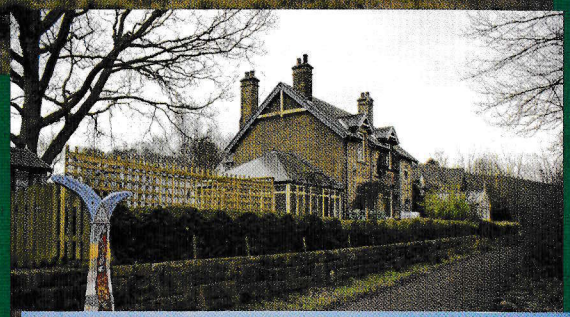
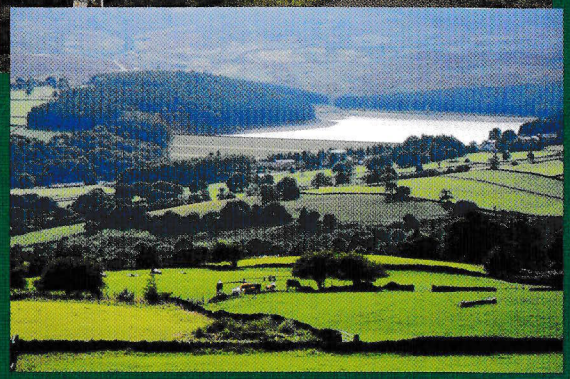
Waymarked Walks 9 & 10

WHARNCLIFFE WOOD to LANGSETT

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.

Acknowledgements

Produced by: BMBC 2003, 3rd edition 2015

Re-designed by: Mike Gibson

Illustrations: © BMBC

Printed by:

Waymarked Walk No. 9

WHARNCLIFFE WOOD to WORTLEY STATION

Starting Point
Woodhead Road.

Distance
6.2 miles (9.9 km).

Time
Allow yourself half a day or longer to explore the wood 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

Wood and Crags ...

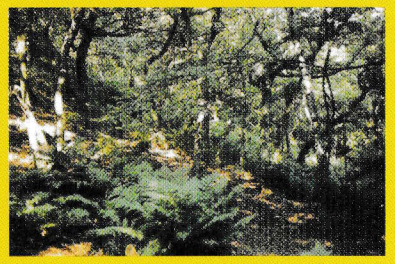
The extensive Wharncliffe Woods have long been well frequented by walkers, rock climbers and nature lovers. Horse riders and mountain bikers now join them to enjoy this splendid environment courtesy of the Forestry Commission.

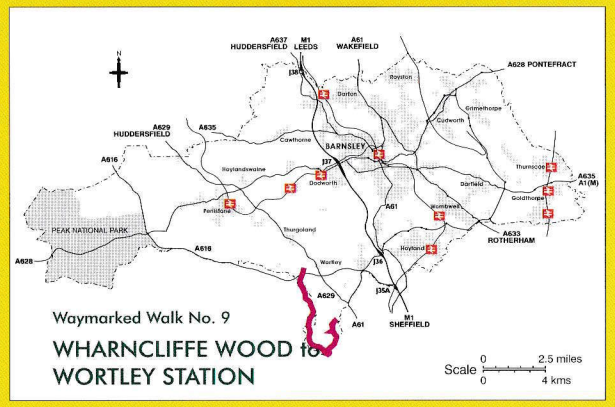
The walk enjoys the best of what the woods have to offer going deep into the forest, turning northwards along the well made Plank Gate track and climbing to Wharncliffe Crags with impressive views across the valley of the River Don to the Peak District moorlands beyond.

The area was once covered in dense primeval woodland which was gradually settled and cleared in parts. However, the steep, rugged terrain aided the survival of large areas of woodland, and although Wharncliffe is a 'working' wood it remains rich in archaeological and natural history interest.

The village of Wortley just a short way off the end of this leg of the route has a post office, conference centre (Wortley Hall) village stores selling locally sourced products and cycle hire and repair facilities.

Wharncliffe Wood





1 Walkers continuing from Tankersley can follow the walk from The Hollow; visitors using the nearby car park at Woodhead Road can join the route at Stead Spring.

At Woodhead Road turn right onto the footpath through Stanfield Ash Farm. Follow the path down the farm track turning left then right into the lane to The Hollow.

2 At The Hollow turn left and follow the footpath into Wharncliffe Wood, heading towards Stead Spring, close to Sough Dike.



