

# Wander With History

*Walks in Kirklevington & Castleavington*



WALK 6 - THE OUTSKIRTS OF YARM AND BACK

# FOOTPATHS AROUND KIRKLEVINGTON



This booklet is an attempt to describe the historic and natural history of the footpath routes around Kirklevington and its immediate vicinity.

All the footpaths are public rights of way unless a permissive path is indicated. The walks described are all indicated on the relevant Ordnance Survey Maps.

- 1) Outdoor Leisure 26 North York Moors (Western Area).
- 2) Ordnance Survey Landranger 93 Middlesbrough and Darlington Area.

Walkers should obey the Country Code and respect the landowner's property.

Footpaths which may be visible but are not marked as public rights of way on maps should not be walked. These footpaths are for the landowners use and there is no right to roam over any of the land covered by the walks in this booklet.

Walkers should be adequately dressed and have suitable footwear for the weather and ground conditions. A relevant map and possibly a whistle should be carried at all times.

All walks start and finish at Kirklevington Village Memorial Hall.

## INFORMATION ON RIGHTS OF WAY

A public right of way allows members of the public access across privately owned land under the following conditions:-

Footpaths are for pedestrians only.

Bridleways may be used by horses, pedestrians and pedal cyclists only.

All footpaths and bridle ways are based on the relevant current Ordnance Survey Map and show all public rights of way at the issue date of the map.

- The maintenance of paths is the responsibility of the local council.

The local council is the Highway Authority responsible by law to carry out the following:-

- Protect the rights of the public to use the rights of way.
- Prevent where possible the obstruction of the rights of way.
- The public have the right to walk along the footpath but cannot deviate into the adjoining land. The public may however stop on the footpath and rest.

- The right of way may have no legal width but progress along a right of way must cause the minimum amount of damage hence single file through arable land.

Paths can be ploughed out but must be reinstated within two weeks. Paths along a field boundary must not be ploughed out. Sufficient space should be left to allow for safe passage.

- No recognised breed of bull over 10 months old may be kept in a field with a public right of way crossing it, except in the case of a bull which is accompanied with cows or heifers.
- Any other animal known to be dangerous may not be kept in a field which may be accessed by the public.
- Any dispute between the owner of the land and access to a public right of way should be reported to the local authority for clear determination.
- Public rights of way can be altered usually by declaration of the local authority and after satisfactory notice. In some cases these changes may not be on the ordinance survey map but way mark signs should clearly indicate the change on the ground.
- Permissive footpaths are not rights of way but have been indicated by the land owner to direct the public away from the original right of way. This in no way prevents the right of way being used and the existing right of way should be defined on the ground. Although the permissive path may be closed at any time by the land owner. It is hoped by mutual consideration the permissive path will be used as an alternative to the public right of way and so protect what the land owner considers of importance.
- Control of dogs is an important issue in a farming environment. Dogs should be kept on leads or close control (i.e. trained to walk to heel and obey commands without fail). All dog excrement must be picked up. Dogs must not be allowed to foul the landowner's fields or damage any crop or chase stock.
- Waymarkers are used to show the route. Footpaths are shown by Yellow arrows, Bridleways are shown by Blue arrows. Do not interfere with Waymark signs, this is an offence

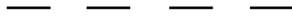
## THE COUNTRY CODE

- Prevent fire risks.
- Close and fasten all gates.
- Dogs to be kept under close control.
- Keep to the path.
- Avoid damage to crops, fences, hedges and walls.
- Do not leave litter.
- Do not make unnecessary noise.
- Do not pollute water supplies.
- Respect the natural heritage and wildlife.
- Be aware of traffic on country roads and lanes.
- Do not interfere with livestock and machinery.
- Respect the heritage and life of the rural environment.

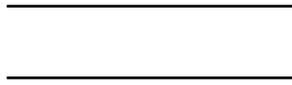
# KEY TO SYMBOLS



Stile



Footpath



Road or Lane



Footbridge



Fence Line



River or Stream



Tree or Wood



Hedge

The sketches are drawn more to give an indication rather than scale. Where possible the scale is approximately 1: 10,000.

All salient features such as buildings, roads, rivers etc. are not to scale.

Where the sketch is broken into 2 or 3 sections by directional section arrows, the section indicates the continuation of the map and the arrows indicate the direction of sight.

