A Short Stroll

An easy walk along Public Footpaths with one short section on a country lane.

Distance 1.5 miles. 21 m of ascent. Time 30 mins (excluding stops)

The route uses field paths, which can be quite muddy after rain, and road.

The route was devised by local farmer Tom Seymour under the auspices of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. He created a Permissive route through his fields passing 3 recently created fishing ponds. Dogs must be kept on leads at all times.

After leaving the Black Swan, head south along Hill Road, passing the wide entrance to Kirkby Lodge on the left. Immediately after this is a long stand of trees on the left side of the road matched by a single row of dense conifers on the right. They end at a bench on the left which faces a stile and a narrow path leaving the road into the adjacent fields on the opposite side.

This is the Permissive footpath, the route of which is identified by a Countryside Stewardship Notice with a plan. Go straight ahead, over wet ground until you reach a post and wire fence.

Turn right at the fence and follow it on your left until you reach a gate at the end. Before you turn left through the gate stop and look at the stream forming the field boundary and its old bridge.

Now follow the track through the field to the next boundary. The rising land to your left as you turn the corner is one of the Fish Ponds, where quite sizeable fish may caught. Speak to Tom Seymour, 07778 022619, if you would like a licence. – Further details on the website under Sport & Leisure.

Keep the field edge on your left until you see a public footpath sign at the bottom of the gentle slope in the corner of the field. Going straight ahead through the hedge takes you back to Hill Road along the rear of gardens on Busby lane.

Instead turn left and follow public footpath along the field boundary, now on your right, until you meet a farm track. At this junction another Fish Pond rises in front of you.

Turn right down the track towards Busby lane, which you join opposite Dromonby House.

Turn right again and in 2/3 mile you reach the Black Swan.