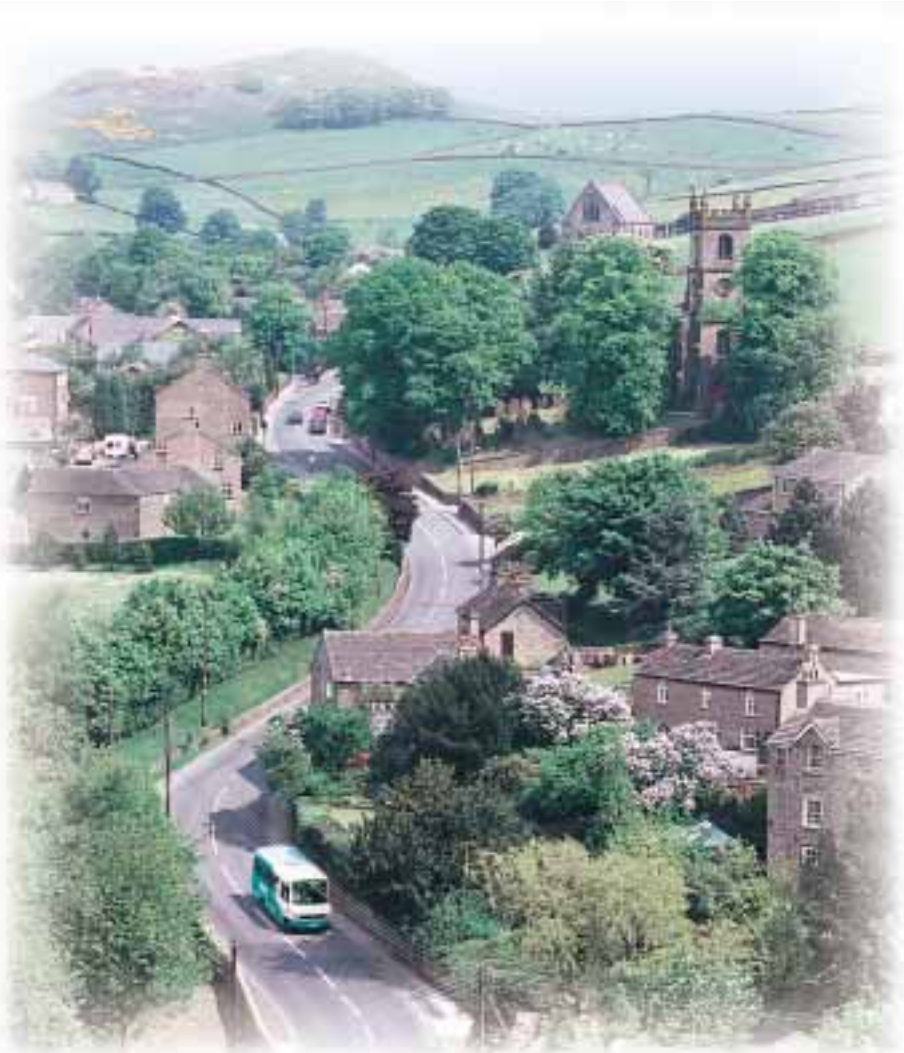


Green Walks

They're good for you and the environment!



Macclesfield

Take a bus ride out and a healthy walk home

Green Walks...They're Good For You!

Within a mile or so of Macclesfield town centre is a network of footpaths, walked in past times by farm and mill workers, and now for recreation. There are paths which open up views across the Cheshire Plain, others which are steeped in history and many simply offer a bridge between town and countryside. They are great to walk and there's a bonus too. Walking, or more precisely, brisk walking keeps you fit. It is a route to healthy living.



The five walks in this booklet are linear, rather than circular. The idea is simple... catch the bus or train out to your starting point and walk back to Macclesfield. In the case of Tegg's Nose you catch the bus up the hill and walk down! The scenery is superb, there's no fuss with parking and it is easy on the environment. That's why they're called Green Walks.

