



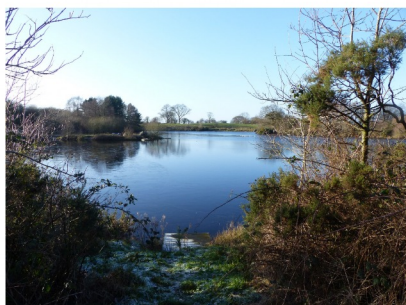
Lindow Moss is a rare habitat known as a "raised mire peat bog". It is perhaps best known for the discovery of Lindow Man, a preserved "bog body", by peat-diggers in 1984. The body, now in the British Museum, is around 2000 years old.



Black Lake (*Lynn ddu* in Welsh, hence the name of the Common) was originally a peaty lake fed by natural springs. It is now solely rain-fed, following a drop in the water table, and is a haven for an important population of the declining Water Vole. It is the scene of ghostly goings-on in Alan Garner's classic children's fantasy adventure *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen*, which is mostly set on nearly Alderley Edge.



Saltersley Hall is an isolated Grade II listed 17th-century farmhouse. Pevsner described it as a "lonely but high-status ... house on a sand island in the middle of Lindow Moss".



Rossmere is a former sand quarry, now operated as a fishing lake by the Prince Albert Angling Society (which claims to be one of the largest fishing clubs in Europe). The main quarry species are carp of up to 24lb.



The **graveyard** that gives its name to the adjacent farm and lane is a former Quaker cemetery, now a "natural burial ground" where loved ones can be remembered with trees, flowers or shrubs. The original memorials date back to the late 17th century and the sandstone walls are Grade II listed.



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Barlow House Farm and its impressive half-timbered barn are Grade II listed buildings from the early 1600s.

Three circular walks from the Plough & Flail at Mobberley



Saltersley Hall and Rossmere 2¾ miles: Easy

Historic farmhouses, a picturesque lake and wildlife-rich woodland and peatland.

Graveyard Lane 3 miles: Easy

Farmland walking along tracks and field paths, returning via Saltersley Hall and an area of heathery peatland.

Rossmere & Lindow Common 5¼ miles: Fairly easy

An interesting, level walk around the peatlands and heathlands of Lindow Moss, passing two attractive lakes.

PLOUGH & FLAIL
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open from 12 noon
food 12 noon–9pm

Dog walking club every 2nd Saturday 10.30am
booking required

Saltersley Hall & Rossmere

2¾ miles: Easy

Allow 1½ hours. Mostly level; several stiles. May be muddy at times. Some slightly awkward stiles and bridges.

1 From the car park entrance, turn left down the lane past the front of the Plough & Flail. **2** At the beginning of the drive to Barlow House Farm, turn left ("Private Drive"). **3** Follow the drive round a right-hand bend to the gates of Lindow Manor Farm, where you take the byway to the left. **4** Follow the byway round a right-hand corner and past some mobile homes on your right. **5** Immediately after the last of the mobile homes, leave the byway to cross the field and drive on your left. **6** Go over a footbridge opposite, into birch woodland (this is the beginning of Saltersley Moss Nature Reserve). **7** Follow the path beyond, with former peat workings on either side. **8** Cross a footbridge onto a crossing track, take a couple of steps to the right and then cross a second footbridge to continue in the same direction as before. **9** The path continues through woodland to a further footbridge, beyond which you bear right and leave the trees below Saltersley Hall. **10** Negotiate a stile and a couple of steps and turn right along the track in front of the farmhouse. **11** Beyond the farmhouse, leave the track over a stile on your left. **12** Walk along the field parallel to the lakeshore to a stile in the far right-hand corner, ignoring a path off to the left at the end of the field. **13** Ignore a (padlocked) fisherman's gate, instead walking to the left of and above the lakeside fence to a footpath sign. **14** Bear left along a brief hollow way then turn right up a few steps to a kissing gate. **15** Turn left and follow the lakeside path, with mobile homes to your left. **16** Bear right where a path straight on is blocked by barbed wire to continue around the lake. **17** At a footpath sign, leave the lakeside path to follow the slightly higher public footpath on the left which leads to a stile into a track. **18** Follow the track ahead of you (left) past some houses to the crossroads with Rotherwood Road. *For the Rossmere & Lindow Common walk, jump to step 19 below to continue.* **19** Turn right here and follow the bridleway (past a sign reading "Bridle Path to Moor Lane – No Through Road for Vehicles"). **20** Continue straight on, beyond a gate, past recent peat workings on your right. Ignore a track between the workings on the right, and another restricted byway on the left. **21** Beyond a gate by a house, carry on along the surfaced drive and pass the end of Springfield Drive. **22** At the road, turn right, down Moor Lane, passing a bridleway (Clay Lane) on your left and a new housing development (The Larches) on your right. **23** When the metalled road bends right, take a track straight on that bends right to a gate. **24** Follow the fenced track beyond across a field to Barlow House Farm. **25** As you approach the farm, follow the path round to the left. **26** At the farm entrance, turn left down the drive. **27** When you meet the road, carry straight on to return to the Plough & Flail.

Graveyard Lane

3 miles: Easy

Allow 2 hours. Field paths may be very muddy in winter.

