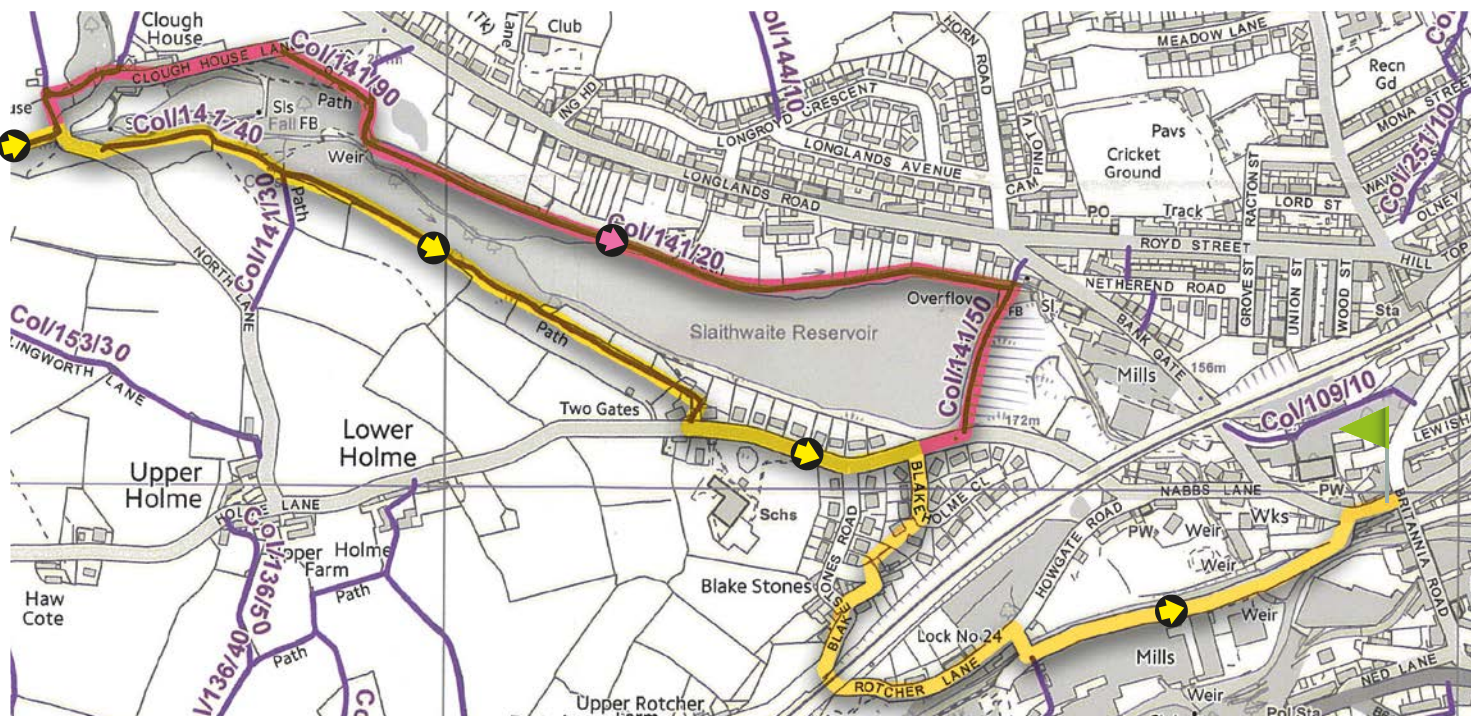


SECTION 7: CLOUGH HOUSE BRIDGE TO SLAITHWAITE

At this road there are two alternative routes back into Slaithwaite.

OPTION 1 (shown in pink) Go left on the road (Clough House Lane) past a terrace of houses, then taking the first footpath right go downhill through a wood towards Slaithwaite Reservoir. Follow the path along the side of the reservoir. At the end of the reservoir turn right onto the path across the dam. When you meet the road, turn left and follow it downhill into Slaithwaite. Or turn right uphill and left into Blakehome Close. From there, follow the route from Blakeholme Close to Slaithwaite as described in option 2 below.

OPTION 2 (shown in yellow) **Note: This route can be boggy in parts during wet weather.** Turn right up the road for 50 metres to a gate in the wall on the left. Go through the gate onto a footpath which ultimately takes you along the right (south) side of Slaithwaite Reservoir. Stay on the upper path which continues over two stiles to a gate. Go through the gate into a passageway between two gardens which becomes a short driveway before meeting a road. At the road turn left and walk downhill passing Two Gates Primary School on the right. After passing the school, take the second turn on the right into Blakehome Close. Just where the road bends to the left, look for a footpath on the right between two gardens. This short path leads to the old hamlet of Blakestones. When the path ends continue straight on down the road, through the hamlet and turn left under the railway bridge. You can now re-trace your steps back to the start by following this road (Rotcher Road) and making a right turn to cross the canal at the guillotine lock gate before turning left and following the canal back into Slaithwaite. The end of the walk is shown with a green flag.



PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Please use public transport as often as you can. Slaithwaite railway station has regular services to Huddersfield and Manchester currently (2019) operated by TransPennine. (www.tpexpress.co.uk) There are frequent buses to Slaithwaite from Huddersfield. Services 181, 183, 184, 185 are operated by First Bus (www.firstgroup.com)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many thanks to the Rose and Crown at Cop Hill, Slaithwaite for generously funding the printing of this leaflet.

DISCLAIMER

Golcar and Slaithwaite Walkers are Welcome have attempted in all good faith to provide adequate safety warnings and they cannot in any way be held responsible for any claims arising from damage to person or property. Please note that the walking route as described in the leaflet does not imply a right of way as the walk uses some permissive paths.

MAPS

The maps in the leaflet are used with the permission of Kirklees Council. The numbered purple lines on the maps e.g. Col/134/50 denote other local footpaths. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019

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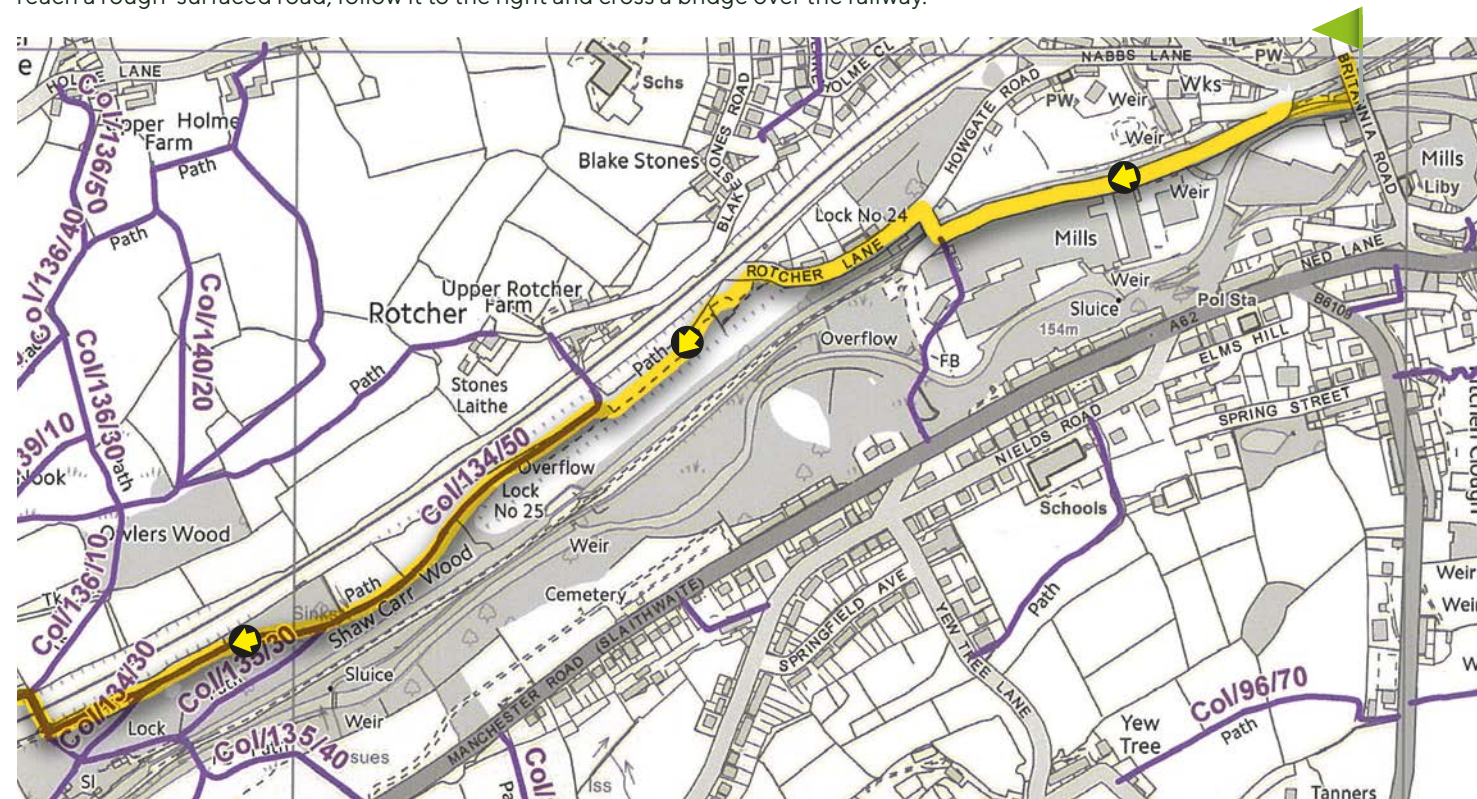
SLAITHWAITE TO COP HILL CIRCULAR