You can catch the bus or train from the bus or rail station in Sunderland Street, every day of the week throughout the year, for four of the rambles. For up to the minute times call Cheshire Busline on 01625 534850.

Here's wishing you the best of walking!

Walk One - Fool's Nook, Oakgrove to Macclesfield



Boats moored at Hovis Mill, Macclesfield

Distance: 4 miles (6 km)

On the Ground: Easy going but can get wet around Sutton Reservoir after rain.

Refreshment: The Fool's Nook public house, Oakgrove, The Lamb at Sutton, The Sutton Hall Hotel, Sutton, The Old King's Head, Gurnett.

Fool's Nook is said to have been the haunt of court jesters who served at Gawsworth Hall in earlier centuries. It is a good spot to access the Macclesfield Canal for local walks. Sutton was home to Charles Tunnicliffe, wildlife artist, and there is a plaque to commemorate him on a farm building in Walker Lane. The section along the Macclesfield canal includes a roving bridge and passes the old Hovis mill.

1. Alight from the bus at the Fool's Nook public house. Turn left into Radcliffe Road. After a short distance, opposite Hawkshead Quarry, turn left into Leek Old Road.
2. Continue on this road until you reach Sutton Reservoir, on your left. Take the public footpath opposite, sign-posted 'Sutton'. This well worn path leads through woodland to a stile and then ahead to a stone bridge. Go left across it and then immediately right to follow the stream ahead to another stile. Once over go left for Sutton village, crossing another stile and following fencing by a playing field. The path joins Symondley Road; follow this and turn left into Hollin Lane.

3. Passing The Lamb public house on your right, continue into Hall Lane. After a 100 metres, take the public footpath to your left, immediately before the bridge.

4. Follow this alongside a brook. Cross a stile, and head slightly right across a field to the far corner, a little to the right of a white dwelling. You pass a solitary tree on the way. Join the track to walk ahead to Bullocks Lane where you turn right. Cross the canal bridge, go right to join the towpath of the Macclesfield Canal, and turn left at the canal.

5. Follow the canal for about a mile to Bridge 37, passing by the distinctive Hovis Mill which is now apartments. Walk under the bridge then take the steps up to Buxton Road.

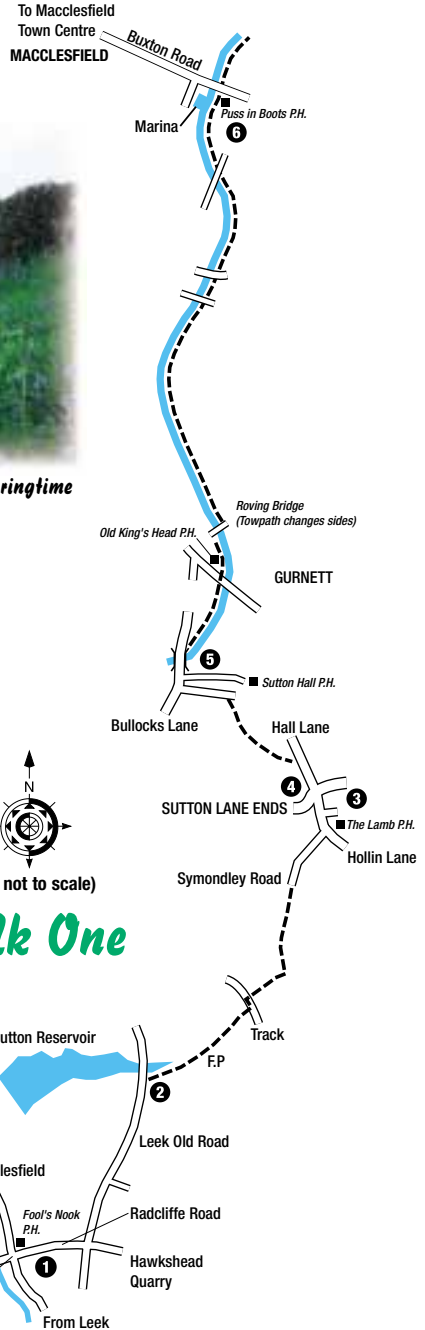
6. At the Buxton Road turn right on the pavement for Macclesfield town centre.

