



A series
of circular walks
exploring the
countryside from
Portland Basin

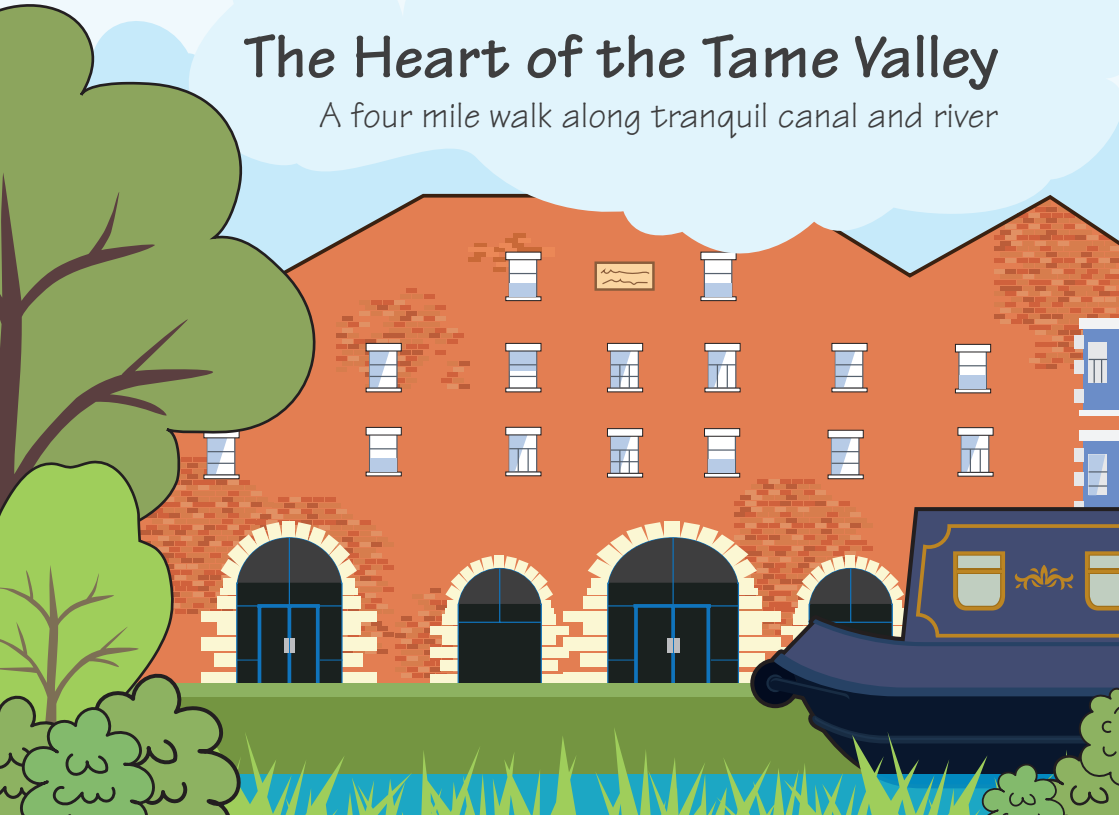
culture
Tameside

Let's go...

Walking!

The Heart of the Tame Valley

A four mile walk along tranquil canal and river



START

Portland Basin Museum

Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne
OL7 0QA. Tel: 0161 343 2878



1 From Portland Basin Museum go down the cobbled street, cross the white canal bridge and the humped back 'Weaver's Rest Bridge'. Turn right under the bridge and cross the aqueduct over the River Tame.

You are now on the Peak Forest Canal.

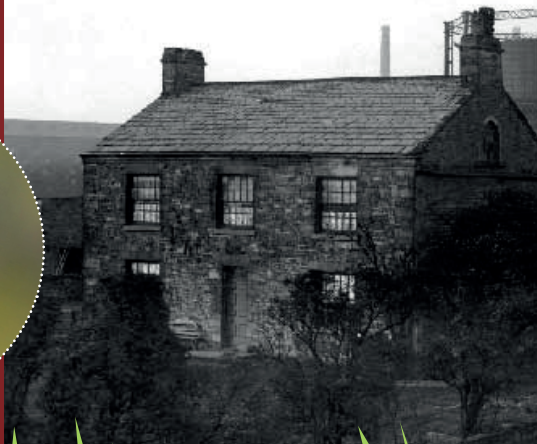
2 After passing the lift bridge you will see Plantation Farm on the right. This was the home of Mary Moffat. Continue along the towpath for over one mile until you come to bridge number four at Dunkirk Lane.

Mary Smith was born at Plantation Farm in 1795. From an early age Mary showed an interest in missionary work. In 1816 Robert Moffat, came to work at Plantation Farm and also had an ambition to be a missionary in Africa. They married in South Africa in 1819 and spent over 50 years in Africa. Their eldest daughter Mary married Dr. Livingstone.



The Peak Forest Canal runs for 15 miles between Ashton-under-Lyne and Whaley Bridge. It was built in 1794 and links the Ashton Canal with the tramways that brought the limestone from the Peak District quarries.

Watch out for the **Kingfisher** which is often seen along this stretch of canal.

