

SHELLEY

Welly Walk

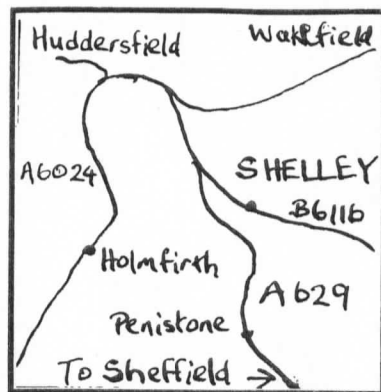


This is a circular field walk that visits dramatic viewpoints and offers an insight into Shelley's history

Distance - 6½ miles (10½ km)
Shorter walk - 3½ miles (5½ km)
Extended Walk - 7½ miles (12 km)

Start and finish at Shelley Village Hall - Grid ref. 2045 1130

*This leaflet has been compiled by Malcolm MacDonald on behalf of the Shelley Community Association
Drawings by Dorothy Burkinshaw*



We recommend that you take either of these maps with you.
OS Explorer Map 288
OS Landranger Map 110



This route is on public rights of way or roads. It is aptly named so please wear wellies or stout walking boots, as it can be very muddy. Binoculars would be useful for the views. A comfortable walking speed is 3 km per hour.

PLEASE OBSERVE THE COUNTRY CODE



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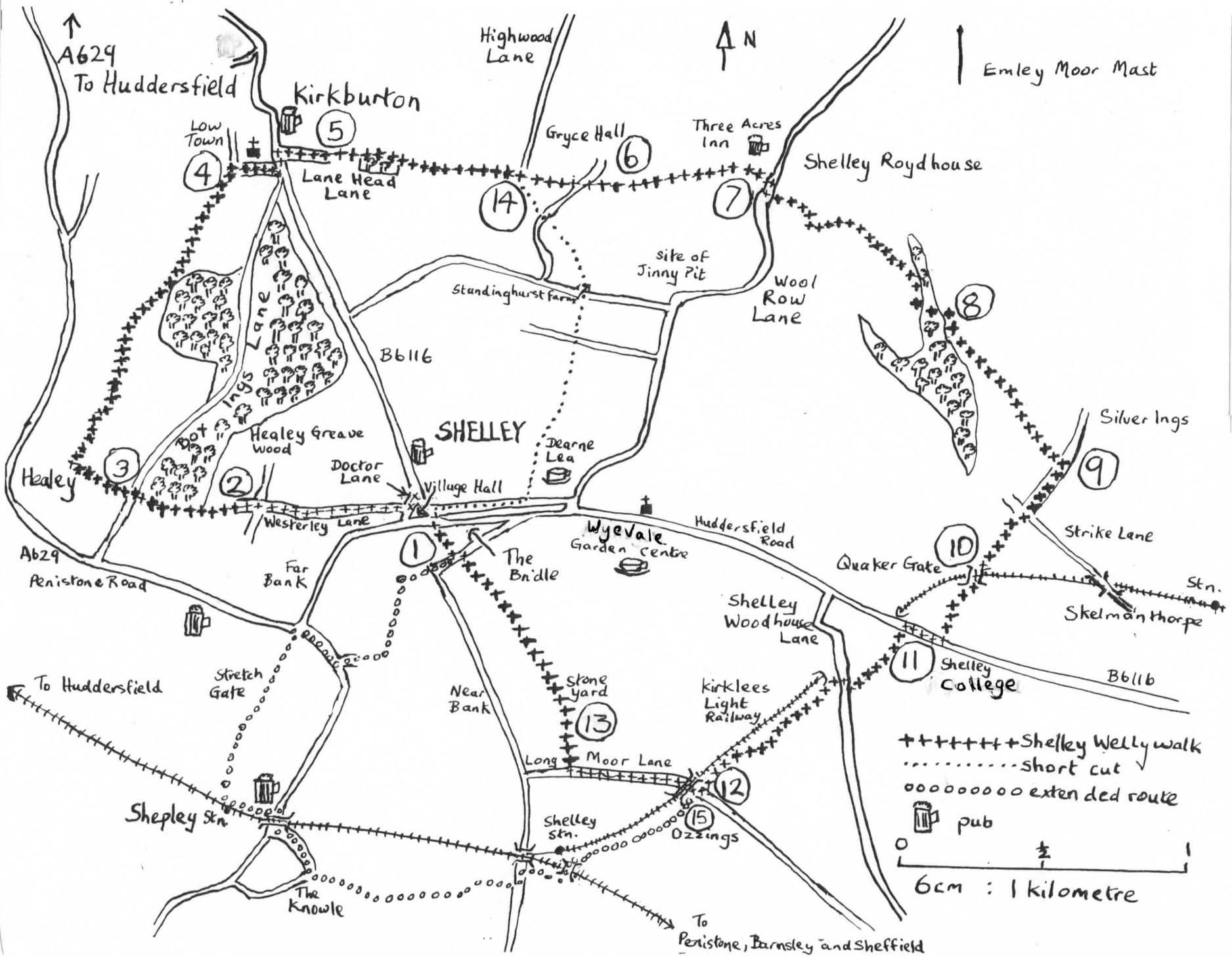
Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Environment Unit
Agenda 21



