

Chatburn Circular Walk

Start Point

Chatburn Village,
SD 7693 4413

Bus Service

5 - Clitheroe to Chatburn &
Downham (Mon to Sat)
70/71 - From Nelson & Clitheroe
(Summer Suns & Bank Hols)

Distance/Time

 4 miles
2 - 2.5 hrs

Terrain

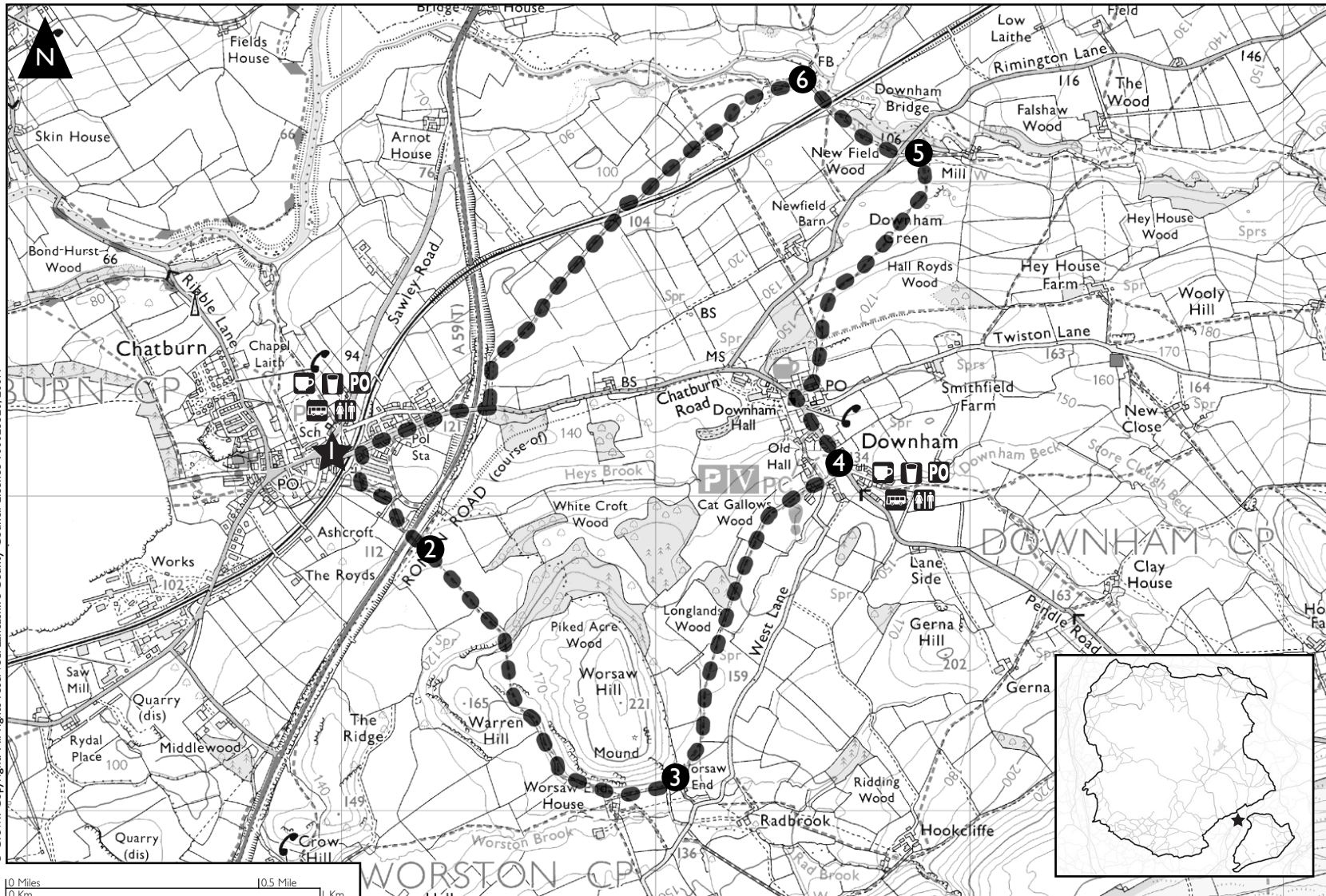
Tracks, fields and roads.
Gates and some stiles.
Steep sections and can be
wet underfoot

Key to Facilities

Chatburn and Downham:
 Post Office,  Café,
 Pub,  Toilets,  Bus stop

GPS Waypoints (OS grid refs)

-  SD 7693 4413
-  SD 7726 4384
-  SD 7808 4311
-  SD 7858 4411
-  SD 7878 4508
-  SD 7849 4532



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About This Walk

Chatburn at the foot of Pendle takes its name from one of the most distinguished characters of Anglo-Saxon times, St Chad or St Ceadda. Chatburn itself occupies a beautiful position in a hollow between two ridges.

The village stands some 400 feet above sea-level, and there are excellent views around it. Smithies Bridge and Grindleton Bridge, both a mile from the village centre, link Lancashire with the old county of Yorkshire and the river scenery here is most attractive. There is a Roman Road alongside the village which was built over 2000 years ago.

Chatburn is a place of medieval origin, the derivation of its name being from Ceadd's Stream (Ings Beck). Its pleasantly grouped houses and cottages are mainly built of local limestone. The village has its own shops and inns, playing fields, school, church and chapel.

Walk Description

★ From the centre of Chatburn, take the Downham road and, on crossing the railway bridge, take the public footpath signed to the right past the village hall. On joining Victoria Avenue, bear left and walk to the end where you turn right onto a lane. On meeting the small stream, turn right and follow the well-marked path up to the A59. Taking great care, cross the bypass and head straight through a kissing gate on the well-trodden path towards the right hand side of the wood ahead.

② Cross the stile in the wall corner ahead and follow the obvious path up onto the side of Worsaw Hill. (Take care on the exposed limestone, which can be very slippery in wet weather.) Cross another stile and follow the clear path around the hill, passing Worsaw End House down below on your right.

③ Keep to the path above the wall which, after a short while, bears to the left up hill and passes through a kissing gate. Carry straight on to pass through another kissing gate or adjacent stone squeeze stile. Keep the hedge on your left and as

you reach the open field bear slightly right to pass the end of another hedgerow ahead. Carry straight on in the same direction to pass along the right hand side of Languard Hall Wood and into Downham village via two more squeeze stiles.

④ Turn left and climb up to the top of the village, turning, right past the Assheton Arms to follow the public footpath past the bungalow. Turn left through the small gate and head uphill through the stone squeeze stile to the crest of Downham Green (the route of the old Roman road). On passing through a group of mature trees, bear half right to pick up the path which descends diagonally towards the obvious limestone knolls, known locally as "Fairy Rocks". On reaching the outcrops, turn left and head down to pass through the gate onto the lane and then walk left for a short way to meet the Rimmington Road.

⑤ Cross the road and follow the path down the side of the wood and pass under the railway. At the next old gateway, a short diversion to the right will take you to the picturesque packhorse bridge

across Swanside Beck. Retrace your steps from the stone stile and bear right across the field to cross the footbridge.

⑥ On crossing the wooden footbridge, bear left uphill and continue ahead across another stile to meet an old stone "outbarn". Pass to the left hand side of the barn and then re-cross the hedge by the gates and follow this hedge up to the bridge over the railway. Follow the well-defined path through a number of gates to return to Downham Road at the bypass bridge and back to Chatburn village.