This guide is to highlight the local features of the Parish and encourage Lydiate residents and visitors to make the most of them.

Lydiate is located in the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton, on north Merseyside. It is 9.8 miles (15.8km) from Liverpool and 10.5 miles (16.9km) from Southport. The Parish is largely rural, it has a village centre and boasts a wide and varied number of amenities. These include local shops, public houses and a number of farms with shops and cafes selling local produce for people to enjoy.

Lydiate has great access to other outdoor activities such as rambling. There is a large network of public footpaths throughout the Parish and with the close proximity of the Leeds Liverpool Canal access to the countryside is readily available to local residents and visitors alike.

The map overleaf details the parish and highlights its public footpaths and two 4 mile circular walks. Descriptions of the walks are included to help with and enhance the walk. Additional walks within the Borough can be found in the Walking and Cycling Guide produced by Sefton Council.

Lydiate is well served by road; it lies 5 minutes from the end of the M58 and is served by numerous bus routes from Liverpool, Southport and Ormskirk. Merseytravel buses such as nos 231, 300 and 311. Lydiate is no longer served by train but there is a station in nearby Maghull that provides links to Liverpool, Ormskirk and Southport. Bus route no.231 connects Lydiate with Maghull Station. More details are available from Traveline on 0871 200 2233. All these buses stop at the Village Green.

The name Lydiate is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word for swing gate, ‘hlid - geat’ and it is mentioned in the Domesday Book as having a wood a League long and two Furlongs wide.

Two major features of industrial northern England can be found in the area. The Leeds-Liverpool Canal meanders through Lydiate and the dismantled Cheshire Lines Railway runs in the neighboring parish along the west boundary of Lydiate.

Lydiate, along with Maghull were part of the larger parish of Halsall until the mid 1800’s and were administered as part of the Diocese of Lichfield. There are several historical monuments to be found in Lydiate. The first place of worship in Lydiate, St Catherine’s Chapel, was built by the Ireland family in the 1400’s. It was dedicated to St.Catherine, the patron saint of Lawrence Ireland’s wife, Catherine Blundell.

The Chapel now stands in ruin but some artefacts can be found in Our Lady’s Church.

The Ireland family held the lordship of Lydiate from 1420 to 1673 and they were also responsible for a second feature of the parish, Lydiate Hall. This was built in the 16th Century and was home to the Anderton and Blundell families after the Ireland’s. By 1940 the hall was a complete ruin.

The picturesque thatched Scotch Piper Inn can be found on Southport Road and is reputed to be the oldest inn in Lancashire with origins dating back to 1320.

For further details about these and other paths and walks in Sefton see the website or contact the Rights of Way Officer www.sefton.gov.uk Tel - 0845 140 0845

Try cycling! It is a great way to see the scenery in Lydiate and Sefton. There are some fantastic routes in the borough a map is available and cycles can be hired at various places around Sefton.

Cycling Information and Maps - 0845 140 0845
Cycle Hire - 01704 500996 (for Southport)
- 0845 140 0845 (for all other areas)
As you join the path the area to the right is where the Vikings settled. It was known as Eggergarth.

Turn left on Acres Lane, continue along the Lane, continue until the bend in the road, join Footpath No. 5. Just before you reach Southport Road, on the right you can see the remains of St Catherine's Chapel.

Cross the bridge and follow the path down the other side of the canal. Turn right on Southport Road, on the right you leave the towpath at Jackson's Bridge, No 19. Continue passed the cottages, in the 1800's one of these was a 'beer house' called the 'Bug 'n'th Bucket' , along the side of the cottage. Turn left onto Back Lane and left onto the next footpath.

Continue along this path, shortly ahead on the left are to the ruins of Walsh Hall, a medieval moated site. Follow the waymarkers through the grounds and the horse paddocks. N.B. there are several stiles along this section.

Continue along the track bed for 800m, then turn left off the track and back onto Acres Lane. Turn left on the road and join Footpath No 20. To the left is the remainder of the woodland that is mentioned in the Domesday Book.

Continue along the path along the canal until the next bridge, Lydiate Hall Bridge. It was known as 'the spot' six churches can be seen from here - Find them. At the top of the hill in the ground to the side of the path is a tile with the inscription. 'From this spot six churches can be seen - Find them' .

Starting at Lollies Bridge, go down the brook, turn right and the path from the gate heads diagonally across the field to the tree on the left of St Michael's spire.

In amongst the trees you can see amongst the trees the only Pill Box in Lydiate. Half way up the lane are three building on the corner, these are the remains of a cottage, the headstone of the last occupant is still in the garden. If you look in over your right shoulder towards the fields you can see amongst the trees the only Pill Box in Lydiate.

Turn right on Hall Lane and walk along the Lane away from Southport Road. On the bend in the road, join Footpath No. 5. Continue passed the cottages, in the 1800's one of these was a 'beer house' called the 'Bug 'n'th Bucket' , along the side of the cottage. Turn left onto Back Lane and left onto the next footpath.

As you turn left off the track and back onto Acres Lane, continue until the bend in the road, join Footpath No 5.