MUPPETT'S RAMBLES

A GUIDE TO LOCAL WALKS
BRADFORD DISTRICT



CNET EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

CityConnect

A project led by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority

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INTRODUCTION

In the late summer of 2021 CNet secured funding from The West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CityConnect programme, part of its Community Grants scheme. CityConnect offered small grants to third sector and community organisations to support projects encouraging people to cycle and walk more.

CNet's project involved leading guided walks across Bradford District with five groups of people. A group of mums from the Ravenscliffe housing estate in Eccleshill, who meet at the local Gateway Centre, a group of pensioners from Idle and Thackley who meet at the local Rockwell Centre, a mixed age group from the three Keighley wards, a group of parents from All Saints' Primary School in Little Horton, and a group of pensioners from Manningham.

Most of the walks were around areas local to the groups, but due to either limited mobility or a lack of green spaces the walks with Manningham pensioners and All Saints' parents were a short (15-30 minutes) public transport journey away.

Each group had four walks, all of which I walked beforehand to check their suitability and any potential hazards. On the walks, I gave participants information about the local history of the walk area and the local flora and fauna.

This booklet contains descriptions of 14 of the 20 walks (some groups did variations of the same walk), along with information on the local history. There are also details of buses and trains to and from these walks from Bradford city centre, Shipley, Bingley, and Keighley, as well as Ilkley and Wharfedale.

The booklet contains a number of recipes, the ingredients for which can be foraged on the walks. In the final part of the booklet, there are links to numerous other walks around the local countryside.

I hope you enjoy the booklet and are able to try out some (if not all) of the walks.

Cheers

Muppett
CNet Development Worker
April 2022



HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR WALKING

- Wear footwear suitable for a range of terrains, including uneven and muddy paths.
- Wear suitable footwear and clothing for the weather, keeping in mind that the weather can change over the course of the walk. This could include hats, gloves, etc., for cold weather, a waterproof jacket, or sun cream for warm weather.
- Carry a basic first aid kit for any minor injuries.
- Consider carrying insect repellent if you react to insect bites.
- Give livestock a wide berth, and keep dogs on leads around livestock.
- Be mindful of thorns and stinging plants, such as nettles.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

RESPECT EVERYONE

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

- take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do
- care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

- check your route and local conditions
- plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory

For more information, visit:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code/the-countryside-code-advice-for-countryside-visitors

1) YEADON TARN CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

Yeadon Tarn, also known as Yeadon Dam, is located between High Street (Yeadon) and the runway of the Leeds / Bradford Airport. The Tarn was originally a natural feature but was enlarged for industrial purposes and improved for leisure use in the early 20th century.

During the Second World War, the British aircraft manufacturer Avro constructed a factory on Yeadon Aerodrome, where the airport now stands, to build various aircraft, including Lancaster Bombers. In order to prevent enemy aircraft using the reflection of the Tarn as a landmark to locate the factory, the Tarn was drained of water for a time. An elaborate camouflaging operation also took place, masterminded by people who worked in the film industry, consisting of grass covering the roof of the factory, and imitation farm buildings, stone walls and a duck pond built in the area around the factory. Hedges and bushes made out of fabric were changed to match the changing colours of the seasons and personnel moved dummy animals around daily. The factory was never detected by enemy bombers.

During the war, Gracie Fields visited the factory to entertain the workers. More than 5,000 at a time crammed into the works canteen for concerts. Throughout the course of the war, Avro Yeadon produced almost 700 Lancaster bombers, 4,500 Ansons (a small twin-engine aeroplane), and several other types of aircraft.



THE WALK
DISTANCE: ¾ MILE

A very gentle stroll, ideal for those with limited mobility, and wheelchair and pram / pushchair friendly. The Tarn is 682 ft (208 metres) above sea level and can get a little breezy, even on a warm summer's day.

There is a level tarmacked footpath around the perimeter of the Tarn. One lap round is just over three quarters of a mile and whilst walking you can spot mallards, swans and Canada geese, as well as a range of other visiting water birds, such as herons and gulls.

The Tarn is used for sailing and fishing and in times gone by, when the Tarn froze over in the winter, it was a popular place to go ice-skating. Next to the Tarn is Tarn Field Park, which has a BMX bike track, children's play area, bowling green and nature trail. Close by in Yeadon town centre there are a number of cafés, pubs and shops to visit.

GETTING THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 or A3 Airport Flyer bus from Bradford Interchange.
From Shipley (Keighley and Bingley): A2 Airport Flyer Bus from Shipley Market Square.

From Ilkley: train towards either Leeds or Bradford; get off at Guiseley, then the 34 bus towards Leeds, from outside Guiseley Morrisons.

For all these services get off at Yeadon Morrisons and the Tarn is a five minute walk away, just off Yeadon High Street.





YEADON TARN

2) NORTHCLIFFE WOODS / PARK (SHIPLEY) CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

During the walk, you will pass a collection of cottages, known as Six Days Only. The land next to the cottages was once home to a nursery, growing fruit and vegetables. It is believed the name originated in the mid-1800s when a Salvation Army member, who lived in one of the cottages and ran the nursery, refused to trade on a Sunday. To show his intentions, he made a wooden cross with the words 'Six Days Only' on it. From then onwards the cottages have been known locally by this name.

More recently Six Days Only is remembered for the sale of nettle beer and similar drinks. 'Nettle Nellie' sold this beverage in half pint glasses from her cottage.

In 1911 the Rosse family, then major landowners in and around Shipley (hence the name of the Rosse pub in Saltaire), decided to sell up and concentrate on their family lands in Ireland, and divided their land here into development plots for housing. Northcliffe Woods and Northcliffe Park were sold by private treaty to Sir Norman Rae MP, who gave the land to Shipley Urban District Council for public use.

Sir Norman Rae was a mill owner, with mills in Bradford and Batley (where he was born), and businesses in Australia. He used his wealth to support local schools and businesses, gave land to Northcliffe Golf Club and funded the building of the Norman Rae Nursing Home, as well as Shipley Hospital.

Shipley Urban District Council worked to change the area from farming and mining land to make it suitable for use as a park. It was opened in 1920 with a grand ceremony and continued to be developed with tennis courts, bowling greens, pitch and putt, sports pitches, and bandstands for free concerts.

A plaque on the main gate on Bradford Road records the opening on 12th June 1920: 'The gift of Sir H Norman Rae MP, as an open space for recreation and benefit of the public, forever.'

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 1 ½ MILES (ROUTE 1) 2 MILES (ROUTE 2), 2 ¼ MILES (ROUTE 3) 2 ½ MILES (ROUTE 4)



The walk begins at the car park on Cliffe Wood Avenue off Bradford Road, Shipley, BD18 3DD.

From the car park, follow the main tarmacked pathway past the metal barrier, into the woods. After several hundred yards the path passes a miniature railway owned by the Bradford Model Engineering Society. There are two railway tracks that stretch out for a quarter of mile or so into the woodland. The society is one of the oldest model engineering societies in Britain (founded in 1908) and operates the railways for passengers in summer, weather permitting.

Just past the railway is a picnic area and further along Northcliffe Dike (a stream) appears on the left and the tarmac area gives way to a pathway. From here continue along the path as it gradually climbs up the wooded valley. On the right hand side, every so often there are wooden seats and a series of smaller paths climbing up the hillside into the woods and to the parkland area and allotments that are well worth exploring.

The main path continues along the valley bottom for about three quarters of a mile until you arrive at a flight of steps with left and right forks. Here you can either turn around and retrace your steps back to the car park (Route 1) or turn right, climb the steps and follow the tarmacked pathway through Northcliffe Park, passing the playing fields, play area and allotments. Eventually it will take you back to either the main park gates or the car park on Cliffe Wood Ave.

Alternatively (Route 2), turn left, climb the steps and at the top continue straight ahead, following the path that goes through the golf course. Eventually the path emerges onto Shay Lane, between a row of cottages. Turn left here and follow the road. At the time of writing (Spring 2022), the road is closed to through traffic, however local traffic, including farm vehicles, still use the road, so stay alert as there is no pavement along this road.

After a quarter of a mile or so, you come to the little hamlet of Heaton Royds and a collection of cottages, known as Six Days Only.

From here, for Route 3, follow the pathway that runs down the front of the cottages, called Heaton Royds Lane. Keep following the lane, and after several yards it narrows into a footpath, passing through several meadows, before eventually emerging by a row of cottages at the top of Redburn Drive, opposite the ruins of Heaton Royds School. From here, you can follow Redburn Drive down to its junction with Bradford Road, turn left and follow the pavement onto Cliffe Wood Avenue, back at the start of the walk.

Alternatively, for Route 4, at Six Days Only continue down Shay Lane, passing the site of the former garden nursery. Here the road starts to drop down into Heaton Woods. At the bend at the bottom of the hill go through the gap in the wall on your left and down the steps to Red Beck. Cross the stone footbridge and continue along the path with the beck on your left. After a hundred yards or so, you will pass an orange spring on your left, made this colour by the presence of iron in the soil, the result of previous coal mining in the area.

Continue following the main path through the woods; this eventually crosses the beck and leaves the woods via a metal gate. Turn right and follow the rough track at the back of the houses on Redburn Drive. At the end of the track, turn left onto Wilmer Drive and follow it to its junction with Redburn Drive. Turn right and follow the drive down to the junction with Bradford Road, turn left and walk back along the main road to the start of the walk at Cliffe Wood Avenue.








RED BECK IN HEATON WOODS

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford 622, 623, 624, 626 or 662 bus, get off at Norwood Terrace and walk towards Cliffe Wood Avenue.

From Keighley: 662 bus, get off at Norwood Terrace and cross the main road to Cliffe Wood Avenue.

From Bingley: 622, 623, 624 or 662 bus, get off at Norwood Terrace and cross the main road to Cliffe Wood Avenue.
From Shipley and Baildon: 626 bus, get off at Norwood Terrace and cross the road to Cliffe Wood Avenue.