Buses.

The X1 service to Derby runs every day of the week except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Ask for the Fool's Nook.



Bluebells in Springtime



(Map not to scale)

Walk One



Aqueduct, Gurnett

Walk Two - Tegg's Nose Country Park to Macclesfield

Distance: 4-5 miles (6-7km)

On the Ground: A fairly steep descent from Tegg's Nose, and some like to walk their dogs here too. Otherwise, it is easy going with one climb to The Hollins.

Refreshment: There's a cafe at Tegg's Nose Visitor Centre and refreshments at the St Dunstan Inn at Langley.



Panoramic view from Tegg's Nose Country Park

At one time a major quarry, the summit of Tegg's Nose and surrounding area is one of Cheshire's most popular country parks. Below lies the small village of Langley, with its weavers' cottages, old mills and the delightful Langley Old Hall. The walk back across The Hollins to Macclesfield was popular in Victorian times.

1. Leave the bus at the entrance to Tegg's Nose Country Park visitor centre. From the road, pass the visitor centre and continue ahead through the car park to take the downhill path signed 'Concessionary Bridleway' which is known as Saddler's Way, a packhorse route of old. At the bottom continue ahead onto a metalled lane.

2. Where the lane turns sharply left downhill, take the track on the right, with a stone sign to 'Langley', following the red waymarkers. It drops down to a stream, then up to a junction. The track ahead passes between two reservoirs, Tegg's Nose and Bottoms. Continue ahead to descend into Holehouse Lane, and Langley.



Tegg's Nose Reservoir, Langley

3. At the junction with Main Road, turn right and walk through the village to reach Langley Road. Many of the old houses here were used by weavers in past times.

4. The junction of Langley Road and Cock Hall Lane by the chapel is the terminus of the bus from Macclesfield and is an alternative starting point for a shorter walk. Continue through the village, passing a turning on the right, Coalpit Lane, and by the magnificent Langley Hall where you will see the exquisite Queen Anne doorway on your right.

5. You soon approach Brighton Crescent which is to your left. Beforehand, cross a stile on the right to enter a field. Follow the clear path by the wall and then ahead to cross the River Bollin. In the next field, it rises up to a stile at the boundary.

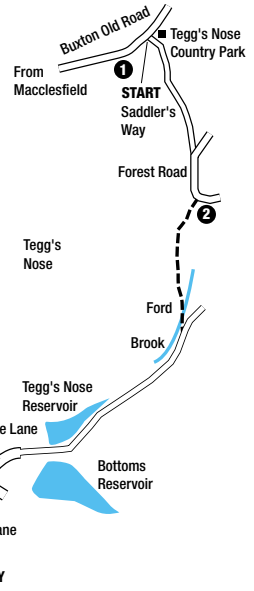
6. Walk up to a sign-post which directs you left along a gorse bank and across a field to the 'Hollins', and by a golf course. Cross a stile here and keep ahead to descend a grassy bank, avoiding the made up track which you cross again. Follow the narrower path which joins a track by houses and allotments.



Saddler's Way the road to Langley



Walking down the Hillside, Tegg's Nose



(Map not to scale)

Walk Two

7. Turn right onto the track, which leads into Hollins Road by the golf course clubhouse. Continue downhill into Windmill Street.
8. At the bridge, go right down steps to the canal and right along the towpath to bridge 37.
9. Walk under the bridge then take the steps up to Buxton Road, where you turn right for Macclesfield town centre.

Buses

The ARRIVA Midlands North and Stagecoach East Midlands bus service number 57 (Saturdays, all year and Sundays in the summer) passes by the visitor centre at the country Park. There's also a Bowers 442 bus on summer Sundays. Ask for Tegg's Nose Country Park.

The ARRIVA Midlands North 14/16, and 14A services operate to Langley on Monday to Saturdays. Ask for Langley Village and start the walk at point 4.



