



# Welcome to Dobcross

Here are a few things you may like to know about Dobcross, and a list of useful information on amenities, clubs and organisations around the village.



Dobcross is one of several villages that make up Saddleworth. It was originally in the West Riding of Yorkshire; some people still say it is, and became the commercial hub of Saddleworth as it was on the main Yorkshire and Lancashire pack horse route, with roads converging on Dobcross Square. In the 1900s, with several shops, pubs and Saddleworth Bank, one



of England's original banks, it was where business was primarily based on the wool trade. As the textile industry declined in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the industry and shops were replaced with housing and Dobcross is now popular with commuters to Manchester and Leeds and nearby Uppermill became the central village.

There are various groups, clubs and organisations in Dobcross who all work together to create a vibrant community spirit. One of these groups is the Dobcross Village Community, or DVC. This group arranges events throughout the year to raise funds for the benefit of the other groups in Dobcross, helping with repairs or replacements of equipment and funding defibrillators.

The DVC produces a monthly newsletter called the Dobcross Diary, written by residents, which is sent out to more than 950 households in the village, with copies left in appropriate places for visitors to read, as well as sent via email to ex-residents all over the country. This newsletter is designed to inform everyone with local information, news and updates from Dobcross clubs, events of interest and issues which affect our village. We have included a map in this leaflet so you see you have moved to a village that covers a wide area of Saddleworth.

The following pages have details of what is available in and around the village. For anyone on Facebook, there are two local sites. Dobcross News and Dobcross Community Group for day to day updates.

## The Square

The main shopping area in the past was the Square but the interesting buildings and old shops have now been converted into family homes and flats. Many of the houses in Dobcross are historically important and are therefore listed properties.



One of these is the popular Swan Inn and nearby stands a monument erected by public subscription in 1901. Dedicated to Dr Walter Ramsden it was followed by a further inscription to his Grandson, WPB Stonehouse, also a physician.

## Leading from the Square are four roads:

Walking down **Woods Lane** you will find our well stocked **Village Store and Post Office** with helpful, friendly staff. The post office also has facilities for banking and delivery of parcels from some on-line companies.

Next door is **Saddler Gentlemen Co**, a modern gentlemen's grooming service; hair and skin care for discerning men.



Beyond that is **Holy Trinity Church**, a Grade II-listed church which was built in 1787 and stands at the heart of the village in the Dobcross Conservation area. With good acoustics, musical concerts are occasionally held there and the meeting room is used regularly.

Further down at the bottom of the road is **Holy Trinity Church of England School** for our primary aged children from pre-school to year 6. Replacing the old school some years ago, it has some interesting architectural features.

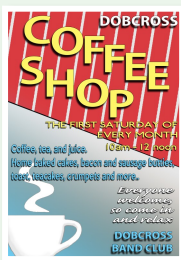


Back to the Square and going down **Sugar Lane** towards Diggle, there's a steep short cut to walk down to Uppermill and on the main road, underneath the imposing viaduct is the canal and the **Lime Kiln café**. Another popular pub, the **Navigation**, can be found further towards Diggle.

From the Square, **Sandy Lane** will take you on a single track road to Diggle and Long Lane to the Lancashire family's dairy farm who produce **Saddleworth Milk**, and then to open countryside, home to a variety of wildlife.



From the Square along **Platt Lane**, is **Dobcross Band and Social Club** which is run by a committee of volunteers. You can join this club for a small annual fee. (See the back page for details). The club house is used by various organisations but particularly to the three brass bands that practise here. Home to the well-known Dobcross Silver Band, it is also home to Dobcross Youth Band and the Brass Monkeys, an adult training band for people who would like to try a brass instrument for the first time or return to one after time away. A large reception room at the club is ideal for large parties, wedding receptions and other events.



Each month a pop-up coffee shop is held here and Pilates classes are held here too several times a week. Snooker and darts are played in the club room and there is a separate bar area. There is also a crown green bowling section, whose members also use the club house. There is a lovely view over the valley towards the war memorial, known as Pots and Pans and onto Saddleworth Moor, so it is a popular spot to watch the bowling on a sunny summer afternoon.