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: Catch the Bradford Forster Square train, get off at Shipley. From here, either walk up Otley Road (1/3 mile) at the junction with Bradford Road, turn left, then after a couple of hundred yards right onto Cliffe Wood Avenue, or catch the 626 bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at Norwood Terrace and cross the road to Cliffe Wood Avenue.

3) CHELLOW DENE WOODS (ALLERTON) CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The reservoirs in this wooded valley were built in Victorian times by the Bradford Corporation (the forerunner to Bradford Council) to provide water for the growing population. These days they are maintained solely for recreational use. The lower reservoir is the only site in Yorkshire where the rusty–back fern is known to grow.

Although the reservoirs no longer provide drinking water to the city, close to the woods is the Chellow Heights Water Treatment Works. The site treats 20 million gallons of water a day, which makes its way to Bradford on a 30-mile journey from Scar House and Angram reservoirs in North Yorkshire, via the Nidd Aqueduct. Once treated, the water is then piped to all parts of Bradford District as well as parts of Morley, Brighouse and Dewsbury.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 1 MILE (ROUTE 1)
2 MILES (ROUTE 2), 2 ½ MILES (ROUTE 3)

All routes start outside the Reservoir Lodge at the end of Chellow Lane. Walk along the pathway with the reservoir to your right, and follow the path round the edge of the reservoir. At the end of the first reservoir, you can continue to follow the path round and back to the lodge (Route 1) or follow the path as it makes a short steep climb to the second reservoir.

At the top of the hill, continue along the path with the reservoir to your right until you reach the end. Here you can turn right and continue following the path round the reservoir, walk down the path back to the lower reservoir and back along to the Lodge (Route 2).

Alternatively, when you reach the end of the upper reservoir, follow the path until just before the car park (on your left), and follow the wide footpath adjoining the one you are on, back towards the reservoirs. Follow this path through the woods, with the golf course on your left.

When you reach a flight of steps going down to the top of the second reservoir, go down them, then turn immediately to your left and go down a longer flight of steps, then turn left and follow the path back to the Lodge.

There are a number of paths leading off the main routes which are also well worth exploring. Some take you towards Allerton and a disused quarry, whilst others take you up past the West Bradford Golf Club and into the Haworth Road housing estate, or onto Daisy Hill and Lynfield Mount Hospital.



HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: 617/618 Allerton bus, get off opposite Cranbourne Road (two stops after Bradford Royal Infirmary), cross over the road, turn left and walk along Pearson Lane to Chellow Lane. Turn right and follow the road. The entrance to the reservoirs and the lodge is at the end of the lane, through a set of red gates.

From Keighley, Bingley, Shipley, Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: bus or train to Bradford city centre then catch the 617/618 Allerton Bus and follow the same directions as above.

4) ST. IVES (BINGLEY) CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

Bingley St. Ives Estate is a country park owned by Bradford Council. The land the estate occupies has been the site of a number of findings of historical artefacts dating back to the Bronze Age. In 1616 the Milner Family, who owned the estate at the time, built St. Ives Manor on the estate.

In 1635, the Ferrand family purchased the estate, and in 1644, Robert Ferrand sided with the Parliamentarians during the English Civil War and housed their Northern Commander, Thomas Fairfax, during the siege of Skipton, whilst his troops camped on nearby Harden Moor. One night whilst the troops were camping on the moor, they were attacked by Royalists and up to 200 soldiers were killed. They were said to have been buried up on the moor, but no bodies have ever been found, however, musket balls have been unearthed.

One of the most notable owners of St. Ives was William Busfield Ferrand, MP for Knaresborough. He was a leading member of the ten-hour factory reform movement, campaigning to improve child labour conditions in the mills and factories.

DRUID'S ALTAR



During the walk you will pass Lady Blantyre's Rock. The mother-in-law of William Busfield Ferrand, Lady Blantyre would often sit by the rock, reading and enjoying the views (this was before the trees in the area were there). Behind the rock and up a small flight of steps is the Ferrand Obelisk, dedicated to William Busfield Ferrand.

You will also pass Druid's Altar. Local folk tales tell of it being a place of human sacrifice in the past, but there is no actual evidence of this. Benjamin Disraeli, the Victorian politician and Prime Minister, was a frequent visitor to St. Ives and the Ferrand family, and named the site as meeting place for the Chartists in his novel, Sybil.

Shortly after the end of the First World War, the estate was broken up, its farms sold off, and in the late 1920s Bingley Urban District Council bought the estate.

As well as a golf course, St. Ives is now also home to STRI, formerly the Sports Turf Research Institute, a global design and consultancy specialist for the development of elite standard sports surfaces. They provide advice and consultancy to the All England Club for the Wimbledon Tennis Championship and have historically been advisors to the FIFA Football World Cup, as well as the 2012 London Olympics.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 3 ½ MILES



Start at the Harden Road entrance and walk up the main driveway, passing the bottom car park on your right. After a couple of hundred yards or so, on your right you will pass a hexagonal shaped house, known as Betty's Lodge. Continue along the driveway, keeping an eye out for a small stone plaque on the left, marking where the 250-year-old, 12 ½-ton Ferrand Oak once stood. The tree was felled in 1985 to be used in the renovation of York Minster, following a devastating fire at the Minster the previous year.

A little way past the plaque on your left is a gateway to a path into the woods (Cuckoo Nest Woods); follow this pathway as it meanders through the woodland, passing the back of the St. Ives Mansion on your left. Eventually the path will bring you out onto the main road through the estate. Cross over the road to reach Coppice Pond. This is a manmade lake, most likely built to feed water to a mill. It was modified by the Ferrands and used as a boating lake. The pond is home to a wide variety of waterfowl and fish.

For those who prefer a shorter walk, you can walk around the pond and then follow the road back towards the Mansion, and a few hundred yards along the road, you will find The Ivy Kitchen Café.

Otherwise, continue along the main path from the pond; after a quarter of a mile or so the path veers to the right and starts to climb uphill. Keep following the path and you will reach Lady Blantyre's rock (on your left).

From here head back to the main path and follow it as continues uphill. After a third of a mile or so, the path cuts through the golf course. A little beyond this and straight ahead you will reach a gap in the wall. Pass through the gap onto Altar Lane.

Turn right and walk down Altar Lane until you reach a gateway and crossroads. Turn left and follow the path through the bracken for a few yards until you reach a rocky outcrop; the largest of which is known as Druid's Altar.

After this detour, retrace your steps back to Altar Lane and continue following the lane as it starts to drop downhill, eventually joining Harden Road. Cross the road, turn left, and continue down the hill, crossing over Ireland Bridge and finishing the walk on Bingley Main Street.

There are a network of paths around the estate, as well as information boards and guideposts, giving you further information and directions, if you would like to explore the area more.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: 616 Eldwick bus, get off at the bottom of the Harden Road / entrance to St. Ives.

From Bingley: a Short Walk (about 1/3 mile to the entrance of St. Ives) along Harden Road, or the 616 Bradford bus, get off at the bottom of the Harden Road.

From Keighley: either the K17 Harden bus, get off at the bottom of the Harden Road, or the 660 bus, or train to Bingley and the 616 Bradford bus (bus stop opposite Bingley Train Station) and get off at the bottom of the Harden Road.

From Shipley, Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: bus or train to Bingley, 616 Bradford bus.

5) APPERLEY BRIDGE CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The walk starts just a few yards from the Stansfield Arms pub, which dates back to 1543, though it was not known by its current name until the 1750s when the Stansfield family acquired Esholt Hall (situated about half a mile or so from the pub) from the Calverley family. You will also pass the George and Dragon pub, which, like the Stansfield Arms, dates back to the 16th century, when it was originally a farmhouse. Until fairly recently it was famous for having a tree growing through the middle of the building.

During the walk, you will pass Dobson Locks. Built in 1777 and a site of historic interest, the Canal and Rivers Trust has an office here. Next to the locks is a number of old warehouses, which used to house the cargo being transported along the canal. Lock gates were also made here and the buildings housed a blacksmith's, which has been restored and is open to the public.



HERON IN CANAL NEAR APPERLEY BRIDGE

In the 1860s, William Crompton-Stansfield served an injunction against Bradford Corporation over the smell of the river Aire at Esholt, caused by newly laid sewers pumping up to 50 tons of lanolin (sheep's wool fat) every day from the mills into Bradford's waterways. As a mill owner, the Corporation had little sympathy for Crompton-Stansfield, and even attempted a compulsory purchase of the Esholt estate to build a new sewage works. At the time, Esholt lay outside the Bradford Boundary, so Stansfield won the case and new sewage works was built in Frizinghall.

It soon became evident that these works also could not cope with the amount of sewage coming through them. When Bradford's boundaries were extended to include Esholt the Corporation bought the estate from Crompton-Stansfield's granddaughters and work started on building a new sewage works, which is still in use today.

In 1866, the River Aire at Apperley Bridge Viaduct burst its banks, causing the foundations of the viaduct to crumble. Luckily, no lives were lost as a result of this, due to the quick actions of railway staff.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 2 MILES



Please note - sections of this route are prone to flooding.

The walk starts and finishes at the junction of Harrogate Road and Apperley Road, next to the hand car wash.

Head along Apperley Road and cross over Old Apperley Bridge. The bridge was built in 1602, but the original bridge dated back to the 11th century. Across the bridge is the George and Dragon pub.

Stay on the opposite side to the George and Dragon and walk straight ahead, passing the buildings of Elm Tree Farm on your right. Continue along the road until you reach a footpath over a stile on the right. Pass through the stile and continue ahead a few yards until you reach another stile, which takes you onto a farm track. Follow the track for a hundred yards or so until you reach a stile over the fence to the right. Once over

the fence, follow the path ahead as it goes up a slight slope, then drops down to a little bridge over a stream. You now enter a large field, usually home to a number of horses. Follow the path through the middle of the field, crossing a number of stiles on the way.