A circular walk beginning on the Huddersfield Narrow canal, taking in the Rose and Crown pub at Cop Hill, and returning down Merry Dale.



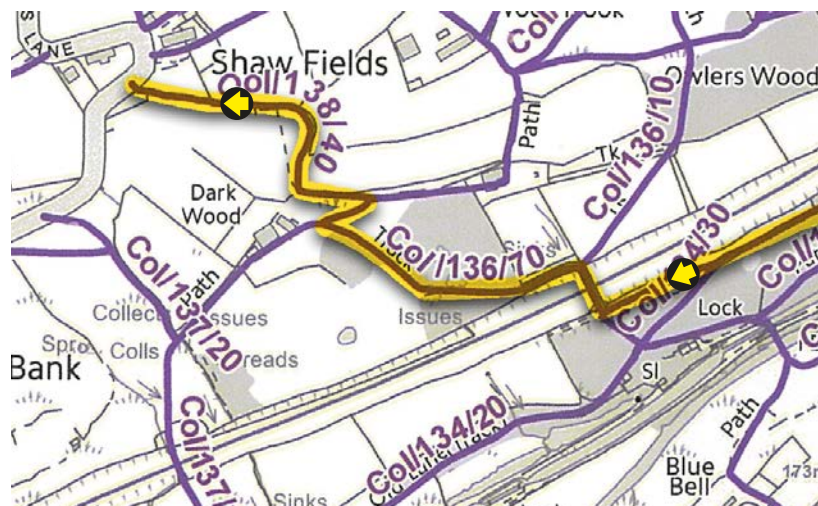
SECTION 1: SLAITHWAITE TO THE BRIDGE OVER THE RAILWAY

The walk starting point is shown on the map with a green flag. From the centre of Slaithwaite (the mini-roundabout outside the Commercial pub) make your way via zebra crossings to the canal side heading west up the Colne Valley. You will pass the Little Bridge Wine Bar, and then the Hand-Made Bakery. When you reach Lock 24 (the Guillotine Lock) cross over the bridge and then turn left onto Rotcher Lane. Walk up the road, and before it swings right under the railway arch, take a left onto a track with some garages on your right. Beyond the garages is a parking area, cross this and go through a gate in the fence. Follow the path which takes you through a grassy picnic area, passing on your right a gate and another railway arch. Towards the end of the picnic area there is a stile on the right. Go through this and turn left onto a path. Follow this path staying parallel to the railway. (Do not take the left hand path that goes down to the canal.) When you reach a rough-surfaced road, follow it to the right and cross a bridge over the railway.



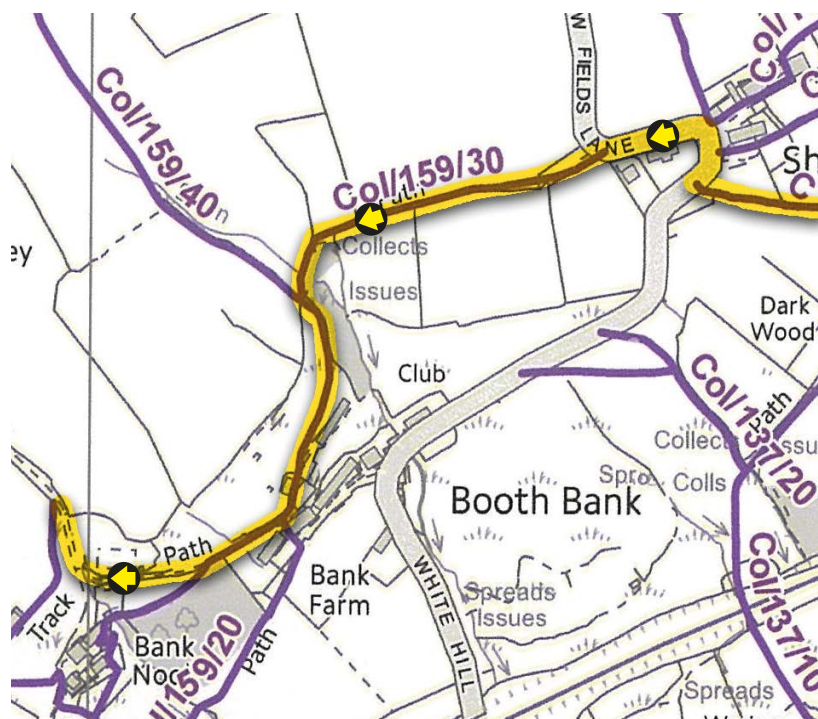
SECTION 2: RAILWAY BRIDGE TO SHAW FIELDS

