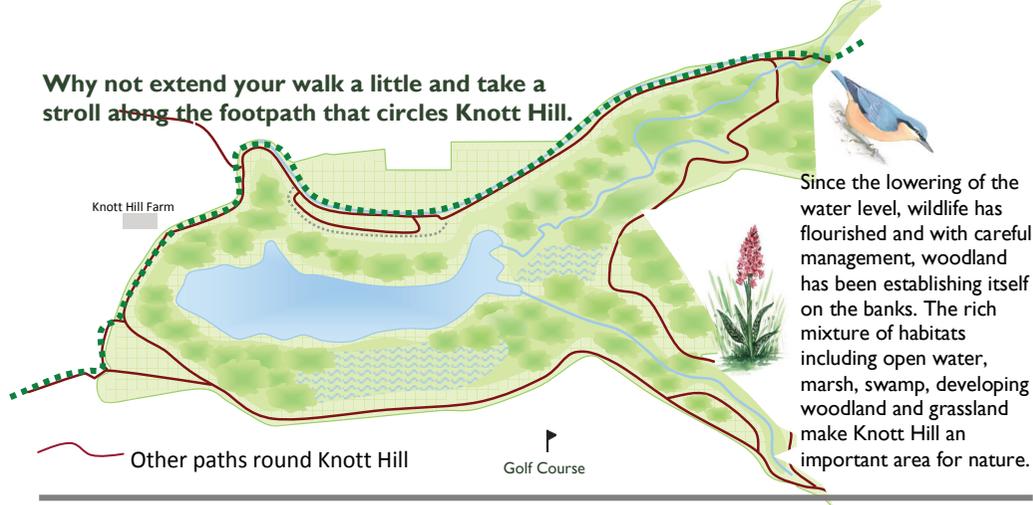


Why not extend your walk a little and take a stroll along the footpath that circles Knott Hill.



13. Go over the stile and down the valley. At the next finger post follow Knott Hill reservoir over the stile.

14. At the waymarker turn right on to the path of the golf course, keeping left of the wooden bench.

15. At the next waymarker turn right over the stile between the trees and follow the path down and over the stream then back over the stream following the path with the culvert to your right.

16. Go past Knott Hill Farm then at the finger post go through the gate and bear left to Hurst.

17. At the bottom of the hill bear right, following the main path, toward Hurst.

18. Turn right between the school playing field towards Lees Road.

19. Cross the main road and turn right.

20. At the traffic lights turn left down St Albans Avenue. Cross over the road and turn right down the footpath just before Holden Clough School.

21. Follow the footpath to the finger post and head for Alt Hill Lane across fields. At the waymarker go down through the woods through a gap in the fence and across a bridge over a stream.

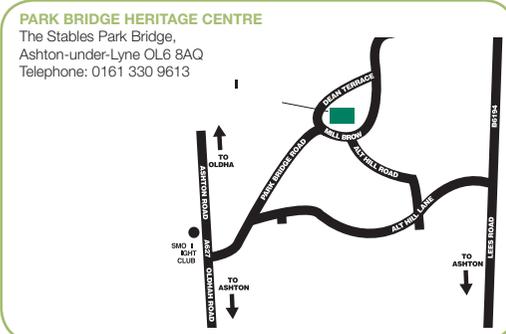
21. Follow the footpath to the finger post and head for Alt Hill Lane across fields. At the waymarker go down through the woods through a gap in the fence and across a bridge over a stream.

22. Continue up the path through a gap at the side of the wooden gate towards Lees Road.

23. On reaching the road, turn left and then first right down Alt Hill Road towards Park Bridge.

24. Follow the road until you reach the old forge building. Bear left, past the cattery and drop down on to the main Park Bridge Road.

25. Turn sharp right and up the hill back to the Heritage Centre.



Tameside Countryside Service
www.tameside.gov.uk/countryside
Tel: 0161 330 9613



Park Bridge to Knott Hill via Hartshead Pike



A 5 mile circular walk with spectacular views over four counties and past the tranquil lake at Knott Hill

PARK BRIDGE TO KNOTT HILL

via Hartshead Pike

Distance: 5 miles

Grid Ref: SD939 024

1. From Park Bridge Heritage Centre turn up the hill and follow the unmade road to the right through Park Bridge village, built for the ironworkers by the owners of the ironworks, the Lees Family.

2. At the end of the terrace turn right, down to the bottom of the hill and as the road curves right, turn left through the stile and through Rocher Vale cobbled entrance.

3. Walk straight ahead, up the slope, past the old steam hammer and join the gravelled path going over the foobridge. Turn left past the ruined remains of Rocher New Pit and take the waymarked path right uphill. From here you get a good view of Rocher Vale.

4. At the top of the hill, cross the stile and bear right by the side of the ditch. On reaching the pond go left over small bridge. Continue forward, aiming for the stone building, Fields Farm, ahead.

5. On reaching the farm track turn left and after a short distance go left over the stile (signposted Hartshead Pike) following the footpath to Lees Road.