At the far side of the field, you will reach a gate with a small gap by the side of it, directly in front of a railway bridge. A hundred yards or so to the left, the railway passes over the river, via Apperley Bridge Viaduct.

After passing under the railway, you will enter a large open field, turn left and in the distance, you will see the turrets of a suspension bridge over the river. Head towards this, and as you get nearer, you will see a fence with a stile. Climb over the stile and head straight ahead a couple of yards or so, then climb over a second stile. You will then come to a path, turn left and follow it as it climbs up a short steep hill through a wooded area. (If you wish to explore the Esholt estate, you can turn right, cross the river via the suspension bridge and head into the woods.)

After a hundred yards or so, the path comes out onto the towpath of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Turn left here and walk along the towpath. (If you wish to explore Buck Wood, cross Idle swing bridge, just before the railway bridge.)

On the towpath, pass under the railway bridge and after a quarter of a mile you will reach Dobson Locks.

Continue down past the locks and the lockkeeper's cottages. A couple of hundred yards further along the towpath cross Apperley Road and continue along the towpath, past Apperley Bridge Marina and playing fields. When you reach the next bridge, leave the towpath and walk onto Harrogate Road. Turn left and head down the pavement to where you started the walk.



HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 Flyer bus to Harrogate from Bradford Interchange get off at Apperley Road, opposite Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields.

From Shipley and Baildon: 60 Leeds bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at Greengates and walk down Harrogate Road to Apperley Road (about a quarter of a mile), or catch the A2 Flyer bus and get off at Apperley Road, opposite Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields.

From Keighley and Bingley: 60 Leeds bus, get off at Greengates and walk down Harrogate Road to Apperley Road (about a quarter of a mile), or catch the A2 Flyer bus and get off at Apperley Road, opposite Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Guiseley, then A2 Flyer bus to Bradford and get off at Apperley Road, at Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields and cross over the road to the hand car wash and the start of the walk

6) WOODLANDS CIRCULAR VIA APPERLEY BRIDGE AND RAWDON

HISTORY OF THE AREA

Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields, where this walk begins, host Bradford City Football club practice sessions. In the early part of the 20th century, the fields played host to an airfield along with a hangar, owned by the Northern Aero Syndicate, formed by Albert House, an engineer from Bradford. The hangar was situated on what is now the playing fields car park and the aircraft took off and landed on a grass strip (now football pitches).

Woodhouse Grove School, which also uses these fields, was founded in the early 19th century to serve as a Methodist school for the north of England. It initially provided an education for the sons of the itinerant ministers in service of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the north of England, with the original name of The Wesleyan Academy. The school now accepts both boys and girls from all backgrounds.

BUCKSTONE HALL



During the walk, you will pass through Spite and Malice ginnel. It is said that the building of the ginnel came about after a dispute in the 19th century between the Ripleys, who owned Acacia House (now demolished) to the left, and the Briggses of Cliffe Cottage to the right, and was a result of each trying to build a higher boundary wall to prevent the other from spying on them.

The walk takes in Cliffe Drive. This Drive, along with Wood Drive and Woodlands Drive (that run parallel with Cliffe Drive), were laid out in the 1850s by Nathaniel Briggs, with lodge houses at each of the entrances. He created an estate of large mansion like houses on plots of land, each no less than seven acres. Bradford's wool barons occupied many of these houses.

One of these lodge houses is Buckstone Hall, also known as Little Windsor, due to its castle like appearance and striking tower. William Dewhirst, a Bradford mill owner, originally lived here, and Sir Arthur Croft bought the property in the 1920s. He owned Croft's engineering in Thornbury, where Morrisons is now sited. The house became a country club and casino in the 1960s, but is now divided into four apartments.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 4 MILES



Start the walk at the car park of Rawdon Meadows Playing Fields, next to the River Aire. Follow the riverside path as it skirts round the edge of the playing fields, with the river to your right.

After a third of a mile or so, the path passes under a railway bridge, then past another playing field on the left. A little further along the path from the playing field, climb over the stile to the left and follow the well-defined path across the field. The path leads to a stile over a stone wall and enters a narrow double fenced pathway that runs alongside the playing field you passed earlier on the river bank.

After a short steady climb, you will reach Woodlands Drive. Turn right and follow the road until it bends to the right. Follow the smaller road straight ahead, leading up to Acacia Farm; you will soon pass Acacia Cottage on your left. Follow the walled lane to the left; after passing several bramble bushes, the track veers to the left and starts to climb uphill into a wooded area. Here the walls on either side of the path double and even treble in height: this is Spite and Malice ginnel.

The ginnel comes out onto Wood Drive; cross the drive and head up the walled lane. After a hundred yards or so, you will come onto Cliffe Drive; turn right and walk down the horse chestnut lined drive. Passing Buckstone Hall about a quarter of a mile along, continue along the driveway until you come to a T-junction, and carry on straight ahead, over a stile into a field.

Follow the well-defined path as it crosses diagonally through the field. At the bottom of the field climb over the stile and cross the road, then go straight ahead and follow the path that runs down between a wall and fence next to a field.

At the bottom of the field, turn left down a flight of steps, and after a few yards the path joins a track through a wooded area. After a short while, you will reach a crossroads; follow the surfaced road downhill. After a few yards, you will reach a house on your left, within a fenced garden. Here you will come to a T-junction; turn left and follow the path as it passes alongside the garden fence. Continue along this path until you are back on the riverbank and after half a mile or so you will be back by the railway bridge. Retrace your steps back to the start of the walk.



HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 Flyer bus towards Harrogate from Bradford Interchange, get off at Apperley Road.

From Shipley and Baildon: 60 Leeds bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at Greengates and walk down Harrogate Road to Apperley Road (about a quarter of a mile), or catch the A2 Flyer bus and get off at Apperley Road.

From Keighley and Bingley: 60 Leeds bus, get off at Greengates and walk down Harrogate Road to Apperley Road (about a quarter of a mile), or catch the A2 Flyer bus and get off at Apperley Road.

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Guiseley, then A2 Flyer bus to Bradford, get off at Apperley Road.

7) RAVENSCLIFFE WOODS CIRCULAR, VIA WOODHALL LAKE

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The walk passes alongside Ravenscliffe Mills, which was built in 1872 by James Harper. The mill specialised in the manufacture of cloth for military uniforms, firstly the red tunics, worn by the British army in the Anglo-Zulu war, changing to the khaki uniforms during the Boer Wars. The mill closed in 1957, and the building has been converted into several industrial units.

Ravenscliffe Road, where the walk starts, is an old packhorse route, and the main path that we follow through the woods is a continuation of the route, known locally as the Jockey Path.

The walk takes you round Woodhall Lake, known locally as 'The Blue Lagoon'. The lake and surrounding woodland are part of the West Leeds Country Park nature trail, a 20-mile circular trail running from Leeds city centre. Several species of waterfowl can be spotted on the lake and in

spring, there is an abundance of frogspawn. The lake was created in the 1840s by a Bradford banker, merchant and Quaker, Daniel Peckover, who lived at the then nearby Woodhall Grange.

Towards the Fagley end of Ravenscliffe Woods, straddling Fagley Beck, is the site of a Medieval ironworks; there is also evidence of charcoal pits on the site, which would have been used to fuel the iron works.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 4 ½ MILES

The walk starts at the junction of New Line, Carr Road, Clara Drive, and Ravenscliffe Road, at the border of Greengates and Calverley. Walk down Ravenscliffe Road until you reach a metal barrier at the end of the road outside Ravenscliffe Mills. Follow the footpath sign here and enter Ravenscliffe Woods. Follow the main track (the Jockey Path) through the woods for about ¾ mile.

The track eventually passes at the side of a lodge, one of four built by the Thornhill Trustees in the area in the 1850s. The Trustees' intention was to build luxury dwellings, similar to those built across the valley in the Woodlands Estate. Unfortunately, the scheme did not take off and all that remains are three of the driveways and three of the four lodges.

After passing the lodge on your right hand side, you will see the remains of the Blue Pig pub (formerly known as the Ravenscliffe Arms). The name is thought to have originated because a former landlord kept a variety of pig, known as blue pigs. The pub was also locally renowned around the time of the Second World War for selling watercress, which grew in abundance in nearby Fagley Beck.

After passing the lodge, cross the tarmacked road, pass another metal barrier, and follow the track (Woodhall Road). Continue along the trackway for several hundred yards, until just before you reach the remains of a disused railway bridge. This is what remains of a branch line that connected Laisterdyke (and the Bradford to Leeds line) with Windhill (and the Aire Valley line) and had stations at Eccelshill, Idle and Thackley. Passenger service on the line ceased in February 1931, but goods traffic and excursions continued on the whole line until October 1964, and between Shipley and Idle until 1968.

At this point of the walk, take the marked footpath to the left. The path runs alongside a hedgerow on your left, which in the autumn is full of blackberries, rosehips, and hawthorn berries. Continue along this pathway as it gradually climbs uphill and ends at a gap through a stone wall. Go through the gap and you are now on a walled lane; turn left here and walk down the lane for a several yards.

As the walled track opens up, follow the footpath sign over the stile to the right, where you will enter an open field with a well-defined path. Head for the stile in the wall at the far end of the field. Once over it you will enter a wooded area; turn left here and follow the path through the trees, until you come to a sign for the lake. Follow this path and it will lead you to Woodhall Lake, locally known as 'The Blue Lagoon'.

Once at the lakeside, walk around the lake in an anti–clockwise direction. At the bottom end of the lake, turn right when you see a bench and waste bin, and follow the path through the woods. After a couple of hundred yards turn right, and follow the path into a meadow, with the grounds of a house to your right. Continue along the path to the far side of the meadow and a trackway running left to right. Turn right and follow the track for several yards, then turn left along a less defined path, leading to a gateway and into a field. Follow the path down the edge of the field, keeping the hedgerow on your right.