Langley Old Hall

Walk Three - Rainow to Macclesfield

Distance: 4 miles (6km)

On the Ground: Three steep climbs including the first stretch out of Rainow. Otherwise, it is all downhill.

Refreshment: The Rising Sun, Rainow; The Three Crowns or The Britannia on Hurdsfield Road.



Rainow Church

Rainow was once a thriving centre for textile manufacturing and there were several mills making good use of the fast flowing River Dean. It is superb starting points for green walks to Bollington and along the Gritstone Trail. This walk is definitely for those who enjoy scenic views.

1. From The Rising Sun public house turn left to walk along the pavement to Tower Hill. Cross before the bend with care. Turn right up Berristall Lane which becomes the road to Lamaload but after the cattle grid, go right to cross a stile and as signposted along the Gritstone Trail.

2. The path follows a green track which runs parallel to a drystone wall, crossing a stile and then through a gate above a wood. Follow the drystone wall and when you reach the upper limit of the wood bear left to a stile in the opposite drystone wall. Once over, continue ahead again with a wall to your right. Cross another stile before joining a green track. Ignore the stile on the right but keep straight on to walk up to a stile which gives out to a more prominent track.

3. Almost immediately cross a stile on the right to leave the track following a path which skirts a field to join a line of trees. Cross a stile and then bear slightly left across the pasture to a wooden stile over a wall. The views over to Kerridge Ridge are superb. Cross the stile and descend steeply to a stream. Once over, go immediately left up to a stile, pass by a barn, then cross another stile. Now head very slightly right up the hillside to a stile which exits on Bull Hill Lane.

4. Leave the Gritstone Trail here. Go ahead on the pavement by the main Buxton Road down to a junction, Cliff Lane. Turn right down it and walk for the best part of half a mile, ignoring turns to the left and right. The lane descends at first, then climbs up to a summit with great views over Macclesfield before descending again.



View across to Kerridge Edge

5. After the farm on the right look for a stile on the left. The path leads ahead through what must have been old workings down the hillside. It bends slightly right towards a dry-stone wall. Before reaching the wall, go left to follow a path into the next field and then at the corner, bear right for the Hurdsfield Road.

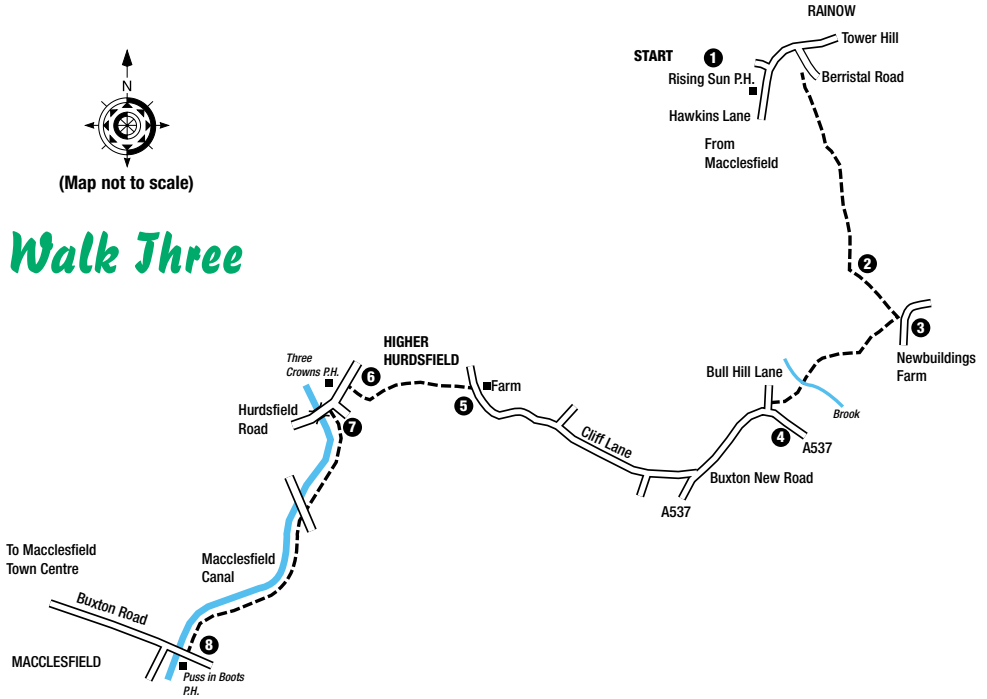
6. Turn left to walk back into Macclesfield, approximately one mile.

