

BOTTOMS UP Route Description 2017

Please collect your walker/runner entry number at registration.

**IF YOU CANNOT REACH A CHECKPOINT BY THE CLOSING TIME PLEASE
RING THE ORGANISER ON EMERGENCY TEL NO. 07952673357**

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE TO RETIRE, PLEASE *DO NOT* GO HOME WITHOUT
INFORMING EITHER THE FINISH CONTROL OR CHECKPOINT CONTROL.**

START HOGHTON VILLAGE HALL ON THE A675 GR 614 265

Cross main road. **R** then **L** up Hoghton Tower drive. **L** at gatehouse, along track keeping wall on **R**. Over 2 stiles and **L** to road. **L** for 100 yds. **R** over stile behind telegraph pole, over 2nd stile and cross railway bridge ahead. Over stile and, keeping pond on **L** cross field diagonally **L** (318°) to stile in hedge corner. Over field with pond on **R** to cross through gate in trees. Continue with fence on **R** to road. **R** for 600yds then **R** along Goosefoot Lane. Continue round **L/H** bend to FP on **R**. Follow waymarks down track & steps to FB on **R**. Cross and up opposite bank. Ahead to waymarked stile. Ahead, hedge on **R** to stile, left of metal gate. Thro' field to stile by barn. **R** at barn corner, cross stile in fence, and ahead to stile in **R/H** corner, cross and over footbridge to track. Cross stile opposite and keeping a few yards to **L** of gully descend to track **GR 619288**.

You are now in **SAMLESBURY BOTTOMS**.

Continue **R** with river on **L** to waymarked stile by metal gate. Follow path **R**, uphill, to stile and gate at top **L/H** corner. Ahead with wall on **L** to stile by gate. Ahead with broken down wall on **L** for approx. 100 yds to stony track. **R** and follow track to stile on **L** of metal gate at Bolton Hall farm. Ahead to lane. **R** for 200yds. Just after small wood on **L**, **GR 624274**, **L** over stile and descend, **following overhead lines**, on overgrown path between trees to stile and continue past house and **L** to lane **GR 626271**.

Welcome to **HOGHTON BOTTOMS**.

L along lane and, after passing last house on left, cross green FB. **At FP sign turn R** and continue through 2 gates keeping river on **R**. Through gate at stone bridge over River Darwen and **L** along track to cross stile on **R**. Continue with wall on **L** to next stile. Cross and continue uphill, keeping fence then hedge on **R**, crossing two more stiles to stile on **L** of red gate.

Ahead to road. **L** for 100yds. After passing Pleasington Priory, **R** into Old Hall Lane.

Continue to end of road. **L** on grass track, over stile. Past stone gatepost following path uphill on 355° passing between telegraph poles then between two prominent trees to stile leading into wood at top of field. Ascend thro' wood (Ignore post pointing **L**) to track. **L** for 20 yds.

R on path uphill to stile. **R**, with fence on **R**, to next stile. Ahead, leaving fence, on path over Butlers Delf to stile in fence **L** of tree. Continue in same direction over large field to small car park and

Checkpoint 1. GR 653281. (6 miles) Opens 9.30am Closes 11.15am

CAUTION: The paths thro' the woods are shared with mountain bikers until the next metalled road.

Ahead thro' woods for 250yds. At jct. Turn **R** uphill to next jct, where **L** on good path to marker post on **L**. **R** on gravel path uphill to Billinge Hill viewpoint and plaque to 'Blackburn 100'.

TALLIES WILL BE CLIPPED HERE

Ahead to rejoin main path, **R** downhill for 300yds. **R** at Bridleway marker post, (Blue sign), and continue downhill to eventually join metalled road at **GR 657279**. **L** and thro' kissing gate on **R**. Follow waymarks thro' field to next kissing gate. Diagonally **L** to kissing gate into wood. Continue descending, with stream on **R**. At jct. cross F/B and **R**. Straight on at next jct. Then **R** on main drive. At far end of sports pavilion/cafe turn **L**, keeping playground on **L**, to cross field and FB. **R**, with river on **R**, to next bridge, do not cross. **L** on metalled track to road. **R** 200yds to stone drinking fountain. **L** behind goalposts to path going uphill to eventually cross railway bridge. **L** on road then 1st **L** to main road. Cross (**CARE!**) and **R** for 100 yds. **L** at Public Library sign. Ahead on path to canal. (**Do not cross bridge**) **R** with canal on **L** for ½ mile. Leave at next bridge. **L** over canal and **R** at roundabout SP Tockholes. As road bends **L** keep ahead to

Checkpoint 2. GR 649252. (9 ½miles) Opens 10am Closes 1.30pm.

