

DISCOVER HYNDBURN

Two Reservoirs and 17th Century Ruins

A circular walk from Great Harwood Town Square to Parsonage Reservoir and Dean Reservoir along part of the Hyndburn Way and the Hyndburn Clog. This walk was first done by Great Harwood PROSPECTS Panel in 2015 as one of their 'Seasonal Walks from Great Harwood'. Enjoy the views, flora and fauna and some local history.

Parking: Two nearby car parks. Glebe Street near the skate park and Holgate Street near the bus stops.

Bus Service: Nos 6 & 7 Towngate, Gt Harwood

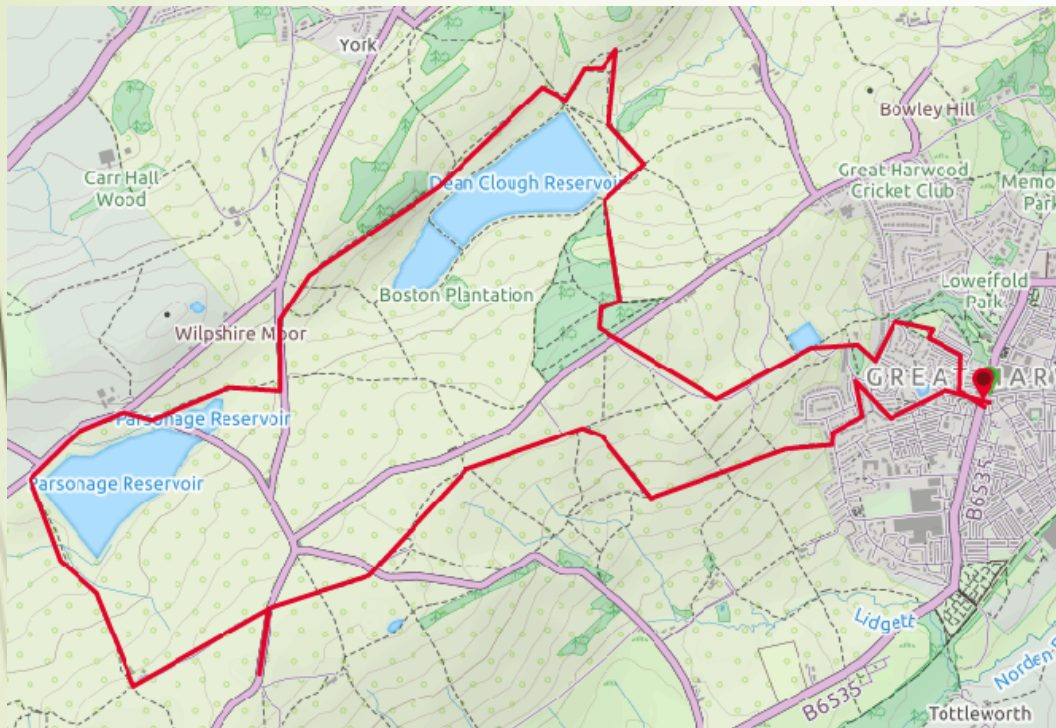
Distance and Approximate Time: 8 miles, 3 to 4 hours.

Terrain: The gradients are gentle, some rugged terrain and stiles.

Map: OS Explorer 287 West Pennine Moors 1:25 000 scale

Key to Facilities: Cafes, Pubs, Tea Rooms in Great Harwood.

Please keep dogs on a lead and follow the Country Code.



To get the full version of this map and the FREE route directions you will need ViewRanger. ViewRanger is a digital guide to the outdoors with downloadable route guides, outdoor maps, and powerful GPS navigation features. Their mobile app runs on iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch, and Android smartphones, tablets, and watches. <https://www.viewranger.com/en-gb>



For more information go to www.prospectsfoundation.org.uk For the gpx route use the QRCode on the right



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This is a circular walk which includes Great Harwood local history, a portion of The Hyndburn Clog (2000) Stage 6, two reservoirs and 17th century ruins.

It is walked in a clockwise direction and follows part of the Hyndburn Way 1989.