At the far end of the field, pass through the gate, turn right, go through the gap in the wall, enter the golf course, and carefully follow the path across it. The path leads to a gap in the wall, into a walled lane in a wooded area. Follow the lane for several yards, passing a disused quarry area on your right, until you reach a footpath sign. Turn left here and follow the path down a narrow lane with brambles and blackthorn bushes on either side. This is good place to collect sloe berries and blackberries.

At the bottom of the lane, go through a gap in the wall and onto a wide track: you are back on Woodhall Road. Turn left and follow the track downhill until you reach the Lodge you passed earlier in the walk. Turn right, go through the barrier back into Ravenscliffe Woods, and retrace your steps back along the Jockey Path to Ravenscliffe Road.


WOODHALL LAKE

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 Flyer bus towards Harrogate, get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, walk along New Line to the junction with Ravenscliffe Road.

From Shipley and Baildon: 60 Leeds bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at Greengates, get off at the 2nd stop after the Greengates traffic lights (the one after Asda), walk along New Line to the junction with Ravenscliffe Road.

From Keighley and Bingley: 60 Leeds bus and follow the same directions as from Shipley.

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Guiseley then A2 Flyer bus to Bradford, get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, walk along New Line to the junction with Ravenscliffe Road.

8) CALVERLEY WOODS CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The walk begins at one of the lodges built by the Thornhill Trustees, mentioned in Walk 6. Two of the grand driveways that were built through the woods are named after daughters of Thomas Thornhill, Clara and Eleanor. The third driveway was known as Calverley Cutting, which replaced an old packhorse track (parts of which can still be seen in the woods).

The walk passes Champion House, the only house built as part of the 1850s luxury houses scheme. The house was built for the Garnett family, local mill owners, was set in several acres of woodland and included a walled garden and a lake. A large portion of these grounds is now within West Wood, which is managed by the Woodland trust and open to the public. Champion House itself is now a private care home.

Midway round the walk are the remains of a series of buildings; built in the 1930s, these were used by troops in the second world war for D-Day training. They were also briefly used to house Italian POWs, who dug the drainage ditches for the Fagley and Ravenscliffe housing estates. In the 1950s, the buildings housed Guy's Fireworks Factory for a number of years until 1957, when a fatal explosion closed the factory.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 2 ¾ MILES

The walk starts opposite where Walk 7 starts, at the junction of New Line, Carr Road, Clara Drive, and Ravenscliffe Road, at the border of Greengates and Calverley. Walk along Clara Drive and veer left onto Eleanor Drive, along a wide track in a wooded area. After a couple of hundred yards, on the right, another wide track joins the one you are on. If you have time, have a wander on here for a couple of hundred yards, as it leads onto the remains of an old, drained boating lake, that was once in the gardens of Champion House.

Back on the main path, follow it as it continues to fall gently downhill. There are a number of beech trees either side of the path and in autumn, the changing leaves provide some vivid colours. At the bottom of the hill, Eleanor Drive joins the bottom of Calverley Cutting, where Thornhill Lodge once stood, which was known locally as the Needle's Eye. One of four lodges built to mark the entrances to the planned housing development of the 1850s, it was demolished in the 1960s after being derelict for several years.

Where the two tracks meet, turn right towards the start of Thornhill Drive and walk along it, passing a couple of grand Victorian houses. The tarmacked road ends as you enter the woods and becomes an uneven, wide path. There are a number of other little tracks joining this main path as you continue on which if you have time are well worth exploring, as they lead to several stone carvings, carved by a local artist, but care is also needed as some do lead to a number of quarries which are around the woods.

After a quarter of a mile or so, the path turns slightly to the right and starts to climb uphill. When you come to a T-junction, turn right and pass the ruins of the old firework factory, which can be seen in and amongst the brambles on either side of the path. After a few hundred yards, when you reach a metal gate and a stile, go through and enter Clara Drive. You will pass a number of houses that were built during the 20th century.

After walking along the driveway for a third of a mile or so, on the right hand side, you will pass the entrance to Champion House.

Continue along the drive for a couple of hundred yards, until you arrive back at the Lodge and the end of the walk.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 Flyer bus to Harrogate, get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, then walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.

From Shipley and Baildon: 60 Leeds bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at the 2nd stop after the Greengates traffic lights (the one after Asda) and walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.

From Keighley and Bingley: 60 Leeds bus and follow the same directions as from Shipley.

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Guiseley, then the A2 Flyer bus towards Bradford and get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, then walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.

VIEW OVER LEEDS, FROM WOODHALL HILLS



9) RAVENSCLIFFE TO CALVERLEY AND BACK

HISTORY OF THE AREA

During the walk you can take a little detour to Calverly Hall (See walk directions). Now a holiday let, parts of this Grade I listed building date from the 15th Century and was the home of the Calverley Family. The house and grounds are reputed to be haunted by Walter Calverley, who lived in the Hall in the late 16th century. The Thornhill's took over the manorship of Calverley, and you will see many references to them throughout the village (in street names and the pub).

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 5 MILES

The walk starts at the junction of New Line, Carr Road, Clara Drive, and Ravenscliffe Road, at the border of Greengates and Calverley. Walk down Ravenscliffe Road until you reach a metal barrier at the end of the road, outside Ravenscliffe Mills; follow the footpath sign here and you will enter Ravenscliffe Woods. Follow the main track (the Jockey Path) through the woods, for about ¾ mile. There are numerous smaller paths leading off into the woods that are worth exploring when you have time.

The track passes at the side of a lodge, one of four lodges built by the Thornhill Trustees, mentioned in Walks 7 and 8. Once past the lodge, turn left up Woodhall Lane, an uneven track. The track climbs uphill, passing what was Woodhall (Fagley) quarry, long since abandoned and now filled in.

After several hundred yards, next to a telegraph pole, go through a small gap in the wall on the left, and follow the path up a narrow lane with brambles and blackthorn bushes on either side. This is good place to collect sloe berries and blackberries in the late summer / early autumn. When you come to a T-junction, turn left and follow the pathway up to a gateway. Go through the gate and you arrive at the hamlet of Woodhall Hills. The buildings are now all residential, but they date back to the 18th century and beyond, and once included shops, a pub and a smithy.

After passing these houses, cross over Woodhall Road and turn right. After a few yards go through the gap in the wall and into a field. On a clear day, you will have a panoramic view across Leeds and out towards the Vale of York (with Ferrybridge Power Station in the distance) and there is a panel explaining what can be seen.

From here follow the path as it starts to climb gently down the hillside, firstly crossing a foot-golf course (a cross between football and golf) and through a couple of fields. At the bottom of the fields, go through the metal gate and along a short narrow path between a hedge and a garden fence. This brings you out onto Priesthorpe Lane, a wide trackway. Turn left and follow the lane for just a few yards, then turn left down another lane, with laurel bushes growing to either side. Follow it until you reach a crossroads (only a few yards). Head straight ahead here and follow the track as it passes a building on your right and dips downhill.

This track is known as Shell Lane, because lightweight coffins, known as shells, were carried along here from Pudsey, to be buried in the graveyard at Calverley. Continue along the lane for about half a mile or so, until at the bottom of a wooded incline you reach a metal gate and come out onto a residential road, also called Shell Lane. Turn left here and follow it to the junction with Woodhall Road. Cross over the road.

If you take a detour to the right here, after just a few yards, on your left you will pass the front of Calverley Hall.



Back on Woodhall Road, turn left and then turn right down Thornhill Road. At the bottom of Thornhill Road, cross over Leeds Road, then walk down Wood Lane. Follow the lane down to the lodge, another of the remaining lodges. Turn left and follow the wide track through the wooded area for about a third of a mile, until reaching a gate. Go through onto Clara Drive and follow this until you reach its junction with Ravenscliffe Road, and the end of the walk.

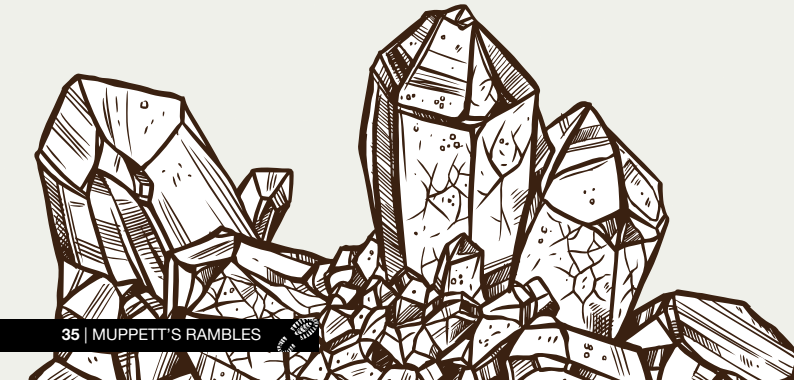
HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford: A2 Flyer bus towards Harrogate, get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, then walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.

From Shipley and Baildon: 60 Leeds bus from Shipley Market Square, get off at the 2nd stop after Greengates traffic lights (the one after Asda), walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.

From Keighley and Bingley: 60 Leeds Bus and follow the same directions as from Shipley.

From Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Guiseley, then the A2 Flyer bus towards Bradford, get off at the nearest stop to Greengates traffic lights, walk along New Line to the junction with Clara Drive.





MORTON BECK NEAR MICKLETHWAITE

10) MORTON SWING BRIDGE CIRCULAR, VIA FIVE-RISE LOCKS AND MICKLETHWAITE

History of the Area

The Leeds and Liverpool Canal took 46 years to build and cost many times over its original budget, due the route being complicated and lengthy.

The five-rise locks were a major feat of engineering at the time and they are the steepest flight of locks in the UK, with a gradient of about 1:5 (a rise of 59 ft 2 in; a distance of 320 ft). The intermediate and bottom gates are the tallest in the country. 30,000 people turned out to celebrate when they were opened.

