12 Turn right and follow the towpath all the way to the bridge under the A627 Oldham/Ashton Road.

13 Go under the road through the subway (horse track and footpath run side by side) and follow the path for 500 metres to Park Bridge Road at Fennyfield Bridge.

14 Turn right. At the junction keep straight on along the cobbled road signposted to Park Bridge. For much of the way along here you could use the parallel horse track on the left, but give way to horse riders.

15 At the narrow fork in the road bear left, curving left with the road back to the Heritage Centre.

For further visitor information on Tameside Countryside telephone: 0161 330 9613

This walk forms part of a series of walks and trails developed by Manchester’s Countryside.
Park Bridge and Daisy Nook Trail

Distance:
5 miles/8km.

Starting point:
Park Bridge Heritage Centre (1 mile from Bardsley). Grid ref. SD 941025.

How to get there:
By car – Leave the A627 Oldham/Ashton Road at Bardsley Bridge over the Medlock. Proceed along Park Bridge Road keeping forward on the cobbled road when Alt Hill Lane turns away uphill.

Greater Manchester Public Transport Information
0161 228 7811 www.gmpte.com

Walk summary:
A walk linking a fascinating early industrial settlement with an attractive country park based on a former canals network. Varied landscape and much of wildlife interest.

The Walk

1. Go up the road from the Heritage Centre, curving right and continuing to the T-junction in 250 metres.
2. Turn right downhill (Mill Brow) and left into the small car park at the bottom at the beginning of Rocher Vale.
3. Go through the car park with the river on your right, cross the grass and then up the steps to a bridge over the Medlock.
4. Turn right and follow the wide track (a former railway line) rising gradually to Alt Hill Road.
5. Cross the road and follow the former railway line for 3/4 mile, crossing Alt Hill Lane along the way.
6. The track enters woodland and crosses the deep Holden Clough on a high embankment. Turn right just before the houses, through a gate and past the pylon.
7. The path becomes a wide track, passes the buildings of Limehurst Farm, the route then continuing pleasantly along the tarmac farm access road all the way to the main A627 Oldham Road.
8. Cross this busy road with care, turn right and immediately left on an unmade driveway. In 80 metres there are open fields on the right. Continue along the track past open fields on the right, then turn right on a path running across the middle of a field.
9. The path descends to a main junction of paths. Go forward across the horse track and right on the path keeping the old canal on your right. (By turning left the café and toilets at the centre are reached in two minutes).
10. Go over the aqueduct across the Medlock along the line of the former Hollinwood Branch Canal. Immediately before the canal basin, where the canal swings left, cross the canal and go up the flight of steps to the towpath of the Fairbottom Branch Canal.

Walk 10