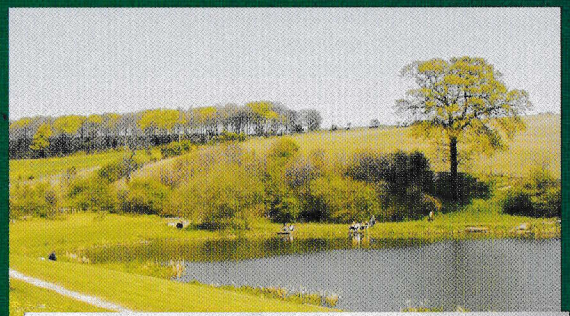
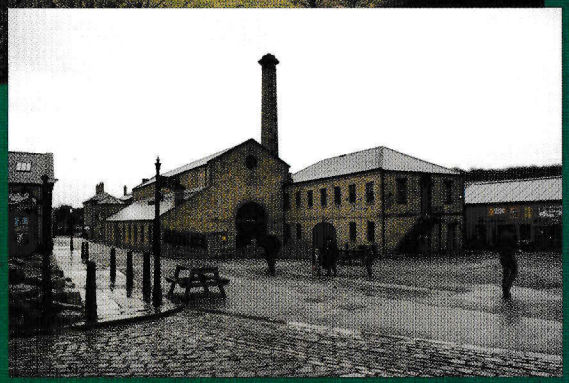
Waymarked Walks 5 & 6

BRIERLEY to ELSECAR

Barnsley Boundary Walk







BARNSLEY

Metropolitan Borough Council

BARNSLEY BOUNDARY WALK

The Barnsley Boundary Walk is made up of twelve short walks joined to form a continuous route some 73 miles (117 km) in length, mainly through the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley, but also in parts of Kirklees, Wakefield, Doncaster, and Sheffield.

You can join the route at any point and enjoy one or more sections to suit your time and energies, and travel arrangements.

This leaflet is one of a series of six designed not only to show you the route but also to point out and explain many of the interesting facts and features to be discovered along this very popular walking way.

The walk roughly follows the boundary of the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley through a great variety of landscapes from the moorland of Dunford, the wooded environs of Wharncliffe, the historic parks at Cannon Hall, Bretton and Wortley, and the wetlands of the Lower Dearne. Landscapes rich in social, economic and natural history.

As you enjoy the Boundary Walk please respect the interests of those who live and work in the countryside.

Further Information

If you have any comments on the Boundary Walk, encounter any difficulties en route, or would like information on other walks and rides in Barnsley, including the Trans Pennine Trail, please contact: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Environmental Services, Public Rights of Way, PO Box 601, Barnsley, S70 9FA. Tel: (01226) 772142. E-mail: publicrightsofway@barnsley.gov.uk.

For details about the Trans Pennine Trail contact The TPT Office c/o Barnlsey Council, PO Box 597, Barnsley, S70 9EW. Tel: (01226)772574.

E-mail: info@transpenninetrail.org.uk.

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Waymarked Walk No. 5

BRIERLEY to BOLTON UPON DEARNE

Starting Point
A628 Barnsley Road, Brierley.

Distance
9.6 miles (15.5 km).

Time
Allow yourself up to five hours for exploring at a leisurely pace.

Footwear
Some sections can have wet, muddy or uneven ground. Choose appropriate footwear.

Waymarks
The route is waymarked with a distinctive **B** circled with arrows.

How to get there
The villages around the route are served by bus services and some railway stations. Nearby bus stops are shown.

You can make your own travel arrangements using the South Yorkshire Travel Line; Tel: (01709) 515151.

If you do use a car please use the car parks where these exist, and be considerate of others when parking elsewhere.

Additional Information

The route is covered by OS Explorer Maps No's:-
OL1 The Peak District, Dark Peak and map 278 Sheffield and Barnsley

Full of Surprises ...

The Walk from Brierley to Bolton upon Dearne is full of surprises, variety and contrast.

The old centre of Brierley is a Conservation Area and includes the fine Church of St.Paul's.

