

Bear Necessities

With News from Congleton Town Council & Community Groups

Summer 2015

Congleton's Neighbourhood Plan Needs YOU!

Consultation has started on Congleton's Neighbourhood Plan – one of the biggest opportunities Congleton has to influence the shape of future development in the town.

All residents should have received a basic Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire through their door in May with responses needed by the 20th June. If you have responded thank you. If you didn't manage to respond it's not too late to get involved. There will be further consultations and workshops and you can have your say at any time via www.mycongleton.org or @mycongleton

The Neighbourhood Plan team will analyse the results of the first questionnaire and use the information to help develop policies for Congleton and shape a more detailed questionnaire which you will receive notification about, later this summer. Please spare the time to fill in this questionnaire.

The Congleton Neighbourhood Plan is



complicated. There is likely to be around 3,500 houses built in the rural areas surrounding Congleton. Although these houses will be outside of the town's boundaries and the area covered by our neighbourhood plan, we would want and expect these new households to look to Congleton as 'their town'. We will need to cater for their needs in terms of employment, health, education, shopping and leisure whilst maintaining open spaces, heritage and other aspects of Congleton that people value.

Congleton Welcomes Nine New Councillors!

In our regular 'Know Your Councillors' column you'll see a number of new faces. Congleton Town Council holds 'all out' elections every four years. All Councillors resign their position and either retire from the Council or face re-election. Following the elections on 7th May, 11 councillors were returned from the previous administration and we welcomed nine new councillors. All Councillors have now been allocated committees and chairs and vice-chairs elected. Town Councillors are volunteers and do not receive any payment for the work they carry out as a Town Councillor. You can find out more about each Councillor at www.congleton-tc.gov.uk

Help us Bloom

The North West in Bloom judges will be in Congleton on Monday 20th July. There will be a Town Tidy the evening before the judging to make sure the town is looking its very best. Please help if you can. Meet at the Community Gardens at 6pm on Sunday 19th July.



Bear Necessities is produced by Congleton Town Council. The next newsletter will be delivered around 5 October. All contributions should be sent by 12 September to Jackie MacArthur at Congleton Town Hall, High Street Congleton CW12 1BN, Tel 01260 270350 or email jm@congletontowncouncil.co.uk

Uth FESTIVAL
#looklistenlaugh

Young people have a chance to show off their talents and celebrate the skills and achievements of other young people in Congleton at the town's first 'Uth' Festival.

The Festival - which has been organised by the Youth Forum - is being held on Hankinson's Field on Saturday 11th July from 1.30pm - 4.30pm. It's free to join in. Attractions include 'The Cube', live music, sports and fitness challenges, food stalls, climbing wall, smoothie bikes, carnival and circus skills workshops, martial arts demonstrations and much more.

Find out more on Facebook and Twitter, #looklistenlaugh



Congleton
beartown
where friends are made

Know Your Councillor

CONGLETON is divided into two wards, East and West. As a rough guide East Ward covers Buglawton, Bromley Farm and Mossley. West Ward covers the Town Centre, West Heath, Lower Heath and Newcastle Road. Each ward is represented by 10 Councillors.

All Councillors can be contacted through the Town Council and further details can be seen at www.congleton-tc.gov.uk Your Councillors elected or co-opted to serve until May 2019 are:



Larry Barker (C)



Charles Booth (C)



Peter Broom (C)



David Brown (C)
Dep. Mayor/Leader



Bob Edwards (C)
Council Leader



George Hayes (C)



Sally Holland (C)



Anna Morrison (C)



Harvey Richards (C)



Glen Williams (C)



Nicholas Adams (C)

East Ward Councillors

West Ward Councillors



Suzanne Akers-Smith (C)



Dawn Allen (UKIP)



Andrea Armitt (C)



Geoff Baggott (C)



Paul Bates (C)



Robert Boston (L)



Amanda Martin (C)



Jean Parry (C)



Elizabeth Wardlaw (C), Mayor

C = Conservative; L = Labour;
UKIP = UK Independence Party

Cllr Elizabeth Wardlaw is our New Mayor



Councillor Elizabeth Wardlaw is the new Town Mayor and Councillor David Brown is the deputy Mayor until May 2016.

Cllr Wardlaw appointed her husband, Bruce

Wardlaw to be Mayor's consort and St John Ambulance Cadet Charlotte Frost to be the Mayor's Cadet.