Beyond the club, towards Delph, **The Old Toll House** is a family-run tea room and small garden centre. Home cooked food and a selection of plants and garden miscellany.

## During the year...

The DVC is an all-inclusive group whose aims are to inform residents of any issues which may affect the village, such as planning and traffic. However, it is committed to having fun too! So, at Christmas, it organises a quiz and Father Christmas comes to watch the lights switched on! Christmas Day sees most of the village packed into the Band Club to sing carols with a small select brass ensemble, in aid of a group for our older residents, affectionately known as the Elderberries.



Saddleworth is well known for its footpaths, walking and cycling routes but is also known for the Whit Friday Band Contest in late spring, when 100 or so Brass Bands from the UK and abroad, including our own, take part in evening contests in each village, following a religious procession of witness to Uppermill in the morning. Children are entertained with lunch and games in the afternoon. These events are arranged by a local committee of dedicated volunteers, the Whit Friday Committee.

At Holy Trinity School, the School PTA, known as the Friends of Dobcross School or FODS, raise funds throughout the year, holding various events and a school fête in summer, to finance special occasions and equipment.



Holy Trinity school is located between the River Tame and Leavers Wood, and the river and wood converge behind the school to act as a natural wildlife corridor. A site of biological Interest, it is full of English bluebells in the spring and blackberries in autumn. Various wildlife populates this area, together with many species of birds.



Morris teams from around the country descend on Saddleworth over the Rush Cart weekend in August. On the Saturday, teams perform in each village while transporting a large cart of rushes, and on Sunday they pull the cart uphill from Uppermill to Saddleworth Church, where traditional dancing and merriment ensue!

Saddleworth Olympics take place each September. For children in years 3 -12, ages 7 to 16, every village in Saddleworth competes against each other in various sports. Started in 1985, it is as popular as ever.



Some of our Dobcross residents open their gardens for festivals, charity and the National Garden Scheme and volunteers look after the public areas outside the school, planters in the Square and the Memorial Garden opposite the church where our Silent Soldier can be found.

Delph and Dobcross Cricket Club not only play cricket but hold club events, with a jam-packed schedule of music and fun.

Delph hosts a small but well used theatre, Millgate Arts Centre. Local actors, the Saddleworth Players, and the youth section, SPY, use the theatre, while Saddleworth Live host special shows throughout the year. Concert and film societies are also based there.

The Saddleworth area has many flourishing clubs, organisations, and musical societies, too many to mention here!



## Contact Details:



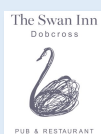
**Dobcross Village Store and Post Office: Woods Lane.** Our community owned and run co-operative shop has an interesting mix of food and range of goodies as well as newspapers seven days a week. Post Office and banking facilities too. Tel: 01457 872104



**Holy Trinity Church: Woods Lane.** Full range of services throughout the year. Room for private bookings. Two well-established groups for young people and strong links with our Junior School in Dobcross. <https://www.cofeinsaddleworth.org.uk/holy-trinity-dobcross> Tel: 01457 874209



**Dobcross Band and Social Club: Platt Lane.** Home to three Brass Bands. Our CAMRA award winning Steward serving various beers and drinks. Snooker, darts and bowling! Sporting events on BT sport shown on the Big Screen. <https://www.dobcrossclub.com>  
Tel: 01457 873741 (See special offer on the back page.)



**The Swan: The Square.** Friendly faces with good food and drink. Function room upstairs. <https://www.swaninndobcross.com> Tel: 07377 182 2770



**The Navigation: 21-23 Wool Road.** A warm welcome, good food and drinks. <https://thenavigationdobcross.com> Tel: 01457 872418



**Old Toll House Tea Rooms and small Garden Centre: 30 Platt Lane.** Good home cooked food and range of plants and garden miscellany. Tel: 01457 820075



**Lime Kiln: Brownhill Countryside Centre. Wool Road.** Next to the viaduct. Canalside café for indoor and outdoor dining. [www.thelimekilncafe.com](http://www.thelimekilncafe.com) Tel: 01457 871051



**Square Meals: 14 Platt Lane.** Outside catering and home delivery. Tel: 07720 641 361 [andyrobertwatson@gmail.com](mailto:andyrobertwatson@gmail.com)



Milk from the local farm, **Saddleworth Milk** can be delivered to your home and is also stocked in the shop. Long Lane, Dobcross. <https://saddleworthmilk.com>.

