





5

After half a mile the lane is joined by another broad track coming up from the right and you reach Bank End. Take the footpath off to the right, below the gardens of the first terrace, leading through to the settled yard of Heath House Mill – now home to the Green Building Store and several other enterprises. **The sets can be slippery in wet weather, so take care if it is raining.**

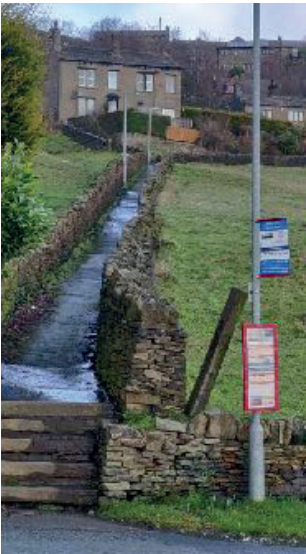
6

Bear left through the yard and up through the metal gates, before bearing right along a wide, straight, settled roadway which brings you out at the Golcar Lily – the first of the two pubs en route.

www.golcarlily.co.uk



Beyond the Lily you come to Slades Road, with your starting point a few hundred yards to your left if you want to cut back. But the walk continues to the right, around the curve in the road until you find a walled path going up the slope to your left, just by the bus stop.



7

Walk up the path, taking the right hand branch at the “V” towards the top, to emerge on to Pike Law. Turn right down the lane for 50 yards before turning left into Pike Law Lane, which immediately bears right up the hill.

8

You will come out at the Scape House in the centre of Scapegoat Hill, the second pub on the walk and, at 1200 ft, just about at the highest point, so well worth a reward.

www.scapehouse.co.uk



Our route goes straight on, along School Road, with the pub on the left. Our third Chapel is soon in sight on the right – the Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church. The primary school is just beyond the chapel.



9

As you pass the school the wall on the left of the lane comes to an end as you reach Longwood Common, and the route turns left to follow a track along the wall at the edge of the common across to the road ahead. Turn left along the verge at the side of Halifax Road.

10

After a few hundred yards you will reach Thornber Barn on the right hand side. Turn right here, keeping the barn on your left. The wide track runs along the top of the hill towards the wind turbines and masts ahead.

As you reach the masts you can walk a hundred yards further along the main track to get distant views to the East – across most of West Yorkshire, and beyond if the weather is clear.

11

But our path passes over the stile by the metal gate with the masts to your right, and then straight across the field ahead.. ...to a second gate and stile on the far side.

i

You are walking along the top of the Parliamentary Enclosure Fields, which fall below to Bolster Moor. The Golcar Enclosure Act was passed in 1823. It parcelled out land that had been “waste”, previously used by local tenants for grazing stock, into a regular pattern of small rectangular fields with individual owners.



As you follow the path ahead, you suddenly become aware of Rockingstones Quarry opening below your feet to the right. It is the only quarry still occasionally worked in the Colne Valley, and is notably invisible until you are right on its lip. The stone is taken in large blocks to the Johnsons Wellfield site at Crosland Hill for sawing into high quality building stone and flags.



i Rockingstones Quarry also served as the set for the filming of *Jericho*, the TV series about the building of the 19 century railways.

As you reach the end of the quarry the M62 comes into view and the path drops down, after the second stile passing along the edge of trees planted as part of the White Rose Forest scheme. Keep the wall on your left initially, but as you drop down through the field ahead ignore the gate below you in favour of the stone stile where the quarry road comes out onto Quebec Road, about 50yards to the right of the field gate.

12 Turn left, along Quebec Road. There is a good verge on the right hand side.

13 You will come to a junction with Waller Clough Road running off to the right, and a sharper right turn into a lane down to Causeway Foot. The route takes the latter. It drops down and passes between the gable end of the farm and its out buildings, to come out at a cross roads of straight, wide tracks.



i These are the Crimea Causeways, laid out as a form of job creation by a previous Lord Dartmouth when the textile economy was struggling during the Crimea War in the 1850s.

14

Take the causeway to your left and follow it down to the tracked lane, coming out just below the driveway to Nab Farm. There are fine views down to Slaithwaite from here.

15

Turn left and follow the lane as it winds down, across the stream, and up to join Waller Clough Lane coming in from the left.

16

The route then goes round the corner and out to the crossroads at the top of the road down to Crimble Clough. Go straight across the crossroads, following a sign marked “Bolster Moor 1/2”, keeping Clough Head School on your right.

Keep straight on over two minor crossroads. The farm shop and cafe will soon be in sight on your right, and then the Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel where you started the walk.



ACCESS TO GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK FROM SLAITHWAITE

Slaithwaite is accessible by regular bus services from Huddersfield (currently provided by First Bus) and by an hourly train service from Huddersfield or Manchester (currently provided by TransPennine Express).

DIRECTIONS FROM THE CENTRE OF SLAITHWAITE TO THE START OF GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK

From the Commercial pub, walk along Carr Lane, past the row of shops and bear left after the Co-op keeping on Carr Lane. Go under the viaduct, keeping the Swan pub on your left, until the junction with Radcliffe Road.

Turn right onto Radcliffe Road and first left onto New North Road. At the top of the road, before it bends right, take the footpath (marked with a sign – Public Footpath Westwood Edge) straight ahead, with stone walls on either side. **Please note, this is a steep climb and can be very slippery in wet weather.** An alternative route is suggested for the downhill return.

Follow the footpath to the top, cross the stile and continue uphill, over a field to the houses (Westwood) at the top. Go over a stone stile next to a metal gate, go up the track and turn left by the postbox onto Wellgate and then right onto Westwood Edge. Further up, where the road forks, take the right hand fork, Drummer Lane, until you reach the crossroads. Turn right and continue down, past Bolster Moor Farm Shop until the junction with Slades Lane. This is where the Golcar Heights walk starts.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE END OF GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK, BACK TO SLAITHWAITE

At Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel turn right onto Slades Road. At the next junction branch left onto to Headwall Green. Continue along the road until it begins to drop downhill and take the right fork signed Dyke End. Continue along this track which then becomes a footpath.

At the junction with the road, turn left and continue downhill until Westwood Farm. At the farm, turn left by the footpath sign (opposite the post box). Walk down the track, go over the stone stile, next to a gate and continue down the path at the side of the field. Instead of bearing right (which links to the route up), bear left and follow the stone wall. Where the field opens out, go straight across. As the land drops away, you will see a stile over a fence. Cross the stile and walk down the path, through some young trees, and an area of heather and then down some stone steps. When you reach the first of the houses, turn right onto a narrow footpath with a fence to the left and a wall to the right. Follow the path down to the track and then go down the track to the road. You are now back on Radcliffe Road. Turn right and walk downhill. At the bottom of Radcliffe Road, turn left onto Carr Lane and return to the centre of Slaithwaite.