

**11** The continuation of this track enters the lower end of Dean Wood.

**12** After crossing over a metal bridge turn right and carry on to 12 where the path reaches the Douglas and bends left. Follow this path, keeping the wire fence immediately to your right until you reach a stile and gate at 13.

**13** Cross the stile and walk up the track straight ahead (ignore path to right), keeping the hedgerow and ditch to your

UpHolland  
Parish Council

### Footpath Walks 1996

This pamphlet is one of a second series of five published by the Parish Council with financial support from Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Manor Hotel and Hunsman Container Co. Ltd of West Fimbo. The Parish Council recognises and appreciates the assistance of volunteers who have walked and commented on the selected routes and others who have contributed in any way to the production of these pamphlets.

The Parish Council, since its inception in 1983, has expressed keen interest in the identification, preservation, maintenance and improvement of the wide footpath network in the parish area. However, the West Lancashire District Council has a principal responsibility for the majority of the footpaths and the law (Rights of Way Act 1990) places a duty on that Council to protect, maintain and record rights of way in the area. Generally, difficulties, for instance obstruction, dangerous animals, difficulties created by ploughing or cultivation, should be referred to the District Council (Highways Inspector Tel: 01695 585123), although the Parish Council will assist wherever and whenever possible.

There are, of course, responsibilities on the public at large and the life and work of the countryside should be respected at all times. Please ensure that wherever you go you follow the Country Code, fastening gates, keeping to paths, keeping dogs secure, removing litter and protecting wildlife, etc. Those interested in obtaining further information on footpaths, particularly the legal responsibilities of the various agencies, may care to contact the Countryside Commission, 19 - 23 Albert Road, Manchester, M19 2EQ, or the Ramblers Association, 1 - 5 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 2XX.

Communications for the Parish Council should be addressed to Mr J. Frier, Clerk to the Council, 6 Orchard Hwy, Eccleston, St. Helens, WA10 5AQ (Tel: 01744 753182) and for footpath matters to the Director of Development and Amenities, West Lancashire District Council, PO. Box 16, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF.

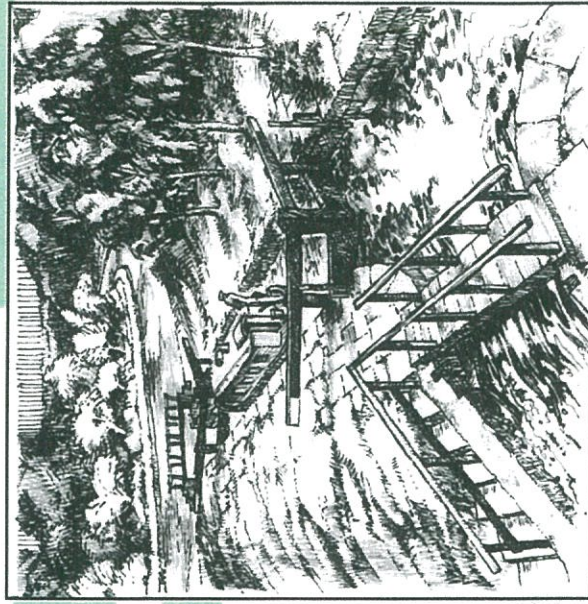
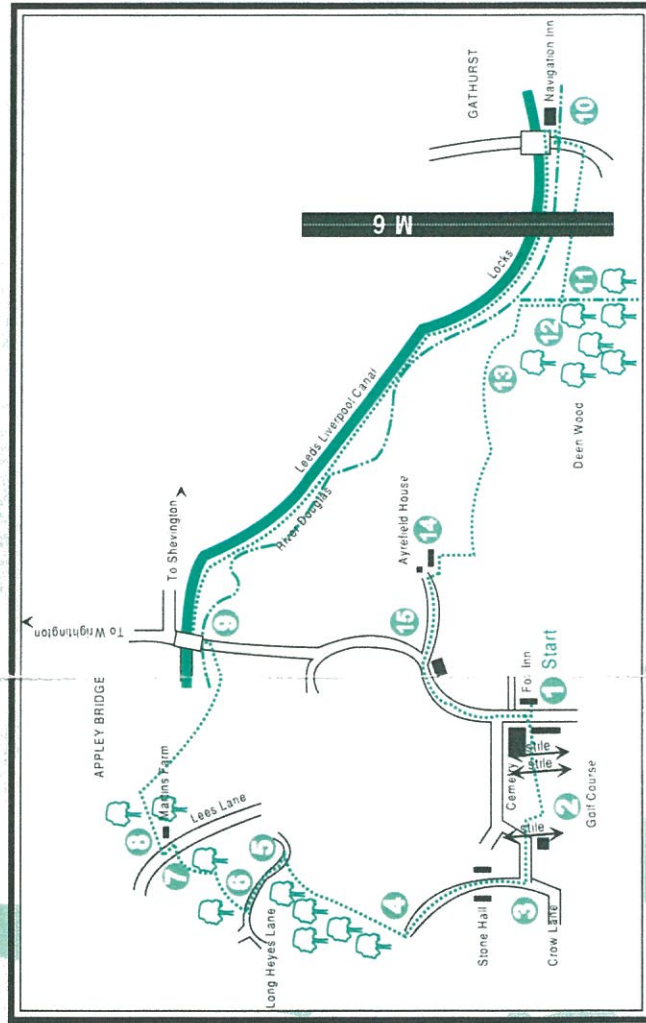
right. At the top of slope the path and hedge turn right and come to a kissing gate at 14.

