

# Exploring the footpath – Mawfa Lane



Version Two

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# Mawfa? Who or what is Mawfa?

■ TESCO 23:05 69%

**Survey of English place-names**

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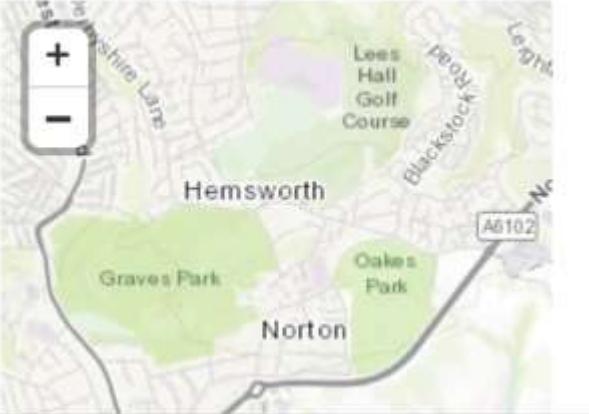
## Mawfa Lane

*Other OS name in the Parish of Norton*

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### Etymology

( 6 " ) , cf. *Mawfoe* 1808 *Fairbank* , *Moorfall* otherwise *Mowfolow Lane* 1815 *EnclA* .



A map showing the area around Norton. It highlights 'Mawfa Lane' running through the town. Other labeled areas include 'Hemsworth', 'Graves Park', 'Oakes Park', 'Lees Hall Golf Course', 'Blackstock', 'Leigh', and 'A6102'. A north arrow is present, and a zoom control (+/-) is in the top left corner.

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Of course! Where the moor falls.  
Nearby is Back Moor, so this is where  
the moor falls into the Gleadless  
Valley.

# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

- Mawfa Lane runs northwards from the Bagshawe Arms, through what would originally have been the ancient hamlet of Hemsworth.
- It is now a substantial footpath, with a few street nameplates attached to local properties to indicate its location.
- It crosses underneath Constable Road, and runs along the side of the old Hemsworth school, where a gate was installed for access to the playing field



# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

- On the right hand side there is the start of a large valley (“the Lumb” on the OS map) that carries one of the Meers Brook’s tributaries to the Gleadless Valley
- The path continues until it reaches the Blackstock Road. Immediately opposite there is a footpath that continues on the same alignment, in front of the Gaunt Close properties.
- This soon aligns with the footpath along Gaunt Road, which follows the eastern edge of the Leeshall Wood.



# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

- After following the edge of the Leeshall Woods for a while, there are several barrier type pedestrian entrances into the woods (and the Gleadless Valley Nature Reserve)
- I used the third one, as it led to a wider and flatter footpath within the woods.
- This soon led to small brooks, with substantial flat wooden bridges across them.
- Shortly, this led to a large ravine



# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

- On one side of the ravine was a rectangular cut-out in the ground (approx. 6 x 8 feet), with signs of burning around the edges.
- There were also a few holes in both the floor and the surrounding ground (approx. 1ft dia), and covered in leaves.



# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

- Walking back through the woods, there were the remains on the left hand side of a fence running approx. north – south. Potentially a boundary of the golf course, or the Lees Hall
- Further back, the current golf course became visible on the right hand side, with its sturdy modern perimeter fencing.
- It was then time to walk home, for a cup of tea!



# Footpath – Mawfa Lane