In contrast Grimethorpe has shaken off its *'Brassed Off'* image from its time as a pit village and is actively engaged in a successful process of regeneration with many thriving modern industrial units.

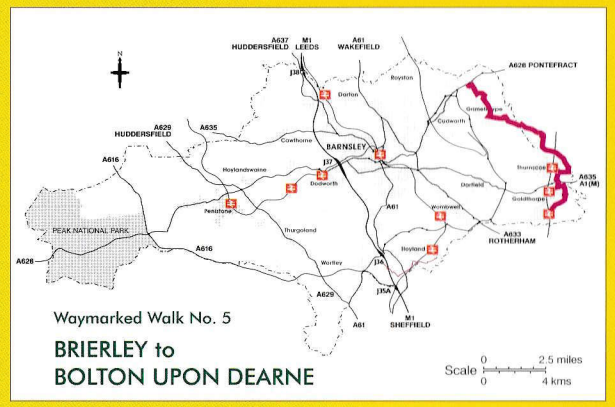
To the north of Grimethorpe the footpath crosses wonderful meadows and the Dell with its series of ponds.

Beyond the extensive woodlands at West Haigh Wood and Howell Wood and just into Doncaster district lies the rural gem of Clayton village with its classical duck pond.

Again in contrast, the former mining villages of Thurnscoe, Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne remain engaged in the revitalisation which extends across the Dearne Valley.

'The Dell' Nature Reserve, Brierley





1 Our walk starts on Regina Crescent, off the busy A628 Barnsley Road at Brierley. At the end of the Crescent join Cliff Lane via the alleyway.

At the end of the lane turn right following the field edge path to Brierley Road. Here you may experience a magnificent panoramic view across Barnsley.

2 Carefully cross the busy road and continue on a footpath through old meadows around the perimeter of the former Willowgarth High School.

3 Walk downhill and across the head of The Dell, a local nature reserve, then ascend diagonally to the edge of Tom Bank Wood.

4 After leaving the wood, follow the hedge line heading towards Grimethorpe. Turn left at the head of Burntwood Road, up past the former Brierley Lodge and bear left across the field to enter West Haigh Wood.

5 The path leads into this fine oak/ birch woodland, then bears left across Houghton Common to the B6273 Hemsworth to Great Houghton road.

6 Turn right, then after 500 yds, left into Howell Lane and continue on to the southern corner of Howell Wood, a Country Park managed by Doncaster MDC.

7 Turn left onto the path to Howell House Farm. Continue through Challenger Wood and onto Clayton village.



8 Walk down Chapel Hill, at Clayton Common, then turn right adjacent to Glebe Cottage via a short footpath to the main road. Here turn left, then after 150 yds turn right opposite Hallbridge Farm onto the footpath to Thurnscoe.

9 The path bears left and left again across a wooden footbridge. 600 yds further on cross a bridge over the railway line and head to Chapel Lane, north of Thurnscoe East.



Brierley Lodge farmscape

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Phoenix Park, Thurnscoe

10 Turn right into the public open space, and continue with houses to your left and a pond to your right, to reach the B6411 Lidget Lane.

11 Turn right then left into The Windings road, then right again and over Phoenix Park another reclaimed colliery spoil tip, to pass under the A635 Goldthorpe By-pass.

12 In Lockwood Road is the splendid Anglican Church of the Sacred Heart, built in 1913. It is an early example of reinforced concrete construction.

Barn Owl I

13 Turn left onto Main Street, Goldthorpe and head towards Doncaster Road. Carefully cross over and continue along Kingsmark Way by the side of the recreation ground.

14 At Barnburgh Lane turn left, then right into Engine Lane, then bear right along a sometimes indistinct footpath heading for Bolton Church.

Skirt the edge of the Recreation Ground and fishing ponds following the lane to Bolton upon Dearne Railway Station.

Waymarked Walk No. 6

BOLTON UPON DEARNE to ELSECAR

Starting Point
Bolton upon Dearne Railway Station.

Distance
6 miles (9.7 km).

Time
Allow yourself half a day or longer to explore Old Moor and/or Elsecar.

Footwear
Some sections can have wet, muddy or uneven ground. Choose footwear accordingly.

