

Country code

When you are walking, please follow the country code and remember you are walking across other people's land.

Please keep to public paths, leave gates as you find them, keep dogs under control, take your litter home and take care on roads. Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.

Public Transport

Please use public transport as often as you can.

The Colne Valley has a regular train service (Huddersfield to Manchester Victoria) with stations at Slaithwaite and Marsden. For details contact the Northern Trains website at www.northernrail.org or phone Ticket Sales on 0844 241 3454.

The Colne Valley has frequent bus services. For details contact the West Yorkshire Metro website at www.wymetro.com or phone 0113 245 7676. (Metro also provide details of local train services) Most of the local buses are operated by First Bus. For details check the website at www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/calderdale_huddersfield or phone 0845 604 5460. Local timetables are also available in the Public Libraries in Slaithwaite and Golcar.

Food and Drink

There are cafes and pubs available for refreshment in Linthwaite and on the route.

Accommodation

Details of local accommodation are available from the Kirklees Council website at www.kirklees.gov.uk/visitors/accommodation or by phone on 01484 221 000

Disclaimer

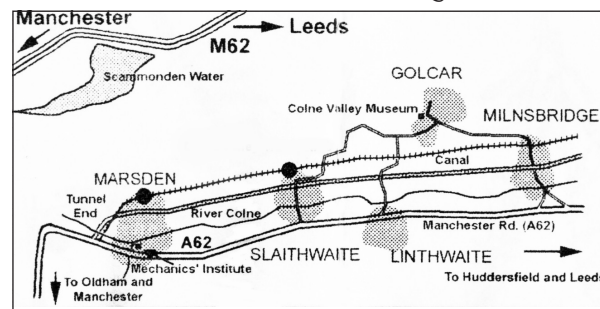
Golcar and Slaithwaite Walkers are Welcome, together with the original leaflet author and leaflet artist, have attempted in all good faith to provide adequate safety warnings and they cannot in any way be held responsible for any claims arising from damage to person or property. It is in the best interest of walkers to observe these safety warnings. Please note that the walking route as described in this leaflet does not imply a right of way. In some cases this walk takes advantage of permissive paths. The definitive guide to local rights of way can be accessed by contacting Kirklees Council website at www.kirklees.gov.uk or phone 01484 221 000.

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The Colne Valley



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www.golcarandslaithwaitewalkers.org.uk

The Colne Valley Trail

A series of Countryside and Village Walks

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Linthwaite Circular



This six mile walk broadly follows Linthwaite's boundary to the south of the Manchester Road, and on a clear day offers splendid and extensive views

Linthwaite Circular Walk

Distance: 6 miles.

Time: Allow up to 4 hours.

Be prepared for some steep ascents and some muddy conditions in parts: stout footwear is recommended. **Please note that where road names are included in brackets, this indicates that they are not signposted at the point of entry.**

The start of the walk can be reached by any of the Colne Valley buses (181,183,184,185). Ask for the Linthwaite Coach and Horses stop.

Use Explorer Map No.288 to add to the information shown on the leaflet map.

1. Start the walk at the junction of Manchester Road and Hoyle House Fold opposite the Coach and Horses pub (Grid Ref SE095 143). Walk up Hoyle House Fold, then fork right up Chapel Hill past the Primary School and the old chapel. Turn right into Stones Lane by the Methodist Church complex.



Linthwaite Methodist Church.

Opened in 1867 the chapel building was constructed as a result of the generosity of George Mallinson, one of the most important woollen manufacturers in Colne Valley, who gave £3000 to the project. The chapel is now a listed building, no longer used as a place of worship.

2. At Wood Close Bottom, take the footpath on the right up to and across the unmade road (Flat House) and continue ahead to a stile. (You are now on part of the Colne Valley Circular Walk). Cross the first field, following the waymarker to a gap stile and continue ahead to where a metal gate and a gap are seen side by side. Take the gap (left hand side) and follow the path along the edge of a steep bank across two long fields. *A panoramic view of the Colne Valley from Slaithwaite to Milnsbridge can be enjoyed on this section.* Pass through a stile to walk in the same direction, towards farm buildings, with a wall, then a fence and trees on your right. Cross a stile and pass in front of the farm, turn left round the wall corner, immediately after the farm buildings and through a stile; then along a short lane until it meets a steeply sloping metalled road (Linfit Lane).

Warning. Linfit Lane at the point of entry is dangerous, with blind bends in both directions and no footways. Please take care.



