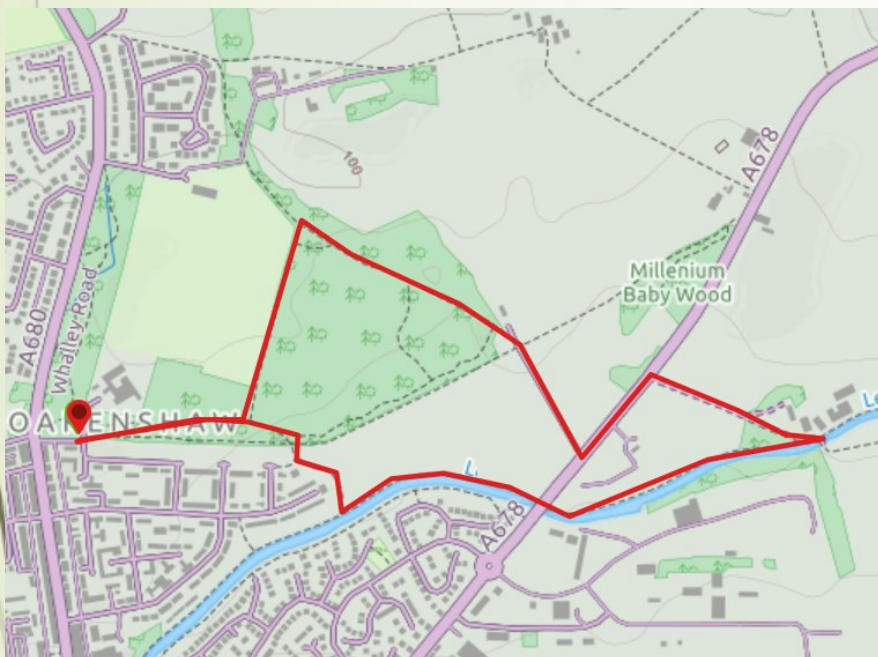


DISCOVER HYNDBURN

Woodlands and Canal Towpath



A circular walk from Clayton-le-Moors. The walk includes paths through Woodlands park and garden, Clayton Forest Park, a visit to St Mary's burial ground, mining history about 'Dickie Brig Pit' and a section of the Leeds Liverpool Canal. The walk featured as one of the *Wednesday Walks by Water* organised in partnership with the Canal & River Trust. It is a good starter walk for those new to or returning to walking.

Parking: Local road parking at Warwick Avenue, Clayton-le-Moors

Bus Service: Nos 6/7 Wilson Playing Fields and Sparth Road bus stops.

Distance and Approximate Time: 2 miles, 1 to 2 hours

Terrain: No stiles. Well maintained woodland paths, tracks and footpaths, one road section and some canal towpath. Gentle slopes and good terrain.

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

Key Facilities: Barnes Square and Pickup Street, Clayton-le-Moors

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



DISCOVER HYNDBURN → Woodlands and Canal Towpath... Page 2

This Discover Hyndburn walk is one of the Wednesday Walks by Water in partnership with the Canal and River Trust.

The start of the walk is the Woodlands entrance arch near the Sparth traffic lights and the Sparth bus stop on Whalley Road, Clayton-le-Moors.

At the start or the end of this walk you can explore Woodlands Park and Garden between Warwick Avenue and the Clayton Hall Drive entrance (Wilson Playing Field bus stop).

Look out for interpretation boards and a sculpture of a Hen Harrier on the boundary with Whalley Road.

There is a [woodlands leaflet](#) to accompany part of this walk.

With the traffic lights behind you go under the arch entrance and walk straight ahead with the notice board on your left.

Keep to the right hand path and you leave Woodlands at the entrance drive to the Woodlands Retirement Home and cross over to go through a gate into Clayton Forest Park.

Clayton Forest Park, an oasis of woodland in the heart of Clayton-le-Moors, surrounding Wilson's Playing Fields, has seen some interesting innovations, helping to raise awareness of the value of positive woodland management.

Horse logging extracted timber from the woodland management, which also gently manipulates the ground surface to encourage the regrowth of woodland flowers.

Restoration of an old hazel coppice produced material suitable for woodland crafts such as hedge-laying and yurt-making and is a sustainable form of woodland resource.

At the first wide junction turn left on the path with Wilson Playing Fields and the Hyndburn Athletic Club on your left and the woodland on your right.

At the T junction and finger post turn right. Follow the flagstones and the wall on your left up a slight incline where the path curves slightly. You will now notice there is mixed woodland on both your left and right.

The flagged path was used by the Trappes-Lomax family of Clayton Hall and their servants to reach the burial ground and chapel.

If you wish to take time to explore the wood, you will need to return to this footpath. Continue up the path until you reach the house on your left and the gateway onto Bell Lane.

Once on Bell Lane you will notice waymarkers for the [Ladybird Trail](#) on a stile/gate on your right.

