wood was formerly used for clog soles, being easily carved and resistant to water. Fencing is required to prevent sheep and cows from eating the natural regeneration of self sown young trees that are needed to replace the old ones over time.

Beyond the gate you are now crossing an area which is covered with sands and gravels deposited towards the end of the Ice Age by melt waters formed at the margins of the ice. Here are the underlying Millstone Grit outcrops above the sands and gravels and you pass one of these outcrops on your left just before the next gate. As you approach the gate the ground is more acidic as indicated by the presence of Tormentil, Heath Bedstraw, Mat-grass and Wood-rush in the shorter turf between the Rushes.

• Pass through the gate and go forward to the line of mature Beech and Sycamore trees.

When you reach the line of trees you will find yourself on a bank high above the River Calder. At this point the river has cut through the glacial drift (here sand, gravel and boulders) which had completely obstructed the pre-glacial course of the River Calder and largely resumed its former



Squires Farm

Lime trees along the lower boundary of the adjacent Memorial Park fills the air with perfume when this late flowering tree blooms in July. Allsprings Hall, just visible at the top of the private drive, was built by Mr. James Lomax in 1839.

◦ From the Lodge, go down the lane that passes in front of the house Keeping the fence on your right and the row of sycamore, ash and horse chestnut trees on your left.

The hedge on the left contains Elder, Hawthorn and Bramble with an occasional Oak and Ash. Two or three Sycamores in the hedge are being allowed to grow up into standard trees. The Elder, which is one of our most common hedgerow shrubs, never fails to follow its clusters of heavily scented blossoms in May with the Elder Berries of Autumn. Earlier generations made much use of both blossoms and berries for wine making. Rose Bay and Great Willowherb, Dog Violet, Tormentil, Woody Nighthshade and Common Horsetail are to be found on the road verge. The Horsetail, a plant with a very ancient lineage, has two stages of growth, the first in spring producing spores and the second in summer the better known feathery green stems with a succession of growths up the jointed stem rather like the spokes of a wheel.

At the first bend in the track it is worth pausing to look at the wet area in the field on your left where Brooklime grows – a plant which is often mistaken for a Forget-me-not. To your right the field known as the Long Field, slopes down towards the main Accrington/Whalley Road and the horizon is bounded by Read, Black Hill, the richly wooded Sabden Valley and above them Wiswell Moor and Pendle.

◦ Keeping to the lane you will reach Squire's Farm. (1)

This farm is one of the oldest known farms in the township of Great

SAFETY

Footpaths are not always kept in perfect condition and are often overgrown and subject to differing weather conditions, some of the routes pass close to some dangerous areas and there are also busy roads to cross. Great care must be taken on all the walks especially if children are in the party.

It is extremely important that the right footwear is worn and proper stout walking boots are recommended as the walks contain some rough terrain, it is also important that you dress appropriately for the weather conditions.

We would recommend that you take an Ordnance Survey Map of the area of at least 1.50 000.

The walks are not long and should not take longer than 3 hours at an easy pace, but this will vary with individual needs, plenty of water and food for yourself or party should be taken, a simple first aid kit and mobile phone are also advisable.

All starting points on the walk are within easy walking distance from the town centre. If parking close to the starting point and there is no car park available, walkers should park carefully and considerately taking note of all local restrictions.

The walks are done at your own risk and whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the route directions, changes do occur. Hedges are removed, fences moved, stiles changed and footpaths rerouted over time. The Civic Society except no responsibility for this or anything else that occurs whilst on the walks.

right up the hill between both the Palatine and Deveron Mills.

- Turning left after the mills the walk follows paths recently made along the old railway track. Continue past the town cemetery on the right until you reach a bridge which crosses the lane to Tottleworth. Take the steps leading down to the left. At the bottom turn right and follow the track to the main road.
- Turn right on Blackburn Road past houses which show the development of the town in materials and design. The most modern are built of brick, and these are followed by garden-fronted houses. The terraced sandstone houses were built around 1850 and on the right Nos 67, 69 and 71 are the oldest dwellings with low roofs built in 1780. Eventually you will reach the start of the walk at the car park on your left.

Points of Interest

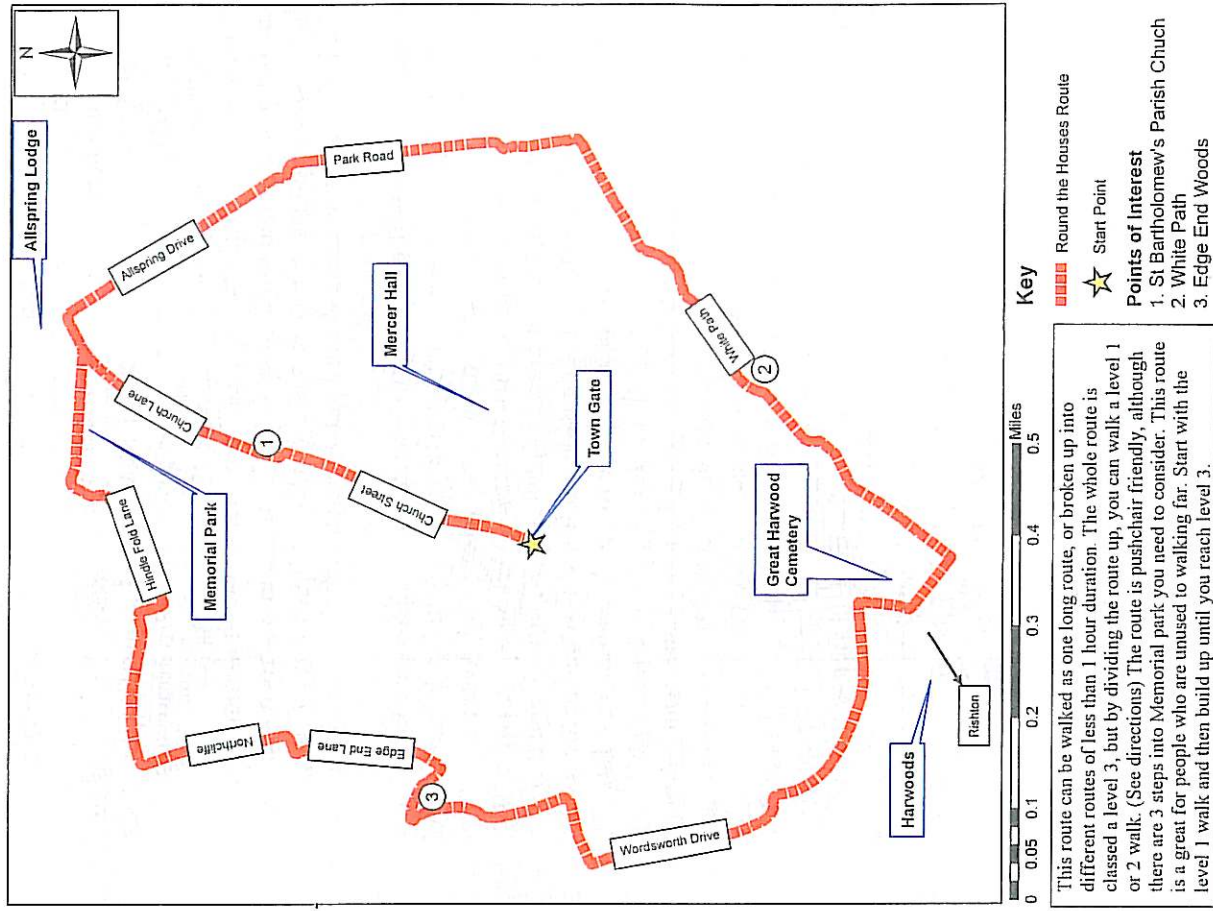
1. Town Gate - *The main building around the square is the Town Hall an imposing building built by the newly formed Urban District Council in 1897. In the town square is the Mercer Memorial Clock Tower erected by the council in 1903 in memory of John Mercer, inventor of 'mercerised cotton'.*
2. St Bartholomew's Church - *The earliest relevant document found is dated 1335 but the present church is mid 16th century. The tower is much older whilst the Tudor doorway has an old oak door.*
3. Old Railway Site - *The soil tipped in the course of making this new path probably came from the nearby Ribble Valley where limestone is present. This explains the number of time loving plants now growing here, such as Mullein, which are certainly not native to Hyndburn.*