Shelley Community Association



Armitage's Garden Centres



15. EXTENDED WALK - Cross over the road and follow the Kirklees Light Railway to Shelley Station, then over the Penistone Line. Take a path to the road to the right of the buildings. Turn left up the road, then right, past Hardingley Farm, and right along the Kirklees Way for ¼ km. to The Knowle. Turn right down the lane to the main A629. Carefully cross the road and follow the lane to Shepley Station, then right down Stretchgate and up the steps. Cross the A629 on the zebra crossing and turn right, down hill. Turn left along a lane on the corner, by the old gas works. Pass an old building with a large chimney into a field and then left up the hill to join Near Bank. For the last stretch rejoin the main walk up The Bridle to Shelley Village Hall.



Turn left from the Village Hall car park and left again down Doctor Lane. At the bottom, turn right along a rough track to Westerley Lane. After passing the cricket field, bear left into a cul-de-sac. Pass through metal barriers into another cul-de-sac.



Cross Hawthorne Way and continue straight ahead along a footpath above a bungalow and through a stile to the left. Follow the path through the field, keeping Healey Greave Wood on the right.



Cross the stile into Box Ings Lane. Turn left for 5 metres and then immediately right into a field to Healey Farm. Turn right, up the hill into a narrow field, continuing over a stile in the far right corner, then over another stile. Head down hill through more stiles towards Kirkburton Church.



Turn right into lane at Low Town and right again between buildings and two cemeteries to Box Ings Lane. Turn left, cross over B6116 and walk down the road keeping the church on the left. Turn right into Lane Head Lane by the telephone box.



Follow the lane uphill for around 200 metres and turn left into a narrow walled footpath 'Spiders Alley'. The path is paved through a wood and enters fields before reaching High Wood Lane. Turn right into the lane.



Take the second stile on the right, (**See 14** short cut takes the first stile on the right) up the fields and cross the drive to Gryce Hall through kissing gates. Continue up hill with the wall on the left. Eventually, the Three Acres Inn is reached at the end of a lane.



Turn right down the road for 10 metres before crossing over and through a gap in the wall into a garden. Go through the garden and over a stile into a field. Cross the field then over a second stile into a larger field. Walk straight down to the hedge opposite cross the double stile (this stile can be difficult to find). Continue down the next field past the solitary mature tree.



Take the 2nd marked footpath on the left over a stream at the edge of a wood and follow the wall, before bearing left up the field to a viewpoint overlooking Skelmanthorpe. Proceed downhill with the hedge on the left and turn right into a lane at Silver Ings.



Continue down the lane with the levelled colliery tip on the left. After bearing right, the lane meets Strike Lane. Cross over to the stile opposite and into a field keeping the wall on your right. This is Quaker Gate.



At the top, cross the stile, turn right before taking the lower path over the railway bridge. Continue to the main road opposite the entrance to Shelley College and follow the road to the right.



At the lowest point of the road, cross over and follow a path with the school grounds on the left until it meets Shelley Woodhouse Road, after passing the old mill dam on the right. Turn right for 20 metres, cross the road and follow a track down hill with the railway to the right.



(Start extended walk here - 15) Turn right down the road, pass under the high railway arch and go along Longmoor Lane for 400 metres. Turn right into a field, immediately before Hardingley Chapel (now a private residence). Go down the field, over a bridged stream to the left then cut diagonally across the stone yard. (*Very Muddy*).

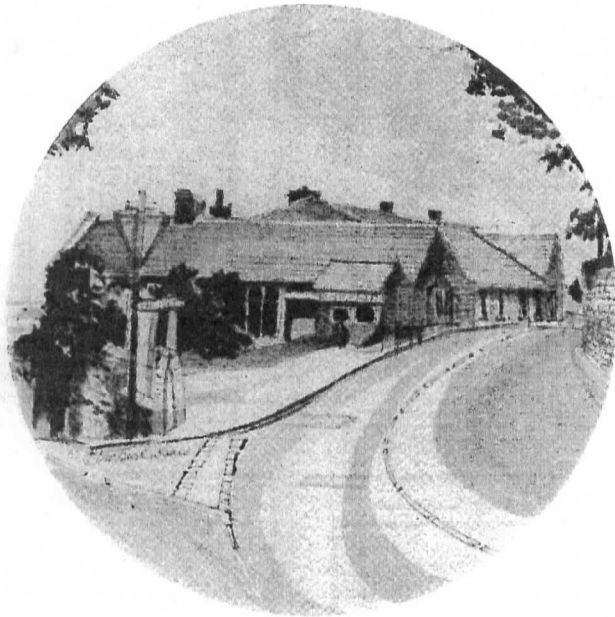


Cross the drive, go over a stile and head diagonally left across two fields. Turn left over a stile at the top into a track. Turn left again down Near Bank for a few metres. Cross the road and take the steep path up 'The Bridle' to Far Bank and Shelley Village Hall.