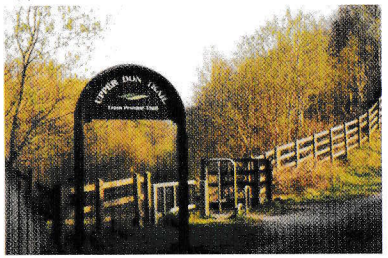
3 A popular car park off Woodhead Road serves Wharncliffe, Wheata and Greno Woods. You can follow the main track westward (marked Trans Pennine Trail) to join the Barnsley Boundary Walk at Stead Spring.

4 The network of tracks through Wharncliffe Wood can be confusing; following the waymarkers will keep you on the right path. Generally the route descends southwest to Wharncliffe Wood End, then turns north west to follow the main Plank Gate track parallel to the railway line.

Wortley Station



Upper Don Trail, Wortley



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5 Look out for the path diverging; follow the right fork climbing Pales Wood Gate track to Wharncliffe Crags.

6 Initially the path is below but then climbs to be on top of the Crags. The gritstone crags of Wharncliffe have long been a favourite venue for rock climbers.

7 At the end of the Crags follow the path down to the right and cross the embankment of a small pond. Turn left downhill between ornamental stone gate posts to rejoin Plank Gate track.

8 At the end of the wood pass under the A616 Stocksbridge By-pass and join the Upper Don Trail (Trans Pennine Trail). Past the former Wortley Station turn right up the access ramp and right again into Cote Green Lane by farm buildings down to Finkle Street Lane.

There is a small car park next to Cote Green Farm for trail users and this is signed off Finkle Street Lane.

Waymarked Walk No. 10

WORTLEY STATION to LANGSETT

Starting Point
Cote Green, Finkle Street Lane.

Distance
6.3 miles (10.2 km).

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

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.

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Along Hunshelf Bank and Little Don Valley ...

Beyond Finkle Street Lane the walk climbs away from the River Don through the diverse woodland of Tin Mill Rocher to join Hunshelf Bank. The busy A616 now provides a sharp divide between the south facing agricultural fields and farm, and the steelworks town of Stocksbridge along the Little Don River.

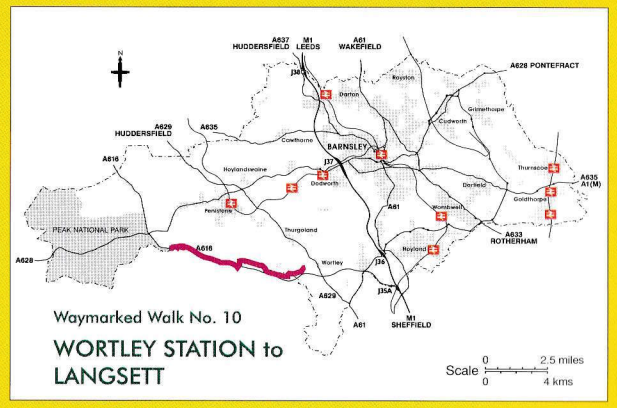
At Underbank we descend to the valley of the Little Don with its imposing reservoirs.

Westwards we leave the apparent influence of the steel industry behind to enter the Peak District, the first National Park, designated in 1951. The Park provides protection for this unspoilt and often wild countryside and opportunities for visitors to enjoy.

Langsett was the main Barnsley host village to the 2014 Tour de France, the most successful TdF[2] to date and is a Mecca for cyclists of all standards with easy to use trails and challenging moorland routes that inspire all. Yorkshire Water created the immensely popular Langsett Gateway in 2002 that created a series of paths for all users to enjoy the great outdoors.

Langsett Reservoir from Hartcliffe Hill







7 Follow the busy A616 road on the footway for 500 yds, then cross with care at the layby before joining the footpath below Sheephouse Wood which merges with a dismantled railway track. This railway was used during the construction of Langsett Reservoir and we follow its course for 2 miles.

8 At a field gate on the disused railway continue straight on over a farm track through another gate, then again along the former railway and follow the trackbed until you reach a stream running under the route.

9 Where the track bed bears left into a deep cutting just after the main stream continue to the right by a short climb onto field paths immediately next to a small timber footbridge. Turn left by the houses down to the A616 at Langsett village and continue to the car park at Langsett Barn.

4 Follow the Park Lane track to the Stocksbridge to Hunshelf road. Turn right uphill, then left on a track towards Edgecliffe Farm.

5 Climb to the crest of Hunshelf Bank, then downhill to the track above Cote House Farm. Turn right, ascend sharply, then left through gorse bushes to Briery Busk Farm onto Hunshelf Road heading for Underbank Hall.

6 Turn left at Underbank Hall and continue downhill on the road passing under the A616, over the next road and slightly left to a grass verge, then turn right along the old road and up to the footway of the A616.