The stile on the left would take you to the Baby Millennium Woodland which features in another of the Discover Hyndburn Walks.

SD 757314 Walk ahead along Bell Lane until you reach St Mary's Burial Ground. Stop to read the information board and look at the burial ground.

The burial ground of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church - Clayton-le-Moors (Dunkenhalgh Chapel) is located in what is currently Altham, on the main road (A678) near the Pilkington canal bridge.

St Mary's Burial Ground, Clayton-Le-Moors. *Whilst burials continued at Altham until 1974, the earliest recorded burial in the old part of the site dates from 1837.*

Some of the graves belong to the Petre family, of the Dunkenhalgh, and others the Trappes-Lomax family of Clayton Hall and their servants. The graveyard was restored between 1994 and 1997 by three local volunteers. [More information.](#)

Continue on Bell Lane until you reach the A678 and turn left. You will see a gate into the oldest part of the burial ground on your left.

SD 758316 After 190 yards cross over the road and take the footpath/access road to Moorside House and Farm.

Turn around whilst on the access road and enjoy the views towards Pendle Hill.

SD 760315 At Moorside Farm you will arrive at Fosters swing bridge on the Leeds Liverpool Canal.

There are other Discover Hyndburn Walks that link to Fosters Swing Bridge so you could extend your walk at this point.

Take time to enjoy the views from the bridge and then turn right along the towpath.

When you reach Pilkington Bridge No 114C you will see a blue plaque.

Take a moment to leave the canal to see the Mining Disaster Memorial on Burnley Road and then return to this point.

ON THE morning of 7 November 1883, a terrible explosion ripped through the underground workings at the Moorfield Colliery, Altham.

DISCOVER HYNDBURN → Woodlands and Canal Towpath...Page 3

On the morning of 7 November 1883, a terrible explosion ripped through the underground workings at the Moorfield Colliery, Altham. A huge underground gas explosion caused the disaster at the colliery in which 68 men and boys were killed. Those who died ranged in age from 10 to 56 and several died in the following years as a result of their injuries. [YouTube Video](#)

The colliery at Altham was originally named Altham Colliery and it is not known when it was renamed Moorfield. The entrance to the pit-yard was by the side of Pilkington's Bridge, which carried the main road over the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

Pilkington's Bridge was known locally as 'Dickie Brig'. Moorfield Colliery has always been referred to as 'Dickie Brig Pit'. Very little remains of the original pithead buildings, most of the buildings still standing date from the years after the disaster in 1883.

[More information](#) and information held at [Durham Mining Museum](#)

The PROSPECTS Foundation worked with volunteers in Clayton and Altham and Hyndburn Borough Council to create a lasting tribute.

Clayton and Altham Prospects Panel raised £6,000 to pay for the memorial thanks to grants from the area council and property developer Persimmon Homes.

Returning to Pilkington Bridge and continue along the canal for 370 yards.

SD 756313 At the finger post turn right down the wide path until you emerge on to the grassed area with houses on your left.

This open green space is known locally as Field Bottoms.

Turn right and go through the kissing gate into Clayton Forest Park.

This is another opportunity to explore the wood.

Turn left and continue down the path until you reach the Notice Board and your start point at Whalley Road.

There are many other parks in Hyndburn and there is a [leaflet and map](#).

Several of them feature in other Discover Hyndburn Walks.



[Northern Mine Research Society Link](#) and [Mining Disaster Report](#)



If you think you may have relatives buried here this is the

[LINK](#)



**Wednesday Walks by
Water in partnership
with PROSPECTS**



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 this

[LINK](#)



[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

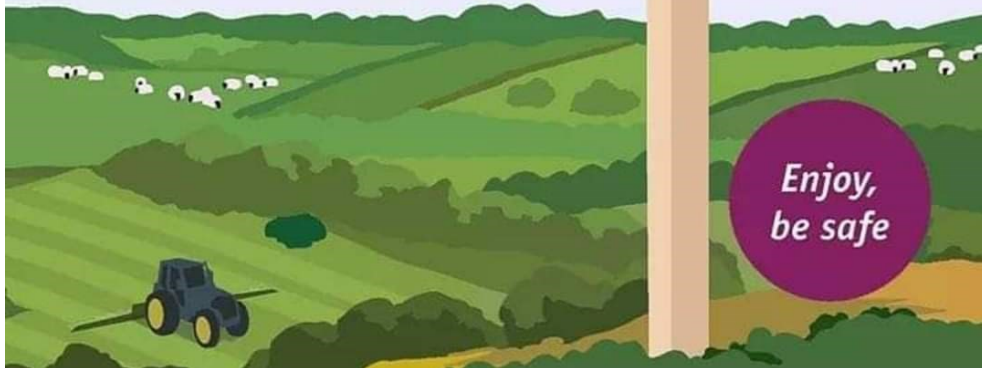
- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways are clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

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/>