Cllr Wardlaw is well known in Congleton having served on the Town Council for the past four years and previously on Congleton Borough Council. She attended Mossley Primary School and Congleton Secondary School before training as a nurse at Macclesfield hospital. She is still a practice nurse at Meadowside Doctors Surgery. The Town Mayor's charities for this year will be the Alzheimer's Society, the Royal British Legion Congleton Branch and Autism Society.

To invite the Town Mayor to an event contact the Mayor's secretary, Linda Minshull on 01260 270350, ext 4, or email lm@congletontowncouncil.co.uk

Celebrating Older People's Day

Celebrating National Older People's day on the 1st October is a great force to bring people together and showcase what good services, activities and partnerships are happening to support senior residents in Congleton. The event at New Life Church on the 1st October from 1-4pm aims to connect older people, involve them in what is going on in their communities, inform of how they can access services and activities and gives an opportunity to meet those key

people able to help. The Senior Forum of the Congleton Partnership hope this will become an annual event.

The day also promises to offer opportunities to try new activities such as exercise to music and provide a space to meet and relax. All guests can enjoy a free afternoon tea-time treat! The event is open to anyone over the age of 50 and the aim is that everyone will be able to gain something by attending this senior health and wellbeing event.

Join the Working Party! - 4th Friday of each Month

A dedicated group of volunteers have been working wonders around the Railway station and Canal area, clearing weeds and debris, litter picking, planting and improving the area for all. The difference that this group has made is remarkable! Thanks must also be given to Cheshire East Highways Team who supported the tow path improvements from Severn Close to the station.

The group is keen to welcome new people to the working party - either on a one-off or regular basis. The volunteers meet on the 4th Friday of the month - usually at 10am at the Queen's Head and then set to work for a couple of hours. Volunteers can just turn up or contact Glen Williams, Congleton Town Councillor, Tidy Town Champion

Town Centre Gas Works

Over the past few years many of the old gas pipes across Congleton have been renewed. Work is now underway to change the pipes through the Town Centre. Swan Bank was completed in late May, although some further repair works will be needed in the autumn. Over the summer months new pipes will be inserted inside the existing pipes from Willow Street to the Swan Bank end of the pedestrian area. The contractor, Balfour Beattie will be working in short sections, repairing and replacing one section before moving onto the next. In this way disruption will be kept to a minimum.

When the work takes place from Foundry Bank to the Park Lane Roundabout there will be a need for a traffic diversion. Traffic will be able to come into town from Buglawton - but will not be able to use Willow Street to get out of town. This work is planned to take place during the school holidays. For more information see www.roadworks.org

Horticultural Delight!

Are you proud of your vegetables, flowers, photos or handicrafts? Why not let other people appreciate them by entering them into the Congleton and District Horticultural Show in the Town Hall on Saturday 5th September! There's over 140 categories available and plenty of prizes up for grabs. To enter simply pick up a form from the Tourist Information Centre in the Town Hall. Paperwork has to be submitted by Wednesday 2nd September. It costs 20p per exhibit and under 16s can enter their produce free of charge. Whether or not you choose to exhibit - it's still worth calling in to the Town Hall on show day to admire the achievements of others. The show is open from 10.30am - 3pm. Admission is 50p and free for accompanying children.



Visyon has launched a year-long campaign to raise £100,000 so that it can help support more local children and young people. Last year this local charity, based in Fellowship House, Congleton, supported over 1000 children and young people across Cheshire and North Staffordshire. However in April 2015 it had 401 children and young people on its waiting list, some will have to wait 16 months to get support.

Visyon was formed in 1994 following the experience of the families of three young people who committed suicide in Congleton. Stand Tall for Visyon reflects Visyon's purpose of supporting children and young adults to stand tall by increasing their self-confidence and resilience.

To find out how you can help check out www.visyon.org.uk or look out for posters advertising Visyon's Stand Tall events.

GROWING FOR GOLD! Judges Visiting 20th July

Congleton in Bloom is busy working with others to make Congleton bloom again this summer. The planting in the park has looked stunning this spring, and thousands more daffodils decorated the town. Antrobus Street Gardens and Moody Street Gardens have been improved and a record 240 hanging baskets have been sponsored by the town's shops and businesses. Local school children have planted up the town pots and various organisations and schools have been helping to plant, weed and clean. The Town Council's streetscape team have spruced up a number of areas in addition to keeping on top of the regular planting, grass cutting, bin emptying and litter picking.