**14** Cross gate into grounds of Ayrefield House. The path turns left in front of barn and passes between two stone walls to reach a metalled road through a gate. Turn left at gate and follow road to the Star Inn.

**15** Turn left and follow the footpath at the side of the road back into Roby Mill.

## Map of Route

(numbers correspond with text)



# A Circular Walk from Roby Mill to Appley Bridge

*This is a walk with many points of interest across an area of outstanding natural beauty. The route follows streams, wooded valleys and the picturesque canal side to Gathurst.*

**Approximate distance of walk - 6 ½ miles**

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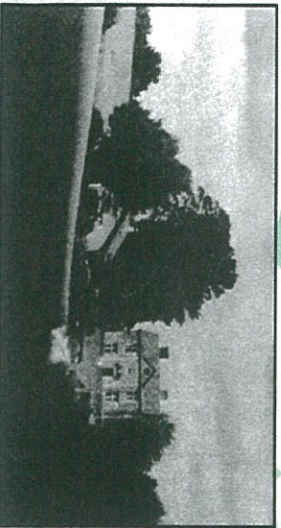
## START

Cross the road from the Fox Inn and turn right to walk past a row of cottages.

**1** After passing the last one turn left to join a footpath (signed) at the back of the cottages. After going through a gate keep to the hedge on the left of the field to the next gate and continue straight on over the golf course for approx. 100 yards. At the start of a long straight hedge keep to the field on the left of the hedge and walk to the top of the hill (way marked).

**2** Bear right for 50 yards through the trees and turn left to cross the golf course (care needed here - watch out for golfballs!) and a stile near to a bungalow to join Crow Lane. Continue up the lane passing the sign for Dalton.

**3** As the lane turns sharply left, turn right to join a cart track, walk along the track ignoring turnings off pass an interesting farm house on the left:- Stone Hall. NOTE:- Stone 'twirls' over door - circa 1640. Also, on side of house note cornerstone by draimpipes with gunshot marks and sword sharpening incisions made at the time of the civil war.



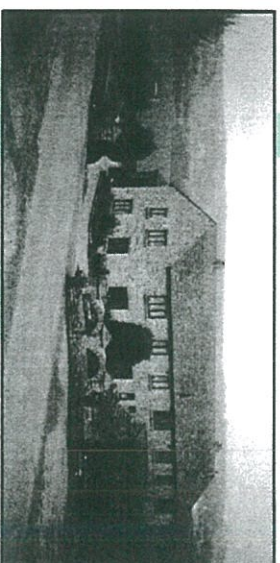
**4** As the track reaches woodland turn right and walk down hill. This part of the route is very attractive with views across the Douglas Valley to Winter Hill and to the left a stream follows the wooded valley downhill. This path follows the old Parish Boundary of Dalton.

**5** At the junction with a lane at the bottom of the hill turn left and follow the road for approx. ¼ mile.

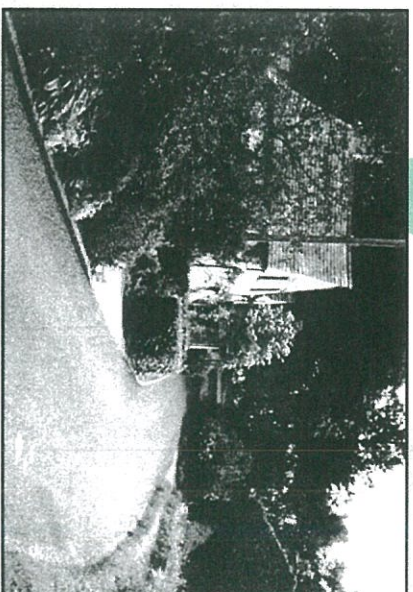
**6** Turn right at the bend as the lane goes uphill to the left. Look for a footpath going downhill between trees with a stream on the left of the path. Cross the stream at a ford and continue downhill to Lees lane.