Waymarks
The route is waymarked with a distinctive **B** circled with arrows.

How to get there
The villages around the route are served by bus services and some railway stations. Nearby bus stops are shown.

You can make your own travel arrangements using the South Yorkshire Travel Line; Tel: (01709) 515151.

If you do use a car please use the car parks where these exist, and be considerate of others when parking elsewhere.

Additional Information

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OL1 The Peak District, Dark Peak and map 278 Sheffield and Barnsley

History with a Future ...

Eastwards of Bolton upon Dearne lie the extensive reclaimed WR3 Tip and the Old Moor Wetlands Centre, both transformed from wasteland to stand as symbols of an exciting future for the Dearne Valley.

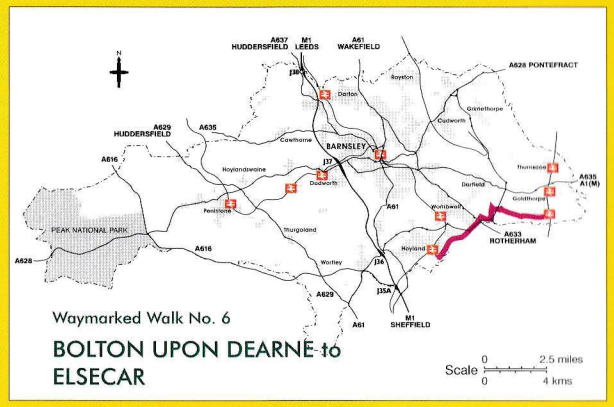
These are important sites for wildlife as well as people. Old Moor is managed by the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) and is the jewel in the necklace of wetland sites along the lower reaches of the River Dearne.

South-west of Old Moor our route enters the Elsecar Greenway to follow a corridor steeped in social, economic and natural history.

Canal, railway and road follow the natural stream of the Knoll Beck, providing a sequence of transportation from Elsecar, one of the hearths of the Industrial Revolution.

Old Moor Wetlands





9 Elsecar was a coal and ironstone mining community developed in the 1700 and 1800's by the Earls Fitzwilliam of nearby Wentworth Woodhouse.

The Elsecar Heritage Centre is situated on the site of the original Elsecar Colliery Industrial Workshops. There is a Living History Centre, Craft Shops and Tearooms.
To the north of the Heritage Centre is the Elsecar Newcomen Engine which is an Ancient Monument. It is the only one in the world still on its original site and was built by John Bargh of Chesterfield in 1795 at a cost of £167.19s.3¾d. It was used to pump water out of Elsecar New Colliery which opened in the same year.