Now the team is looking for your help to make sure that Congleton is looking its best on Monday 20th July when the judges visit the town. The judges will spend most of the day in the town considering the main town entry as well as neighbourhood entries from

Buglawton, Bromley Farm, Hilary Avenue Allotments, New Life Church and St Mary's Primary School.

Chairman of the In Bloom team, Cllr David Brown, said: "We all work hard to make Congleton look fantastic for our residents, workers and visitors - but it would be great to be best in the North West again and to be able to represent the region in Britain in Bloom next year!"



News In Brief...

PUBLIC REALM UPDATE

Engineers are developing designs and prices for the improvements of Congleton's pedestrian area up to the area near the Royal Bank of Scotland. This needs further work before going to public consultation.

PADDLING POOL IS OPEN FOR SUMMER SEASON

Congleton Paddling Pool will remain open daily from 10am - 6pm until Sunday 13 September except when the weather is really poor. The Pool is designed for those aged 11 and under and is managed by Congleton Town Council. Parking in the area is restricted, and visitors are advised to use Town Centre Car Parks.

LEISURE CENTRE UPDATE

Cheshire East Council has ear-marked £8.5million to improve and upgrade Congleton's Leisure Centre. A detailed business case is now being worked on to identify the preferred option to provide the best leisure provision for Congleton. Cheshire East will be consulting and engaging with interested groups over the coming months.

TOWN HALL BOOKING

The Town Hall has three great rooms which are available to hire at very reasonable rates. We can offer a room for a small meeting, or a large hall for a concert or party! Go to www.congleton-tc.gov.uk for more info, or tel 01260 270350, ext 6, and we'll be happy to show you around.

NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Various locations in and around Congleton will be joining in this national event from 10th - 13th September - where buildings that are not normally open to the public throw open their doors!

LIONS DUCK RACE

The annual Lions Duck Race will take place in Congleton Park on Sunday 13th September. There will be an opportunity to buy your duck in the Town Centre on the 5th and 12th September. Funds raised from this annual fun event help local charities.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 'DROP IN'

There is a chance to see all the maps, developing evidence and to have a chat with any or all of the Congleton Neighbourhood Themed Groups on Wednesday 8th July.

Tell us what you like, and what you don't! Grab a free tea or coffee and have a chat anytime from 4pm - 8pm. For more details, see www.mycongleton.org



Jazz AND Blues Festival

If you've never been to the Congleton Jazz and Blues festival make sure that you put 28th - 30th August in your diary. If you've been before you've probably already noted the date! Once again the weekend is jam packed with talent. The festival will launch on Friday 28th August at the Electric Picture House with the only paid ticketed event. On Saturday 29th the day will start with a New Orleans style umbrella parade through the town, starting at the community garden in Lawton Street at 1.15pm. This is followed by nine hours of gigs across venues across Congleton on the Saturday followed by a further 24 gigs on the Sunday.

For full details of artists and venues see www.congletonjazzandblues.co.uk

Open Space

Open Space, is Congleton's week-long Arts Festival which celebrates and showcases the wide variety of artistic activity that takes place in the town. This year, Open Space will run from 18th to 27th September. The Open Space art trail will display art in various venues and shop windows, and is open to anyone to take part. There will also be a week of Open Space events, including Crossing the Divide, in which Atheist poet, John Lindley, enters into dialogue with

Christian artist, Daniel Bonnell; Splinter, written by Diane Cook, one of two one-act plays written and performed by local artists; and the Bath House Theatre group's sinister follow-up to their recent performance, And the Bride Wore... If anyone would like to be part of the art trail, stage an event, or get involved in another way, they can contact the organisers through the open space website www.openspace-arts.com



A Friendly Half-Marathon!

Entries are now open for Congleton's 'Sting in the Tail' Half Marathon - a race with a great reputation for its organisation, friendly marshals, great goody bags and scenic rural route. The event is managed by Congleton Harriers. It takes place on Sunday 4th October starting at 9.30am from Congleton High School. The race is limited to 800 runners

and all proceeds from the race are distributed to local charities. Entries to the race are online and must be registered by the 26th September. Minimum age for the half marathon is 17. You should register at www.congleton-harriers.co.uk If you are willing to assist with marshalling or other organisational duties, please contact Congleton Harriers.

Sound of Music!