**7** Turn left and just beyond the newly renovated stone property on the right turn right at Martins Farn.

**8** Follow this footpath on the left of this property until it becomes a woodland path. At the end of the wood turn right and follow the well defined path across the fields to Appley Bridge. POINT OF INTEREST:- Before continuing along the canal, a few yards to the right on the opposite side of the road will be found a triangular stone about 2 feet high marking:- Hundreth of Leyland, Wrightington, West? Was it West Derby?



**9** Turn left, cross over the River Douglas and shortly afterwards turn right to join the canal-side footpath. This section of the route to Gathurst is full of interest, not least from various forms of wildlife to be seen, but also from an interesting arrangement of locks in a picturesque situation. NOTE:- Grooves worn into stone of the bridge as horses pulled by ropes around bend.



**10** At Gathurst join the road near to the Navigation Inn, recross the River Douglas. Turn right immediately after going under the railway bridge. Follow track which passes under motorway viaduct again, with River Douglas on your right.



1 Cross gate into grounds of Ayrefield House. Path turns left in front of barn and passes between two low stone walls to reach a metalled road through a gate. Turn left at gate and follow metalled road. Past farms you pass a line of brick terraced houses. After first line of houses there is a gap before the second terrace.

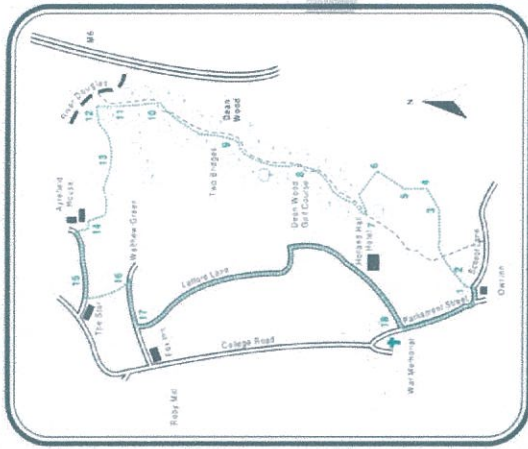
Footpath to your left passes between the rows and goes down left-hand side of a field **15**. Follow path to bottom of valley. Take right fork at side of cottages to emerge on metalled road at **16**. Turn right and go up slope.

2 Just after passing Gabriel Close on your right, take the left hand turn onto Lafford Lane at **17**. Follow this metalled road for 1 1/4 miles until you reach Parliament Street opposite M & D Cleaning Supplies at **18**.

3 Turn left into Parliament Street and follow pavement to return to the village.

### map of route

(numbers correspond with text)



### UpHolland Parish Council Footpath Walks 1995

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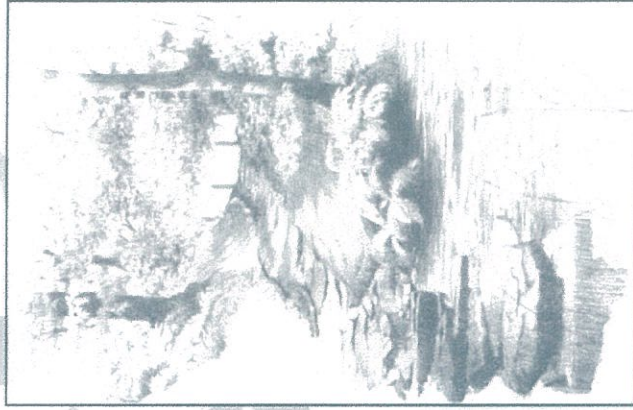
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Designed by *Adelle Penderwick*  
Printed by *SowerPrint*

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## A Circular Walk through Dean Wood and Lafford Lane from The Owl Inn



This walk through ancient woodland with its many forms of wildlife must be one of the most exciting in the area. The route through the wood has been made possible by the Friends of Dean Wood whose enthusiasm and considerable hard work has been supported by both West Lancashire District Council and UpHolland Parish Council.

NOTE: Some muddy sections after heavy rain.

Approximate distance of walk - 4 1/2 miles

