



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

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## WALK 4

### IN THE STEPS OF RALPH ROONEY

Start	Greenmount Old School
Finish	Greenmount Old School
Duration	3 hours (approximately 6½ miles)
Terrain	Stiles Parts can be boggy and slippy, 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 right.
- 2 Notice on your left, as you approach the bust stop, Ralph Rooney's gravestone in the church graveyard. For more information about Ralph Rooney and his influence on the local area, see the Local History pages of the web site [www.greenmountvillage.org.uk](http://www.greenmountvillage.org.uk).
- 3 Turn left by the graveyard, just before the first house, along a wide track.
- 4 The track leads to Hunt Fold Drive. Cross Hunt Fold Drive and go straight ahead on Larkfield Close.
- 5 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.
- 6 Go through the golf course entrance and go straight down the path towards the stream, over the bridge and follow the path, right, uphill to [Greenmount Golf Club](#), passing behind the Golf Club, through the car park.
- 7 Go through the gate opposite the Golf Club car park and take the path in front of Whipney Cottages.
- 8 Almost immediately, the path forks. Take the right fork, through a wooded area, across the stream to a stile.
- 9 Go over the stile, across the field, picking up an old cart track between holly bushes, leading to a gate with a stile to the right at the main road.
- 10 Go over the stile, across the road and left to take the tarmac track on your right up towards Holcombe Moor Training Camp. Initially, you can take the footpath to the left of this road.
- 11 Continue on the track until the army camp is in view, then continue until you pass over a cattle grid. Immediately over the cattle grid, to the right, is a narrow track leading across moorland, to the corner of the army camp.



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- 12 Follow this path, cross the road and follow the footpath ahead which then goes round the back of the army camp.
- 13 At the junction of stiles, take the stile to the right and follow the footpath inside the army land boundary with the fencing on your left. Take note of warning signs and, if you see anything unusual on the ground, keep well clear. The army uses live ammunition on these training grounds.
- 14 Go over the next stile on your left, cross the field diagonally right to another stile next to a rusty gate.
- 15 Go over the stile and follow the track between bushes up towards Withins Farm. Go through two stiles to enter a courtyard with a garden pond in the centre. Turn right, past the pond, between the properties, to a stile on the left side of the gate.
- 16 Go over the stile or through the gate (the entrance to Withins Farm) and turn left on a tarmac lane for about 60 metres.
- 17 Go over the stile in the fencing on the right, opposite a stile on the left. Beware of the electrified fence.
- 18 Go straight up the field, in line with the two stiles behind you and as you reach the top of the small incline, you will see another stile directly ahead.
- 19 Go over this stile, keeping the fence on your right. Go over another stile, with stone flag fencing on your right and then on both sides. Follow the path up to buildings at Holcombe Hey Fold.
- 20 Go over another stile, up between the buildings and turn left onto a track.
- 21 You will reach a junction with a lane leading down to the left. Keep straight on. As you approach Lower Grainings, the building on your right, Roger Worthington's grave in on your left. For more information about Roger Worthington, please see the Local History pages of the web site [www.greenmountvillage.org.uk](http://www.greenmountvillage.org.uk).
- 22 On leaving Roger Worthington's grave, turn right, back along the lane to the junction you passed on your way up. Turn right down the lane and follow the road to Boardman's cottages. This is the first group of buildings you see.
- 23 Just before the first cottage, take the footpath on the left, immediately behind the cottage and passing through the cottage yard. Go through a small gate, keeping the fence to your left.
- 24 You will see a stile on your left with a way marker pointing right. Turn right down the field to the stile at the bottom. You are now retracing your steps from 18 to 12.
- 25 Go over the stile at the bottom of the field, again taking care to avoid the electrified fence, onto the lane and turn left.
- 26 Go through the second gate, or over the stile by the side of it, on your right. This is the entrance to Within's farm.
- 27 Go past the pond in the courtyard and turn left, go through two stiles, follow the track between the bushes and over another stile.



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- 28 Cross the field diagonally right, over another stile and turn right, following the footpath inside the army land boundary, keeping the fencing to your right.
- 29 Go over another stile and turn left, following the footpath behind the army camp to the road.
- 30 When you reach the road, turn left, passing the obstacle course on your right, along the lane and through a gate to a tarmac lane.
- 31 Turn right down Redisher Lane to the next cluster of properties, Hollingrove.
- 32 Turn right down the lane just after the stone stables, opposite the entrance to Hollingrove Farm.
- 33 At the right hand bend in the lane, go over the stile on the left and, keeping the fence on your right, go slightly left, veering away from the fence, towards a stile in the fence at the bottom of the field.
- 34 Go over this stile and also a second one almost immediately, round a mound, keeping the mound to your right, in front of some stables, over another stile near a bungalow, past the properties and down a lane to the road.
- 35 On reaching the road, turn left and go round the bend. Cross the road and take the first footpath on the right between two stone gateposts.
- 36 Follow the track round the back of the houses and then across the field, keeping the fence on your left.
- 37 Go through a stile on the left of a gate, keeping the fence on your left.
- 38 Go through another stile. The fence is now on your right.
- 39 At the footpath junction, go right, through a stile, with the fence to your left.
- 40 Go through a stile on your left in this fencing, next to the golf course. The fence is now on your right.
- 41 Go through the stile in the fence on your right, onto the golf course and turn left to follow the path along the edge of the golf course, behind the houses.
- 42 After the last house, turn left through the entrance to the golf course, into Hove Close and retrace your steps up Hove Close, right along Larkfield Close, straight across Huntfold Drive and along the path by the side of the churchyard.
- 43 Turn right at the main road to the crossing, cross the road and continue down Brandlesholme Road to The Old School, your starting point.