Round the Houses

Time: 1.30hr

Start point: Town Gate

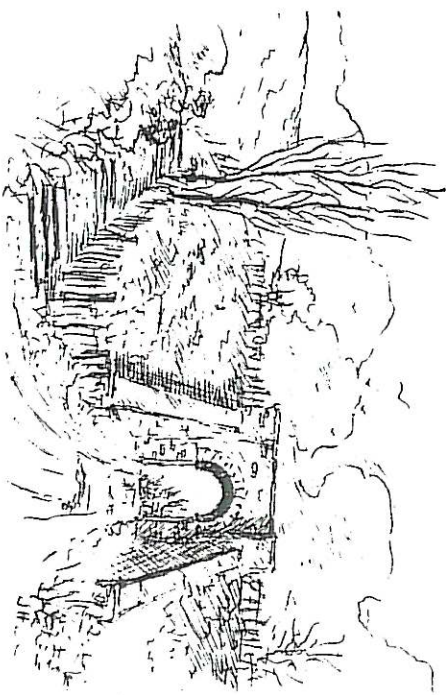
Suitability: ♡♡♡ (smiley face)



The Whole Route—Level 3

- Starting at the Town Gate, cross over Queen Street and continue up Church Street. At the top Saint Bartholomew's Parish Church (1) is in front of you.
 - Carry straight ahead into Church Lane. Soon Memorial Park is passed on the left and playing fields on the right. At the end of the road by Allsprings Lodge, walk down Allsprings Drive. Cross over Park Lane at the bottom and continue left before heading down Park Road.
 - Cross over Heys Lane and then continue straight down Station Road. At the bottom, bear right into Hameldon View. Where the road meets St Huberts Street, you should be able to see a footpath (known locally as the White Path) that runs along the old railway line, pick this up and continue to the right, along the path. (2)
 - Follow the path until you reach the cemetery, here take the road off to the right, through the centre of the cemetery. When you reach Blackburn Road, cross over with care, and continue up Shakespeare Avenue.
 - Proceed to the t—junction and then turn left up Wordsworth Drive. As the road bends to the right, continue straight on up Highfield, and then take the first road on your right, Edgeside. Follow this round to the left.
 - At the end continue straight on, along the footpath, leading into Edge End Wood (3). Follow this straight through and at the end turn right, following the path down hill. Turn left along Fielding Lane, which turns into Edge End Lane. Follow this straight ahead as the road, narrows down to a footpath and then back into a road. At the top turn right into Ash Lane and left up Northcliffe. Take the second right along Westcliffe.
 - At the end, cross over Cliffe Lane and continue almost straight along Hindle Fold Lane. Follow the road round to the left and then at the end go up 3 steps and into the top of Memorial Park.
 - Take the path off to the left and follow it round and down the hill, at the bottom it bears to the right, and then round to the left before bringing you out onto Church Lane. Turn to your right and proceed straight down the hill, back to the Town Gate.
- Option 1 Level 1**
- Starting at Town Gate, go right, down Queens Street. Follow the road straight until you reach St Hubert's Street on your right. Turn down here, past St Hubert's Church. At the bottom you should be able to see a footpath (known locally as the White Path) (2) that runs along the old

- left until you are opposite Alan Ramsbottom Way, (the entrance to the towns industrial estate.) At this point take the footpath off on your left. The way is now along the site of the old railway track. (3)
- Eventually the path reaches the main Whalley—Accrington Road. Turn right and follow the road past the end of Hyndburn Road until you reach Hyndburn Bridge Pub at the bottom. (There is a lovely view of the river winding its way past the cottages of Water Street).
 - A footpath sign shows the way – beside the pub and soon on the right of the track steps lead down to an iron bridge set amongst the trees.
 - Now follow a lovely path through the trees with Harwood Brook tumbling down on your right. Soon you reach Hyndburn Road again where you turn sharp left and go up the road which leads to the industrial estate.
 - After only a few yards a track leads to your left, take this and turn immediately right up a slight slope and onto open ground where a fine view is had across to Clayton-le-Moors.
 - Follow the path down until you reach a fork in the path, take the right hand fork, and continue along this footpath until you reach the road. Then keeping the road on your right continue to follow the footpath until you reach the allotments. At this point follow the track down to your left and take the first footpath on your right which winds its way through with allotments on both sides.