Over the railway bridge, follow the road left uphill. Where it swings left into the drive of a house, there is a footpath sign on the right. Follow the footpath right and after approx. 30 metres there is a way-marker post on the left. Turn sharp left, and follow this path up the hill. Continue uphill through two stiles until a gate leads out onto the road (Shaw Fields Lane).



SECTION 3: SHAW FIELDS TO BANK NOOK

At the road turn right and walk uphill, round the left hand bend, passing Shaw Fields Farm on the left and leave the road just as it bends right by walking straight forward onto a grassy area, marked with a footpath sign. This leads to a fairly level path (along the top of Booth Bank) contained between a wall and a fence. Cross a stile and a short wet boggy section of the path. Take care on this section. Follow the path as it turns a corner, drops downhill and after about 20 metres, crosses a very small stream and bears gently left. Passing a stile on the right, continue to a wall and a short flight of steps. Go down the steps and bearing left follow the path downhill. Where the path splits, keep left going downhill and swing right until you reach a stile near a house. Go over the stile and follow the path to the driveway in front of the house.



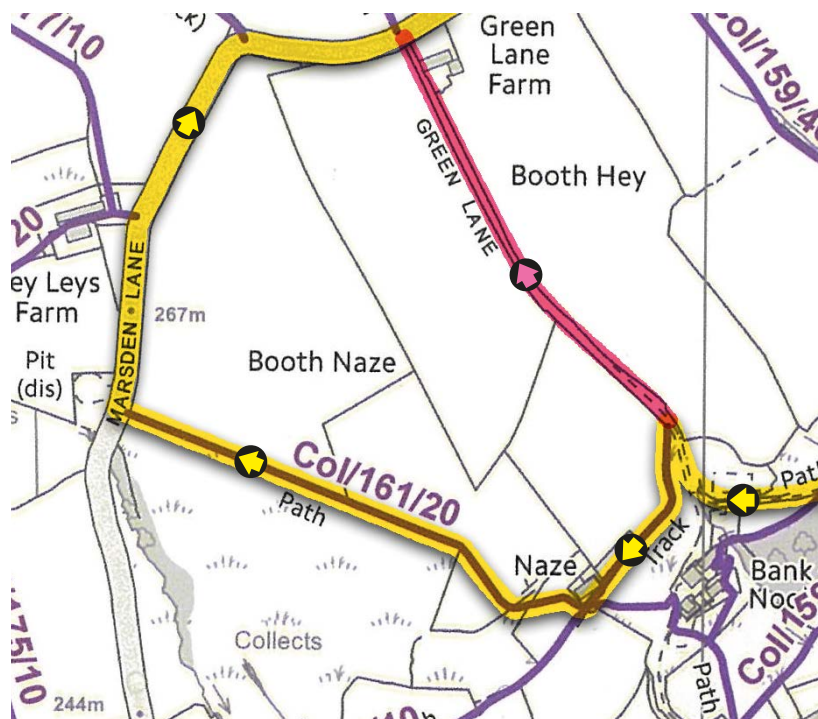
SECTION 4: BANK NOOK TO GREEN LANE AND MARSDEN LANE

After passing this house take the narrow track that veers up-hill to the right. When this track reaches a metalled road (Green Lane) walk 20 to 30 metres uphill until another track emerges on the left.