7. Alternatively cut left at the canal bridge to join the towpath of the Macclesfield Canal at Bridge 34. Keep ahead to Bridge 37 at the Buxton Road.



(Map not to scale)

Walk Three



Walking in Cliff Lane

8. Climb steps to the Buxton Road. Turn right for the walk back into town.

Buses

Catch ARRIVA Midlands North bus services 22,23 and 24 which serve Rainow from Macclesfield, approximately half hourly, weekdays, and hourly in the evenings. The Sunday service is less frequent but offers ideal times for a morning, afternoon or early evening walk.



The Britannia pub, Hurdsfield

Walk Four - Bollington to Macclesfield

Distance: 4 miles (6km)

On the Ground: There's a gentle climb up from Bollington to Kerridge. Otherwise this walk is easy going.

Refreshment: Bollington is renowned for having a wide selection of public houses situated on and around its main street. There are also shops and the Groundwork Centre on the route.

The old township of Bollington owes much of its heritage to textile manufacture and there are a number of distinctive mills still standing, although used for other purposes now. Adjoining is the settlement of Kerridge, a much quieter area but it too has witnessed its share of industrial activity associated with the nearby quarries.

1. Alight at The Waggon and Horses public house; the stop is just beyond the pub. Walk back up to the junction and turn left into Grimshaw Lane. Follow this up to the entrance to Adelphi Mill on the right and the Groundwork Trust office.

2. Just past the offices is a set of steps in the wall up to the Macclesfield Canal. Go right on the towpath and walk to the next bridge, No.28.



Narrow boats by Adelphi Mill, Bollington

3. Climb up the steps to leave the canal and turn left. The track bends right to pass Beehive Cottage and now keep ahead to walk by Bobbin Cottage. Half way up the lane look for a gate on the right before a small belt of trees. Go through the gate and follow a path across two fields to a track.

4. Go left here to walk up what was an old tramway between the quarries on Kerridge Hill and the canal. Cross Oak Lane and continue up the incline to Kerridge, through the gateway of Endon House, and up the drive to a junction. Go right here, but as the track rises to a junction take the right fork, walking through woodland to a little stile by a metal gate. The track then bends right to come to two stiles.

5. Choose the one on the right and, once over, descend a long field with the boundary wall then fence to the left. You will catch a glimpse of Endon Hall across fields, a handsome Georgian building. The path leads to a stile by a gate. Cross the stile and follow the tractor track ahead. As it bends left by an oak tree continue onwards to a stile and ahead again in the next field.