The Lane to Tottleworth

- Eventually you arrive back at the road. Turn left and then immediately

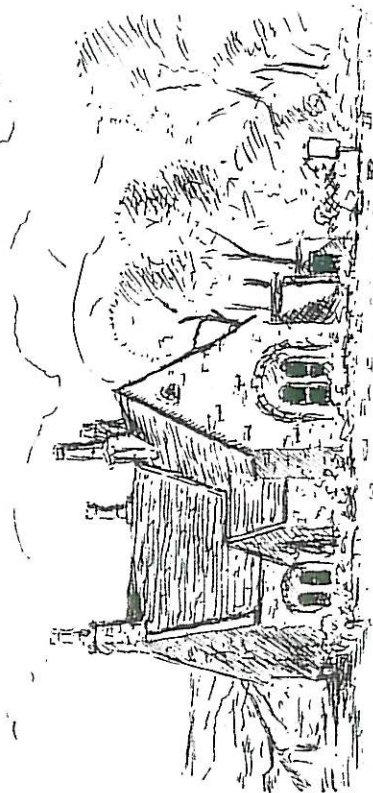
- railway line, pick this up and continue to the right, along the path.
- Follow the path until you reach the cemetery, here take the road off to the right, through the centre of the cemetery. When you reach Blackburn Road, turn right up the road. Continue until you reach Town Gate, where you started.

Option 2 Level 2

- Starting at the Town Gate, cross over Queen Street and continue up Church Street. You pass Bank Mill House on your left. At the top Saint Bartholomew's Parish Church is in front of you. (1)
- Carry straight ahead into Church Lane. Soon Memorial Park is passed on the left and playing fields on the right. At the end of the road by Allsprings Lodge, walk down Allsprings Drive. Cross over Park Lane at the bottom and continue left before heading down Park Road.
- Cross over Heys Lane and then continue straight down Station Road. At the bottom, bear right into Hameldon View. Where the road meets St. Huberts Street, you should be able to see a footpath (known locally as the White Path) (2) that runs along the old railway line, pick this up and continue to the right, along the path.
- Follow the path until you reach the cemetery, here take the road off to the right, through the centre of the cemetery. When you reach Blackburn Road, turn right up the road. Continue until you reach Town Gate, where you started.

Points of Interest

1. Saint Bartholomew's Parish Church - *The earliest relevant document found is dated 1335 but the present church is mid 16th century. The tower is much older whilst the Tudor doorway has an old oak door.*
2. White Path - *This footpath follows the route of the North Lancashire Loop line. The trains used to run in a cutting under this new path, with bridges that linked the streets on either side. When the railway line was closed, this cutting was filled in, up to the level of the bridges. The bridges still remain under the ground though their side walls were taken down to make one long continuous path. This path links to the Leeds-Liverpool canal and Rishton.*
3. Edge End Wood - *The Great Harwood Prospects Panel work on this site nearly every month - they do woodland management, hedgerow planting and generally maintain it, to encourage more people to use it.*



Allsprings Lodge

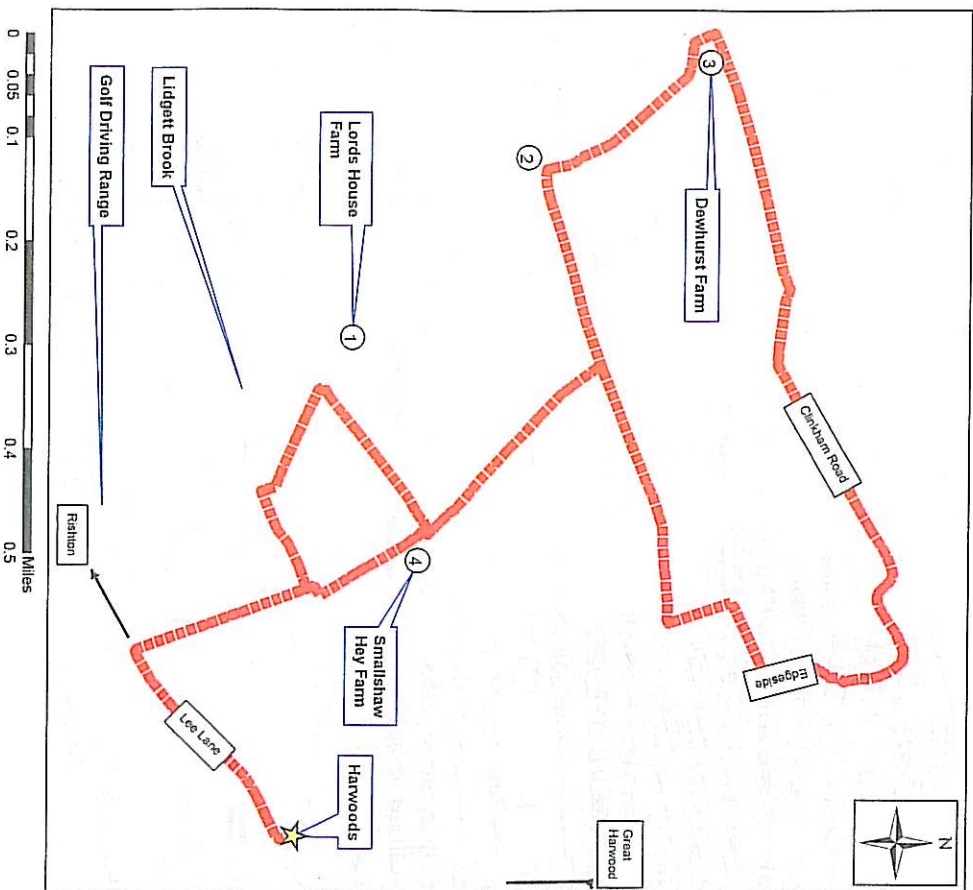
- The main car park in the centre of the town, on Blackburn Road is the starting point of this walk. Set off past the town market square. (1) Keeping to the pavement on the left of the main road, continue up Church Street and past the Cross Axes Hotel. You pass Bank Mill House on your left then Churchfield House on your right, at the top Saint Bartholomew's Parish Church is in front of you. (2)
- Carry straight ahead into Church Lane taking the right hand pavement. Soon Memorial Park is passed on the left and the playing fields on the right. At the end of the road by Allsprings Lodge, carry straight on by a notice board depicting the start of Great Harwood Nature Trail.
- Go down the lane until you reach a left hand bend. Climb the stile here then turn immediately right on to a grassy path following the hedgerow. Springs, common in Great Harwood, rise in the field to your right and are responsible for the patches of Common Rush and the boggy nature of the path.
- The path is now down the fence line to a stile and then continues in the next field with the fence on your left to a further stile. The indistinct path now makes diagonally across the field until the far corner of the field is reached, then take the stile by Heymoor Farm.
- Turn right to the main road and cross over to Lyndon Avenue. Go down the avenue, then on the first bend immediately after Lyndon Court take the path on your right.
- The path here runs alongside some football pitches on your right, these are used by Great Harwood Rovers. Follow this path until you reach the next road. Carry straight ahead until you reach the main road then turn