Congleton Park will be alive with the sound of free music this summer. There's an opportunity to enjoy four different free concerts over the summer months. Fodens Brass Band will play on Saturday 20th June at an evening concert for Help for Heroes, free tickets can be downloaded and a donation is recommended. Lions Youth Band will play on the afternoon of Sunday 28th June. Audley Brass Band on Sunday 19th July and Salt City Jazz on Sunday 9th August. Local people are encouraged to pack a picnic and come down to the park to



enjoy these wonderful musical moments. Thanks to Friends of Congleton Park there will be a limited number of seats available on concert days. For more details see www.friendsofcongletonpark.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Mid-June to September: PADDLING POOL OPEN

June

- 6-27 Art Market, Electric Picture House, Monday- Saturday 10am-5pm
- 20 Bosley School Fete 2pm www.bosleyvillage.org.uk
- 20 Concert for Heroes - with Fodens, Congleton Park, 6pm
- 21 Arts & Crafts and Table Top Fair, Lion & Swan Hotel, 9am
- 21 Film at Daneside "Woman in Gold" (PG 13), Daneside Theatre, 7pm
- 25 CTC Community, Environment and Services Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 6.30pm
- 28 Lions Junior Brass, Congleton Park

July

ACTIVE JULY- EVERY STEP COUNTS WALKING CAMPAIGN

- 3-4 Louise Carter School of Dance "A walk through the West End" Daneside Theatre, 7.30pm
- 4 Music Fundraiser for The Electric Picture House
- 5 Museum Walk "Mill Walks and Industrial Yarns" 2pm
- 9 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 1.55-4.15pm, 5.30-7.45pm
- 11 Congleton Youth Orchestra, Town Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 ATC coffee morning, Congleton library, 9.30am - 12pm
- 11 Youth Celebration Day, Hankinson's Field, 1.30 - 4.30pm
- 12 Congleton Artisan Market, Congleton Town Centre
- 17-8 Open Submission Art show, Electric Picture House
- 18 Congleton Choral Society, Town Hall, 7.30pm
- 19 Audley Brass Band Concert, Congleton Park
- 19 Community Litter Pick 6pm - 8pm
- 20 North West In Bloom judging day
- 30 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 1.55-4.15pm, 5.30-7.45pm

August

- 2 Museum Walk "History on your Doorstep" 2pm
- 9 Congleton Artisan Market, Congleton Town Centre
- 9 Salt City Jazz, Congleton Park
- 14-15 SOL Theatre School present "South Pacific" Daneside Theatre, 7.30pm
- 20 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 1.55-4.15pm, 5.30-7.45pm
- 21-26 Sept Electric Picture House Group Art SHOW
- 27 CTC Community, Environment and Services Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 6.30pm
- 27 Raft Race and Fun Day - Astbury Mere 10-4.30pm contact Plus Dane
- 28-30 Jazz and Blues Festival

September

- 5 Horticultural Society Show, Town Hall
- 6 Museum Walk "The importance of Water" 2pm
- 10-13 National Heritage Open Days
- 10 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 1.55-4.15pm, 5.30-7.45pm
- 10 CTC Finance and Planning Committee, Town Hall, 6.30pm
- 13 Lions Duck Race, Congleton Park
- 13 Congleton Artisan Market, Congleton Town Centre
- 13 Congleton Paddling Pool closes for season
- 15 Congleton Partnership AGM, Town Hall, 5pm
- 17 Police and Crime Commissioners, meeting with Parish Council, Town Hall, 6pm
- 17 CTC Council Meeting, Town Hall, 6.30pm
- 18-27 Open Space Arts Festival
- 24 CTC Planning Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 6.30pm
- 24 CTC Town Hall Planning Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend Congleton Town Council (CTC) meetings, and may ask a question at full council. To do this you are requested to advise the Town Clerk in writing or by e-mail at least 7 working days before the day of meeting. Please note there could be items towards the end of the meeting, which by law, require the press and public to be excluded.

For Daneside Theatre productions contact Congleton Tourist Information 01260 271095.

For Congleton Town Council (CTC) contact 01260 270350. For more events see www.congleton-tc.gov.uk

Team Congleton Every Step Counts

Busy complicated lifestyles, in-house entertainment, ease of car use and getting products delivered to our doors are all adding to many people leading less physically active lives.