The name Micklethwaite comes from the Old Norse ‘mickle’, meaning great or large and ‘thwaite’, meaning a clearing in woodland, hence Micklethwaite literally means ‘great clearing’. The village originated as a Viking settlement in the 10th century, and the Domesday Book gives the name as Muceltoit. The oldest dwelling is Micklethwaite Grange, probably built for Drax Priory in the 13th century, and reconstructed in 1695.

Methodists first held meetings in a cottage in Micklethwaite, and in 1851 moved to a larger room in the malt house at Croft House Farm, which also doubled as a Sunday school. After 21 years of fundraising, work began on a chapel, on land donated by Henry Wright of Beck House. It is said that during its construction, the church’s treasurer absconded and emigrated to America with £170 (worth over £30,000 today) of the funds. The church opened in 1875 and became the focal point of the community. The tradition of baptising with water from a nearby spring continues to this day.



THE WALK
DISTANCE: 3 ¼ MILES

The walk starts on the towpath of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, next to Morton Swing Bridge (as Morton Lane crosses over the Canal). From here, turn right along the towpath, walking toward Bingley. For the first third of a mile or so, on your left hand side behind the hedges, are the grounds of Crossflatts Primary School. These hedges are good for foraging in the late summer months and provide a good source of rosehips, hawthorn berries and blackberries. Continue along the towpath for about a mile until you reach the top of the world famous Five-Rise Locks. Cross the swing bridge. Once over the canal, on your left is the Five-Rise Locks Café, if you have time to call in.

Over the canal, continue straight ahead along the road; as there is no pathway, walk along the right hand side of the road, facing oncoming traffic. After a couple of hundred yards or so, you will come to a crossroads; turn right here along Beck Lane.

After two or three hundred yards, turn left and walk along the signposted footpath, a narrow road, passing a small orchard on your right. After a short distance, go through a metal kissing gate, which is between the gateways of two houses. The path then continues to climb up, eventually coming out onto Gawthorpe Drive, via a flight of steps and through a stile.

Cross Gawthorpe Drive and continue straight ahead along the narrow path between gardens until you come out onto Pinedale, a cul-de-sac. Walk up the pavement to its junction with Oakwood Drive; cross the road and re-join the footpath as it continues uphill through a wooded area. Several hundred yards into the woodland, the path splits; continue straight ahead until you reach some steps, at the top of the steps go through the gate and onto Lady Lane. You are now at the highest point of the walk.

Turn left and walk along Lady Lane, then turn left again and walk down Greenhill Lane until you reach a bad bend in the road. Here carefully cross the road and follow a narrow walled footpath known as Wood Lane. The first part of this path passes alongside the out buildings of Greenhill Mews and can be overgrown in summer, so be careful of the nettles. The path runs along the hillside and after a while starts to climb, bearing right, and then levels out again. If you are lucky you may spot a deer or two along this stretch.

After passing through a couple of gates, the path comes out onto an access track along the back of Fairlady Farm. As you are passing the buildings, look out for a sculpture of a soldier on your left, just off the track way.

Where the track turns sharply to the left, head straight ahead and over a stile, through a field and over another stile, onto Carr Lane, a very steep hill on the edge of the village of Micklethwaite. Head down the hill, through the village, then turn sharp right to go down past the Methodist Church onto Beck Lane.

Just past the church, turn sharp left in front of a gate leading to Rose Cottage. Follow the stone paved track downhill; after a short distance, it bears right and comes to a gateway with a stile. Go over the stile and continue along the track and over the next gate and stile, into a field. Follow the path that runs alongside a wall on your left, until you reach a stile at the bottom left hand side of the field. Once over the stile turn right and follow the fence line on your right for about 100 yards. Here the path divides; turn left through the stone stile into a field. Follow the path down to a stile at the bottom right hand corner of the field. Climb over it and you will enter a wooded area, with Morton Beck on your right.

After a few hundred yards, the path turns a sharp right and goes across a bridge over Morton Beck. Cross the bridge and continue along the path. After a short distance the path joins a surfaced path which crosses from left to right. Turn left along this surfaced path and walk until you reach a stile in a wall that comes out onto Morton Lane. Turn left and

walk the last few yards along the road (no pavement) to reach Morton Swing Bridge and the end of the walk.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford and Bingley: 662 Keighley Shuttle bus, get off at Keighley Road / Croft Street stop (the stop after passing Crossflatts Cricket Ground), cross the road, turn right and walk along the pavement until you reach the Tesco Store on your left. Turn left up Morton Lane and walk up the hill until you reach the canal and the start of the walk.

From Shipley: 60 Bus towards Keighley, get off at Keighley Road / Croft Street stop (the stop after passing Crossflatts Cricket Ground), then follow the directions as above.

From Keighley: 662 Bradford Shuttle bus, get off at the Keighley Road / Croft Street stop (the stop after the roundabout to the Aire Valley Trunk Road) and then follow the directions as above.

From Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: train to Shipley, then 60 Bus towards Keighley, get off at Keighley Road / Croft Street stop (the stop after passing Crossflatts Cricket Ground), then follow the directions as above.

11) HAINWORTH BRIDGE (KEIGHLEY) TO HAWORTH

HISTORY OF THE AREA

A short way into the walk, you will pass over the famous Keighley and Worth Valley Railway. The line originally opened in 1867, funded mainly by local mill owners. It connected Keighley with the villages of Oakworth, Haworth and Oxenhope. The branch closed in 1962 under the Beeching Cuts, after which the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway Preservation Society was formed.

The Society reopened the branch line from Keighley to Oxenhope in June 1968, just weeks before steam finally ended on British Railways in August of the same year. Since then it was been a very popular tourist

attraction and is regularly used as locations for television series and films, including The Railway Children, Peaky Blinders, Channel 5's All Creatures Great and Small, Brideshead Revisited, The ABC Murders, and Downton Abbey.

The hamlet of Hainworth dates back to Saxon times. Its name means Hagena's Enclosure, and the earliest mention of Hainworth is in the Domesday Book of 1068 as Hageneuuorde. Activity in Hainworth has historically been agriculture, but local involvement in the textile industry gathered momentum from as early as the 16th century. The main packhorse route between Keighley and Halifax was conveniently close as it passed through Hainworth Shaw and Cullingworth, allowing convenient access to the cloth market at Halifax (later the Piece Hall). The expansion of Hainworth was curtailed by the introduction of steam-powered looms to the Keighley and the Worth Valley in the 1830s.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 4 ½ MILES



The walk starts in Keighley at the traffic lights at the junction of South Street and Hainworth Road (a few yards from the Hope and Anchor Pub). Head down Hainworth Road, cross the bridge over the River Worth, and start climbing the hill, passing over the Keighley and Worth Valley railway. Continue up the hill until you reach a crossroads; head straight ahead, passing the Hainworth Wood Community Centre on your left.

A few yards past the Centre, turn right and head up along a rough track into Hainworth Woods. Continue up this rough track until it emerges out of the woods, passes Ingrow Cricket Ground on your right, and joins Hainworth Lane, a cobbled road. Turn left and walk up the hill; there is no pavement, so walk on the right hand side, in single file, facing the oncoming traffic. After a few yards, you will reach the picturesque hamlet of Hainworth.

In the centre of the hamlet, there is a small green on the right hand side and a side road heading to what was a school (now a private dwelling), walk along here, passing several 18th century cottages. After a short

while the tarmac gives way to a rough track, continue along it as it gets narrower for a while and it can be muddy when wet. The track continues for about a mile and then it joins Bingley Road.

At this junction, turn right and follow the road. There is no pavement, so walk on the right hand side facing the oncoming traffic. Continue along the road into the village of Cross Roads and Lees, until you come out onto Halifax Road opposite the Cross Roads Inn. Seemingly, this was one of Branwell Brontë's (brother of the Brontë sisters) favourite drinking haunts.

From here walk up to the road junction and turn left (up Halifax Road). Continue along the pavement for a couple of hundred yards, then cross over and head along the track signposted as Worth Way. The track winds its way to the side of a cottage and then becomes a footpath. Pass by the side of the cottage and start to climb up a steep hill for several yards.

The path returns to a track; outside a cottage, continue straight ahead for several more yards until it meets Brow Top Road. Cross the road, and directly opposite the track you have just come up is a path, follow it as it crosses a stretch of open moorland known as Brow Moor. When visibility is good, there are panoramic views, across Haworth and up onto the moors around Top Withins and heading over to Lancashire.

After half a mile or so, the path starts dropping downhill and eventually comes onto a road. Turn right here, being careful as there is no pavement on this stretch. After a couple of hundred yards, pass through a gap in the wall on your left, and follow the path down through the steep field, towards a wooded area. At the top of the wood go through a wooden gate and follow the path.

After a few yards, the path comes out onto Hebden Road. Cross over and, almost opposite, head through a stile by a footpath sign and gate, and then follow the track down the hillside. When you reach a T-junction, with a derelict building on your right, turn right and follow the path as it heads down to the beck side.

After a short while, the path crosses over a metal bridge, underneath which is the remnants of a goit, a manmade water channel that usually carried water to a mill (the mill in this case can be seen at the end of the walk).

Over the bridge turn left and follow the path alongside the remains of the goit, through a couple of fields, until it finally goes through a little passage way and out onto the bottom of Brow Road, with Bridgehouse Mill to the left. Built in 1790, the Mill was the first water-powered textile mill built in Haworth, and the largest, producing worsted yarn. The building now houses manufacturing units and residential flats.

The walk finishes here, but feel free the explore the historic village of Haworth and try out its many eateries, tea rooms, cafes and pubs.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford, Shipley or Bingley: 662 Keighley Shuttle bus, get off at Keighley Bus Station, or Skipton train, get off at Keighley. From Keighley bus station either the 67 Bradford bus, the B1 Stanbury bus, the B2 Oakworth Bus or the B3 Hebden Bridge Bus, and get off at the traffic lights at the junction of Woodhouse Lane and South Street (stop after the Hope and Anchor pub).

From Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: Bradford train, get off at Shipley, then Skipton train, get off at Keighley. Then follow instructions above from Keighley bus station.

Coming back from Haworth get either the B1, B2 or B3 bus to Keighley and then catch the same service (bus or train) that you did to get to Keighley.



12) KEIGHLEY TRAIN STATION CIRCULAR VIA PARK WOODS, THWAITES BROW AND DALTON MILLS

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The walk starts and finishes outside Keighley railway station, part of which is the terminus of the Keighley Worth Valley railway, which runs heritage steam and diesel trains five miles up the Worth Valley to Oxenhope. More information on its history can be found in the previous walk.

The walk passes through an area of woodland known as Park Wood, once owned by the Duke of Devonshire, who also owned large areas of land both round Keighley and in the Yorkshire Dales, including the Bolton Abbey estate. In 1928 he gave the woods to the people of Keighley. Parts of the wood are classed as ancient woodland, which is woodland that has existed continuously since 1600. A survey conducted on behalf of the Friends of Park Wood, showed a number of old wells and signs of quarrying and charcoal making, dating back to the medieval times.

The walk passes Dalton Mills, built in 1869 by Joseph Craven, an industrialist. The mill employed over 2000 workers, making it the largest textile mill in Yorkshire at the time. During the 20th century, and the decline of the textile industry in Yorkshire, the mill became derelict. In 2004, John Craven, the great-great-grandson of Joseph Craven, sold the mill for use as business units, and the building has also been used as a film and television set for productions such as Peaky Blinders and Downton Abbey. In March 2022, a fire damaged the entire building and completely destroyed the interior and the roof. An inspection conducted by Historic England has confirmed that structure of the mill is stable and it will not need to be demolished, but as of April 2022 the building's future has yet to be decided.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 3 ½ MILES

With your back to the railway station, turn left, and then left again down Low Mill Lane, passing the station car park on your left. Cross over the river and go under the railway bridge, then cross over the road and start to walk up the cobbled hill, locally known as the Donkey Hill.

After a few yards take a snicket to your left, the first few yards are quite steep and you go up several wooden steps that are in bad repair. The snicket comes out onto Parkwood Street; cross here, and turn left then right up Tyne Street. At the top of the street head straight ahead to a gate, enter into Park Wood, and walk up the cobbled pathway.

Eventually the cobbled path ends, but continue straight ahead up the hill, following the well-defined pathway. At the top of the hill, you will reach the edge of the woods; continue ahead and along a snicket, and out onto Dale View Grove. Cross over and continue straight ahead along another snicket, which brings you out onto Spring Avenue. Cross over and follow another snicket, passing between a number of back gardens, and out onto Calton Road. Cross the road and follow the snicket that runs alongside the back of the church grounds. This emerges onto a back street; walk straight ahead until you reach Thwaites Brow Road.

Turn left here and head down the hill, passing the bus terminus and the park (built on what was once a small quarry). The road surface changes here, the tarmac giving way to cobbles. This part of the road is known locally as The Twines; it becomes quite steep and has a couple of hairpin bends. There are good views across the valley to Riddlesden and East Morton.

At the bottom of the hill, the area becomes industrialised and you will pass a number of industrial units. Keep on the main road and cross over the railway line continuing now down a lesser gradient, until you reach the roundabout of the very busy Aire Valley trunk road. Turn left along the footpath and go through the underpass. When you come out on the other side, head down Aireworth Road and cross over the River Worth.

After crossing Aireworth Bridge, turn left along Aireworth Grove. At the end of the Grove follow the pathway under the Aire Valley trunk road, and then follow the tarmacked path that runs alongside the river. The pathway eventually comes out onto a road, with a number of industrial buildings alongside. Turn left and walk along until it meets Dalton Lane, and then turn right. Opposite here is Dalton Mills.

Cross over the road and continue along Dalton Lane, passing Keighley College on your left. At the junction with Bradford Road, turn left and walk the few yards up to Keighley Railway Station and the end of the walk.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford, Shipley or Bingley: 662 Keighley Shuttle bus, get off outside Keighley railway station, or get the Skipton train from Bradford Forster Square and get off at Keighley.

From Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: Bradford Train, get off at Shipley, then get the Skipton train and get off at Keighley.



13) CROSS ROADS WITH LEES TO RED HOLT

HISTORY OF THE AREA

The village of Cross Roads with Lees is made up of the hamlets of Bocking, Barcroft, Sugden End, Bingley Road, and Lees. These hamlets merged into a single village with the building of the Keighley to Halifax turnpike in 1760, now at the junction of Halifax Road and Haworth Road.

As you walk down Damems Road, you will pass over a disused railway; this is part of what was known as the Queensbury lines, which linked Bradford, Halifax and Keighley, via Queensbury. The lines were built in the 1860s and 1870s, and for some time the network was busy, but all traffic on the line ceased in 1974.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 3 MILES

Start the walk on Halifax Road, opposite the Cross Roads Inn. From here, head up Albert Street, and at the top of the hill follow a footpath sign named the Senior Way. Follow this as it goes along a snicket at the back of a row of houses, and after a short way it opens up into open ground; turn left here and continue up the hill.

After a short walk, you will arrive at a driveway; turn right here and head towards a series of buildings. The driveway now becomes a farm track, but is still part of the Senior Way, a 9 ½-mile route that encircles the village of Cullingworth. The route is named after the late Mr Ron Senior, who was a founder member of the Cullingworth Paths Association.

Continue along the farm track as it climbs down the hillside. After around a 1/3 mile, you will reach a crossroads. Take the left track through a wooded area, and after a few yards, you will pass a row of cottages on your left. Just past the cottages, the track reaches a stile. Go through this into a field, and the track becomes a path. Continue straight-ahead, keeping the wall to your left, passing through several fields.

After ½ mile or so, the path slopes downhill to a stream and wooded area, and onto a walled track. Follow this to the road. Cross over the road, turn left and walk uphill on the road's edge. As there is no pavement, walk on the right side, facing traffic. Once you have passed a driveway on your left, pass through a small gap in the wall to the left, into a field. Walk straight-ahead, keeping the wall to your left, until you reach a gate onto a driveway.

Once on the driveway, turn right and follow it past a farmhouse on the left. Beyond the farmhouse, turn left through a gateway, with footpath sign, into a field. Turn left again and walk up the edge of the field, keeping the wall on your right. At the top of the field go through the tight gap in the wall and enter the next field. Continue up the edge of the field to the top, go through the stile and onto the road.

On the road, turn left and walk along the side of the road, being careful as there is no pavement. Turn right up the farm track and follow it up the hill until you reach a collection of farm buildings, where the track peters out and becomes a path. Here you will have a good view across the Worth Valley to Bracken Bank, Laycock and Steeton Moor.

Walk down the hillside and after a third of a mile or so, you will meet a main track way running left to right (the path that runs from Hainworth to Cross Roads). Head straight ahead and continue down the hill. After a few hundred yards, you will meet another track running left to right. Continue straight ahead and downhill. Eventually the path turns into a track and passes a number of dwellings before finally coming out onto Halifax Road, at a row of cottages known as Hermit Hole. Named this because, in the dim and distant past, a hermit is said to have lived in the vicinity, prior to the cottages being built.

Cross over the road and walk down the hill a couple of hundred yards until you reach Damems Road. Turn left down this unmade road, and at the bottom of the hill turn right and head along the track, passing a collection of smallholdings on your left.

After a couple of hundred yards look out for a gap in the wall and a metal barrier on your left. Go through and follow the path through a wooded area and then along the riverbank. Further on, the path leads on to Rye Street and you pass a number of houses. Continue along the road until you come back onto Halifax Road.

Here the walk finishes and you can either walk into Keighley town centre (about a mile away), by continuing along Halifax Road / South Street, or by catching a bus (the bus stop is just a few yards away from the end of the walk).

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford, Shipley or Bingley: 662 Keighley Shuttle bus, get off at Keighley Bus Station, or the Skipton train, get off at Keighley. Then from Keighley bus station either the 67 Bradford bus, the B1 Stanbury bus, the B2 Oakworth bus or the B3 Hebden Bridge bus, and get off at the Cross Roads Inn

From Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: Bradford train, get off at Shipley, then the Skipton train and get off at Keighley. From Keighley bus station, either the 67 Bradford bus, the B1 Stanbury bus, the B2 Oakworth bus or the B3 Hebden Bridge bus, and get off at the Cross Roads Inn.



14) JUDY WOODS CIRCULAR

HISTORY OF THE AREA

If you had been in the area around this walk 150 years ago, the surrounding countryside would have looked a lot different than it does now. The Low Moor Ironworks, built in 1791, created a lot of waste and air pollution around the area. This site was chosen as it was rich in high-quality iron ore and low-sulphur coal. From 1801 until 1957, it made wrought iron products that were exported around the world, and was once the largest ironworks in Yorkshire.

During the walk, you pass Royds Hall Manor. A building has existed on this site for 800 years and during that time only a handful of families have lived there. The Rookes family were the first tenants from 1313, living there for almost 500 years until Edward Rookes died in 1788. The Reverend Joseph Dawson then purchased the estate through the Low Moor Iron Company. He trained as a scientist and was the chief technologist of the company. Dawson's friend Joseph Priestley was a frequent visitor. During his time staying at the Manor, Priestley discovered oxygen, and it is thought that he carried out many of his experiments here.

Harry Sugden then bought the hall in 1932 from the Company. Then in 1975 Sir Ernest Hall, who owned the Dean Clough arts complex in Halifax bought the place. He lived there until he sold it to the current owners in 2003.

In the middle of Judy Woods is an old packhorse bridge known as Judy Brig and some say it is haunted by a headless horseman.