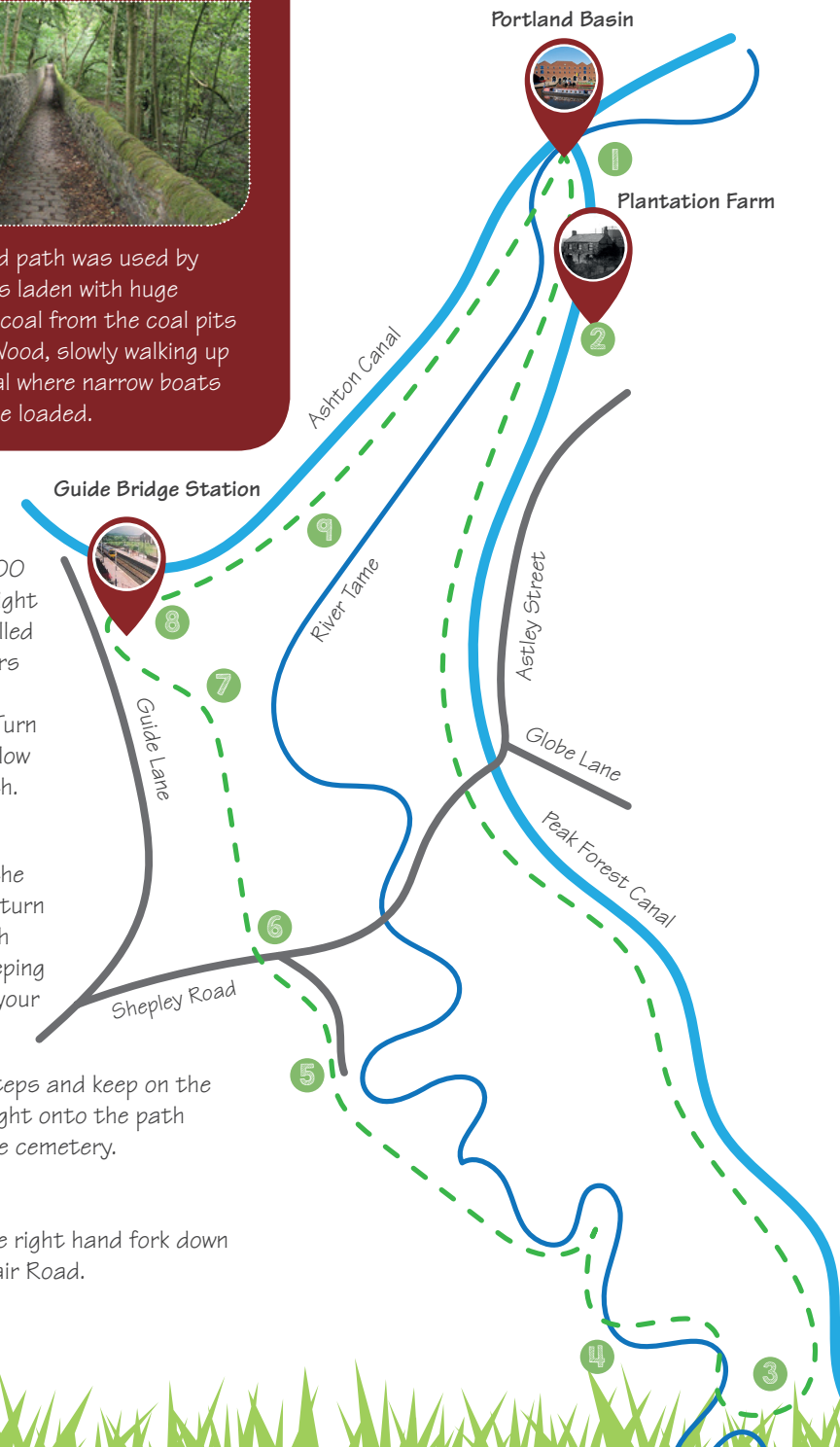


This cobbled path was used by pack-horses laden with huge baskets of coal from the coal pits in Dunkirk Wood, slowly walking up to the canal where narrow boats waited to be loaded.

3 After 100 yards turn right down the walled cobbled 'lovers alley' to the River Tame. Turn right and follow the river path.

4 Cross the bridge, then turn right through the stile, keeping the river on your right. Go up the steps and keep on the path. Turn right onto the path alongside the cemetery.

5 Take the right hand fork down to Broomstair Road.



6 Cross the main road and follow the footpath by the side of 'The Old Stables' to King George's playing field.

7 Leave the field through the stile onto Shepley Street with 'Brother' on your right.

Turn left onto Bridge Street, right onto Mount Pleasant Street and left up Martin Street to the main road.

Turn right and head for Guide Bridge railway station.

8 Turn right into the car park and keep to the path alongside the building.

9 Go up the steps and cross the footbridge over the railway lines and down the steps to the path above Ashton canal.

Join the towpath and follow it back to Portland Basin.

The wrought iron, Jeremy Brook footbridge at Pottinger Street.



This is one of a series of walks designed to show you the world which is to be explored outside Portland Basin.

Look out for...

Three Canals and a River

A three mile circular walk through varied landscapes of industry and countryside.

History and Heritage

A two mile circular walk discovering the industrial past of Ashton.

