

A Brief History of the Area

Rixton with Glazebrook is an attractive area of countryside lying on the eastern edge of Warrington. The route takes you through the village of Hollins Green, taking in several points of interest.

[A] The Corn Mill stood between Dam Lane and Glazebrook Lane and was fed by the mill pond that stretched up Dam Lane to Dam Head Lane. It fell into disuse in the mid 1800's and was demolished in the 1880's.

[B] The village pond was created in Spring 2011 at the rear of The Black Swan pub, which dates back to the late 1600's. Originally called The Swan and The Swan With Two Necks the first reference to The Black Swan was in 1825. The pub originally had stables serving as a coaching inn on the busy Manchester to Liverpool road. In the early 20th.c there was also a bowling green on the land adjacent to the pond.

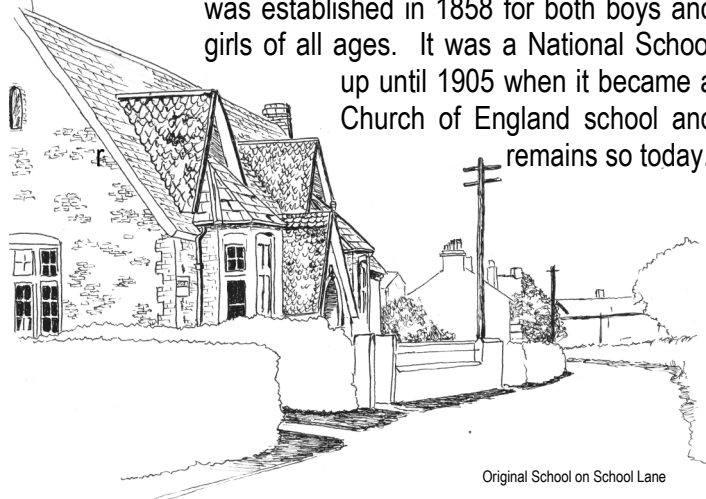
[C] First licensed for worship in 1498 St. Helen's C.E. Church was built as a Chantry Chapel, endowed by Hamon Mascy of Rixton Hall, in 1497. Rebuilt in the 17th.c it later became an ecclesiastical parish in 1874. The building was restored again in 1882 when the balcony was erected and the entrance was moved to the west wall. The cupola was restored in 2005.

[D] Ye Olde Red Lion pub, dating back to the early 17th.c, is the oldest surviving pub of the 5 that were once in the village. It served as a busy coaching inn with stables, shippens and piggeries on the 7½ acre site that it possessed in 1875.

For more information on the Rights of Way network and bridleways telephone 01925 443321 or visit the website: www.warrington.gov.uk/Leisureandculture and then follow the links to Parks and Open Spaces.

Please follow the Country Code

[E] The school on Birch Road was built in 1967 replacing the original school building on School Lane on the site now occupied by two dorma bungalows. The original school was established in 1858 for both boys and girls of all ages. It was a National School up until 1905 when it became a Church of England school and remains so today.



Original School on School Lane

[F] The Community Hall now stands on the site originally occupied by The White Lion Inn, which dated back to the mid 1700's. The White Lion closed some hundred years later after which The Bowling Green Inn was established in 1871 only to cease trading in 1910. Many years later the site was acquired from the brewery Peter Walker & Sons, who became Tetley Walker in 1960. The Community Hall was then built by local villagers being completed in 1972. Since opening the hall has been managed by a voluntary committee and continues to be a well used facility.

If you would like further information about the history of Rixton-with-Glazebrook, several reference books and articles are available at St. Helen's Church House History Room or at The Hamilton Davies Trust.

This is the fourth in a series of local walking guides, which are available to download from the community website www.hollinsgreen.net.






Original illustrations by David Tudor © Copyright 2011
Researched and written by John Eccles © Copyright 2011
Publication sponsored by The Hamilton Davies Trust



A Village Walk

A 1½ mile circular walk through the village of Hollins Green taking in a few historical points of interest.

Easy walking on level terrain — strong footwear recommended, but not essential.

-  Allow approximately 1 hour
-  Park in the lay-by on Manchester Road, Hollins Green (Grid Ref. SJ 699 913)
-  No. 100 from Warrington & Manchester stops outside The Black Swan pub on Manchester Road
-  OS Explorer™ 276
-  The Black Swan and Ye Olde Red Lion pubs and Rhinewood Hotel.