Beyond the Lidgett

Time: 90 mins

Start point: Harwoods

Suitability: ♡ ♡ ♡ ☹



Points of Interest

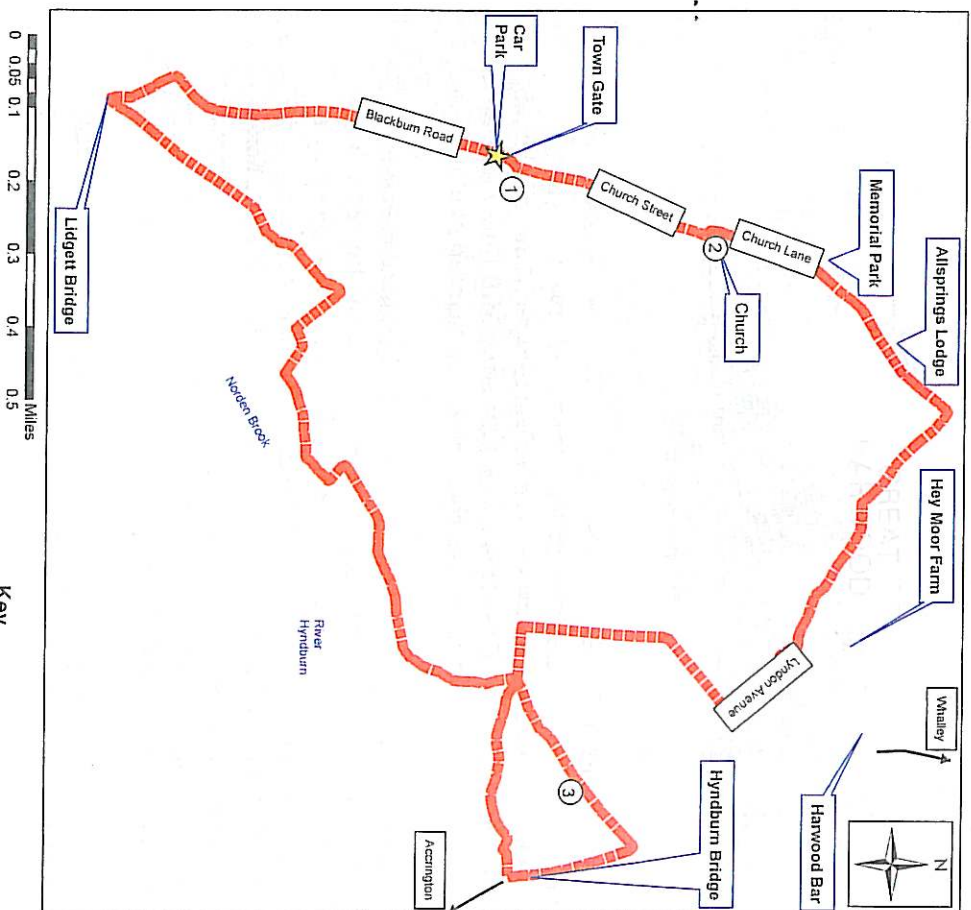
1. Lords House Farm
2. Y Hill
3. Dewhurst Farm
4. Smallshaw Hey Farm

By Hyndburn Bridge

Time: 1.45 hr

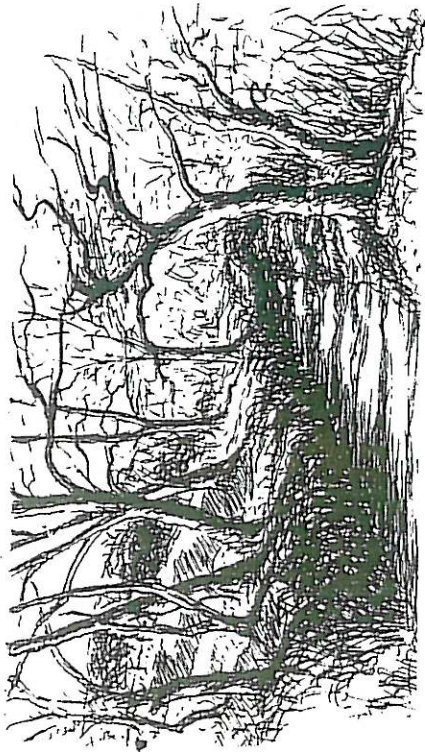
Start point: Town Gate

Suitability: ♡ ♡ ☹



Points of Interest

1. Town Gate
2. St Bartholomew's Church
3. Old Railway Site

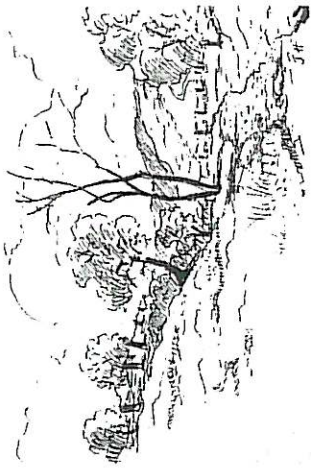


The Track to Dean Bridge

Points of Interest

1. Squire's Farm - Robert Squire lived here in the 1600s but he lost the tenancy because he refused to conform to the Protestant faith. The front of the building has been modernized but the wide chimney with its open fireplace remains.
2. Dean Valley - At this point there is a good view of the Dean Valley ahead with Pendle to the right below which you can see the River Calder.
3. Golden Saxifrage - grows in the wet margins of the brook and Sweet Woodruff which smells of new-mown hay, at the edge of the wood. If you wait a while you may see a grey squirrel in the trees.
4. Spring Flowers - In spring, Dog Mercury, Wood Anemones and Bluebells stretch down through the trees to the River Calder. Admire the view from a seat which was placed here by Great Harwood Civic Society in 1985
5. Trees of Harwood. - A look back from here gives a wonderful view of the many trees which abound in this corner of Great Harwood. If you are here in May, you will see two fine Cherry Trees in bloom across the river.
6. Gamecock Inn - Now known as the Gamecock, this Inn was here long before the bridge over the Calder was built. It was a resting place for travellers going from Clitheroe to Manchester.
7. Martholme Viaduct - The viaduct carried the railway from Blackburn to Burnley through Great Harwood before Dr Beeching's famous cuts.