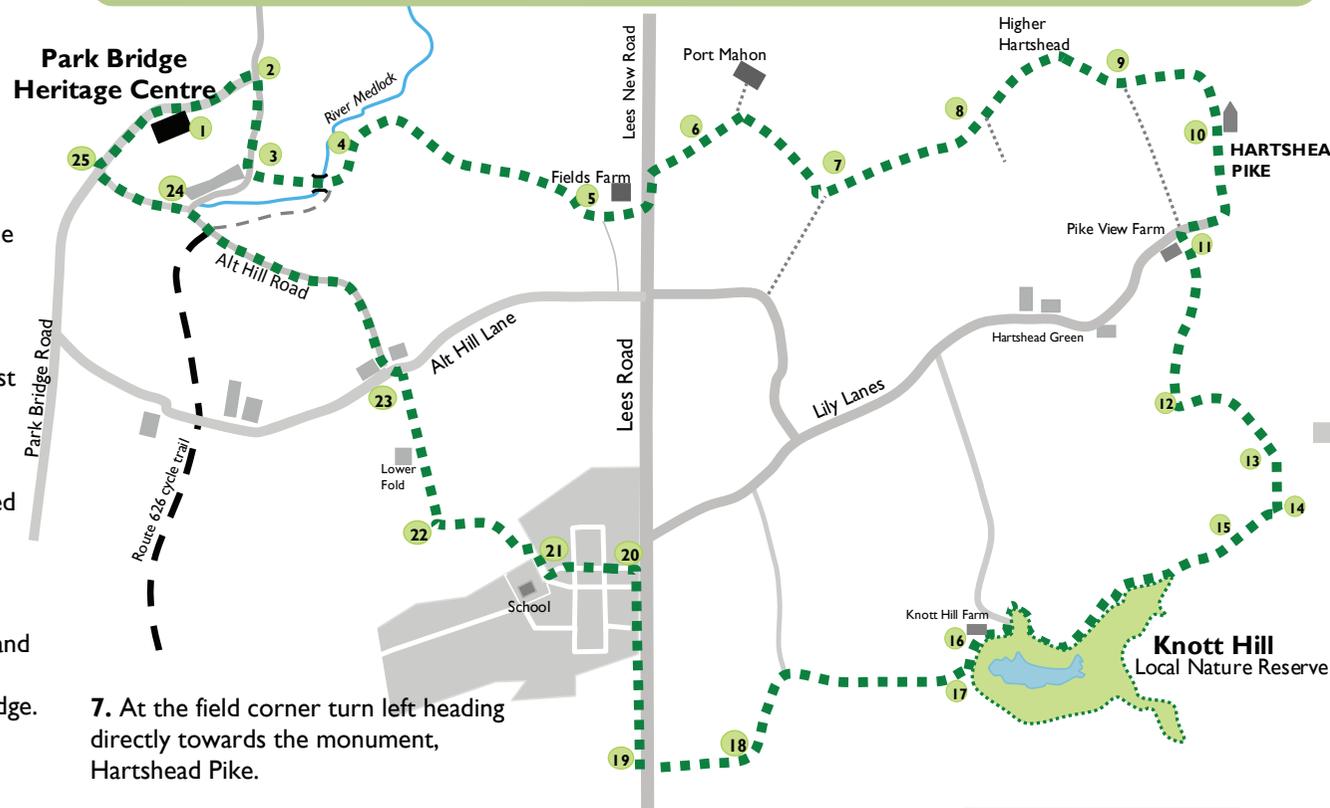
6. Cross this fast and busy road with care and go left a short distance, right over a stile following footpath towards Port Mahon Farm. Just before reaching the farm go right over the ditch up to a stile into a field. Walk along the right edge of the field.

Although the name "Hartshead Pike" is generally used to mean the tower, it was originally the name of the hill itself. The pike is not the highest part of the hill, but, at 940 feet above sea level, its prominent position has meant that, from early times, it has been the site of a beacon or signalling station.

Hartshead Pike



The present tower was built in 1863. Inside the tower was a shop selling refreshments. Visitors could pay a small charge to climb stairs to enjoy the view from windows high up in the building.



7. At the field corner turn left heading directly towards the monument, Hartshead Pike.

8. Head down a small dip over the stile, following the path bending left (passing stile on right) and over next stile and up to the right. At a waymark post go straight up the hill.

9. At the lane junction go straight on taking the path over a stile ascending between a wall and a fence. Turn right at the top along the gravel path to the monument.

10. Continue down the path going south to a stile at the farm track.

11. Turn right down the track. On your left follow the finger post to Knott Hill reservoir. down the side of Pike View farm on your left.

Look out for the waymarker on your right as you go straight down the path.

12. At the next finger post, take a left towards Hartshead Inn. Go over a stile and at the next waymarker keep straight ahead, to the left of the metal gate.



Biodiversity is the variety of all life. It includes plants, animals and the complex ecosystems of which they are part. Not only do they enrich our everyday lives, they produce the necessary ingredients for all life to exist.

One of the key species in Tameside whose habitat we need to protect is the aptly named **Speckled Wood** butterfly which flies in partially shaded woodland with dappled sunlight. Look out for it as you follow the trail.

Have you seen any wildlife?
Please send your records to
www.gmwildlife.org.uk

Knott Hill
Local Nature Reserve
Reclaimed by nature, this disused reservoir is now a haven for wildlife and the perfect place for a gentle stroll at any time of year.