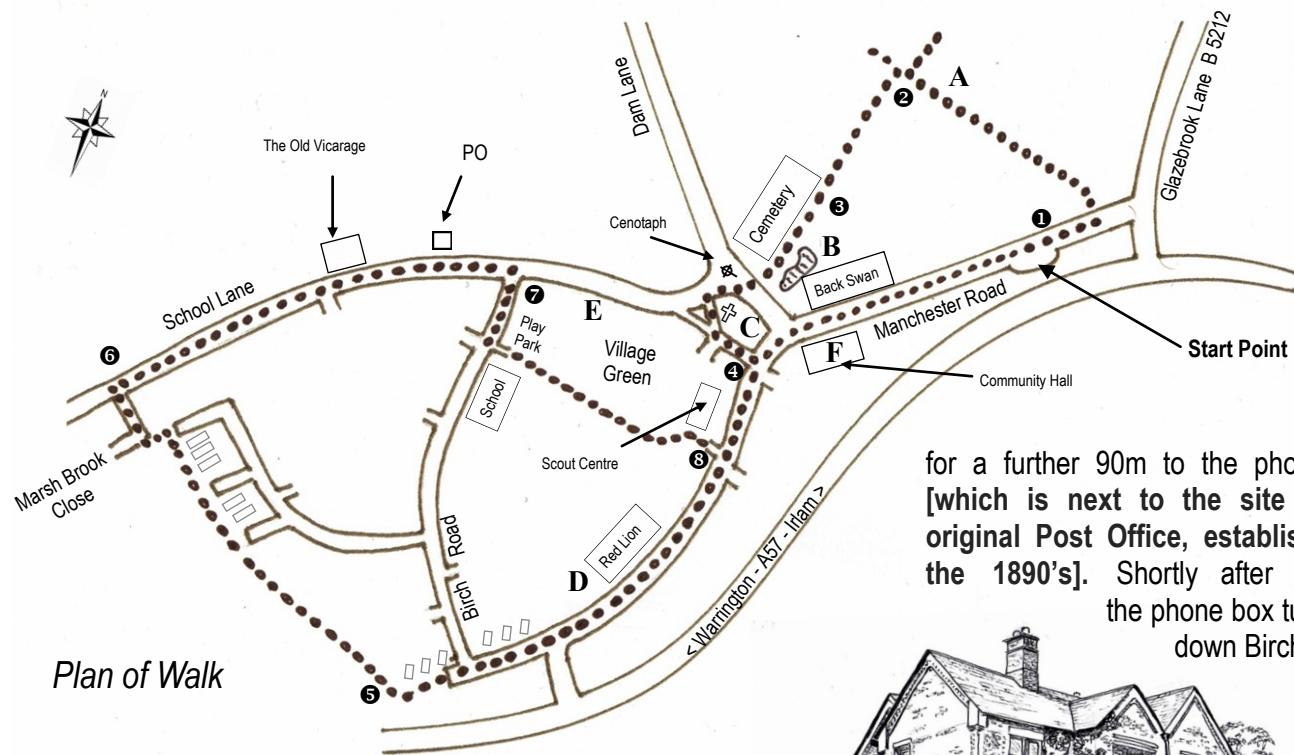
The walk starts from the lay-by on Manchester Road between The Black Swan pub and Glazebrook Lane traffic lights, known locally as Swan Brew. Notes on the points of interest [A] to [F] are detailed overleaf.

❶ From the lay-by cross over Manchester Road. Turn right along the road and in 30m turn left onto the path crossing the stile by the metal gate. [Four cottages known as 'The Corner' once stood below the level of the road where Glazebrook Lane meets Manchester Road. These were demolished in the early part of the last century]. Ignore the drive bearing right to Mount Pleasant Farm and keep straight ahead to the next stile in 30m. Cross the stile into field and follow the footpath, keeping hedge and then fence on your right for 90m to the junction. The area to the right of the junction was once the site of a Corn Mill [A].

❷ At the junction bear left up the step and continue along the edge of the field for 15m before turning left. Keep straight ahead following the footpath towards the cemetery, opened in 1894, and church with its cupola in the distance.



❸ You will shortly reach the village pond [B]. After passing the pond, emerge onto Dam Lane and carefully cross the road to St. Helen's C. E. Church [C]. Follow the wall past the gate posts as it bears left down the path just before the houses. At the end of the path turn left onto The Weint and follow this for 30m until emerging onto Manchester Road.



Plan of Walk

❹ Turn right down Manchester Road passing Ye Olde Red Lion pub until in 100m you reach some new houses on your right [the former site of The Eagle and Child pub]. In a further 70m cross Birch Road and follow the pavement straight ahead by the grass verge. At the end of the garden wall of the last house, Autumn Lodge, turn right through a gate onto a waymarked footpath on the edge of the field.

❺ Follow footpath by the fence and at the end cross the stile and bear left onto tarmac path in front of the houses. In 20m keep left of fence following the waymarked path as it zig-zags to emerge onto Marsh Brook Close [once the site of a pig farm]. Turn right along the pavement to the junction with School Lane.

❻ Turn right along School Lane for 180m to reach the Old Vicarage, which dates back to 1901. Continue ahead

for a further 90m to the phone box [which is next to the site of the original Post Office, established in the 1890's]. Shortly after passing the phone box turn right down Birch Road.



The Old Vicarage

❼ Cross over Birch Road and in 40m you come to a tarmac path on your left just before St. Helen's C. E. School [which replaced the 'Old School' [E] originally situated on School Lane]. Turn left along the path and follow this onto and across the Village Green, passing the children's play park on your left.

❽ At the Hollins Green Scout Centre follow the path between fenced gardens to emerge onto Manchester Road. Turn left down the road passing The Black Swan pub on your left and The Community Hall [F] on your right. Continue straight ahead to return to the lay-by at the start of the walk.