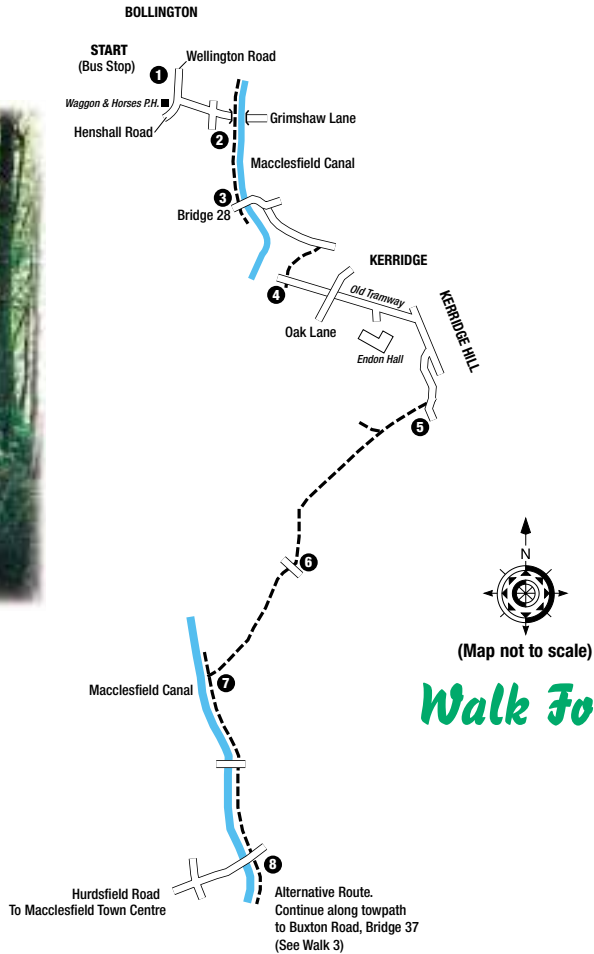
6. Cross the stile before the barn and go left towards a gate and stile. However, before, go right on a raised green track which curves right by rough ground and passes the remains of two pools. Keep slightly left through a line of trees, passing between an oak and an ash, then along a worn path to a stile and footbridge. Once over, go right to cross a stile and then left. Cross the next stile and then bear right across the field to re join the Macclesfield Canal.



The path joins Macclesfield Canal near Hurdshfield



Woodland Canopy at Kerridge



Walk Four

7. Turn left on the towpath to walk to Hurdsfield Road where steps up to the left exit at road level (Bridge 34), but it is a lovely walk through to Buxton Road, at Bridge 37.

8. Leave here. Climb steps up to the road then turn right for the short walk into the town centre.

Buses

Services 10,11,12, 391 and 392 run between Macclesfield and Bollington. They are provided by ARRIVA Midlands North. Ask for The Waggon and Horses. There is a frequent bus service between the Bus Station and Bollington in the daytime through the week with an hourly service on Sunday and in the evenings.



Macclesfield Canal, Bridge No 28

Walk Five - Prestbury to Macclesfield

Distance: 3 miles (5km)

On the Ground: Easy Going

Refreshment: There are pubs, restaurants and tea rooms in Prestbury village.

Prestbury is well known for its characterful High Street where there are a number of historic buildings including the half timbered National Westminster bank. Prestbury church stands opposite. The Bollin Valley project is now well established; the opening up of the valley for recreational access is a major benefit to local communities.



Half timbered flat West Bank, Prestbury

1. Start from Prestbury Railway Station. Buses from Macclesfield also pass the station. Go left to follow New Road downhill towards the village. Just before reaching the bridge, turn left into Bridge Green.

2. After about 100 metres, take the waymarked footpath to the right, which leads over a stile, signed 'Bollin Valley Way'. The path runs to the rear of a number of dwellings. Please pass considerably.

3. It reaches a stile and gate and you enter Riverside Park. Cross the stile and follow a clear path along the river valley as it meanders between the railway line and the river. It is also possible to take short detours from the main path, on a wooded bluff nearer to the railway. The main path becomes a track and the final section is surfaced and leads under the railway line to Macclesfield Riverside Park Visitor Centre.

4. Passing the Visitor Centre, turn right into Beech Lane. This leads to Hibel Road.

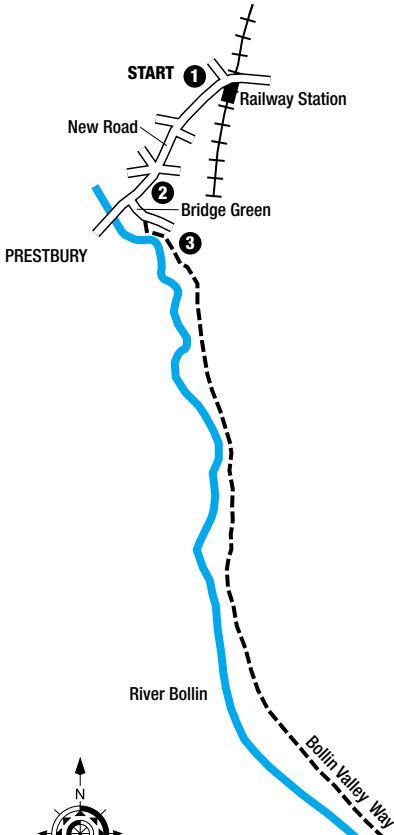
5. Cross Hibel Road and continue ahead along Jordangate to return to Macclesfield town centre.