Medical experts believe that our more sedentary lifestyle is having a negative effect on our physical and mental health. A study of over 334,000 European men and women found that twice as many deaths may be attributable to lack of physical activity compared with the number of deaths attributable to obesity, but that a modest increase in physical activity could have significant health benefits. (European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) Study)

Shocked by the growing number of studies linking inactivity with poor health Team Congleton put together a campaign to encourage Congleton to find its feet. Led by former Olympians and local residents - Ann and

Robbie Brightwell - the team has worked with local surgeries and schools, Congleton Community Projects, Plus Dane Neighbourhood Investment team, businesses, local surgeries, Everybody Leisure Trust and Congleton Town Council to raise the profile and introduce the opportunity for more physical activity.

DID YOU KNOW...

- A person with a sedentary lifestyle is likely to walk under 3,000 steps a day
- The average person walks between 4,000 and 6,000 steps a day
- The Nation Health 'magic' figure is 10,000 steps a day



Team Congleton's 5000 Walking Challenge

Team Congleton is challenging 4,000 local people to walk 5,000 steps for 10 days in July - creating a colossal 200 million steps for Congleton. The challenge is aimed at raising awareness of people's activity levels and encouraging everyone to take those extra steps to a healthier lifestyle. Team Congleton is providing those wishing to take part with pedometers and challenge cards (while stocks last). Those taking part are asked to walk 5,000 steps for a minimum of 10 days between the 1 July and the 26th July. Completed forms will be entered into a prize draw where one lucky walker will win £100 and 10 further walkers will win £20. Contact Congleton Town Council on 01260 270350 ext 2 about pedometers.

The John O'Groats to Lands' End Equivalent Challenge

If you don't want to join in the individual 5,000 challenge why not enter a team in the fun John O'Groats to Lands End Equivalent Challenge. We suggest that you may need a team of 10 - as you'll need to walk around 8,500 steps each for the month to cover the 900 miles! Teams will be provided with pedometers and a challenge sheet. Contact Team Congleton on 01260 270350, ext 2, or via info@conglontowncouncil.co.uk

Welly Walks and Toddler Waddle Schools and pre-schools are getting involved with 'Welly Walks' and 'Toddler Waddles'. Others have walking buses and explorer walks.

Walking Lunches

At least one local business - Burns Garage - has introduced walking lunches - where staff are encouraged to take a break from working and go walking.

Managing Director Robert Burns said: "A walking lunch is a healthy habit. It buoys people's moods, reduces stress, combats afternoon energy slumps, and improves team bonding within the operation. You only need to take a 25-30 minute walk to get tremendous health benefits".



Organised Walks You May Wish to Join In...

FRIDAY, 26th JUNE COUNTRYSIDE RANGERS

Cheshire East Rangers Walk - Flowers in the Grass - Dane in Shaw Pasture 10am - 1pm. Free but booking in advance essential at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flowers-in-the-grass-tickets-15174621702

THURSDAY, 2nd JULY CONGLETON'S SOUTHERN FRINGES

Meet at 7pm at Astbury Mere Country Park for a two hour ramble through the attractive countryside to the south of the town. Led by a Cheshire East Council Countryside Ranger. Approx. 4 miles. More info on 01260 297237.

SUNDAY, 5th JULY CONGLETON MUSEUM

Historical walk around Congleton's Mills - led by Congleton Museum - 2pm-4pm. Costs £5 including cream tea (£3 for Friends of Congleton Museum).

WEDNESDAY, 8th JULY CONGLETON HARRIERS WALK

Meet 7pm by Congleton Library - route - Moody Street, Lamberts Lane, Canal, Dane-in-Shaw and across the fields to Acorn Lane and up the Cloud via Gosberry Hill Lane. Approx. 6-7 miles.

THURSDAY, 9th JULY AGE UK CONGLETON

Walk from Congleton Park to Havannah Village. Meet in the Park near the Pavilion at 11.00am.

SUNDAY, 12th JULY CONGLETON NATURE WATCH

Explorer Trail and Treasure Hunt. Meet at Astbury Visitor Centre for 11am start - finish 1pm. Aimed at children - follow the trail and explore the nature treasure hunt. Led by Debbie Greenwood from Congleton Nature Walk. Text 07801 537124 for more info.

SUNDAY, 12th JULY CONGLETON RAMBLERS

You are invited to join the Ramblers on a three mile leisurely walk. Meet at West Street car park at 1.15pm. www.congletonramblers.org.uk

TUESDAY, 14th JULY PRAM FIT ASTBURY MERE

Pram fit taster class with Kelly Morley - at Astbury Mere 9.30am - 10am - Free but booking essential by 13th July contact Kelly on hnb@kellymorley.co.uk or 07803 245590.