1 From the car park entrance, turn right. **2** After a very short distance, opposite a road on the left, turn right over a stile by a gate. **3** Follow the tree-lined path to a stile into fields. **4** Follow the left-hand side of the first field, then cross another stile and walk down the middle of a second field, under a line of pylons. **5** Cross another stile into a paddock and walk up to the house beyond. **6** A final stile gives access to the corner of the garden, which you exit via the drive. **7** On meeting Moss Lane, take a step or two to the right then turn left along a hedged path between gardens. **8** After passing farm buildings on your left and a house on your right, join a surfaced lane (Graveyard Lane). **9** Follow the lane past the Quaker graveyard on your right; at Graveyard Farm ignore a footpath that crosses perpendicularly. **10** As you approach the road, turn right across a field and down a narrow path between mobile homes; take the continuing grassed footpath opposite, then take a couple of steps to the left and follow the continuation of the path to a stile into open fields. **11** Walk along the left-hand edge of the field to a gateway, and continue to the road, with a reedy pond in the field away to your right. **12** Cross the road and go through the kissing gate opposite. **13** Bear right over a bridge across a stream and continue to a kissing gate into another road opposite a farm dated "Circa 1820". **14** Turn right to a road junction, and then left. **15** After a short distance, just before a road-sign on the right, turn right through a hand-gate onto a public footpath (unsignposted in January 2018). **16** Turn left then right to follow an old hedge and ditch on your right across the former golf course. **17** At a pond, turn left and cross the former fairway to a footbridge. **18** Cross the footbridge and follow the farm drive ahead of you towards Hollingee Farm. **19** At the farm entrance, turn right over a stile and follow the fence with farm buildings on your left. **20** At the end of the fence, cross another stile and bear slightly left to the far left-hand corner of the field. **21** Go over a stile into a belt of woodland and take a narrow path through the trees off to the left. **22** At the end of the wooded section, drop down to a stile on your left, then bear right up a slight hill. **23** Follow a couple of waymark posts to a double stile and beyond it follow the hedgerow on your right. **24** After a stile and gateway in the corner, cross the field ahead of you, heading for the buildings of Saltersley Hall. **24** Cross a stile into a farm track and turn right towards the farmhouse. **25** Before the farm, above a small pond on the right, turn right over a stile and down steps. **26** The path follows the edge of the wood before turning left into the trees, twisting right and left to a footbridge over a woodland ditch. **27** Continue along the path through the birches to a metal footbridge onto a track crossing the former peat diggings. **28** Take a step or two to the right then continue over a second footbridge opposite. **29** The path follows a raised causeway between peat diggings, before a small footbridge and kissing gate leads into a narrow field. **30** Cross the metalled road crossing

the field and join an unmetalled byway; turn right, with the boundary of Lindow Court Park mobile home complex on your left. **31** Continue along the byway beyond the mobile homes, then turn left at a corner to emerge at the entrance to Lindow Manor Farm. **32** Turn right, away from the farm, and follow the driveway round to the left. **33** At the gates to Barlow House Farm, turn right and follow the road back to the Plough & Flail.

Rossmere & Lindow Common

5¼ miles: Fairly easy

Allow 2½–3 hours. Mostly level; may be muddy after wet weather.

Follow steps **1–18** of the **Saltersley Hall & Rossmere** walk, above.

19 Turn left at the crossroads, past the gates of Sylvia Cottage. **20** Pass the Animal Sanctuary and the sign reading "Bridle Path to Morley – No Through Road for Vehicles", and then a further sign reading "Private No Through Road". **21** At a junction marked by a large stone block, turn right. **22** Pass behind Cedar Lodge Farm until you reach the entrance to Newgate Nature Reserve; turn left onto a bridleway just past the reserve sign. **23** Climb a low hill, bearing left when a footpath joins from the right. **24** At a second junction of paths, carry straight on down the hill to a footbridge and barrier. **25** Follow the path beyond to a gate and past a barn on the right. **26** Walk up the track to a house called Sunnyside, where you turn right. **27** Follow the pleasant hedged path until it bends left towards the road, at which point you go through a gateway into a field to continue in the same direction as before. **28** Go through a kissing gate at the end of the field into another hedged section which, beyond another gate, becomes a rough drive that passes a couple of houses. **29** At a junction, turn left and walk out to the road. **30** Turn right and then, opposite Kings Road, right again along another rough track. **31** Keep straight on at a junction to emerge in Racecourse Road. **32** Cross over and go through the wooden kissing gate onto Lindow Common. **33** Take the right-hand path, signposted to Oak Lane via Black Lake. **34** Follow the path ahead until the Lake comes into view; leave the path to reach it and turn right, with the water on your left. **35** At the end of the lake, turn right onto a path that passes a bench and bears right, across the common between two areas of heather, shortly meeting a fence on the left. **36** At a crossroads of paths at the end of the fence, turn left and walk out to Racecourse Road **37** Cross into Lindow Lane and follow it to a T-junction beyond a house called The Nook. **38** Turn left down a track between gardens. **39** Carry straight on when a bridleway crosses, and follow the track past Battery House. **40** Carry straight on when another track joins from the left. **41** When you meet the Rotherwood Road bridleway at a T-junction, turn left.

Follow steps **21–27** of the **Saltersley Hall & Rossmere** walk, above, to return to the Plough & Flail.