Jerusalem Farm

3. Turn right down the road for 50 yards and take the path on the left (signposted Public Footpath), walk along the path and cross the stile within a few yards of houses ahead. (Stocker Head)

4. Midway between the stile and the houses, opposite the garages, leave the Colne Valley Circular by turning left up three steps and crossing a stile, then walking up the steeply climbing field to another stile. Cross this stile and continue up the next field to a lane, keeping the wall and fence on your left and Lower Hey on the right.

5. At the lane, turn right, and after about 15 yards, turn left over a stile and continue climbing, onto the slightly sunken path ahead, over two stiles to a metalled road (Jerusalem Road). Cross the road, go through the stile and continue up to the gap in the wall ahead, to reach a road (Holt Head Road). The hardest part of the walk is now over!



Holme Cottage Farm with Blackmoorfoot Reservoir and Castle Hill from Potato Road

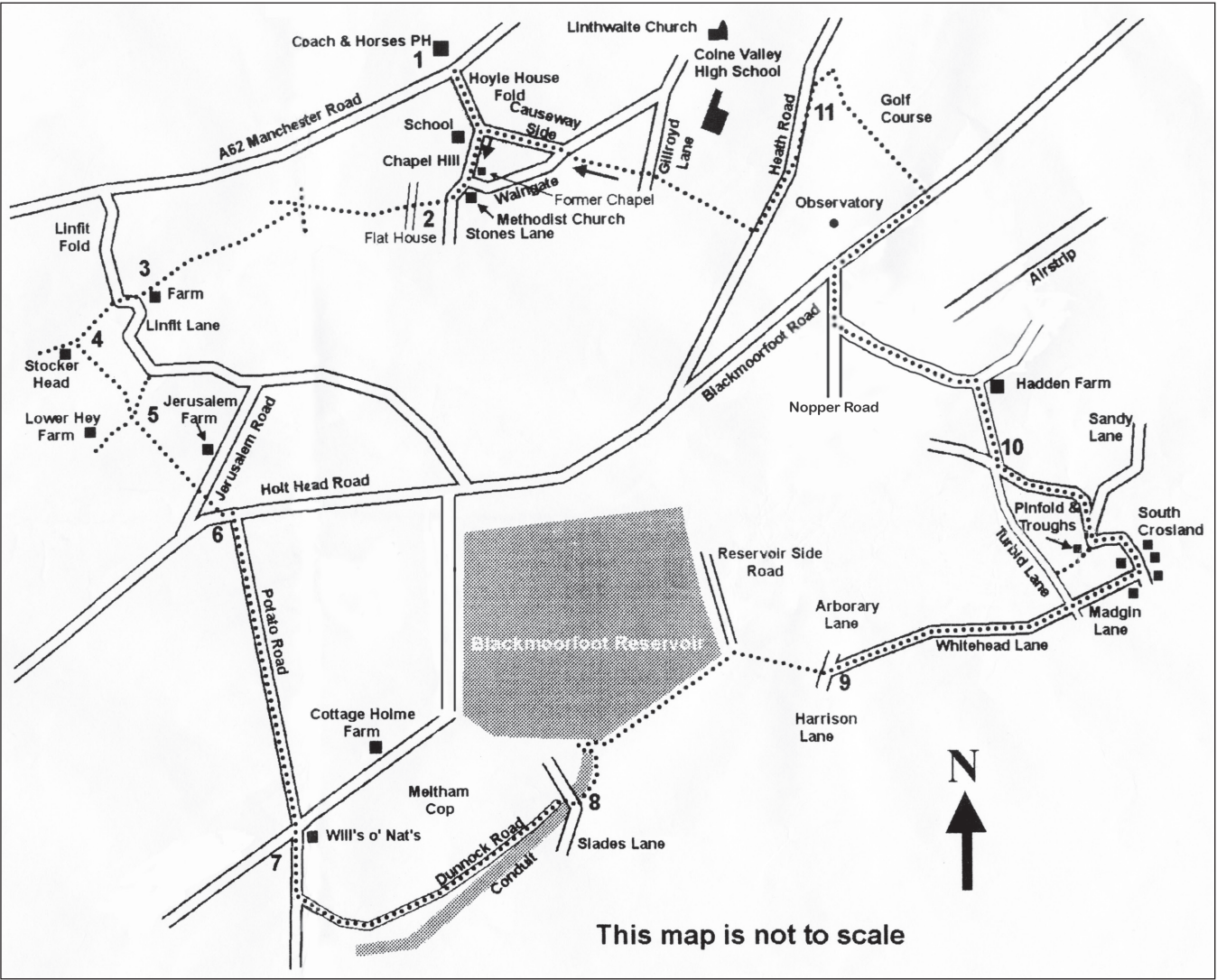
Here it is worth turning round to admire the view of the upper Colne Valley including Slaithwaite and its cricket ground, and the Moorside Edge radio station masts.