- The walk starts at 'Harwoods' originally the Lidgett Inn on Blackburn Road. With your back to the restaurant, turn right and walk along Blackburn Road towards Rishton and when you come to a gate in the hedge, turn right into the field (the remains of a footpath sign and stile are in the hedge!) Head straight across the field to the boundary, then turn left walking along the edge of the field with the Lidgett Brook on your right. Walk to the corner of the field and then, drop down into a hollow, over a stile, over the bridge and then up the other side of the hollow.
- The next stile, takes you into an animal pen of Lords House Farm, (1) walk straight through and over the stile at the other side. Follow the path round to the right.
- You now come through a gate and into a car park, take the path off immediately to your right, through another gate. Walk along the edge of this field, close to the fence on your right, go through gate way into second field. Roughly half way across this field, there is a path off to the left, leading up the field. Take this. Before the stile, stop and admire the view stretching from Hambledon Hill to Darwen Tower.
- Over the stile, the path now strikes up the hill but after only 100 yards you meet another path crossing the field. Take this track to the left and follow this lovely level way admiring the panorama on your left. Go over a stile, and then through a gate way, the path leads you round an old quarry, Smalley Delphi, where gorse abounds. (2) Follow the path, uphill to the right, and through a gate.
- (3) Make for the iron gate leading into the farm yard. Through the gate, you are opposite an old barn, go left, then right round the barn (you are now opposite the house) and then right, heading for a gate. The track now heads east through a further gate and eventually meets a lane, Clinkham Road. Through the kissing gate turn right, past Edgeside Farm on your left. This Farm also has a plague on the wall, 'Erected by Robert & Eliz Cross 1770'. Continue down the lane.
- When the road bends sharply to the right, continue straight on following the footpath sign. Turn almost immediately to your right and continue through Edge End Wood. At the end of the footpath, cross over the road



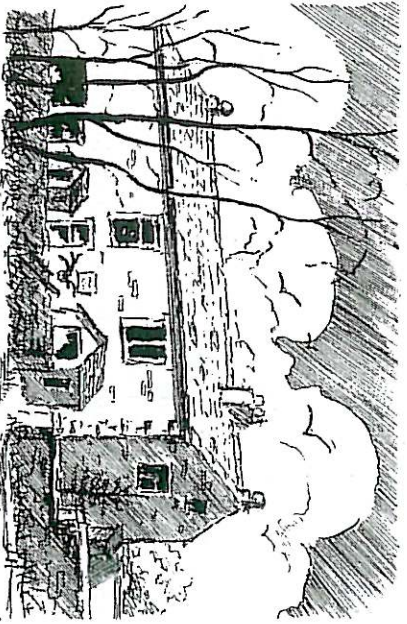
Lidgett Brook

- and go down Edgeside leading on to Highfield.
- As the road becomes Wordsworth, there is a footpath off on your right hand side through a small wooded area. Go over the stile and follow this narrow stretch of path. After 2 more stiles you are in a field. Continue straight and then half way across the field follow the path down to a stile on your left. Over the stile, follow the path straight down to the fence line.
- Here turn left and go over the stile. Turn right, back on yourself and continue on the narrow path, round the edge of (4) Smallshaw Hey Farm.
- Go over the stile and through the field, keeping close to the right hand edge of the field. Over another stile and then continue straight over the bridge. Make your way across the field, back to Blackburn Road. Here turn left and continue back to Harwood's.

Points of Interest

1. Lords House Farm

*was formally
Harwood Edge Farm.
This Farm was
erected after the
enclosure of the moor.
Built into the wall of
the house is a plaque,
bearing the words
'Edward and Alan
Pickles 1767'.*



Harwood Edge Farm

- Y Hill - Where the path turns right a small outcrop, which used to be called the Y hill, makes another observation point for the area. Thyme and Heath Bedstraw grows on this rough pasture.
- Dewhurst Farm - The farm opposite is Dewhurst Farm, some 700 feet above sea level. The farm house now in existence replaced the old one built 1763. There is a date stone on the present building marked TL & H 1899.
- Smallshaw Hey Farm - The date stone here records 'R. C. 1772' but there was a farm here much earlier. An old document states that it was leased to Pierce Wolstenholme in 1754. It was owned by Alexander Nowell and the lease stipulates that he must keep a dog.

- Now follow a beautiful stretch down to Dean Bridge and for a further ½ mile until you get to a Farm. This is Hey's Farm. Here turn right and follow the wall/fence line, as best you can until a stile is reached. Keeping the farm buildings on your left. Go over the stile then turn left and the next stile is straight ahead.

- Again go over the stile continue on the lower ground keeping close to the fence on your right, in a gap between the trees stop to admire the view through the trees across to the Scout Camp.

- After the next stile keep again close to the right hand side of the field, following the gully. Climb another stile and here you are greeted by the sound of rushing water in the River Calder below. Go down the left hand side of the hill, and then bear right at the bottom, you are heading for a stone Clapper Bridge, which goes over the tributary of the Calder, on your right. (3)

- Go through the kissing gate and climb the steps, uphill on a well-made path. (4) Leaving the seat and going through the gate and turn left admiring the tall beech trees above you as you go. The path follows the river and leads down a sandy slope to the river and continues for ½ mile until a stile is reached beyond a small bridge.

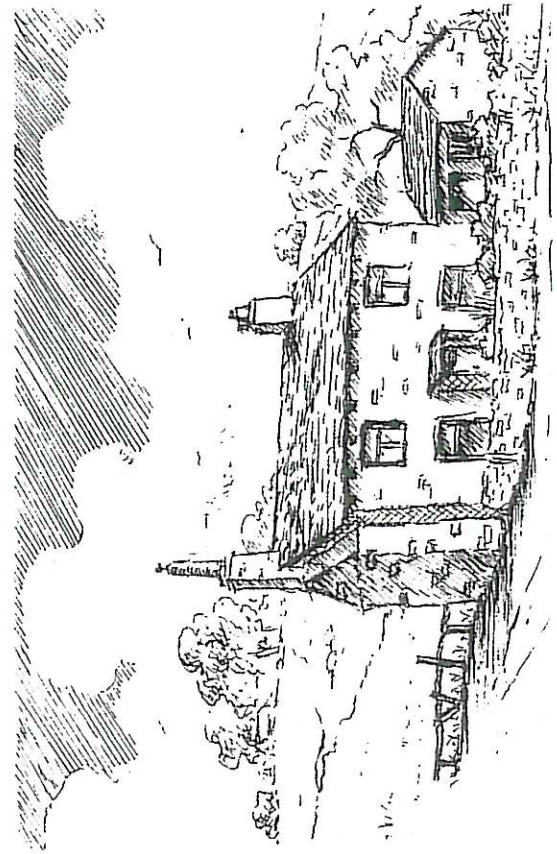
- The grassy hill beyond leads you up to Whalley Road and a fine view is had of Cock Bridge as you approach. (5) A small gate leads onto the road. Cross the road with care turning right up the road you pass the oldest Inn in Great Harwood. (6)