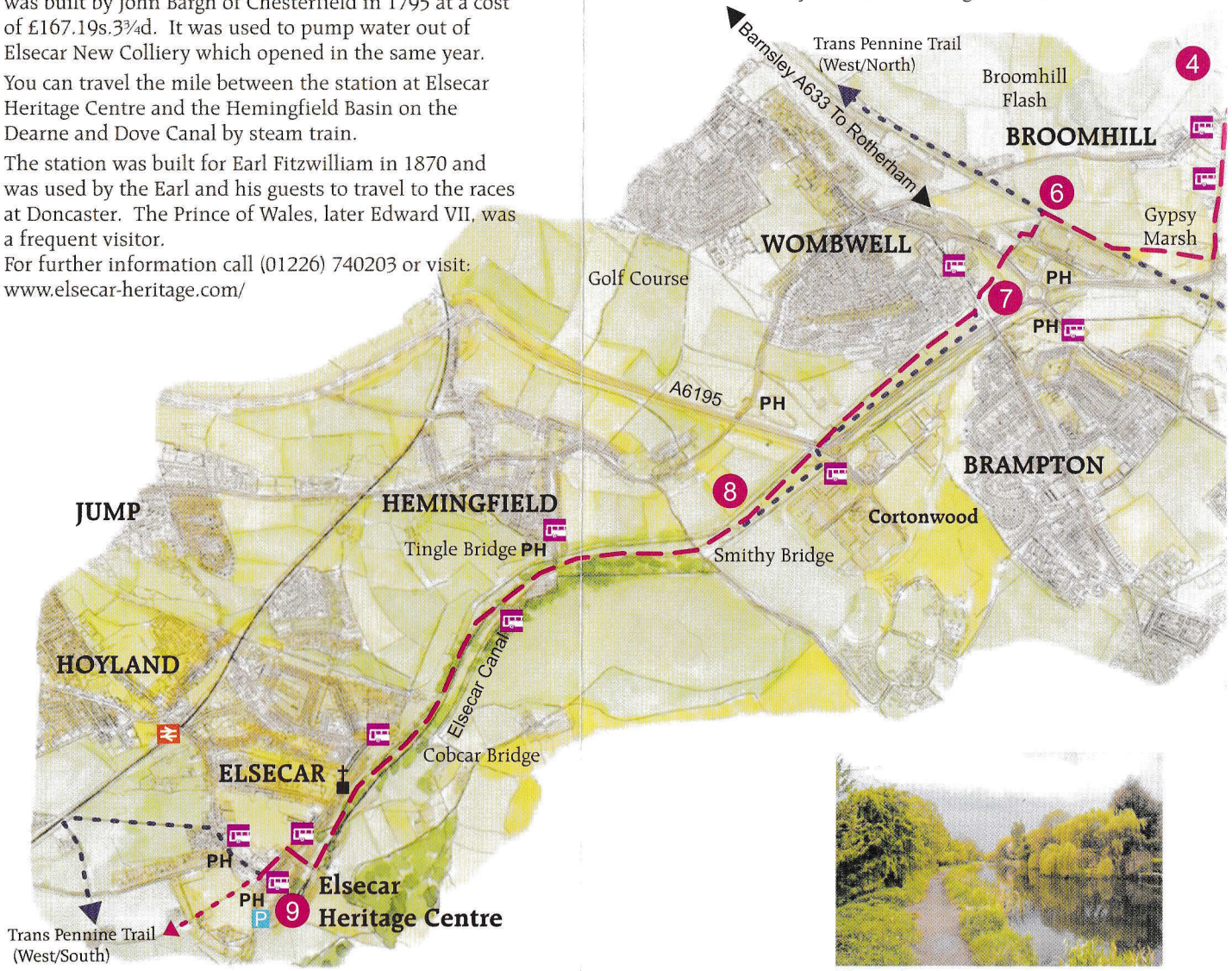
You can travel the mile between the station at Elsecar Heritage Centre and the Hemingfield Basin on the Dearne and Dove Canal by steam train.

The station was built for Earl Fitzwilliam in 1870 and was used by the Earl and his guests to travel to the races at Doncaster. The Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, was a frequent visitor.
For further information call (01226) 740203 or visit: www.elsecar-heritage.com/

7 Cross the main road using the Pegasus and take the bridlepath (made from recycled car tyres) leading under Brampton Road to reach the Elsecar branch of the Dearne and Dove Canal.

The canal here supplied water from Elsecar Reservoir into the main canal network and served the many collieries along its length.

8 We now follow the towpath for 2½ miles along the Elsecar Greenway to Elsecar Heritage Centre.



Elsecar Canal


Old Moor Wetlands Centre

1 Our walk starts at the small car park at Bolton upon Dearne Railway Station. From the car park turn right into Lowfield Road, then left into Angel Street. Turn right at St.Andrew's Church into High Street. Continue ahead into Wath Road and Ingsfield Lane.

2 The route now leaves the urban settlement and onto a path with the reclaimed "WR3" Tip to the right and Bolton Ings to the left. Follow the footpath ahead towards Broomhill.

3 Go past the dismantled railway and under the A6195 Dearne Towns Link Road. To the south lies the expanse of the Old Moor Wetlands.

4 At Marle's Bridge turn left and onwards through Broomhill where the Old Moor Tavern provides refreshments for birdwatchers and walkers alike.

5 Follow the quiet route down Highgate, or detour through the new woodland alongside, then turn right onto the footpath through Gypsy Marsh Nature Reserve.

6 Turn right onto the Trans Pennine Trail, then left on the signed spur between industrial units to reach the A633 Wath Road Pegasus crossing.

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