

Sixty three GREENFIELD – DOBCROSS & UPPERMILL.

This fairly short walk in the Pennines is very varied. It takes in the millstone grit village of Dobcross and Uppermill, which is an attractive little town on a river and canal.

Either: Catch a train from Eccles to Manchester Victoria,
or: to Stalybridge,
Then: change train.

Transfer to a Huddersfield stopping train and alight at Greenfield.

On leaving the station turn left, then left over the bridge.

Straight away cross the road. Then go right along Ladcastle Road. *Almost immediately there is a very fine view along the Chew Valley to your right. Just after you pass the golf course (on the left) there is a precipitous quarry edge on your right with the railway and Uppermill beneath you.*

Ladcastle Road curves left and drops down to go under a railway bridge. *(This carried the branch to Delph which was served by a two carriage, push & pull steam train known as 'The Delph Donkey').*

At the end of Ladcastle Road turn right over the bridge towards The Woolpack Inn *(No! It isn't!)*

Go up Woods Lane on the left side of the Inn. *Notice the Italianate clock tower of 1863, on the Parish Church of Holy Trinity.*

Just beyond the church gate there is a local history board. *It's worth a look. It has a picture of 'The Delph Donkey' at Measurement Halt.*

As you pass Church Fields notice all the weavers' cottages with multiple windows to provide light for working.

Woods Lane comes out on the village square *(Delightful isn't it?)* which has a memorial to a local physician and historian.

Opposite is The Swan. *(Jennings real ale and food. Open 12.00 to 14.30. then again at 17.30 and right through on Sunday).*

Facing the pub turn right, and at the end of the row of cottages continue straight ahead down a track between two walls.

At the bottom, cross the road and turn left over the canal bridge. Then turn right to go under the viaduct. Follow this road into Uppermill. *Notice the symbols on the Freemasons' Hall.*

Keep ahead through the town. *It has many cafes, churches, shops, and a tiny market on Wednesday. There are a few pubs (recommended: 'The Wagon' – Robinson's real ale and food – a Good Beer guide pub).*

Opposite The Granby Arms turn right to visit the Saddleworth Museum. *This has a good local history collection. Admission is £2 (or £1 concession). The steps next to the entrance take you to the canal wharf from which you can often take barge rides along the canal.*

Go back to the main road and turn right.

Just before the road goes over the canal go through the gap in the wall on the left of the road and descend to the canal bank. *This now runs between the canal and the river.*

Eventually you come to a dock for barges and 'The Kingfisher' – *a pleasant modern Marston's pub serving real ales and food.*

Just past this leave the canal bank by going up the steps. Turn right (ignore the road that then goes off right) and walk uphill.

U-turn to your right round The Railway – *serves real ales - a Good Beer Guide pub.*

From its front door, cross the road and enter Greenfield station for a train back to Manchester (or Stalybridge if preferred).

CLASSIFICATION: SHORT, EASY

COUNTRYSIDE, VIEWS, PUBS, CAFES, SHOPS,
FOOD, MUSEUM, CANAL, ARCHITECTURE

RAIL FARE: category one

MAP OS 1:50 000 sheet 109 Philip's Street Atlas Greater Manchester.