14 SHORT CUT - Turn right through a stile on the corner of Highwood Lane, across the field and the drive of Gryce Hall then pass through a kissing gate into a field. At Standinghurst Farm, cross the lane and on to a footpath leading to a farm. Cross the drive and follow the path through fields towards Dearne Lea Farm. Pass immediately to the right of the farm buildings. Turn right into Back Lane which leads to Shelley Village Hall. **Take great care crossing the B6116 over to the Village Hall**

(1) Shelley Village Hall

A former church school is the home of Shelley Community Association. Everyone living in Shelley is a member. The Association has organised a Shelley Welly Walk on every New Year's day since 1977, closely following the northern parish boundary from Kirkburton to Roydhouse.



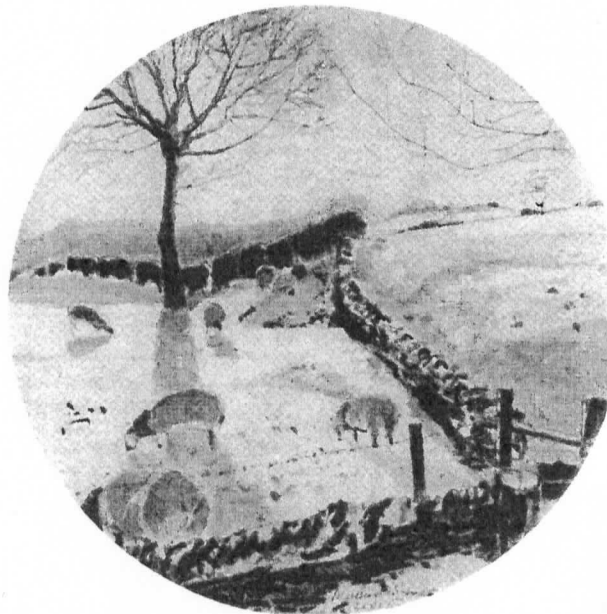
Mining

The walk could also be described as a mining safari because of all the activity in the area. There was a mine close to the Village Hall and another across the road where a house collapsed as a result of private mining during the strike of 1926.

There was mining activity at Healey Greave Wood, Box Ings Lane nr. Kirkburton Church, Standinghurst Farm, the Jinny Pit and Silver Ings, Skelmanthorpe.

(2) **Box Ings Lane** was an old coffin route. In the old days, burials had to take place in consecrated ground. Kirkburton was the only village in the area with a churchyard and so, people had to carry the coffins there, from all directions. The route to Kirkburton from Shepley went along Box (Coffin) Ings Lane.

(3) **Healey Farm** dates back to 1335 and weaving took place in the small cottages. After washing, the cloth was hung out to dry, stretched between stone tenter posts, to prevent shrinkage. Hence the expression 'on tenterhooks'. There was a tenter enclosure here until the 1980's.



(4) **Treacle 'Ole** Early in the 19th century, a wagon carrying barrels of treacle overturned at Low Town. One split open and the locals scooped it up out of the road. Treacle Cottage is a reminder of that day.

(6) **Gryce Hall** ~~former~~ home of Lord Savile, and was occupied in the 14th century by Richard de Gris. It was built as a yeoman farmer's house.

(7) **Roydhouse** At 353 metres this is the highest point of the walk. Roydhouse has a spine chilling story to tell. Local legend has it that, 200 years ago, one of the cottages was home to a 'most ruthless and grasping lawyer' who sold himself to the devil. One night, the devil arrived "in a coach drawn by horses breathing fire from their nostrils" and carried him off. Local fear was such that no one dared to venture into his private room for 100 years.



Woolrow The name has no connection with the woollen trade but is a derivation of 'Wulfro' suggesting that wolves were originally found in the area.

The route follows **Quaker Gate (10)** and passes over the Kirklees Light Railway. The original railway was built for transporting coal and later passengers from Clayton West to Huddersfield.

(11) **Woodhouse** named from a wood house (originally a cruck barn) dates back to Henry III. Woodhouse Mill, once a thriving workplace has been converted into dwellings and its dam is now a pond in an attractive garden.