Walks 5 to 9 are continuation of previous walks as indicated in the text and on the individual route sketches. To understand the complete walk the relevant walks have to be read together.

## WALK 6 - THE OUTSKIRTS OF YARM AND BACK



*Distance - 5 miles*

*Difficulty - Moderate / Difficult.*

Follow walk 5 until you reach the B1264 but instead of walking towards the Ship Inn, although you may wish to detour to the Ship, turn right into the lane leading to Worsall Pumping Station. You may notice on your right, at this junction hidden in the undergrowth and under the trees, Giant Hogweed, possibly spread from Hogweed Plant Heaven you will shortly come across. Proceed along the lane towards Worsall Pumping Station. The station was built to intercept clean industrial water from the Tees and then pump it to ICI Wilton. It is assumed it still performs that function today but its customers are no longer ICI. On your right you will come to a footpath sign and a gate with a stile next to it. Crossing this stile is not easy so care is required. The gate is usually locked so the stile tends to be the only access to the field.

Once over the stile keep the hedge to your left and walk on to a footbridge in the valley bottom. The footbridge crosses Hole Beck and you bear slightly left to a hedge corner. On reaching the corner continue along the field boundary towards a wood in front of you. As you climb the hill the Tees Valley opens out on your left hand side, not a bad place to stop and take in the surroundings. To the North you will be able to see Aislaby Grange on the Durham side of the Tees.

Continue towards Mourie Wood, entering the wood by means of a stile. On entering the wood you will be immediately confronted on the left hand side of the path by what can only be described as a Giant Hogweed Plantation. Attempts have been made to spray the weeds but more work needs to be done. The wood is infested with the plants and is probably the main source for the propagation of the plants in the Worsall /Kirklevington area. Continue through the wood passing Mourie Farm on your right, exiting the wood through the gate and into the open field usually sown with wheat. At this point the path bears slightly right and again heads towards a hedge corner. It is hoped the path is clearly marked but if not skirting the field hedge on your right may be the better option.

On reaching the hedge corner proceed along the hedge line keeping the hedge to your right until a walkers gate is reached. Once through the gate cross the lane, turning through a gate on your right hand side. Turn left at this gate and proceed along the hedge, keeping the hedge on your left. After approximately 200 yards. a track cuts through the hedge, cross the track and keep the hedge to your left until a stile is reached. On crossing the stile you enter a narrow path with fences on both sides. Turn right and continue along this path for approximately 200 yards. You may find the path overgrown with grass and normal weeds but progress can be made until a lane is reached. Turn left into this lane and head towards the outskirts of Yarm which can be clearly seen.

On your right you will soon be passing Morley Carr, which is the site for a future building estate of approximately 350 houses. The lane quickly runs into the main road from Yarm. The road changing its name from Worsall Road to Allerton Baulk at this point. Turn right and walk down Allerton Baulk until the junction with the B1274 is reached.

Across the road and slightly to your right you will see a stile, cross the stile, walk along the narrow path until another stile is found. Cross the stile and head across the field keeping well to the right of a National Grid building at the base of a pylon.

The ground you are walking on will soon become allotments and the fields in front of you as far as the railway line will become another housing estate for approximately 370 houses. On reaching a gate, after passing the building, cross the stile and enter another field which is remarkably different from the fields you have just left.



**The Great Pasture**

This field is part of the Great Pasture and has remained relatively undisturbed within its fence lines since the late 1700's. Dropping down into this field you enter an area of tranquillity. All this will be destroyed with the introduction of drainage ponds and tarmac paths, all as part of the proposed development.

Cross the Great Pasture by bearing to your right and head for a bridge across Saltergill Beck. After crossing the beck, head through the wood on a clearly trodden path emerging at a prominent tree. The path goes directly across the field in front of you. On your left and slightly behind, you may notice, in winter the field is rather wet. This area may well be a spring, water being forced out of the aquifer which lies below the glacial till and boulder clay, laid down by the last Ice Age.

On reaching the fence directly in front of you, follow the footpath signs and turn left. You may recognise you are now returning to Kirklevington. Keep the hedge line to your right and follow the perimeter of the field pass through the wood and cross the next field to the stile. Crossing the stile puts you back onto Forest Lane where turning left leads you back into the village and the Memorial Hall.

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