6. Go left on the road to the Public Bridleway on the right. This is a wide, unmade track known as Potato Road.

Straight ahead is the Holme Moss T.V. mast. To the left is Blackmoorfoot Reservoir, which was constructed by Huddersfield Corporation in 1876 and is an important refuge for migrating birds. Beyond the reservoir from left to right are Castle Hill with its Victoria Tower erected in 1898 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Emley Moor T.V. mast and, on the horizon, Thurstonland Church spire. Potato Road joins Blackmoorfoot Road at the Will's O' Nat's (William son of Nathaniel) public house. Over on the right is West Nab with its rocky edge, and further right is Deer Hill.



Wills o' Nat's



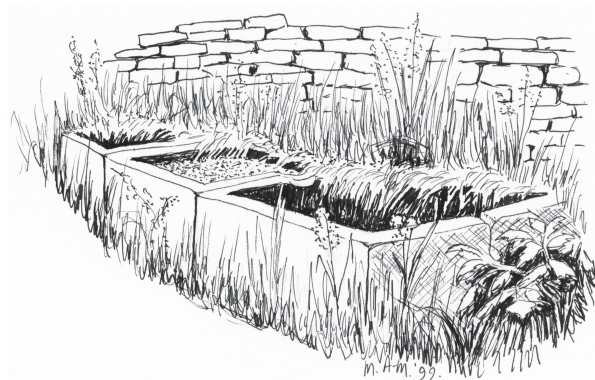
7. At the Will's O' Nat's pub, bear right following Blackmoorfoot Road downhill to the Public Bridleway on the left, (Dunnock Road), which curves round the hill called Meltham Cop. *At the top of the rise the view on the right is of Helme village (see Frontispiece) and Meltham and Meltham Mills overlooked by Honley Wood.*



8. On reaching a metalled road (Slades Lane), **beware of traffic**, cross the bridge, go over the stile on the left and follow the permissive footpath beside the water catchment (conduit) to the road. Go left for 35 yards, then over the stile to the right, and right again along the south side of the reservoir towards Crosland Edge. Where the path turns sharp left, go over the stone stile on the right, turn left for 50 yards to the T-junction (Reservoir Side Road); climb the bank ahead, then go right and over the stile to the Public Footpath keeping the wall on the left.

9. Follow the footpath ahead, keeping the wall on your left hand side to the road (Arborary Lane / Harrison Lane). Go over the stile, turn right and then left down Whitehead Lane with South Crosland village ahead. Where the lane changes name to Madgin Lane, there is a cart track (Turbid Lane) to the left. This track, much used by cattle, can, as its name implies, be very muddy, and is not recommended after heavy or prolonged rain. In dry conditions you can continue the walk along this track to the left, otherwise continue along Madgin Lane, to the T-junction with Midway; then left downhill.

At the bend notice the square pinfold and line of horse troughs on the left.



Pass a road on the right (Sandy Lane) and the Old School House on School Hill. (Fifty yards past the de-restriction sign, Turbid Lane joins the road from the left.)

10. Take the minor road with the Public Bridleway sign on the right up the hill past Moor End bungalow on the left and at the Y-junction by Hadden Farm bear left. Continue on the track until it joins a road (Nopper Road). Turn right and continue until it joins another road (Blackmoorfoot Road); turn right and walk along the verge path for about 50 yards until you see the Public Footpath sign on the opposite side of the road near the far end of the lay-by. Cross the

road with care and follow the Public Footpath across Crosland Heath Golf Course. *The top of the spire of Christ Church Linthwaite can be seen ahead.*



11. After crossing all the fairways, turn left, (ignoring the more obvious path bearing right downhill), onto a path running along the edge of the fairway with the astronomical observatory ahead on the left and the Colne Valley High School below on the right. *Beyond is a view of Wellhouse, Golcar, and Scapegoat Hill.* Then take any descending path on the right to the metalled road (Heath Road). The first of these paths appears on the right just before a clump of trees and is marked by two upright stones like low gateposts. On reaching the road, turn left following it as far as the footpath on the right, which bisects the school playing fields. Take this path to the road (Gillroyd Lane), cross to the Public Footpath sign and continue downhill to the junction of Causewayside and Waingate. Then bear right at the bottom of Causewayside, to Hoyle House Fold and so to Manchester Road, completing the circle.