At this point there are 2 alternative routes:

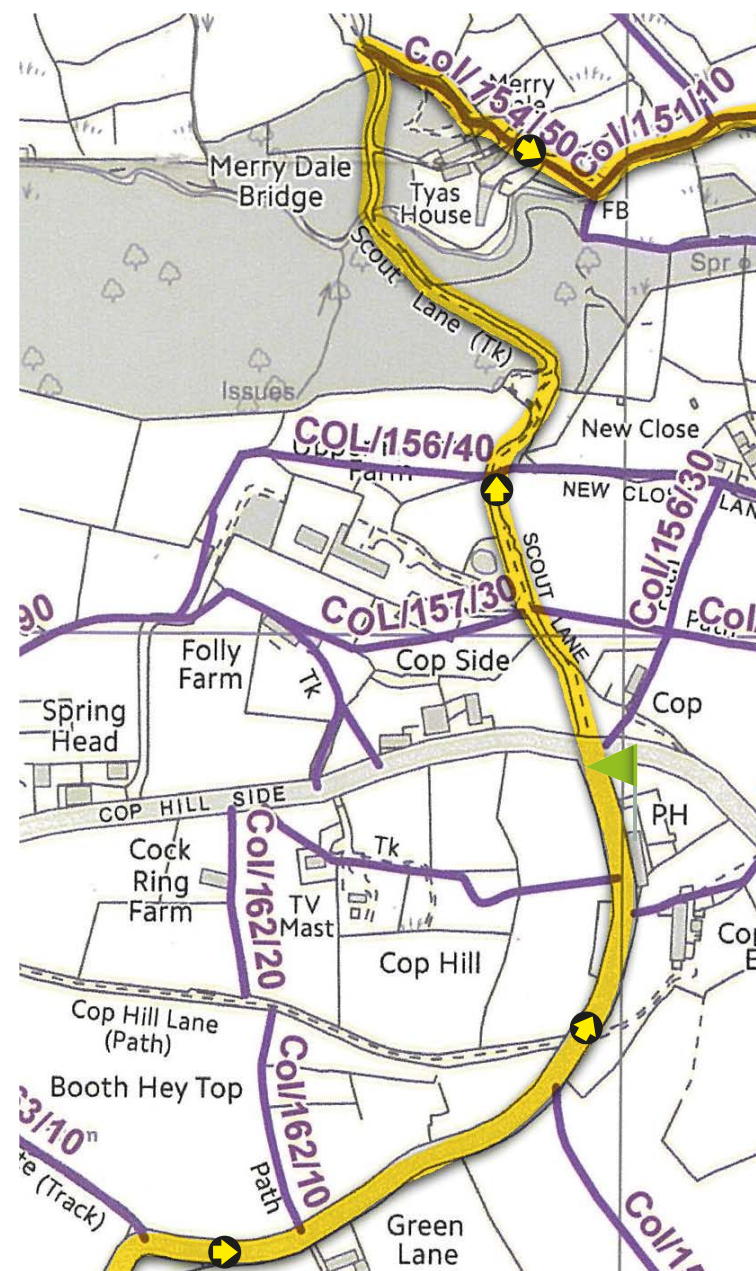
OPTION 1 (shown in pink) is a shortcut to the Rose and Crown Pub. The remainder of the route can be picked up from there. Follow Green Lane uphill until it joins Marsden Lane at a t-junction. Turn right and follow Marsden Lane to the Rose and Crown.

OPTION 2 (shown in yellow) Take the track on the left and follow it downhill to some houses. Immediately after these houses turn right to go over another stile, then follow the path uphill going through a gap in the wall before continuing uphill to a rather awkward stile over a wall into a field. Go straight across the field to a stile at the end of a wall on the left. Go over the stile and walk with the wall on your right until you reach a road. This is Marsden Lane.



SECTION 5: MARSDEN LANE TO MERRY DALE BRIDGE

Turn right onto Marsden Lane and follow the road about half a mile to the Rose and Crown pub, shown on the map with a green flag. It is open for refreshment from midday. For details go to www.roseandcrownslaitwhaite.co.uk. Just past the pub there is a crossroad. Go straight over the crossroad down a narrow lane (Scout Lane), and just before the road surface changes to concrete at a right hand bend, leave the road to join a footpath going straight ahead down hill into Merry Dale.



SECTION 6: SCOUT LANE AND MERRY DALE TO CLOUGH HOUSE BRIDGE

Walk down the footpath, taking care as parts of it are steep and rutted. Note: the stone setts lower down the path can be particularly slippery in wet conditions. Cross the bridge at the bottom before beginning to climb the track uphill. After about 150 metres, turn right at the footpath sign, initially onto a driveway. When the driveway swings to the right, look for a waymarker post on the left and follow the footpath which passes along the topside of a garden wall with a stream on the left, before reaching some stone steps. At the bottom of the steps follow the path with the pond on the right until you reach a larger stream. Do not cross the larger stream. Turn left, cross the smaller stream and follow the path, keeping the larger stream on your right for about half a mile. You will then reach a stile and gate into the road at Clough House Bridge.