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Early morning mist over Langsett village

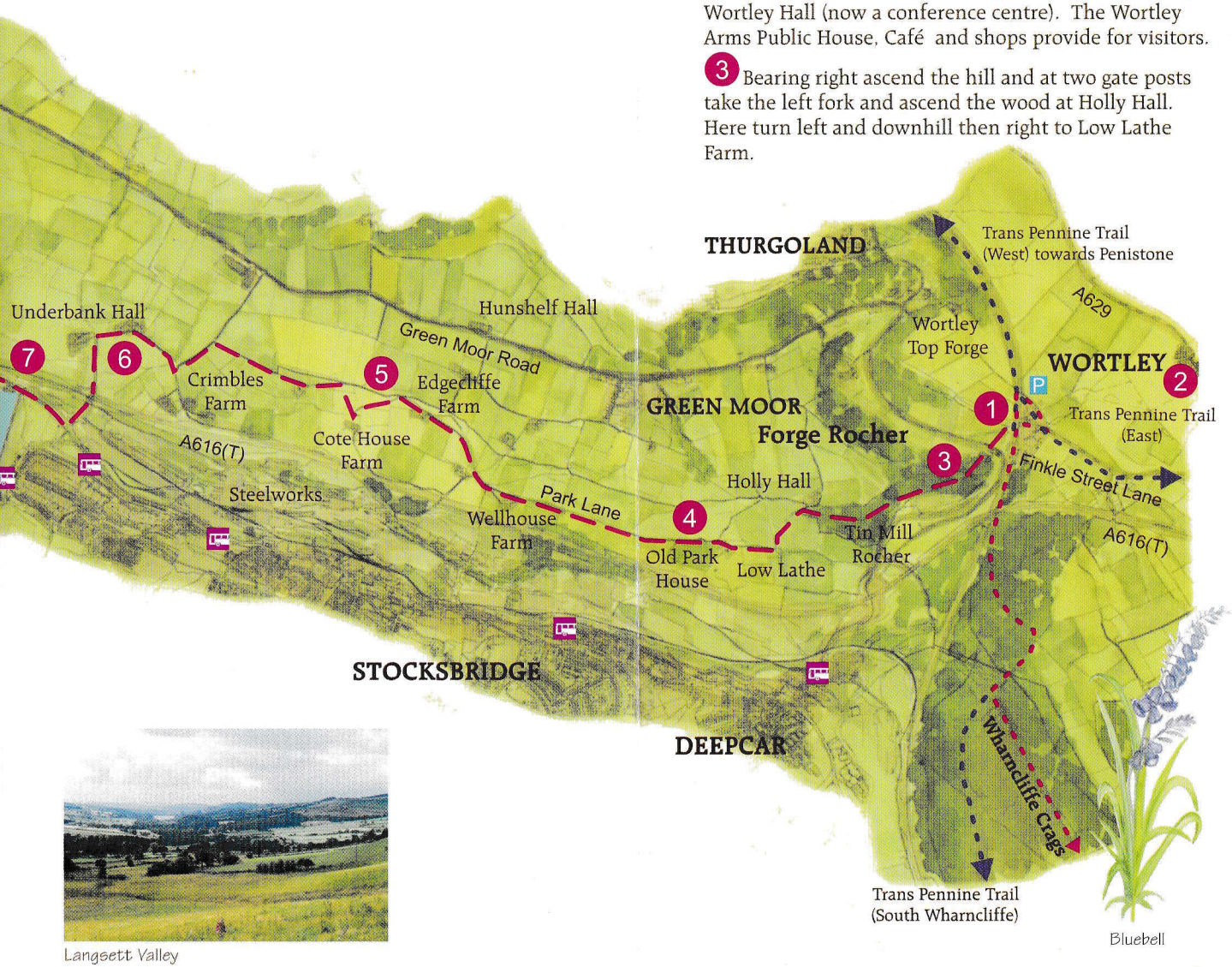


1 This section of the walk starts at Cote Green, Finkle Street Lane. There is a car park which serves the various recreational routes that converge near the former Wortley Station.

Beyond the former railway bridge take the footpath across the paddock to Tin Mill Lane, then descend to the river footbridge next to an old ford.

2 Nearby the attractive village of Wortley is easily reached by following the gritstone slabbed footpath. The village is steeped in history; of particular interest are St.Leonard's Church and the magnificent 18th century Wortley Hall (now a conference centre). The Wortley Arms Public House, Café and shops provide for visitors.

3 Bearing right ascend the hill and at two gate posts take the left fork and ascend the wood at Holly Hall. Here turn left and downhill then right to Low Lathe Farm.



Langsett Valley

Bluebell