The walk starts at Town Hall Square in the centre of Great Harwood but can also be started from the ***Highfield Road bus stops** on routes 6 and 7.

In the centre of the square is the Mercer clock. It was erected in 1903 in memory of John Mercer, F.R.S., F.C.S., MPh.S. the town's eminent Chemist, who invented the mercerisation of cotton.

Take time before the start of the walk to read the information boards. There is a Great Harwood Town Trail booklet at <https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/walking/>

From the clock cross the road at the zebra crossing, turn to your right and walk to Delph Road where you turn left.

On the right, built into a wall, you will find the LINTEL from the very first school in Great Harwood.

Walk up Delph Road and at the mini roundabout bear left up Commercial Road and continue on to Edge End Road.

You will meet Fielding Lane on your right but keep to your left and turn left onto Edgeside. Follow this road around through the estate until the T junction with Highfield.

***Highfield Road bus stops** on routes 6 and 7 nearby.

SD726321 Turn left and you will see the public footpath sign on the opposite side of Highfield between the end of the garden fence and the dog waste bin.

Take the footpath and pass over three stiles and onto a footpath through an open field with one stile.

Follow this level track enjoying the panoramas on your left as you walk across the field.

You reach a metal gate with a bit of an awkward stile in the right hand corner.

Walk ahead on the grass covered stone track which leads you to Smalley Delph on your right. The remains of Y Hill are on your left.

Turn right and follow the path up to the gate. Do not enter Smalley Delph on your right as this is private land.

Go through the footpath gate and walk towards Dewhurst Farm.

The farm is 700 feet above sea level. The new farm house replaced the old one built in 1763 and owned by Alexander Nowell.

SD719319 Through the wooden gate into the farmyard turn left and right and leave the farm at the metal gate and turn left along the track.

At the right hand bend leave the track over the stile at the side of the metal gate. Go straight ahead and over three stiles.

SD713320 the path now curves around to your left across a field and in the hedgerow ahead you will reach another stile. You can see Black Law Farm ahead.

Keep the fence and all farm buildings on your left. Beyond the buildings you leave the footpath through a metal gate and turn right along the farm track to Wilpshire Road.

Black Law farm was built in 1878 by Henry Petre of the Dunkenhalgh in Rishton.

Cross the road and go over the stile. Keep to the right and walk down by the fence/wall to the double kissing gate ahead.

Then go up between the wall on your left and fence on your right and just over the stile you meet Blackburn Old Road.

SD706315 Walk down the track towards Middle Mickle Hey Farm.

This farmstead has been entirely rebuilt from its original. The homesteads of the two Mickle Hey and Eddy Holes are connected through the Rishton family and date back to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Built in 1876 by H. Petre for his farming estate, this farm typifies the era.

SD701313. Just before the farm take the wooden gate on your left and walk towards the next wooden gate.

You are now joining the Hyndburn Way and the Hyndburn Clog.

Go through the gate, turn right and follow the footpath down to the metal gate in the right hand corner of the field keeping the farm to your right. Do not go through the metal farm gate near the farm.

SD700313 Once through the metal gate walk down to the metal kissing gate.

You can see Parsonage Reservoir head and keep this to your right. Go downhill until you meet the footbridge at the outflow of Parsonage Reservoir.

The reservoir was constructed for Blackburn Corporation Water Works Department.

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Keep the access road and reservoir embankment to your right and walk up the field with the stone wall on your right. You do not have a view of the reservoir from this footpath.

Bordering the Ribble Valley, Parsonage Reservoir was formed by the damming of the stream, which was, and still is the boundary between Rishton and Wilpshire.

The pump house was built in 1914.

The reservoir is a feeder for Dean Clough reservoir in Great Harwood, which is used for drinking water. Originally built in 1916, the reservoir was used to supply water to the people of Blackburn. Its capacity is 196,000,000 gallons of water.

At the top of the hill via the kissing gate you join Parsonage Road and turn right.

This is a very busy road with fast moving traffic and there is no pavement. Keep close into the wall on your right.

On the bends the oncoming traffic will not have sight of you. Take great care. You will have views of the reservoir over the wall.

