



7<sup>th</sup> Ramsbottom (Greenmount)  
Greater Manchester North

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## WALK 1

### GREENMOUNT, HAWKSHAW, TWO BROOKS VALLEY AND BOTTOMS HALL

Start	Greenmount Old School
Finish	Greenmount Old School
Duration	2½ hours
Terrain	Stiles, some uphill and downhill walking Parts can be boggy, especially in or after wet weather Some overgrown paths

- 1 Leave the Old School heading towards Holcombe Road. Cross Holcombe Road using the Zebra Crossing and turn left.
- 2 Turn right past the church along an unmade cul-de-sac leading to Lomax Street. This leads to a short footpath to Hunt Fold Drive.
- 3 Cross Hunt Fold Drive and turn right and then left into Larkfield Close.
- 4 Turn left into Hove Close and as you drop down and turn the right hand bend, you will see the entrance to Greenmount Golf Course ahead.
- 5 Go through the golf course entrance and turn right, with houses on your right, following the edge of the golf course.
- 6 As you come to the end of the houses on the other side of the hedge, the footpath goes right, through the fence and then left, following the edge of the golf course.
- 7 Go through another fence where the path forms a 'T' junction with the more trodden path to the right. Turn right. (The path to the left leads back to the club house on the golf course).
- 8 Go through another fence and turn left. (The footpath that carries straight on leads back to Holhouse Lane and Greenmount Primary School.). Follow the fencing on your left.
- 9 Go through the next stile, keeping the fencing on your right.
- 10 Go straight on through the next stile with the fencing still on your right.



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- 11 Follow this path as it curves round to the left behind the building on Bolton Road West and then turns sharp right to a gate and stile leading onto Bolton Road West.
- 12 Cross Bolton Road West and turn left. Follow the pavement round the bend, past the stone cottages (Loe Cottages) to the next bend and turn right, following the public footpath through the converted farm buildings, along the track, past the bungalow and over the stile.
- 13 Go straight on, in front of the stables to the next stile. Go over the stile.
- 14 It is easier to go round to the right of the mound than to follow the path by the fence, to the left of the mound in order to reach the next stile. Go over the stile, taking care to avoid the barbed wire on top of the fencing to either side.
- 15 Follow the fencing on the left to the stile next to the gate. Go over the stile.
- 16 Turn left along the lane, past a building being renovated on the left and a greenhouse on the right and go over another stile.
- 17 Turn left, go down the field to the next stile, go over the stile and cross the stream.
- 18 Turn right and follow the small stream on your right. As you climb the grassy hill, you will see a marker and a stile over the fence into a nature reserve. This is the intended path but it is very much overgrown and it is easier to follow the fencing on your right. As you do so, if you look back, you will see where the path through the nature reserve emerges. Follow the path to the stile in the far corner of the field.
- 19 Go over the stile, cross the road, over another stile and follow the footpath sign into the field. There is a fence/hedge on the right and then a track between two fences leading to another stile.
- 20 Go over the stile and follow the path, keeping the hedge to your right. As the buildings ahead come into view, you will see a stile in the hedge on your right. This is easily missed. Go over the stile, turn left and follow the hedge now on your left.
- 21 This leads to another stile and a narrow path with a brick wall and bungalow on the right and a fence on the left. Go over the stile and follow the path to the main road.
- 22 Turn right and cross the road at the first opportunity. Follow the footpath along the main road towards Hawkshaw.
- 23 Just before the Vicarage, there is a footpath sign to the left, by a gate. Go over this stile, with the stone wall on your right.
- 24 Go over the next stile and follow the way marker to the far right corner of the field, down hill, under the trees. There is another stile on the right. Go over this stile and follow the footpath towards a telegraph pole. Note that this section may be very overgrown and you may have to forge a path through the dense vegetation.
- 25 At the telegraph pole, the path goes right and slightly uphill and then drops down to the stream. Cross the stream as best you can. There is no bridge.



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- 26 Go up the steps on the opposite bank to reach a field and turn left towards the Tennis Club House. Go down the flagstone path, straight across the junction of the path and the lane.
- 27 Just before you reach a gate, there is a stile in the hedge on the left, opposite some old caravans. Go over the stile.
- 28 Follow this path under the trees and through the wood for some distance, crossing a couple of streams. This part of the walk can be very heavy going and very muddy when wet.
- 29 You will reach some converted farm buildings on your left. At the last house there is a stile, although at the time of writing, there is no gate and you can simply walk through.
- 30 As you enter the large field, turn left and go down the field to a metal gate, across the stream and go over the stile next to the gate.
- 31 After a few paces, turn right and go over the ladder stile into the large field. Head for the telegraph pole in the far right corner of the field.
- 32 Go over the stile on the right, cross the stream by means of the bridge, go over the stile at the end of the bridge and follow the path, going slightly left.
- 33 Go over the next stile by the stream on your left and follow the track to a point just before Bottoms Hall cottages. There is a footpath sign and a stile on the left.
- 34 Go over this stile and follow the track up and behind the white cottages, through two gates, making sure to close the gates after you. The path goes up hill under the trees and you will pass under three large sycamore trees and one silver birch tree. You will see a holly bush ahead, on the right of the path.
- 35 At this point, the path goes sharp left, up between the trees. This is very boggy and overgrown and you have two choices.
- 36 You can take the path up the hill, keeping the tree line to your right, turning right near the top, then left to the gate post.
- 37 Alternatively, you can follow the track that goes slightly left, under a couple of low trees and crosses the large field diagonally, heading for the top left corner. Turning right at the top will bring you to the gate post.
- 38 Go over the stile by the gate and along the short track to Hollymount.
- 39 Go down the road, taking the footpath on the left of the lane, just after Holly Villa. This leads to the main road.
- 40 Turn left at the main road and cross it at the first opportunity. After the bus shelter, turn right at the track and then left where the two tracks cross, along the old railway line to Brandlesholme Road, opposite the Greenmount Newsagents shop. Cross Brandlesholme Road and turn left to reach the Old School.