Near to the Brig, back in the Victorian times, lived the North family, in a cottage, now demolished, which had a public garden and a shop selling homemade ginger beer, pop and parkin pigs. Postcards were printed depicting Judy Brig and the spot became a popular resort.

The most noted member of the North family was Mrs. North, better known as 'Gurt Judy'. It is from her that the woods take their popular name.

THE WALK
DISTANCE: 3 MILES

The walk starts at the bus stop on Woodside Road, by St. Mark's Church, Low Moor. Cross over Woodside Road, walk up Park Bottom and pass between the two large gates posts. Here the road divides three ways; head straight ahead through the gap at the left hand side of the field gate. Once through this, follow the rough track as it heads gradually uphill, heading towards the large electricity pylon. Just beyond the pylon, you will pass Park Dam (or Royds Hall Dam) on your right. This was originally built as a holding reservoir for the Low Moor Ironworks, which was sited close by.

From here, continue following the track as it bears to the left, still climbing up the hill. At the top, go through a gap at the left hand side of a gate, and you will join a wide rough surfaced road, which runs from left to right. Turn right here, and after a short while the surface changes to tarmac as you pass between the buildings of Royd Hall Manor and Royds Hall Farm.

Follow the short section of surfaced road, and then turn right when you meet a T-junction. Walk on here for only a yard or two before turning left off the road to go through the narrow stile in the stone wall on your left. Once over and into the field, the path divides; follow the path that bears slightly to the right across the field, heading for the stone wall which can be seen at the far end of the field.



At the wall go through the stile, and in the next field follow the path straight ahead, keeping the dry stone wall on your right. After about 150 yards or so, when the wall ends, continue following the obvious path by crossing the foundations of an old wall, and continue again straight ahead, walking alongside a row of trees.
After about a couple of hundred yards or so (near to an old stone post) several well-worn paths join together. Continue straight ahead, following the well-worn path as it starts its gentle descent down to a field and kissing gate, to the back of some houses, which can be seen ahead. When you reach the gate, turn sharp left to walk along the well-defined path the short distance up the slight climb to the second field and kissing gate.

Go through the kissing gate and into Jagger Park Wood. Follow the very wide path straight ahead as it meanders all the way through the woodland beneath the trees for about a 1 mile.

Eventually the path bears left and continues again for a while before reaching the top of a long flight of wooden steps, which lead down to a footbridge at the bottom, near to a stream. Turn left across the footbridge and walk a short distance before climbing a few stone steps to the left hand side of the stone built bridge, and out through a gap in the wall onto a rough surfaced road.

Turn left and walk a short distance up the rough road, to where it divides at the top of the first steep incline. Here, take the left turn to continue steadily uphill, following the rough road between Old Hanna Wood on your right and the farmland to your left. Eventually the track joins another track, which crosses from left to right; here turn right uphill for about a 1/4 mile until you reach the first track leading off to the right, which is partially blocked by a large stone.



Turn right here to walk along the path towards the two mobile phone masts which can easily be seen ahead. Just beyond the masts, where the track starts to turn right, turn left, crossing a broken down stone wall and into a field. Cross the field straight ahead, heading slightly to the right of the large metal electricity pylon, which can be seen ahead.

Go through a stile in a stone wall and down a few old stone steps, then head downhill across the field, heading towards the pylon to re-join the track you walked up earlier. On reaching the track, turn right downhill to go through the gateways at the bottom and back along Park Bottom to where you started your walk.

HOW TO GET THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Bradford, Bingley and Shipley: 622/623 Eldwick - Scholes bus, via Bradford Interchange, and get off at St Mark's Churchyard, in Low Moor, opposite the walk start point. From Bradford you can also catch the X63 and 363 Bradford to Huddersfield busses and get off on Woodside Road, by St. Mark's Church.

From Baildon, Ilkley and Wharfedale: Bradford Train and get off at Shipley, then walk up to the Market Square and get the 622/623 Eldwick - Scholes bus, or continue to Bradford and get the bus there.



PART 2
FORAGING RECIPES

The ingredients for many of the following recipes can be found at different times of the year on most of the walks described in the first part of this book. Always be sure you can positively identify any plant before you pick it, and never eat any plant if you are unsure what it is and if it is safe. When foraging, ensure you leave plenty for wildlife.

The following link is a good guide for beginners:
www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/foraging

SPRING RECIPES

DANDELION CORDIAL

Ingredients:
As many dandelion flower heads as you can get
1 litre of water
1 kg sugar

Method:
Rinse all the dandelions in a bowl of cold water, and pat them dry using some paper towel (try not to crush them when you do so).
Remove the petals from the bases. You could use a knife for this, but I found that by peeling a little of the green away, I could use my nail to free them from the base. Others pull the petals out from the top, but I did not think this was as fast as other methods.

Place the petals into a saucepan, add 1 litre of cold water and stir. Place the pan on the stove and heat until the water begins to boil, and then remove from the heat and let the mixture steep overnight.

The next day, sieve the mixture to remove all of the petals, pressing the petals in the sieve to remove all of the water. Then place the liquid back into the pan, along with 1 kg of white sugar, and place on a medium

heat until the sugar has dissolved and the liquid has reduced by about a quarter, then remove from the heat and let the syrup cool.

Decant the syrup into sterilized glass bottles for use later; you should have about a litre and a half in total.

Dilute the syrup to taste with cold water or soda water. Syrup is best stored in the fridge and consumed within two weeks.

STINGING NETTLE CRISPS

Pick carefully away from dog walking paths! Wear rubber or latex gloves. Only gather nettles from safe areas. Once cooked, the nettles lose their sting.



Ingredients:
1 bowl stinging nettles, washed well
2 tbsp. olive oil
1 tsp salt
1 tsp black pepper
1 tbsp. sesame seeds (optional)
Other spices, chilli flakes, cumin seeds (optional)

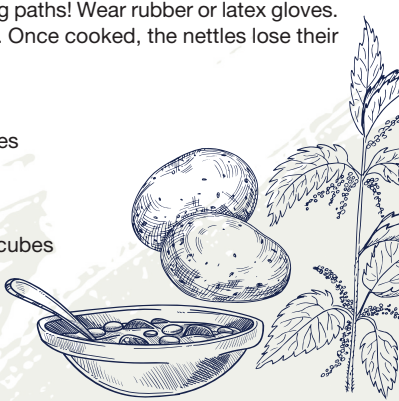
Method:
Cut the top leaves of stinging nettles. Take care. Wash the nettles well.

Mix the other ingredients and coat the nettles in the mixture.
Spread out on a baking tray. No touching! Bake in the oven on a low temperature, 130°c or so for 25 minutes. Turn once.

Remove, let cool and crunch! Really good on top of soup!

STINGING NETTLE AND POTATO SOUP

Pick carefully away from dog walking paths! Wear rubber or latex gloves. Only gather nettles from safe areas. Once cooked, the nettles lose their sting.



Ingredients:
6 cups lightly packed stinging nettles
1/2 tbsp. oil
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
4 medium potatoes, cut into small cubes
5 cups veg. stock
Salt and pepper to taste
1 cup milk

Method:
With rubber or latex gloves, wash and rinse stinging nettles.
Separate the leaves from the stems and keep both piles separately.
Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium heat.

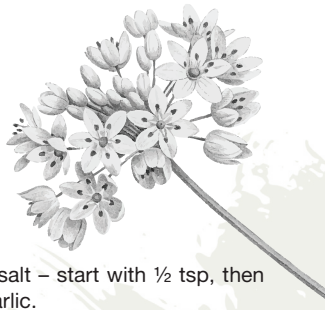
Add onion to pan and cook until starting to soften, about 2 minutes.
Add garlic and potatoes to pan, cook for 5 minutes over medium heat, stirring every minute or so until potatoes begin to stick. Do not allow onion or garlic to brown.

Roughly chop stinging nettle stems and add to pan.
Add stock to pan, bring to the boil, and then simmer for 10 to 15 minutes until potatoes and nettle stems are soft.

Add nettle leaves and milk, and cook until wilted, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat.

Use an immersion / stick blender to puree all ingredients into a smooth soup. Add salt and pepper to taste, and serve.

WILD GARLIC BUTTER



Ingredients:
250g unsalted butter, softened
50g wild garlic leaves, finely chopped
Flaky sea salt, to taste

Method:
Mash the butter in a bowl with some sea salt – start with ½ tsp, then taste before adding more.Stir in the wild garlic.

Using a piece of baking parchment, roll and shape the butter into a log within the parchment, then twist the ends to form a Christmas cracker shape.

Chill until needed. You can freeze the log for a month and cut off slices as needed.

Recipe from BBC Good Food:
www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/wild-garlic-butter

WILD GARLIC PESTO



Ingredients:
100g wild garlic
50g grated Parmesan cheese
50g pine nuts
Olive oil
Lemon juice to taste
Salt and pepper

Method:
Wash the wild garlic and blitz in food processor, until well broken up. Add the Parmesan and mix further.

Add the pine nuts and process further, adding the olive oil to get your desired consistency. Finally add salt, pepper and lemon juice to taste.

ELDERFLOWER CORDIAL

Ingredients:
1 kg sugar
1 litre boiling water
50g citric acid (you can buy this from the home brewing section of Wilko)
or juice 2 large lemons
Zest of 2 large lemons
5 elderflower heads, stalks removed

Method:
Put the sugar in a heatproof bowl with the boiling water and stir to dissolve, creating a syrup. Add the citric acid or lemon juice and the lemon zest.

Shake and rinse the elderflowers to remove any insects and add the flowers to the sugar syrup. Cover and leave to stand for 1-2 days, stirring morning and night.

Strain the elderflower cordial through a muslin cloth and decant into sterilised bottles. The cordial is now ready to use.

Add to water or soda water and ice for a refreshing drink.



ELDERBERRY CORDIAL



Ingredients:
500g of elderberries
500g of water
350g of caster sugar
Rind of 1/2 lemon
1tbsp lemon juice

Method:
Remove the berries from the stems using a fork and wash them, removing any bits of stalk or leaf. Drain the berries and place in a pan along with the lemon rind.

