



REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1112864



Action for Ulnes Walton

A walk through our countryside

Walk Four

Ingrave Farm

WHY YOU SHOULD: A circular walk mostly on footpaths through fields with no hills. Partly beside the river, beautiful views, several places of interest, species rich meadows and hedgerows. Farmer's Arms at the end

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T: This is a dry weather walk only and should be avoided in winter since much of the first part is on badly drained clay. Two short stretches are along country lanes without a footpath.

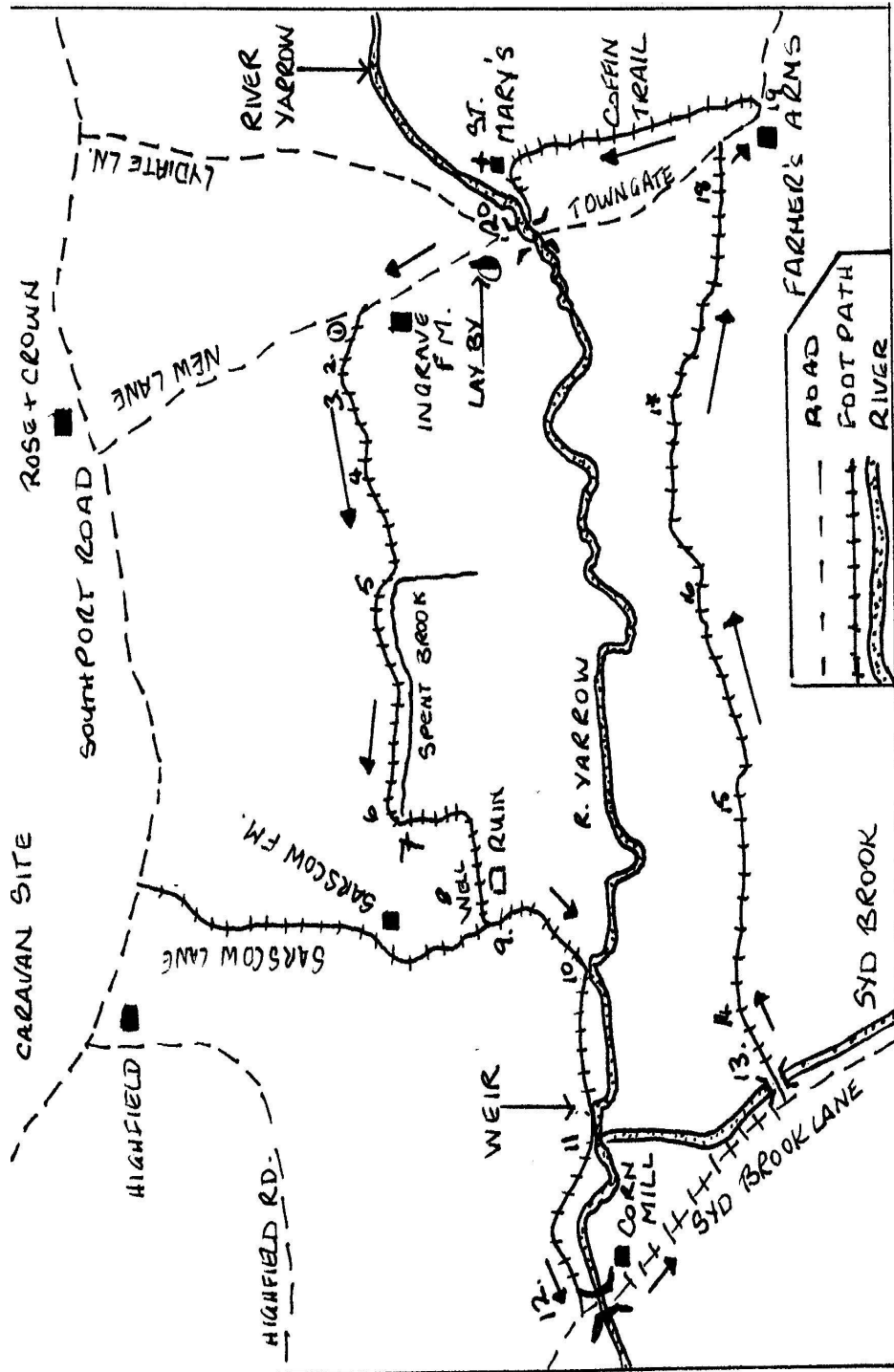
TIME: 1 HR TO 1HR 30MINS.

