



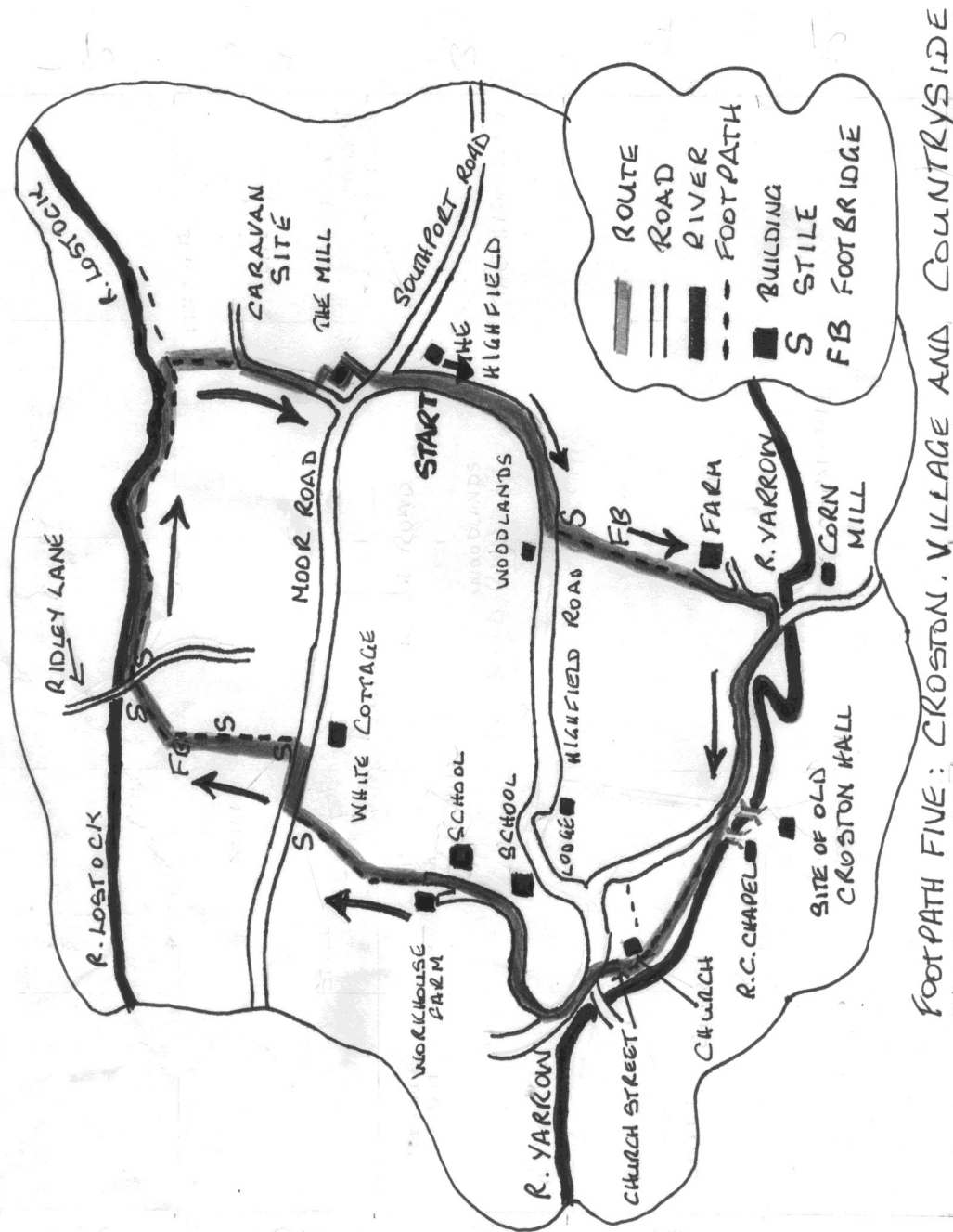
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1112864



Action for Ulnes Walton

Walk Five

Croston Countryside and Village



Distance: 3.5 miles **Time:** 1Hr. 15 mins.

Why you should: No steep hills. A very interesting, varied walk going partly through the village and partly through countryside. Local History on view. Walk beside two rivers. Beautiful views. Circular route.

Why you shouldn't: can sometimes be wet underfoot. Tedious (although fairly short) start to the walk with constant crossing and recrossing of the road.

Getting there: On the 113-bus route. If you decide to have a drink/ meal, park your car at the Highfield.

1. Start at the Highfield Restaurant. Walk down Highfield Road in the direction of Croston. This is the worst part of the walk so it's good to get it over with at the start. To keep on the pavement it is necessary to cross the road no fewer than four times.

2. On reaching "Woodlands" (a red brick house) **cross the road and go over a metal stile** into fields. Look carefully to find it since it is often overgrown and concealed.

3. The footpath **follows the edge of the hedge to your right. Go over the footbridge** and continue along the edge of the field.

4. Go **over the stile beside a farm** gate and continue along a “green lane”
5. **Go through some large metal gates but keep to the path you are on.**
6. Pass farm buildings on your left. **Keep on the gravel path as it goes round to the left** then bear **right along the river**. On the left is Croston Corn Mill.
7. **Turn right along the road**. Here you will need to cross the road to get on the pavement.
8. Immediately before the white cottages there is a public footpath sign showing where you **go left through the gate into “Croft Field”**. Now you can either follow the main path or bear left to walk beside the river
9. **Leave Croft Fields via the path keeping to the side of the river**
10. Go past the church on your right and the old school on your left to **exit onto Church Street**.
11. *At the end of Church Street you’ll see the ancient stone cross. Turn left along the main road through Croston. Notice the stone bridge on your left with the date stone showing 1682.*
12. **Cross the road** to the village green and turn **right along Out Lane** towards the Lord Nelson.
13. Continue down Out Lane noticing the thatched cottage on your left. Follow the road as it curves left past the primary school on your right and **continue past Bishop Rawstone School on you right onto the private road** which eventually **leads to a small footpath** between hedges on the right of Workhouse Farm.
14. **Go through the kissing gate and take the right fork. Continue along the path beside the ditch**
15. **Exit onto the main road (Moor Road). TAKE GREAT CARE HERE:** you are immediately onto the busy road with no pavement to protect you. **Cross immediately and turn right.**

your side, you should find a **metal field gate**. The **stile beside it** I can be easily missed because of the overgrown hedge.

17. Once **over the stile walk along the edge of the field** keeping to the hedge on your left. This part can be muddy in wet weather.
18. **Go over a stile and keep to the hedge** on your right until in the corner of the field you come to a **ditch and a stile**
19. Once over the stile **bear diagonally right towards large metal field gates**.
20. As you approach the field gates you come to a bridge over the River Lostock. **Exit the field via the stile in the metal gates, cross the road (Ridley Lane) and enter a field via a rickety wooden stile beside farm gates**. Notice the river recording station on your left. Walk along the side of the river.
21. **Leave** this field **via a stile beside the river** and continue along the river edge. This field often contains horse and their foals. Keep looking right across the field until you can see a large metal gate. Look out for two hawthorn trees on their own on your right. Here you **turn right and leave the path**.
22. Leave the river and **cross the field to the large metal gate and exit the field via a small gate** beside it. Follow the gravel track straight ahead keeping the caravan site on your left.
23. At the **large yellow gates go through the gap beside them** on the right. Walk along the gravel road to **exit onto Moor Road**. Cross the main road to return to the Highfield.