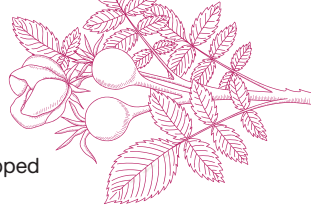
Cover with the water and simmer on a low heat for 30 minutes, until the berries have broken down. Skim away any froth that appears on the surface. Strain the juice through a colander lined with a muslin cloth, set over a bowl.

Gently press the berries to extract as much juice as possible. Return the juice to the pan and add the sugar and lemon juice.
Gently heat and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Taste and add more sugar or lemon juice to taste.

Decant into a sterilised bottle and seal.



ROSEHIP CORDIAL



Ingredients:
1kg wild rosehips, washed and roughly chopped
350g caster sugar

Method:
Put the rosehips in a big pan and pour on 2 litres of boiling water. Bring the water back to the boil, then turn off the heat and allow the rosehips to infuse for 15 mins. Strain the mixture through a muslin cloth, squeezing out as much liquid as you can, then set aside.

Tip the pulp back into the pan, pour on 1.5 litres of water and bring to the boil. Then turn off the heat and allow to infuse for 10 mins. Repeat the straining process, then throw away the pulp that is left in the muslin.

Pour all the strained rosehip liquid into a clean pan and boil rapidly until reduced to about 1 litre. Skim off any scum that comes to the surface, then stir in the sugar until dissolved. Pour the syrup into sterilised bottles, ready to serve. The cordial will keep for up to three months, stored in the fridge.



HAWTHORN BERRY KETCHUP



Ingredients:
170g of sugar
½ tsp of salt
Freshly ground pepper
500g of hawthorn berries
300ml of cider vinegar

Method:
To begin, remove the berries from the stalks and wash well with cold water. Add to a large pan with the water and vinegar, then bring to the boil. Allow to simmer for approximately half an hour, until the skins of the berries begin to split.

Take off the heat and pour the contents of the pan through a sieve to remove any stones and tough pieces of skin.
Transfer the liquid to a clean pan with the sugar and place over a low heat, stirring often to dissolve the sugar.

Once dissolved, bring to the boil and simmer for 5-10 minutes more, until syrup-like and reduced.

Season the syrup to taste with salt and pepper, then transfer to sterilised bottles. The syrup is good to use for 1 year.



ACORN COFFEE

Ingredients:
A couple of handfuls of acorns, as close to 'perfect' as you can get (i.e. no black marks, bits growing out of them or splits)
Boiling water

You will also need:
An old saucepan
A coffee grinder or blender



Method:
Boil the acorns in their shells for about 20 minutes.
Let the acorns cool, and then peel off their shells. If the outer skin of the acorn remains intact, remove that too.

Roughly cut them up, then lay them on a baking tray.
Put the tray in a warm place for 24 hours to allow the acorns to dry out
After 24 hours, grind the acorns in your coffee grinder or blender.

Place the ground acorns back on the baking tray and pop under the grill for a few minutes until they're dark brown. They are prone to catch fire so, if you prefer, you could put them in the oven. Either way, keep an eye on them.

Allow them to cool and then store in a jar ready for use.

HOW TO PREPARE ACORN COFFEE TO DRINK

Put a couple of teaspoons of your acorn coffee in a small jug, pour on boiling water. You can leave the granules in your mug, but bear in mind they won't dissolve. So after a couple of minutes, you can strain them through a tea strainer into a mug or put the granules in a cafetiere. Then add milk if you like or you can drink it black. You can also add sugar to taste.

PART 3
IDEAS FOR OTHER WALKS

You do not have to travel far from the centre of Bradford before you are in open country or woodland. The District is blessed with acres of countryside and woodland and numerous public footpaths, bridleways and lanes on which we can explore the great outdoors and keep physically and mentally fit.

In this section, you will find links to a number of walks within the Bradford District and surrounding areas. Most are easily assessable by public transport and are suitable for the whole family, and many are pushchair accessible.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS

There are 36 public parks within Bradford District, totalling an area of over two hundred and seventy hectares. Ten of the parks are on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

Lister Park, Roberts Park (Saltaire) and Cliffe Castle (Keighley) have undergone extensive refurbishment and are among some of Britain's Best Parks. Central Park in Haworth, Peel Park and Harold Park (Low Moor) have received the prestigious Green Flag Award.

Follow this link, which gives further information on each of the 36 parks: http://www.bradforddistrictparks.org/sites/parks.php, this includes their location, details of their facilities and in some cases, details of walks.

WOODLAND

Approximately 5% of Bradford District is covered by woodland. This includes Middleton Woods (Ilkley), Judy Woods (Wyke), St Ives Estate (Bingley), and Buck Wood (Thackley).

Judy Woods, St Ives Estate and Northcliffe Woods have active 'Friends of' groups, who work with the local services to care for and protect the woodlands. These woods are open to the public, have well-defined footpaths, and some, including Middleton Woods, have a spectacular display of bluebells in the spring.

Further information about Judy Woods, Wyke:
www.judywoods.org.uk/intro.html

Further information on Buck Woods, Thackley:
www.friendsofbuckwood.org.uk/introducing-buck-wood.html

Further information and walks around Northcliffe woods, Shipley:
www.friendsofnorthcliffe.org.uk/index.html

Information about walks in and around Heaton Woods:
www.shipleymums.com/discover-hidden-gems-in-heaton-woods

GREENLINE MILE ROUTES

Mile long circular routes around Bradford District, these are aimed at encouraging more people into active travel; there are six of these routes across the District. The routes are marked by green markers placed on the ground at regular intervals.

Here is a link to the six routes, which includes maps:
www.bradford.gov.uk/greenlinemile

A SELECTION OF EASY WALKS IN THE DISTRICT

A walk around Saltaire and Shipley Glen, this walk can be split into smaller walks if needed:
www.cravenherald.co.uk/daleslife/walking/10794145.saltaire-to-shipley-glen

These sites provide a selection of walks in and around Ilkley and Ilkley Moor:

www.ilkleymoor.org/heritage-walks/
www.ilkley.org/for-visitors-2/15-walks-a-trails/60-walks-a-trails.html#river

This site gives you information on a number of walks in and around Bingley:

www.bingleywalkersarewelcome.org.uk/walks/easy-self-guided-walks-bingley/

These sites give you information on a number of walks in and around Baildon:

www.baildontowncouncil.gov.uk/local-publications.html

www.bradford.gov.uk/media/2084/baildonbankandbaildongreen.pdf

www.bradford.gov.uk/media/2085/baildon-moor-and-shipley-glen.pdf



A SELECTION OF WALKS ACROSS THE DISTRICT FOR THE MORE ADVENTUROUS

www.bradford.gov.uk/sport-and-activities/walking/self-guided-walks-around-airedale/

www.bradford.gov.uk/sport-and-activities/walking/self-guided-walks-around-haworth-stanbury-and-the-worth-valley/

www.bradford.gov.uk/sport-and-activities/walking/self-guided-walks-around-south-east-and-west-bradford/

www.bradford.gov.uk/sport-and-activities/walking/self-guided-walks-around-wharfedale/

www.silstrolls.org.uk/

A SELECTION OF EASY WALKS A LITTLE FURTHER AFIELD

The Yorkshire Dales:
www.gorgeouscottages.com/blog/family-friendly-walks-yorkshire-dales

IDEAS OF THINGS TO DO WITH CHILDREN WHILST OUT WALKING

Children can often get bored whilst outside, away from their home comforts. Below are links to websites which will give you some ideas to keep them entertained whilst out on a walk:

www.handsonaswegrow.com/10-ways-to-get-more-from-walks-with-children/

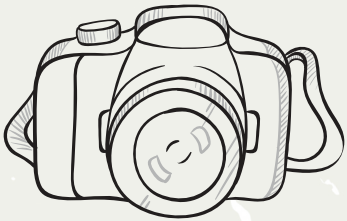
www.jimmiescollage.com/100-nature-walk/

DalesBus provides a great way to get into and around the Yorkshire Dales National Park and neighbouring Nidderdale and Forest of Bowland Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Established over ten years ago, it is one of Britain's most successful networks of weekend leisure bus services. It has featured on BBC's Countryfile, and the Northern Dalesman service was the star of the BBC 4 slow TV programme All Aboard the Country Bus a few years ago.

The routes the buses cover offer splendid views of the surrounding countryside. There is no need to book in advance to use most services, and well-behaved dogs are welcome too!

Over the years, DalesBus has developed a network of about fifteen bus routes during the summer months, providing access for visitors into the heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale and Forest of Bowland Area Of Outstanding Beauty (AONBs) mainly on Sundays and Bank Holidays from Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield, Burnley, Lancaster, Middlesbrough and York.



The service also provides a much-needed local weekend transport link for local residents.

A range of flexible ticketing offers means that passengers can transfer from one bus service to another at key interchanges including Otley, Ilkley, Skipton, Pateley Bridge, Grassington and Hawes. They can also connect with trains on the celebrated Leeds-Settle-Carlisle line to the west, the Leeds-Lancaster-Morecambe line to the south, the East Coast mainline to the east of the National Park, and local train services from Leeds and Bradford to Ilkley and Skipton, making it easier to explore all parts of the Dales and AONBs.

During the winter months, DalesBus provides a more limited service with five bus routes providing access to Upper Wharfedale, Wensleydale and Nidderdale mainly on Sundays. The following link gives you further information about this service and an up to date network timetable: https://www.dalesbus.org/





BRADFORD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK LTD

ENTERPRISE HUB, 114 - 116 MANNINGHAM LANE, BRADFORD BD8 7JF
TEL: 01274 305045 • EMAIL: CONTACT@CNET.ORG.UK
WWW.CNET.ORG.UK