PARKING: there are two lay-bys on either side of New Lane near its junction with Towngate.

BUS: 113, get off at St Mary's Church.

DIRECTIONS

1 START: On New Lane, towards its Eccleston end. (*This is the worst part of the walk since there is no footpath and cars drive fast on New Lane*).



WALK FOUR: INGRAVE FARM: FARMER'S ARMS

Look out for the Public Footpath sign pointing to a small road, the entrance to Ingrave Farm and follow the road past cattle sheds on your left, heading towards green metal railings. Follow the narrow grass path.

2 Enter a field via a small wooden gate and keep left besides the fence. Go over a stile and foot bridge to an orchard. *On your left amongst the trees is a moat at Ingrave Farm. This is one of pair of moats and is a protected heritage site. The huge farm buildings are cattle sheds. Note the farm's wind turbine.*

3 Leave orchard and walk along the hedge at the side of the field with a tiny stream/ditch beside it. *Eccleston is famous for its large number of old apple varieties. Unfortunately, many of the original orchards are long gone.*

4 Go through small gate. Keep along the hedge to the corner of the field.

5 Cross the rickety stile. Keep to the hedge and Spent Brook on your left.

6 In the corner of the field cross the stile and foot bridge and you'll see the buildings at Sarscow Farm ahead. Keep along Spent Brook.

7 Cross Spent Brook by the footbridges and walk straight forwards to the corner of the field.

8 A track meets at right angles. Go along it towards the remains of a farmyard. *On the right is an old filled in well and on the left is an old barn.*

9 Go over a stile to exit the farmyard. As the track bends round to the right leave it and bear left diagonally across the large field towards the line of trees.

10 Exit the field by going over two footbridges and a stile and walk straight on. The River Yarrow is on your left but you don't go towards it. Go straight ahead from the footbridges through a field

11 Go through a kissing gate to follow a narrow track beside the river then leave this path by another kissing gate. The path leaves the river and goes straight ahead. *A detour left to the tiny building (a river recording station) is worthwhile to see the fish ladder and weir. Here Croston Corn Mill, seen across the river, was once powered by it.*

12 Leave by a kissing gate onto a farm track. Keep left along the river to the road. Go left over the stone bridge past Croston Cornmill. Walk along the road (Syd Brook Lane). Cross the road to use the footpath along it.

drive very fast. Here there are good views of Harrock Hill. To the left you can see Winter Hill and Great Hill (part of the Western Pennines).

13 Eventually you will see a stone bridge on your left. Leave the road here to go over the stone bridge crossing the Syd Brook. Follow the track to the end where you'll see the kissing gate which takes you into a field. The next kissing gate is visible from here.

14 Go through this kissing gate and over the foot bridge, keeping to the hedge on your right. *It can be muddy here. A pond over the hedge often has coots on it.* You will come to another kissing gate. Once through this keep along the ancient, species rich hedge. *Here is very old permanent pasture full of a variety of meadow grasses and wildflowers including but-tercups, daisies, sweet vernal grass, brome, red clover, ladies' smock etc. which attract butterflies in spring and summer.*

15 Go through the kissing gate in the corner of the field and keep to the hedge on the left. *On a clear day you can see Longridge Fell to your left. United Utilities have built a large compound in the field. Underneath are giant storage tanks linked to the sewage system.* Don't go over the ladder-back stile but walk round to the right keeping close to the compound fence to return to the path beside the hedge. You'll go past a pond hidden in trees on your right.

16 Go through a kissing gate and over a small footbridge. Go straight on, keeping to the hedge on the left. Go through kissing gate a beside a metal gate and walk straight ahead. *Dairy cows graze here so please keep your dog on a lead. They are very docile and you should not be put off by their presence*

17 Go through the kissing gate onto an avenue (Anchor Fields) once the site of the Blue Anchor pub, and turn left onto the main road which joins New Lane and the start of the walk in a few hundred metres. *The Farmer's Arms, which serves quality food, is on your right.*