Tel: 01457 875044 07841 039011



**Albion Farm Shop and Café, Oldham Road, Dobcross.** 01457 874366



**Newbank Garden Centre: Dobcross New Road.** Comprehensive range of garden plants, gifts and outdoor furniture with a café. Tel: 01457 876571  
<https://www.newbankgardencentre.com/garden>



**Saddler Gentleman Co: 20 Woods Lane.** Contact Aaron Welby 07988 619223



## Local Clubs, but not an exhaustive list!

### Meeting in Dobcross:

The three Dobcross Brass Bands – based in Dobcross Band and Social Club:



Dobcross Silver Band



Dobcross Youth Band and Training Band for beginners



Dobcross Brass Monkeys

**Crown Green Bowling** – at Dobcross Band and Social Club


**Ladies Group** – Meets monthly in Holy Trinity Church meeting room. Talks, trips out and good fun. Contact Sue Skinner : 07938 826 989

**The Elderberries**, for our older residents. Join in for coffee mornings and occasional day trips away. Contact Richenda Williamson : 07971 201 064

**Whit Friday Committee.** Volunteers organising the Whit Friday Band Contest. Interested in helping? Telephone Pam Rose 07779 274 834

**Dobcross Book Club** meets at The Swan on the first Thursday of the month, 8pm upstairs.



**Friends of Dobcross School.** Information  on the Dobcross School website or email: Jane Bell : jane.bell2009@hotmail.co.uk



There is also a Dobcross crime watch group on WhatsApp, linked to the police, to keep an eye on things! To join, please see the contact details in the Dobcross Diary.

### Meeting in Uppermill:

Saddleworth Gardening Club

Saddleworth Naturalists

Saddleworth Historical Society

Saddleworth Civic Trust

### Further afield:

Uppermill has a full range of shops, tea rooms, pubs and a chippy.

There you will find the Doctors' surgery, chemists, and a library together with a CO-OP supermarket, butchers, baker, greengrocer, and delicatessen (some offering home delivery).

From DIY to travel agents, toy shop to pet shop, florists to hairdressers, wine merchant to charity shops, you will find what you need as well as the essentials.

In the other direction, Delph village also has a range of shops including a CO-OP, chemist, gifts, pubs, chippy, tea rooms, hairdressers and a library run by volunteers.



Delph & Dobcross Cricket Club (delphcricket.co.uk)