SHORT ROUTE ONLY

Retrace steps to canal and continue on towpath with canal on **L** for 1¾ miles. 80yds after 2nd road bridge, No. 91A, cross stile on **R**. Through 2 small fields, bearing **R** uphill in 3rd field to farm track. Through farmyard. Cross road and **L** to T-junction. Cross main road with **CARE** and turn down side of Royal Oak. Over 2 stiles and up field to further stile. Ahead over next field to stile by gate. Ahead 100yds through trees to another stile. Downhill to kissing gate on **R**. **L** down drive and **R** on road to Finish. **(13 miles, 1460' of ascent.) WELL DONE**

LONG ROUTE ONLY

Continue on this road forking **L** at quarry building. Follow track for 800 yds, under Motorway, turn **L**, (ignore FP sign on **L**) then **R** to Higher Whitehalgh farm. Ahead through farmyard to gate. Ahead keeping house on **L** to gate and stile. Bear H/R across field to stile in stone wall to **R** of large hut. **GR 653238**. Descend to cross FB and ahead through trees. Keep along top edge of wood (ignore FB on **L**) to cross stile in fence. **L** over 2 more stiles to gate. Ahead on track/tarmac to road. Ahead on Chapels Lane passing Tockholes URC Church on **L**. Turn **R** up Long Lane for 500 yds to

Checkpoint 3 at village hall on L. GR 662231 (12 miles) Opens 10.30am Closes 1.30pm.

TOCKHOLES TO BRINSCALL.

L from checkpoint, passing the Rock Inn on **L** and houses on **R** to bridleway on **R**. Turn and ahead up track to where B/way turns sharp **L**. Ahead over waymarked stile. Up centre of field, over next stile, to gate in wall **GR**

670234. Over brow and downhill (62°N) to small gate at end of wall to **L** of house. Please note that permission to go directly down has been given for the day only) Bear **R** to next gate. Down track, **L** through gate. Follow track down, passing golf club on **R**. Turn **R** immediately before bungalows, panel fencing on **L**. Continue to Earnsdale farm on **L** then immediately **L** before double-gates, down path to enter Sunnyside Woods. **R** at crossing of paths. Stay on this path for 820yds, ignoring any turnings to **L** or **R**, pass through fallen tree, to path junction, **GR** 674226. Sharp **L** down steps and ahead to eventually emerge at kissing gate **GR** 668223. Ahead through gate, uphill to where track comes in from **R**. **L** through small wooden gate in wall. Ahead over stile, follow path keeping fence then wall on **L**. uphill to metal gate.

Through and follow lane through Ryall Fold to Royal Arms PH. Cross road and **L** for 100yds. (Toilets on **L** at Information centre). **R** on path, **L** at jct and along avenue of trees following track/path downhill, and then keeping stream on **R** to jct. **L** for 100 yds then **R** over bridge.

Keep **R** on good track for just over ½ mile passing barn conversion and then two farms on **R**. 40yds after 2nd farm cross waymarked stile on **L**. Over field, cross stile and main road (**CARE!**) Ahead to stile by gate, cross and over next stile. Continue with fence on **L** for 250yds, cross footbridge and up field, still with fence on **L** for 300yds, to track. Cross and continue in same direction to next footbridge.

Over stile, uphill, fence on **R**. Follow round top of quarry with fence on **R** and small reservoir on **R**, to stile. Cross and over next stile. Cross track and over stile and ahead, fence on **L**, wall on **R**, to road. **L** then in 50 yds **L** on minor road for ¾mile. **R**. at trough before Give Way sign to

St Lukes Church Hall on R. Checkpoint 4 GR 629214. (18miles) Opens 11.30am closes 4pm.

BRINSCALL TO FINISH.

L from CP then **R** to Give Way sign. Ahead up road then **R** at PO sign along Withnell Fold Old Road. As this turns into Heather Lea Drive, continue ahead on rough road uphill, passing end of Chapel Street, crossing next road and ahead on path to further road where **L** for 60 yds and **R** at FP sign.

Ahead through Pike Lowe farm to cross stile by gate. Continue ahead through next gate and over further stile. Pass broken down barn on **L**, cross next stile and pass house on **L** (**GR** 623225). Cross next stile and then aim for steel gate left of barn. Cross, then follow tarmac track to gate & stile. Bear **L** in front of house and cross stile onto path, with fence on **L** initially then follow path **R** through conifer plantation to stile. Cross field (same direction) to stile and on to next stile (Laund Fold). Follow track on **L** to A674. Cross (**CARE**) then **R** along main road. Turn next **L** opposite phone box down lane to Ollerton Fold. At Ollerton Fold Farm, continue on tarmac track until 2nd '**Caution children playing**' notice, in farmyard **L** of gate. Cross stile **R** of gate, and ahead to cross next 2 stiles then downhill, fence on **L**, to cross stone stile and bridge over canal. Immediately over bridge, cross wooden stile on **L** onto canal towpath. **L** along towpath, canal on **R**. Continue under Motor Way to 2nd Stile on **L**, 80 yds before next Road Bridge No. 91A. Through 2 small fields, bearing **R** uphill in 3rd field to farm track. Through farmyard. Cross road and **L** to T-junction. Cross main road with **CARE** and

turn down side of Royal Oak. Over 2 stiles and up field to further stile. Ahead over next field to stile by gate. Ahead 100yds through trees to further stile. Down hill to kissing gate on **R**. **L** down drive and **R** on road to the Finish. **WELL DONE!**

(22.5 miles, 2650' of ascent).