

It occupies the Park created in the 1890s by a predecessor of the Bradburys, the prominent mill owner and 'King of Clayton West', John Kaye.

Cross the Green and leave by the metal kissing gate to emerge onto High Street. Clayton West has shops and facilities. A separate leaflet is available for a circular walk which starts here.

Turn left and walk up High Street. Beyond Bilham Road cross and enter a narrow public footpath to the rear of bungalows. This will lead you to a small car park at the entrance into Cliffe Wood. A village trail starts from here, again with a separate leaflet. Cliffe Wood is a small but interesting publicly owned wood managed with local input from community volunteers. The wood sculpture 'Into the Wood' is one of a series of artworks that waymark the route of the Kirklees Way.

Cross out of Cliffe Wood and follow the path down to the northern corner of Riding Wood. Climb and cross stiles and fields to reach Lower Common Lane via a short narrow path between houses. Turn left and continue along the minor road. Here you are on the Dearne Way which you now follow to Denby Dale passing the coal pit at Hay Royd and Bagden Hall, now a hotel and restaurant, along the route. On reaching the outskirts of Denby Dale follow Hollin Edge, Cuckstool Road, Miller Hill and Dearnside Road to reach Springfield Mill.

It is possible to end the walk here but there is more to see and enjoy in the upper Dearne valley.

Turn up Trinity Drive to Holy Trinity Church and go across the Churchfield. Cross the A635 road and go into Broombank. A path leads between houses, then beneath the Penistone Line railway to climb to the cobbled Bank Lane. Go left uphill to Upper Denby. The village has a pub, and also the fine St. John's Church.

Just before the village bear right and continue via stiles, fields and wonderful meadows above Denby Delf, an area of heath managed for conservation.

Before reaching the busy A629 road turn right and descend with care via the "40 steps" and distinctive sunken path to Quaker Bottom, at High Flatts.



Denby Delf

This fascinating hamlet is a Conservation Area with a history intimately linked

to the Quaker movement; the Meeting House is still used each Sunday. This is a place to linger awhile, or for a return visit. Several 'Short walks from High Flatts', which explore the area around the Quaker settlement, are described in a separate leaflet, "Plain Country Friends".

Go past the Quaker burial yard and continue northward via stiles and fields to descend to cross the River Dearne once more at Carr Bridge. Over the river bear left and into Green Wood, part of the Upper Dearne Woodlands. If time permits, this is another place to explore, or to rest, perhaps at the memorial bench overlooking the Victorian pond recently lovingly restored by the local conservation group.

The Upper Dearne Woodlands Conservation Group was formed in 1997 to work in partnership with the site owners, Wavin (previously Hepworths), to manage the woodlands for conservation, access and environmental education. The results of sustained local voluntary efforts are here for all to see and enjoy. Amongst the woodland's inhabitants are significant colonies of wood ants.

Continue through the northern arm of the woodlands, and then turn right into a narrow path beside the walled garden boundary of a substantial house, The Old Rectory, to reach the A635.

Nearby is Turpin Hill, an unimproved pasture managed for its scientific interest.

Cross the road and go into the path opposite, at its end bearing slightly right and then left through housing to reach the churchyard of the fine St Nicholas Church, Upper Cumberworth, admiring the old village stocks.

To the left are the village shop and pub, but our walk turns right, away from the church, and continues almost to the end of the village. Go right on a footpath between houses then out across stiles and fields. Cross the access road to the recycling site and continue round the perimeter of the former clay quarry and landfill site. The last stile leads into Wood Lane (track) which crosses the railway back at the station and the starting point.

This trail was devised by the Denby Dale Walkers are Welcome Group. The leaflet was financed by the East Peak Innovation Partnership (EPIP) via the Rural Development Programme for England, jointly funded by DEFRA and the EU and managed by Yorkshire Forward and with a grant from Denby Dale Parish Council.

Other walks starting from here include A Village Trail; A Circular Trail; and walks to both Penistone and Shepley stations. Leaflets are available.

Denby Dale Round Walk



The 1988 Pie Dish

Trains to Denby Dale from Huddersfield, Penistone, Barnsley and Sheffield run hourly Monday to Saturday with 8 trains each way on Sundays.

There are hourly buses from Wakefield and Holmfirth (daily: Services 435/436) Services 82/83/84 serve Denby Dale from Huddersfield via different villages. All services Huddersfield Bus Company.

NB Bus and train details were correct as of May 2010. Please check at www.wymetro.com from where timetables are available.