# Here is a list of useful information

**Doctors:** Saddleworth Medical Practice, Smithy Lane, Uppermill

<https://www.saddleworthmedicalpractice.com> Tel: 01457 872228



**Junior School:** Holy Trinity C of E, Dobcross

<https://dobcross.oldham.sch.uk> Tel: 01457 872860



SADDLEWORTH SCHOOL

**Senior School:** Saddleworth School, Diggle

<https://www.saddleworth.oldham.sch.uk> Tel: 01457 872072

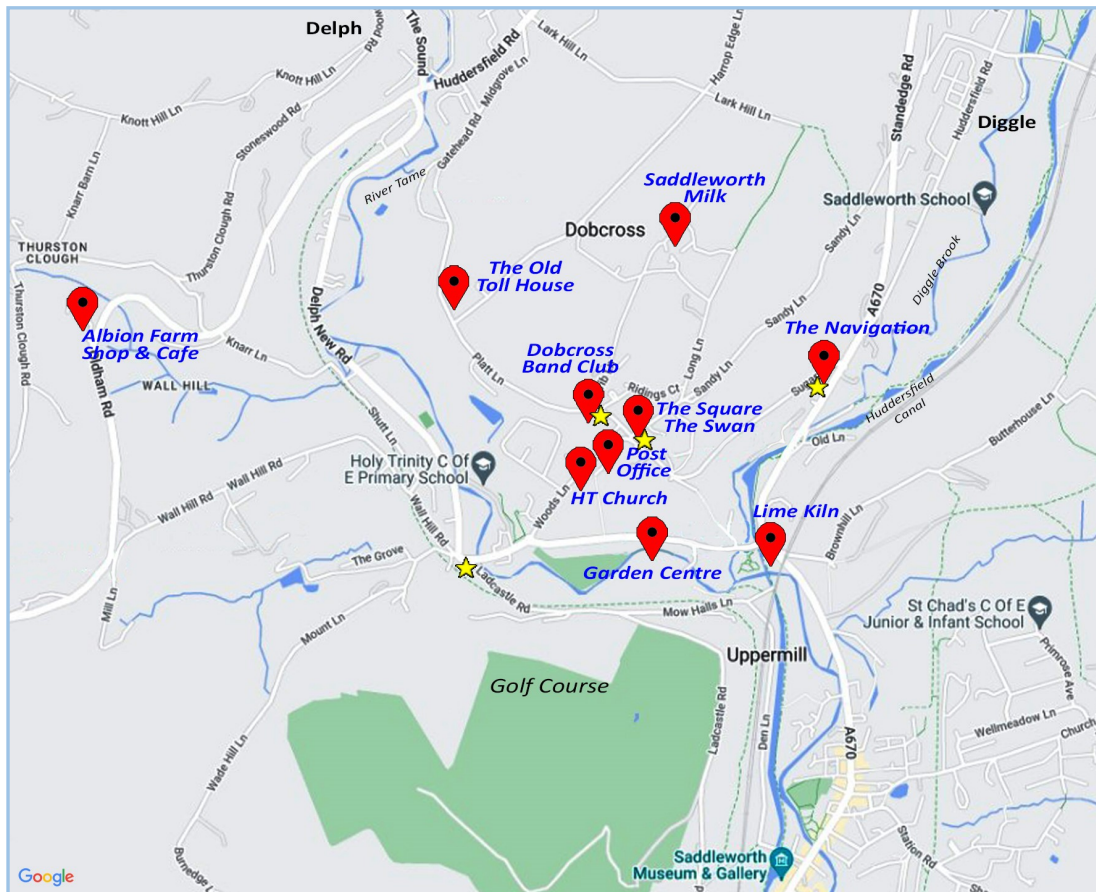
★ **Defibrillator sites:** *After phoning 999, the operator will give you instructions.*

Phone Box outside the Swan in the Square

Phone box at Ladcastle Road, near the bridge at junction near HT School

Car Park of the Navigation

Club room at the Band Club (when open)



We hope this has been helpful. If you need further information please contact Patricia through the Dobcross Diary at [diary@dobcross.com](mailto:diary@dobcross.com).

Whether your stay is for a few months or a few years, we hope you will enjoy living here and take advantage of what is available.



As you have just moved into Dobcross, the Band Club would like to offer you free membership for the current year. Membership runs from January to December, however if you have moved here late in the year, this form can be used as a voucher for the next year's membership.

Dobcross Band and Social Club membership normally costs £25 a year, which gives you a discount on drinks and free hire of the function room as well as the opportunity to join the affiliated clubs.

And, of course to meet other residents of the village. So please detach this form and take it to the club where the steward, John Holden, will arrange for your membership card.

## Dobcross Band & Social Club



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Complimentary membership  
for new residents**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Tel .....

Email .....

*We will use your personal data for the purposes of your involvement in Club activities only. Your data will not be shared with any third party and the principles of the GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018 will be adhered to.*

*I understand that by ticking this box, I am consenting to receive  emails about upcoming events and other Club related business.*

*Please leave this blank if you **DO NOT** wish to receive regular updates.*

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE

**ADULT**       **JUNIOR**       **HONORARY**

*Please tick as many of the following that apply to you*

**SOCIAL USER**

**HIRER OF  
FACILITIES**

*Musicians*

**SILVER BAND**

*Teams*

**YOUTH BAND**

**BOWLS**

**BRASS MONKEYS**

**SNOOKER, CRIB &  
DARTS**