TUESDAY, 14th JULY CONGLETON RAMBLERS*

You are invited to join a three mile walk with Congleton Ramblers. Meet at Glebe Farm, Astbury at 7.15pm - expect the walk to take a couple of hours. See www.congletonramblers.org.uk/

SUNDAY, 19th JULY CONGLETON IN BLOOM

Litter Walk - come for a stroll in town while litter picking! Meeting at the Community Garden at 6pm. Litter picking for upto 2 hours. Contact info@congleton-tc.gov.uk

TUESDAY, 21st JULY GENTLE STEPS & TEA AT THE TOWN HALL

Local fitness expert and motivator, Kelly Morley, runs a low impact exercise with high tea at the Town Hall for those with limited mobility, 2.30-4.00pm. Free but limited places. Book via 01260 270350.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd JULY CONGLETON HARRIERS WALK

Meet 7pm by Congleton Library - route Lamberts Lane, canal to Biddulph Valley Way then over to Congleton Edge, returning via fields to Moss Road, Astbury Golf Club and Lamberts Lane. Approx. 6-7 miles.

THURSDAY, 23rd JULY AGE UK CONGLETON

Rode Heath Rise and Canal Walk Meet at Broughton Arms Pub, Sandbach Road at 10.30am lunch afterwards optional.

SUNDAY, 26th JULY SKYLINE WALK

13 mile Blue Ribbon Walk to complete the Team Congleton challenge month. Start and finish in Congleton Park.

TUESDAY, 28th JULY CONGLETON RAMBLERS *

You are welcome to join a walk with Congleton Ramblers. Meet at the Church House in Buglawton at 7.15pm. Approx. 3 miles. www.congletonramblers.org.uk

All walks were correct at time of going to press, but it is advisable to check Team Congleton page on www.congleton-tc.gov.uk

When joining in a community walk with the Ramblers, Rangers or Harriers you are advised to wear walking boots or shoes or strong trainers which you don't mind getting muddy! Wear waterproofs if the weather is wet. It is also recommended that you bring a bottle of water and maybe a small snack (eg banana or cereal bar).

** If you would like to join either of the evening walks (14th or 28th) and are unable to get to the start, please phone Margaret Baker from the Ramblers on 01477 534238 and they will try and arrange transport from West Street Car Park.*

Enjoy Walking Around Congleton

Congleton is surrounded by stunning countryside which is great for exploring by foot! Wonderful walks are available for those who want to explore and enjoy the great outdoors from maintained country parks to rural hill paths and lakes.

Here are some of Team Congleton members' favourite walks...

- **Astbury Mere Country Park** - stunning setting and suitable for all abilities with an all-weather 1 mile path. There is a visitor centre, toilet and car parking - The Mere is about a mile from Congleton town centre: <http://www.astburymerecountrypark.uk/>
- **Brereton Heath Country Park** - a 50 acre woodland with walks around a mere just outside of Congleton. Car park, visitors centre.
- **Biddulph Valley Way** - disused railway track which is now a flat, well surfaced path that starts at the A54, close to Tommy's Lane and heads towards the Potteries. Cheshire East manages a 2 mile length and Staffordshire Moorlands a 4 mile section.
- **Congleton Town Park** - easy walking, close to the town centre and a beautiful location! The site covers nearly 25 acres including the ancient Town Woods.
- **Gritstone Trail** - a more challenging walk in three sections, stretching from Disley to Kidsgrove, with some fine ridge walking and stunning views over the Cheshire Plains.
- **Macclesfield Canal** - from Congleton the canal runs to Marple Junction in the north and to Kidsgrove in the South.
- **Priestly Fields** - from the top of Moody Street follow the route taken by the priests to Astbury Church - the route is signed and there's a map at the top of Moody Street.
- **Timbersbrook Picnic Area to the Cloud** - on the outskirts of Congleton, with amazing views whilst walking up and especially when reaching the top of the Cloud.

Useful Web Sites...

www.walkingincheshire.co.uk/congleton.php
- Congleton walks to download and print off. No sign up.

www.mapmywalk.com/gb/congleton-eng
- Has 879 walking routes around Congleton.

www.visitcheshire.com/things-to-do/explore-the.../walking-trails
- Offers numerous walks to print off.

...Enjoy walking, this July!