- Continue on the footpath until you see a lane on the right hand side, clearly marked with a footpath sign. Before crossing the road turn to admire the view of Martholme Viaduct with Pendle away to the left. (7)

- Follow the track past Rodger Hey Farm on your right and down the path taking the stile on your left keeping the fence on your right and continue in a straight line to the next stile. The way is known as Long Fields. A stile leads you on to the farm track, turn left and in a further 250 yards you reach your starting point at Allsprings Lodge

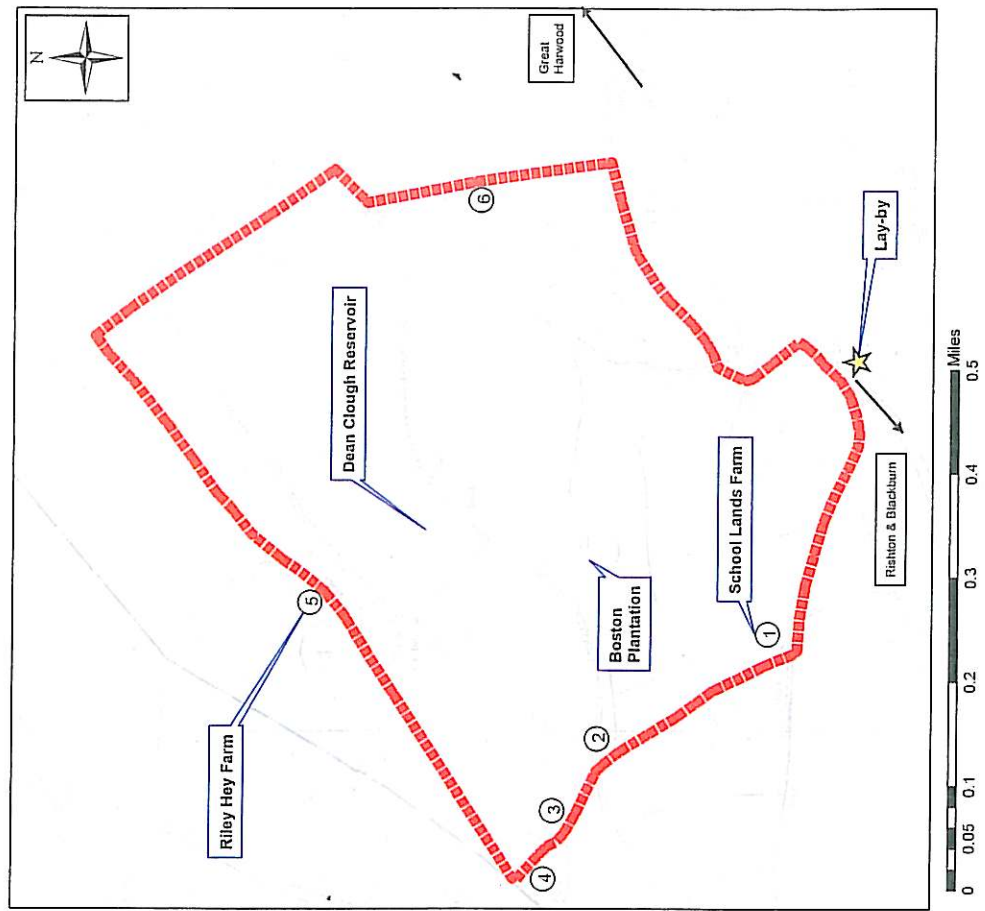
Deans Clough
Time: 1.15hr

Start point: Blackburn Old Rd
Suitability: ♡ ♡ ☹️



Squires Farm

- This walk starts at Allsprings Lodge and initially follows the Great Harwood Nature Trail. Facing Allsprings Lodge, follow the lane to the right, which leads round past Squires Farm. (1)
- Continue past the front of the farm and through a kissing gate which leads you down the left-hand side of a field to a further kissing gate and wooden bridge. The path which passes two seats, now forks, and you need to follow the line of hawthorn trees on your left to a gate in the corner of the field.
- Through the gate the path is ill-defined but climb the small hill ahead and continue diagonally left across the field leading towards the right hand side of Cowden Farm, a wooden bridge leads you over a stream and in to the next field. (2)
- Continue diagonally left, passing a lone tree in this field, and over a stile. Continue straight across this field and over another stile. Head for the old barn, then bear right through a kissing gate and into Bowley Scout Camp.
- Continue, past the house to the road, bear left and then follow the public footpath sign, off to the right down the muddy track. Keep straight on here and follow the track down under an avenue of trees, mainly sycamore on your left and beech on your right.



Key
- - - - - Dean Clough Route
 ☆ Start Point

Points of Interest

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. School Lands Farm | 4. Bowley Hill |
| 2. Dean's Clough reservoir | 5. Riley Hey farm |
| 3. Further Riley Hey Farm | 6. Plantation |

you come to a fingerpost on your right just before Moor End Head Farm. (6)
 • The path goes behind the farm and follows the hedge on the left to a kissing gate in the corner of the field. A good view is had here of the Scout Camp with Hamledon Hill in the distance. Drop down the field, to the left of the iron gate ahead is a kissing gate which leads onto Dean Lane. Turning right you continue over Dean Bridge and have a final climb through the trees to the start.