Look out for the Denby Dale Round Walk waymarkers to help guide you around the trail.

see: <http://www.denbydale-walkersarewelcome.org.uk>



Walking in the East Peak



Walking in and around Denby Dale

Denby Dale Round Walk



Bank Lane, between Denby Dale and Denby

An 11 mile walk round the Denby Dale district.
Stout footwear is advisable.

Denby Dale Round Walk

The Round Walk is based on an original idea by Eddie Shaw, former Chairman of Denby Dale Parish Council, and on collaboration between the Parish Council and the Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust to celebrate the many environmental initiatives across the parish. The 11 mile walk encompasses much of the Denby Dale district and visits many of the projects. Inevitably the route descriptions are less detailed than for our other trails and you will find it useful to consult the OS Explorer Map 288 Bradford and Huddersfield which covers the whole route.

Starting-point: Denby Dale Railway Station

From the station car park descend the footpath, Wood Lane, to the village centre.

Go left then left again up Wesley Terrace to the Methodist Centenary Chapel. Bear left uphill along the road then shortly cross into footpath leading to buildings at Leak Hall. Bear right, then left onto a footpath leading down to Wither Wood.

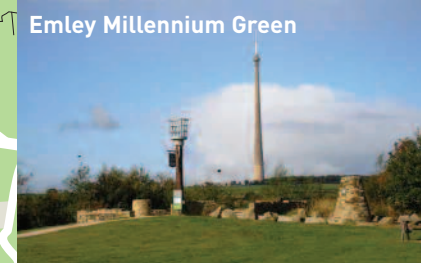
Wither Wood was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 1994 with substantial support from the village community. The Denby Dale Conservation Group assisted with a programme of woodland management works to ensure that this much loved place is freely accessible. The wood is well worth exploring at all times of the year.

The footpath beyond the wood emerges onto Gilthwaites Lane.

The nearby Gilthwaites First School has undertaken many projects to transform the school grounds as an environmental resource. The dish which held the 1988 Denby Dale Pie is used in the school grounds as a butterfly garden.

Turn left along the Gilthwaite Lane bridleway and continue over the gentle hill and down to join the Kirklees Way at Thorpes Dike. Take the footpath to the right and across fields to reach the recreation ground. Go obliquely across the playing field to the small car park. Continue through housing along Smithy Lane to reach Skelmanthorpe village centre.

The village has shops and facilities. Separate leaflets are available for a village trail and a circular walk that start from the Library/Council offices on Commercial Road. The Oxley Trail also starts in Skelmanthorpe, again with a separate leaflet.



Cross Commercial Road and enter Lodge Street.

This part of Skelmanthorpe is a Conservation Area with old weavers' cottages reflecting the village's textile industrial past. A small private textile museum is based at the former weaver's cottage, 6 Queen Street, and can be visited by arrangement.

At the end of Lodge Street turn right and continue into Pilling Lane. Go left almost immediately, down and beneath the Kirklees Light Railway, a popular local tourist attraction based at Clayton West. Nearby is Cuckoo Nest Halt.

Bear right after the railway bridge and across the field to the edge of Blacker Wood.

Climb to Blacker Farm, the home of the Rockwood hounds, cross the farm access track and continue on the bridleway across Emley Park. Turn left onto Frank Lane (track), and then

take the next footpath on the right to climb up to Churchill Farm, and the Emley Millennium Green.

Emley Millennium Green was created with local enthusiasm and lottery funding, and is now managed by a Trust to provide a significant greenspace for public benefit. The excellent interpretation on site celebrates the village history including the local mining heritage. The site is a grand place to sit, rest, and enjoy the extensive views to the iconic Emley Moor Mast and westward to the Peak District Moors.

From the Green follow the path past the football ground to emerge in Emley village centre at the historic Cross. The village has shops and facilities. Leaflets are available for a village trail, a circular walk, and the Emley Boundary Way, all of which start in the village centre by the Cross.

From Emley the route leads past the 15th century St Michael's



Church, then right into Thorncliffe Lane to the 17th century Thorncliffe Grange.

Leaving Thorncliffe bear right and south eastwards to cross Woodhouse Lane to dwellings at Upper Woodhouse and White Cross, and on to Gillcar Farm, passing Saxon strip fields and the Bell Pits, remains of 13th century iron workings. Keep to the west of the farm and continue southward to reach Kiln Lane.

Cross the busy A636 with care and continue over the River Dearne by the 14th century Packhorse Bridge. Go past the large industrial building turn left over a stile then immediately right to cross fields and stiles to reach Kaye's Millennium Green at Clayton West.

In the late 1990s this site was donated by the Bradbury family to the village community for the creation of the Millennium Green.