Trains and Buses

There is a regular, usually hourly, train service on weekdays between Macclesfield and Prestbury including in the evenings. The Sunday service is much less frequent usually operating from late Sunday afternoon only. Bus service 19 provided by ARRIVA Midlands North operates hourly Monday to Saturday only. Ask for Prestbury railway station.



Prestbury Church



River Bollin flows beneath Beech Lane

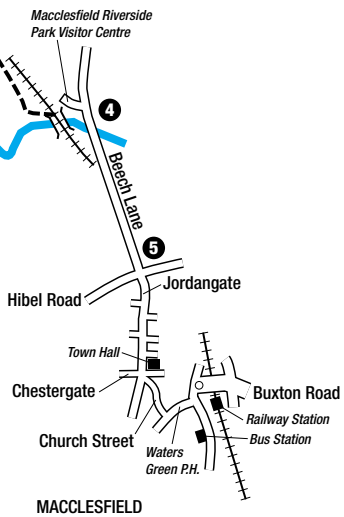


(Map not to scale)

Walk Five



River Bollin, Riverside Park



Green Walks

They're good for you and the environment!



Transport 2000 works for policies that give greater priority to the environment, saving lives and conserving natural resources. Policies include restraining traffic, improving rail and bus services, making walking and cycling more pleasant and safer, and making maximum use of rail and water for freight transport.

If you would like more information please contact Transport 2000, Walkden House, 10 Melton St, London NW1 2EJ. Tel: 0171 388 8386. For the local East Cheshire group Tel: 01625 616680.



Cheshire County Council's TravelWise campaign seeks to raise awareness about the growing problems of car use. It seeks to encourage people to use their car less and, whenever appropriate, use more sustainable types of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport. TravelWise Information Line 03456 03456 (all calls charged at local rates) or contact Cheshire County Council TravelWise Team, Room 276, County Hall, Chester, CH1 1SF.

TRAVELWISE

Be TravelWise. Don't choke Cheshire.



YOUR COUNCIL-YOUR SERVICES



Macclesfield Borough Council is pleased to support the publication of this booklet.

We can only begin to tackle the problems caused by excessive use of the car if we take the opportunity to walk more and make better use of public transport.

Green Walks provides an ideal opportunity to do just that, by encouraging a more healthy lifestyle and activities we can all enjoy.

Its aims are at the heart of Local Agenda 21, a movement supported by the Borough Council which seeks to balance the protection of our special environment with our desire to enjoy a high standard of living.

To find out more about Local Agenda 21 in Macclesfield Borough, please contact Paul Ancell on 01625 504672.



Information

Before travelling it is best to check bus and rail times. Here are some useful numbers:

Cheshire Busline

Tel: Wilmslow 01625 534850

Mon-Fri 8.00am-6.00pm, Sat 9.00-1.00pm

Rail Enquiries

Tel: 0345 484950 for all services, open 24 hours.

The train service between Macclesfield and Prestbury is operated by North Western Trains.

There are information/sales offices at the bus and railways stations where you can pick up the North Western Trains timetable or the

Area Travel Guide for Macclesfield, published by Cheshire County Council.

This leaflet is published by Transport 2000, East Cheshire, which gratefully acknowledges the support of the following:



Disclaimer: Every care has been taken in ensuring the accuracy of the details given in this publication, but neither Transport 2000, Macclesfield and East Cheshire, nor their agents can be held responsible for any inconvenience arising from errors or omissions.

Cover photo courtesy of Chris Rushton