Points of Interest

1. Bowley Scout Camp - *The camp is owned by the Lancashire County Scout Association and is an amenity for youth organizations all over the world.*
2. Lime Gals - *To the left here note the sunken bridleway, impassable now, but once used daily by Galloway ponies. Known as lime gals, they carried limestone from Clitheroe to Blackburn, returning with packs loaded with coal.*
3. Whalley Banks - *In 1851 when the census was taken there were twenty farms and small holdings here, most of them combining hand loom weaving and farming. The track here was a favourite way from Great Harwood forty years ago. There was a continuous stream of people walking over Whalley Nab on Sundays and holidays, stopping at Whalley Banks for tea and picnics. Swings and seesaws were provided making a welcome break for children.*
4. Billington - *You are now temporarily in Billington Parish, as shown by a Boundary stone in the wall, that is off to your left. This is the northern edge of the Great Harwood Boundary, the wall being built long after the stone had been placed.*
5. Bowley Hill - *The view opens up ahead with Bowley Hill prominent to the front and Billington plantation (locally known as Black Wood) to the right. In the field on the left large mill stones remain as a reminder of the industry of the past.*
6. Moor End Head Farm - *At the farm there are two plaques built into the walls. The older one reads 'Erected by James and Ellen Procter 1775' and the second one on the extension has two more names added 'Erected by James and Ellen, Richard and Mary Procter 1782'.*

by the gate and bear right following the wall down to a wicket gate. You now cross the end of the reservoir where good views can be had to the left and right

- At the far end of the reservoir turn right to a wooden stile by the wall side. Go through a second stile ahead and ignoring the stile immediately on your right follow a path that winds its way up the side of the plantation to an old track. (6)
- Follow the track to the right, ignore a path turning up to your left and continue under the coniferous trees until you reach a fence and gate. Now take the path to the left which reaches Blackburn Old Road in 200 yards. The start is now 50 yards along the road to the right.

Points of Interest

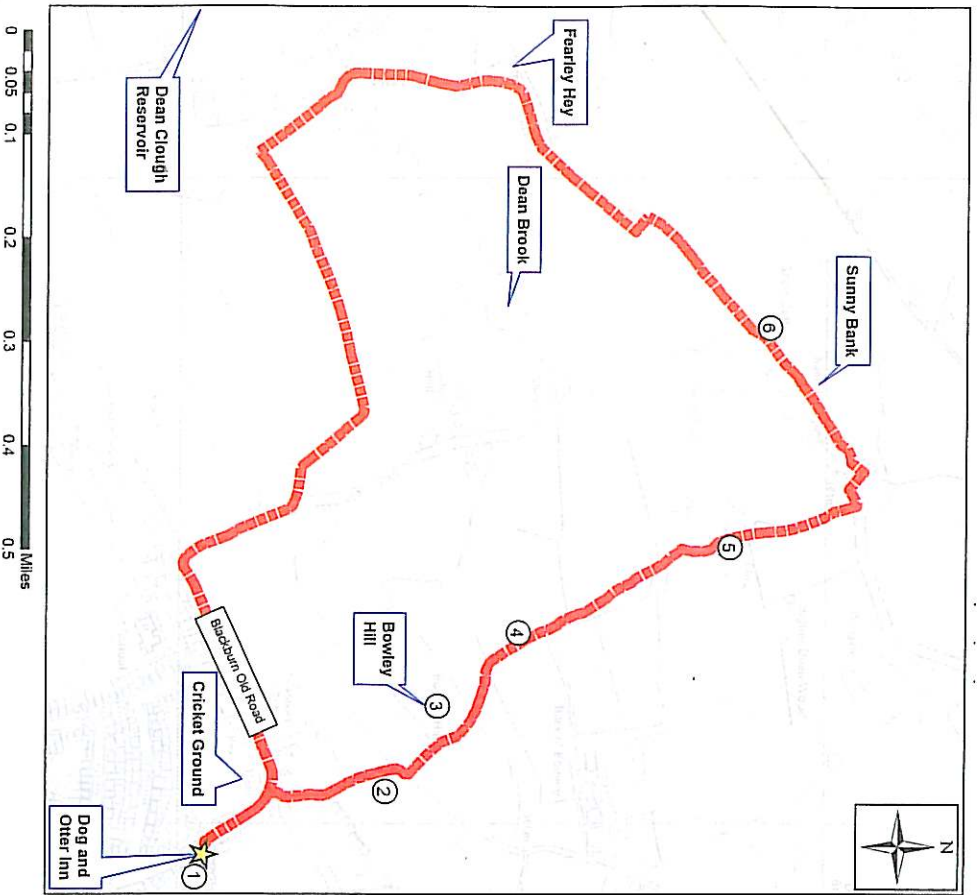
1. School Lands Farm- *Just before this there are two stone gate posts which once marked the entrance to School Lands Farm. The surrounding land has reverted to a very rough pasture for sheep. The presence of the Common Rush indicates poor drainage. Before you turn right, you see a pile of stones ahead these are the remains of the old farm. The track you are on led to School Lands Farm, now a ruin. Alexander Nowell sold the land known as a 'moiety of the Great Rough' to the Parish Church of St. Bartholomew in 1770. The revenue was divided between the church, the school and the poor. This land still belongs to the church. The rest of the Upper Dean Valley is owned by the Water Board.*
2. Dean Clough Reservoir - *Where the two walls meet a stile in the wall takes you into the reservoir area where a few moments rest can be had to watch the wildfowl there. During the spring and summer you are likely to see a pair of Great Crested Grebe and a family of Little Grebes. Look also for Coot and Moorhen near the reeds. In winter Tufted Duck or Golden-eye may be seen here. Water Horsetail is plentiful in this portion of the reservoir.*
3. Further Riley Hey Farm- *This was the position of Further Riley Hey Farm.*
4. Bowley Hill - *If you look down from here a wonderful view is had of the reservoirs with the 'Knoll' of Bowley Hill on the far right.*
5. Riley Hey Farm - *Soon you will reach a pile of stones which mark the remains of Riley Hey Farm. You may find among the rubble bricks from the old brickworks at Cliffe Quarry. Some are marked with the name.*
6. Plantation - *The trees, Larch and Spruce, were planted some fifty years ago by the former Water Board.*

Back of Bowley

Time: 1.30 hrs

Start point: Dog and Otter Pub

Suitability:



Points of Interest

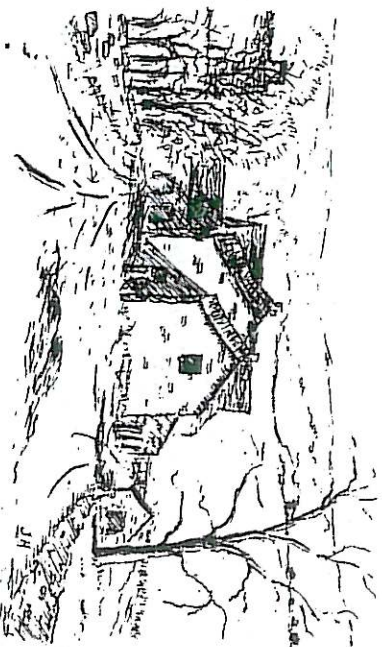
1. Dog and Otter Inn
2. Pendle Hill
3. Bowley Hill
4. Herb Rich Meadow
5. Marsh Marigolds
6. Rowan Trees

above sea level. Follow the road to the left for ¼ mile until you reach a cattle grid and stile. Turn immediately right down a muddy track and then climb the stile a few yards on the left. (4)

Bear uphill, across the field keeping close to the wall on your right. Then proceed down hill, with a house off to your right and find the stile which leads on to the road. Follow the road to the left. (5)

After turning right the road passes a farm track leading off to the right. At this point the walk can be extended by a further mile (see later*). The shorter walk continues down the road to the lane leading down to the left signposted Berry's Lane.

