

## THE WALK

Constructed by Liverpool Corporation in the second part of the 19th century the Reservoirs of Rivington now provide a valuable public amenity. This walk will take you along their shores and through Lever Park exploring a delightful area on the edge of the West Pennine Moors.

**Start:** Anglezarke Car park: From Junction 9 M61 take A674 towards Blackburn. Turn right for Heapey and White Coppice. At White Coppice follow signs for Rivington and Anglezarke. After passing viewpoint and small car park descend sharply towards reservoir. At bottom of the incline turn right into the car park.

**Directions:** From the car park return to the road and keep ahead to the next junction. Here turn left up Parsons Bulbough and begin a short ascent. As the road begins to level out take a public footpath on the right. This edges around Yarrow Reservoir with fine views across to Winter Hill and the moors. The track begins to drop away from the reservoir. At the next junction of tracks turn left. After a short distance take a footpath on the right besides a brook. Keep on this as it takes you across pastures to the village of Rivington. Although small there is much to divert you here including a tearoom in the church hall to the left. Keep ahead across the green and then turn left onto a bridleway. This leads up to Rivington Hall Barn and very popular amenity. At weekends the car park attracts scores of motor cyclist enthusiasts while the Barn provides Sunday lunches at great value. Keep to the left of the barn and after passing a cottage on the left enter woodland on a broad track. From this point many options open up but your main objective should be to get to Rivington Pike. As you pass through the terraced gardens of Lord Leverhulme's estate you are bound to be distracted. There are many fascinating features that demand close inspection. Using the Dove Cote as a guide you will arrive on a broad track that gives access to the Pike. Here on a clear day the views are stupendous.

Return to the gardens but descend close to the boundary fence at its southern end. These will bring you to the Japanese garden with its lovely pool. Keep dropping down until you reach a broad track. Here turn left and for a short while leave the woods to continue a more gentle descent along a gorse lined track. At the next gate turn sharp right to re-enter woods. The path leads down to a broad avenue. Here turn left. Then follow the sign of a bridleway. Ahead the grounds of a school will come into view through trees. Bear to the right of them to reach Rivington Lane. Cross onto another woodland track and then turn right when this quickly comes to a wide avenue. This leads down to the replica ruins of Liverpool Castle. The choice of ruin demonstrates the close ties between the area and Liverpool which since the mid 19th has drawn its water from the series



# Rivington reveals all



of reservoirs below the moors. From the castle keep ahead on a path that hugs the shores of the reservoir until you arrive at the apparatus of the "Go Ape" attraction. After this the track reaches the

## FACTFILE

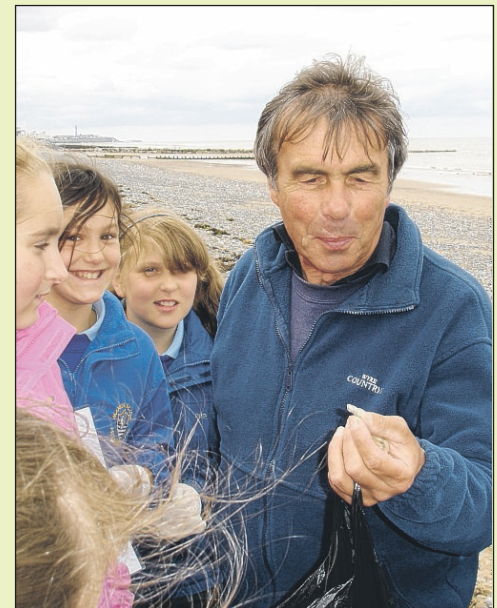
**Distance:** 12km 7 1/2 miles

**Time:** 3-4 hours

**Summary:** Mainly easy walking along good well drained tracks. There is an ascent to Rivington Pike which can be decreed optional.

**Map:** OS Explorer 287 West Pennine Moors

edge of Rivington village close to the primary school. Turn left and cross the causeway between the Upper and Lower reservoirs. At the far end turn onto a utilities service road next to the handsome Horrobin Cottage. Follow this as leads up along the west shore of the upper reservoir. At the far end turn right to cross the causeway between Anglezarke and Rivington reservoirs. At the far end follow the road as it swings to the left. As the next junction keep left and quickly arrive at Anglezarke car park. *Walk devised and described by John Griffiths and Bob Clare. Hit [www.lancashirewalks.com](http://www.lancashirewalks.com) for more walks exploring the diversity of the Lancashire countryside.*



## WALK ON THE WYRESIDE

with Len Blacow

The first sign of nature's inevitable shift into autumn is the arrival of northern breeding birds along our shoreline.

Lapwing and curlews that moved down from the fells a couple of weeks ago are now being joined by parties of dunlin, sanderling and ringed plover. It is only a few weeks since we awaited the arrival of our local swifts but by the end of July most will have left us not to return until the end of April next year.

Our hedgerows are also changing their appearance, hawthorns are producing clusters of green berries and brambles are laden with small hard fruits that will ripen into juicy blackberries by the end of August. Our June walk along the River Wyre provided us with a "Springwatch" moment as we watched the banded demoiselles a kingfisher dashed past us on its way up the River Brock.

Heather moorland is at its best in August so why not join the Wyre Countryside Rangers on a full day in the Bowland Fells on Sunday 22. Hill walking can be fairly testing so be sure you're up to the challenge.

We have a full programme of walks and events in August including a woodland walk at Bleasdale on Wednesday 4th and bat walks at Garstang on Thursday 19 and Fleetwood on Thursday 26.

We will also be holding one of our beachcombing walks (pictured) in Fleetwood on Friday 20 and exploring the countryside around Elswick on Friday 13. Or why not join one of our monthly walks around Garstang on Monday 2 or Bleasdale on Monday 16.

For details of all Wyre Borough Council's walks and events, visit [www.wyrebc.gov.uk/Find/WalksandCountrysideEvents](http://www.wyrebc.gov.uk/Find/WalksandCountrysideEvents), email [countryside@wyrebc.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@wyrebc.gov.uk) or telephone (01253) 887220.