After 0.25 miles you meet the junction of York Road where there is a seat and safe place to view the reservoir.

Option A: Parsonage Road crosses the reservoir, splitting it into two. Take the right fork and go over the stile on the left into the field.

Go over the second stile marked by a large boulder.

There can be cattle and a bull in the next field and some electric fence near the next stile so we have given an alternative **Option B!**

Option A: This next stile does not have any through steps and is awkward for some people. Follow the stone wall to the next stile which is a double stile.

Cross the field to emerge on to York Road over a stile with large stones on the road side.

SD706323 Cross the road and turn left do not go over the opposite stile. Keeping to the right do not take the footpath signposted to Great Harwood and do not take the next stile on your right.

Continue on the road a little further to the bridleway where Option B re-joins the walk.

Option B: Leave the Hyndburn Way and Clog and taking the left fork and walk up York Road. Turn right at the junction but do not take the stile opposite but walk a little further down the road to **re-join Option A at the start of the bridleway.**

Keep to the left going slightly uphill and you will reach the Dean Clough information board where the bridleway meets footpaths and there is a marker for the Lancashire Way. Continue along this level path and you will have great views of the reservoir in front of you.

Dean Clough is a small reservoir with views out to Wiswell Moor and the Nick o' Pendle.

It was created in 1869 to supply demand by the mills of nearby Great Harwood. The valley and the Dean Brook was dammed in two stages, the former dam can still be seen as an embankment separating the two parts of the reservoir.

Slowly descend to a kissing gate and an old track with the drystone wall and trees on your left. At the end of the trees you will reach more open land and see a bench in front of you.

An opportunity for a rest and to watch the wildfowl and birdlife.

Continue along the bridleway to the kissing gate and turn right towards the end of the reservoir.

SD717334 Do not go through the next gate but turn left and follow the path over the stream to the gates.

Walk straight ahead keeping to the left of the field and cross another stream. Just before you reach the stile you are at the remains of Fearley Hey Farm.

This was one of the farms built after the enclosure of the moors in 1762 and is now a relic of the far reaching social and industrial changes which occurred during the 19th century.

Sheep farming on a small scale ceased to be viable once the farmer was unable to supplement his income with domestic spinning and weaving which was by then taking place in the towns. You can still see some of the ruined walls.

SD 719335 Do not go over the wooden stile along the Lancashire Way.

Leave the Hyndburn Way/Clog and turning to your right walk down through the ruined farm taking the bridleway to the Dean Clough reservoir valve-house.

Go over the stile and walk uphill with the reservoir on your right until you meet the United Utilities access track. Turn right and go through the gate.

Keeping the reservoir ahead and on your right pass through two more gates. Immediately after the second gate turn left up the side of the plantation.

SD718330 Walk up the steep path with the trees on your right and when you meet the path crossing in front of you turn right.

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SD719326 continue until the path forks and take the left-hand fork up to the gate where you exit the plantation on to Blackburn Old Road where there are several seats.

Cross the road and walk down Clinkham Road.

SD727325 At the bottom of Clinkham Road do not follow it round onto Edge End.

Go straight ahead through Edge End Wood at the left of the salt grit bin, keeping to the wall on your left. This path may be overgrown at certain times of the year.

You will reach Edge End Lane and Fielding Lane by the derelict play area.

Turn left along Edge End Lane to Delph Mount.

Turn right along Delph Mount (do not go over the footbridge over the Nap Brook).

Turn almost immediately left at the footpath sign and barrier then walk down the right-hand footpath with the backs of the houses and gardens on your right.

Leave the footpath at the top of Gladstone Street and walk down the street. Turn right onto Bridge Street and go down the steps.

You are now back at Delph Road. Turn left and return to the start of the walk at the Mercer Memorial Clock. Turn right onto Bridge Street and go down the steps.

You are now back at Delph Road. Turn left and return to the start of the walk at the Mercer Memorial Clock.

Notes:

1. There is a **Great Harwood Town Trail** and a copy can be downloaded from

<https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Great-Harwood-Town-Trail.pdf>

It is 16 pages so you may wish to pick up a hard copy.