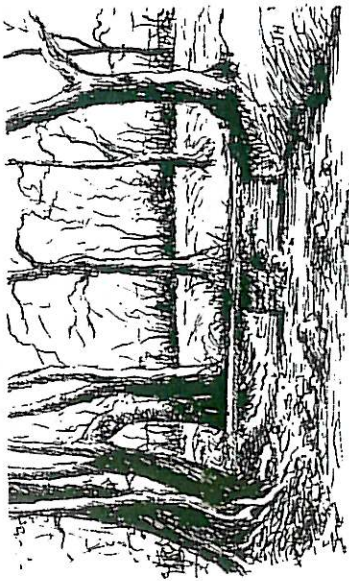
Follow this lane to Heys Farm at the bottom and turn sharp right just before the farm is reached. The track now leads down to Dean Bridge where hazel catkins abound in spring and finally climbs through the trees to the Scout Camp and the start.



Heys Farm

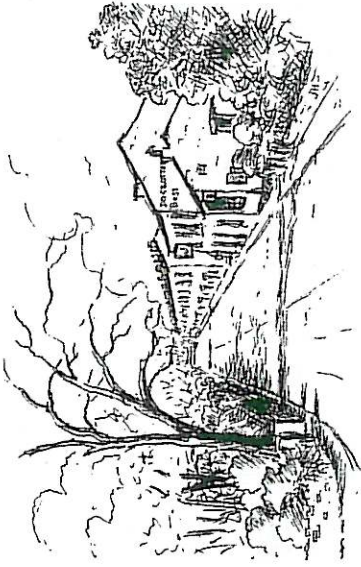
- *The longer walk leads down the farm track. Once you enter the farm, called Lower White Carr, you are heading for a stile, in the far left hand corner of the yard, behind the buildings.
- The best way through is to continue straight, then turn left and the stile is behind the building in front of you. Over the stile turn right and walk up the long field ahead keeping to the right hand side of the field, you have to cross a ditch line.
- At the end of the field the path leads through rough ground to a stile near the ruins of Higher White Carr. Over the stile turn left and find a path which makes for a small oak tree ahead avoiding boggy ground on the way by keeping right. Go through the gate at the end of the field and down the track to a stile in the wall on the left.
- This path leads down to Shawcliffe Lane where you turn left. Continue on the road for ½ mile past a stone seat erected by the Civic Society in 1984. Look for some very beautiful varieties of Common Dog Rose growing along the roadside. Gorse, Brambles and Bilberry are also here. Eventually

- The walk starts at the entrance to Bowley Scout Camp on Dean Lane. (1) From the entrance follow the main tarmac road, through the camp.
- You will pass a pond on your left, as the path goes round to the right, over a stream and then back round to the left. When you reach the stone building at the bottom of the field, cut across the grass and go through the gate on the left hand side but rather than cross the field turn down to your right.
- At the bottom of this field is a small gate which leads on to Great Harwood Nature Trail. Turn left on the trail following a well defined path high above the River Calder. Soon 23 steps lead down to a kissing gate which takes the path on to the Clapper Bridge. Follow the path ahead, round to the left and up the hill. Cross the ditch line and follow the well trodden route to the right across the field. You should have a fence line on your left and the river on your right.
- Cross another clapper bridge, following this corridor along and over a wooden bridge, until you reach another wooden bridge. Here cross this bridge and go through the kissing gate. Take the path, diagonally off to the left, climbing up hill until you reach another kissing gate. Continue through.
- (2) Carry on along this path, beware of muddy patches and over hanging branches, admiring the view of Pendle across to the right as you approach White Goat Farm and the houses of Whalley Banks. Continue until the road is reached and then follow it to the right into the hamlet.
- (3) Between two houses, one being Fielding House Barn is a narrow footpath off to the left. Follow this uphill, and continue through some trees until you reach a stile. Now follow the wall line on your left, uphill, keeping to the old sunken farm track. The wall line, becomes a fence line, still continue uphill until you reach the tarmac road.
- Higher Whalley Banks Farm is on your right. You are now some 400 ft.



The Clapper Bridge

- The walk starts at the Dog and Otter Inn on Cliffe Lane. (1) Proceed up the hill to the corner where a sign points to Bowley Scout Camp. Go up Dean Lane, which gradually climbs and views unfold on each side. (2)



The Dog and Otter Inn

- Soon the road curves to the right and on the left you will find a stile next to an iron gate. (This may well be hidden by vegetation, so look carefully.) Proceed through the field and you soon reach another stile and Bowley Hill is now on your left. (3)
- Continue to the right of the hill following the fence and then a stone wall downwards. A stile and gate ahead leads you through the next field to a stile in the corner. From here the land slopes down to the Dean Valley with Shawcliffe Hill beyond. Follow the path down a steep field always keeping to the right. (4)
- Continuing down the field, you will see a stile. This leads you down to Dean Brook. Over the stile follow the ditch line on your right, round the edge of the field, eventually going through the tree line down to the river. The way here is very muddy and care has to be taken. Continue to the wooden bridge, the original bridge, a stone slab can still be seen on your right as you cross. (5)
- Climb the bank across the stream and find a stile to your right. The path now leads up the field with a fence on the left to Shawcliffe Lane at the top.
- Over the stile turn left on the road for a few yards. Take the stile on the right up a short field to a further high stile. Cross the track that you have reached and take the stile immediately on your left. The path is now along the hillside keeping well above the cottages below. Now follow a lovely level path through clumps of gorse with idyllic views of the valley to the left. (6)
- The way crosses a broken stone wall and continues for a further ½ mile until the ruins of Fearley Hey Farm are reached. Fearley Hey was one of the farms built after the enclosure of the moor in 1762. Look for a stile near a short stone wall on your left. The path leads down through the old farmyard where thistles and nettles now abound.
- Keeping the trees on your right continue down the field and cross the

