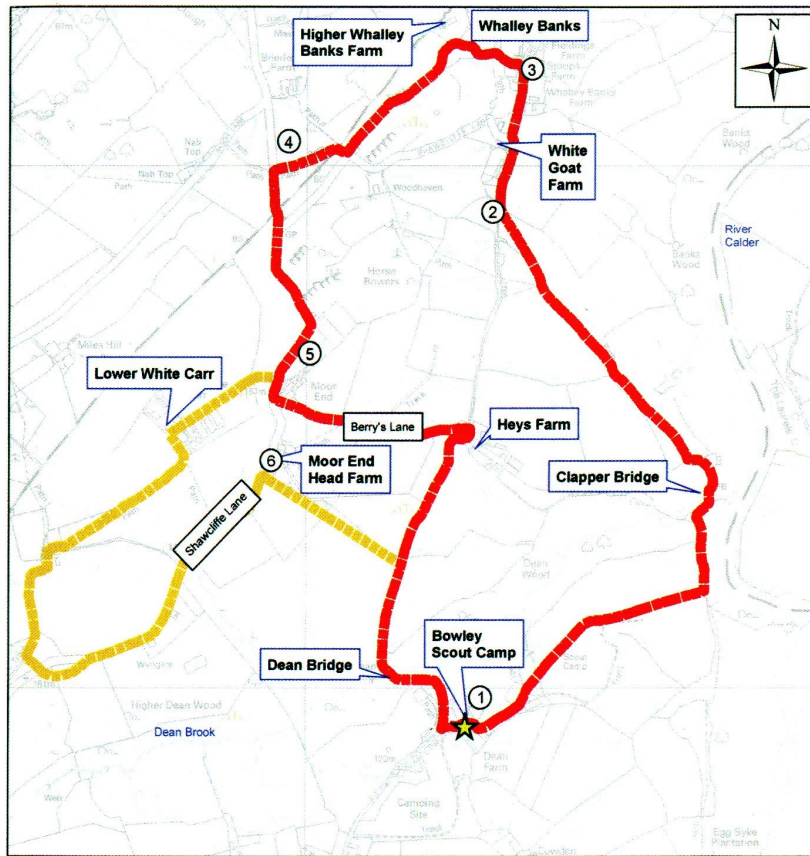


## Whalley Banks

Time: 1.30 or 2.00 hrs

Start point: Bowley Scout Camp

Suitability: ♥♥♥☹



### Key

— Whalley Banks Route

— Whalley Banks Longer Route

★ Start Point

### Points of Interest

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Bowley Scout Camp | 5. Bowley Hill        |
| 2. Lime Gals         | 6. Moor End Head Farm |
| 3. Whalley Banks     |                       |
| 4. Billington        |                       |

- 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.

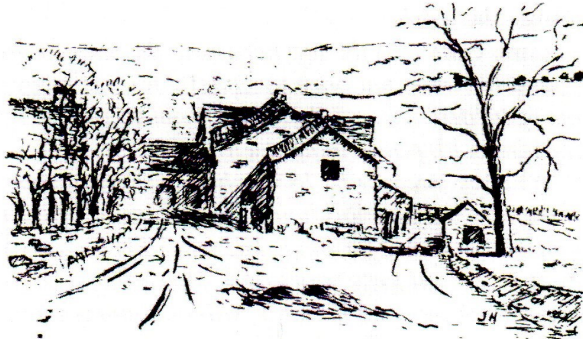


The Clapper Bridge

- 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.

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

- 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 Hambleton 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'.*