2. **Walking the Footpaths of Great Harwood** published by the Great Harwood Civic Society can be downloaded from

<https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Walking-Paths-of-Great-Harwood.pdf>

This booklet contains eight walks and was last updated in 2009 so please check routes and take a map with you.

3. **Copies of these walk booklets** are available from the Great Harwood Library or Churchfield House, Church Lane, Great Harwood.

The PROSPECTS Foundation, Prospects Environment Centre, 54 Broadway, Accrington BB5 1EW has a selection of local and walking and cycling leaflets.

Please phone 01254 230348 to check opening times and make sure we have the leaflet you want in stock before visiting us.

PROSPECTS Theme of Sustainable Transport is all about encouraging walking and cycling and recognising the additional health benefits of increased physical activity. Walking and cycling are great ways to get out and about and find out about your local environment. Leaving your vehicle at home cuts down on greenhouse gas (carbon) emissions and therefore reduces global climate change; reduces air pollutants; reduces noise and congestion and improves your ecological footprint. Walking and cycling also increases your fitness levels and improves a sense of wellbeing.



There is a full version of this walk with photographs and gpx route on ViewRanger. The link is via the QRCode on the front page or <https://tinyurl.com/yeh2ufg4>

More walks are available at: - <https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/walking/>

These will be available from ViewRanger as we add them.

Please follow the Countryside Code and leave only your footprints in the countryside.

The five points of the Countryside Code are:

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs. Take maps/guidebooks. ...
- Leave gates and property as you find them. ...
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home. ...
- Keep dogs under close control. ...
- Consider other people.

We Hope You Enjoyed This Walk



The Countryside Code

Respect other people

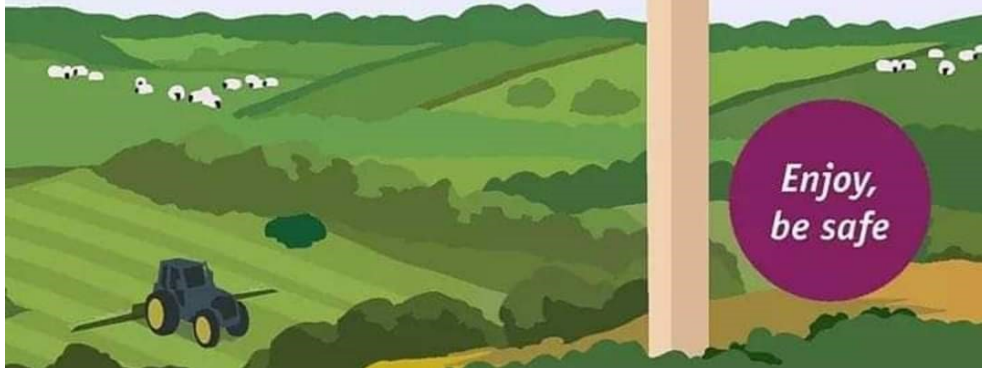
- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways are clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home
- Don't have BBQs or fires
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Dog poo - bag it and bin it

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures



The PROSPECTS Foundation is Hyndburn's community owned environmental charity and we are something of a unique and wonderful organisation. We were established by local residents as a company limited by guarantee in 1998 and became a registered charity in 1999.

Our aim is to improve people's quality of life through positive environmental action. By working with a diverse range of groups in Hyndburn we aim to inspire young people; improve health and wellbeing; support communities; improve the environment; and encourage sustainable living.

All our projects fit under one of our six themes of sustainability -

Improving Biodiversity...Improve biodiversity and wildlife habitats.

Energy conservation...Promote energy conservation and the use of renewables.

Local Food...Increase the production of locally grown food.

Raising Environmental Awareness...Raising awareness of sustainable development issues.

Sustainable Transport...Encourage greater use of sustainable transport

Waste and Recycling...Increase waste minimisation and recycling.

<https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/>

Email: info@prospectsfoundation.org.uk

THE WINDFALL FUND...

Grants are available to community groups throughout Hyndburn for environmental projects which will improve the quality of life of local residents and contribute to the sustainable development of the Borough.

<https://prospectsfoundation.org.uk/the-windfall-fund/>

