

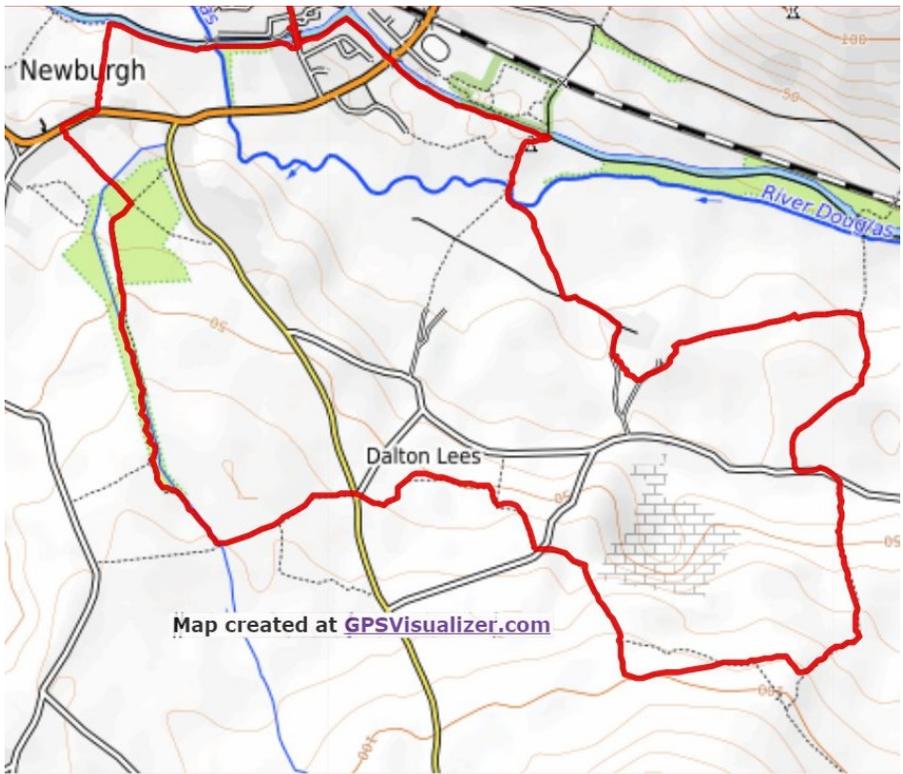
## Dalton Circular

A 5.5 mile walk from Parbold to Dalton Lees near Ashurst Beacon. Mainly fields, country paths, and canal.

The walk can start from anywhere in Parbold whether the railway station, or one of its car parks.

Due to the railway to Manchester, Parbold is an affluent commuter village and civil parish. It had a population of 2,582 at the 2011 census and has been known since 12<sup>th</sup> century. It has a history as a mining area in the 18/19<sup>th</sup> century. The windmill replaced an earlier cornmill.

It's local hills of Parbold Hill and Ashurst hill and the Leeds and Liverpool canal are frequently enjoyed by walkers.



***It is important to always be appropriately dressed for the conditions and carry, and know how to use, a suitable map for the walk.***

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**1: SD491105** Wherever you start in Parbold, head to the south side of the canal passing beside the old windmill onto the canal side (not the towpath side). Continue west along the canal for about 500m until you encounter a signpost.



**2: SD486105** At the signpost turn left across the field to reach the A5209 road. Turn right here and go 100m along the busy road to find a footpath on the other side of the road before a white house.



**3: SD485103** Cross the road and head up the footpath beside the house. This leads through and out of a farm via stiles into a field growing Christmas trees. After 275m you reach a clear crossing path. Turn right here and follow this path for 70 where it turns left beside a tree.



**4: SD486100** Follow the track left for nearly 1000m while it heads into a wood and follows a stream, crossing it via a footbridge and after about 650m climbing right up steps to continue at a field side in the original direction (nearly south). You reach a gate and stile on the left at the end of a field.

**5: SD489091** Go through the gate/stile and now head left (nearly East). Continue through the fields and through gates (watch out for low, hardly visible electric fences.) After about 350m you reach a kissing gate onto Higher Lane.



**6: SD493092** Cross the lane and enter the path that heads half right from the junction (not the half left Dungeon Lane). The path leads to a house which you pass on the left onto a footpath, then through a wooden gate to reach a metal gate in front of a small hill.



**7: SD497092** Turn largely right up the hill to reach a pair of stiles across the drive of a house (watch out for the plants at the other side). Continue beside the fence on the right to reach a wide solid wooden gate which you go through onto the house drive. Follow the drive to the road with a footpath opposite.



**8: SD498090** Cross the road and go into the path via the stile. The clear path curves right and then head uphill on a fairly steep path through a wood. Where the wood largely ends, follow a up to where there is a gate on the left. (the walk can be extended to Ashurst Beacon by going straight ahead)





**9: SD500087** Continue left through the gate and go across the field heading just left of East. Note the good views to the left. At the corner of the field is a stile with a possibly muddy slope before it. Cross the stile and a little bridge and continue in the same direction. The path turns right and then left onto a clear track.



**10: SD506087** Follow this clear path all the way down to Lees Lane. Turn left along the tarmac lane for 120m to find a footpath on the right between buildings. After about 500m you reach a junction with a path ahead (to the canal) and left.



**11: SD508097** Take the left path and follow it to a stile on the left just before a metal gate. (can be easier to go through the two gates). Go downhill with the hedge on the right to reach a wooden gate on the right. Go through the gate, go left a little distance on the driveway to a gate on the right. Note Prior's Wood Hall.



**12: SD501095** Go through the gate and directly across the field to another gate onto a farm track. Turn right onto the track and left at the farm buildings. After about 160m there is a gate and stile on the right in a field corner. Go through this and follow the stream on the right around the field to a footbridge.

**13: SD497101** Cross the footbridge and continue ahead to reach the canal. Cross a stile onto a wide grass track and shortly thereafter see the monument on the right.



**14: SD498102** Continue ahead and as you approach a bridge, go to the right to go left under the bridge on the towpath. Follow the towpath for about 800m going under the A5209 to reach a bridge beside the old windmill that the walk started from. You may pass some children's displays.



Walk arranged by Christine.

Documented by

Eric Crichton 18-03-2016