



Wellholme Park and surrounding area

Getting there and parking

Start at Wellholme Park car park on Thornhill Beck Lane, Brighouse. Nearest postcode - HD6 4AH. From Bradford Road, turn onto Thornhill Beck Lane, drive through the ford and immediately right turn. Street parking on the side streets off Bradford Road, if the carpark is full.

Other Information

Moderate ability - approx. 8 stiles (I lost count), moderate inclines and descents, steps up, along the route.

Distance 3.1 miles.

No facilities en route. Café and Tescos near the end of the walk.

Walking boots and poles recommended due to uneven terrain.

Cows in one field and a horse in another. Both large fields and animals can be avoided.

Route Details and Reflections

Exit the car park going back to the entry lane and turn right up the hill.

As you reach the arch (bridge overhead), turn left beside a brown metal gate.

The path slowly progresses up the hill to reach an old stone stile which you pass through to the right and then continue ahead.

Progress across to another wooden stile following the path straight ahead.

Pass over another wooden stile as the path begins to head downhill.

As you progress down the hill, you will notice a bridge off to your left. Do not turn left and cross the bridge. Continue to the right straight ahead.

Reflection - Brook



- Take a look at the brook. See how it meanders. This part of the brook hasn't been altered as part of the Brighthouse Flood Alleviation Scheme. The foliage that we have had to clamber through has also been left untouched (as we know!).
- Today we will see beauty in what has just been left to the laws of nature and beauty in what has been co-created by both God and humankind. Creator and creation working together.
- For a moment, just pause and focus on just one branch, one leaf, or one twig and wonder at the amazement of creation.
- Science can duplicate and manipulate what has already been created but we cannot create from source, only our creator God has such power.
- Re-focus on your branch, leaf, or twig and give thanks for all of Creation.

JOURNEY ON

As you exit the path you arrive at Beachwood estate. Progress straight ahead and, to the right of the metal railings, progress up the stairway.

At the top of the stairway you join Fairfield Rise. Continue straight ahead, heading for an uphill path straight ahead of you to the right (wooden fence on right).

As you leave the fenced pathway, ignore the path off to your right and keep straight ahead.

As you reach 1 Common End, with a telegraph pole on your right, take the short right-hand path up the hill to the side of a small bridge.

At the top, continue ahead crossing the old disused railway line. As you reach Birkhouse Road, turn right onto Woolrow Lane. You will see a finger post signposted 'Calderdale way'. Continue along this lane, then ascend the concreted section. Look for Woolrow Farm Cottage.

History

- *Woolrow Farmhouse is a Grade II listed buildings. Despite local assumptions regarding the wool trade, the name Woolrow drives from older roots (wulfwro). It translates to 'wolf nook', pointing to an era when wolves roamed the local area.*
- *The farmhouse began as a traditional two-storey, two-bay hall range built for local yeoman farmers. However, other buildings in the surrounding area of Birkhouse are linked to the textile industry.*

As you reach the collection of houses, the path bears left on the Calderdale Way. Pass through a wooden gate and then progress down the right-hand side of the field edge.

Past through a stone stile and continue to head down on the right-hand side of the next field.

Cross another stile, heading down into the next field along the right-hand edge of the field.

Reflection - Farmland



- Farmland. A great example of something that has been co-created by both God and humankind. Creator and creation working together.
- The rains have finally come after so many weeks of exceptionally hot and prolonged dry weather. Many farmers are counting the cost of this year's Summer.
- We pray for all those who suffer as a result of climate change. We remember those caught up in the terror of wildfires and floods. We

pause to think of all those who are starving due to their land becoming infertile.

- As we reflect on the situations that spoil God's beautiful world, help us, nevertheless, to see God's presence in every situation.
- We pray for governments to work together to prevent further global warming.
- Can you think of just one more small thing you could do to help?

JOURNEY ON

Progress down the field - beware of the horse and uneven ground. As you near the end of the field, the terrain becomes very craggy with deep hoof prints etc. Descend down to the bottom and pass through a gap in the fence.

Continue ahead bearing round to the left with a stone garage on your right hand side. As you reach the road (which is Thornhill Beck Lane) bear left uphill.

Take the first right as you continue on Thornhill Beck Lane. Note - the road is not actually signposted as you are already on Thornhill Beck Lane, but you will notice that the road that you were on becomes Jay House Lane.

As the road bends round to the left, you will see Holly Tree Cottage on your right hand side with white rope fence posts. Immediately turn right to join a little ginnel with a stone wall.

The path ends at a stile, but continue across the wooden stile and then along the right hand side of a field.

Exit the field in the right hand corner passing through a gateway, continue along the path following the wall down the right hand side of the field. Note - cows in field.

The path continues down bearing right to join a more substantial path leading back to the lane and over a stile.

As you reach the road, turn left down the hill to immediately turn left through a gap in the wall after 20m.

Reflection - Railway



- You may recognise this bridge from the start of the walk as we are walking a figure of 8. Initially you saw it from the other side as we left the car park and started walking up Thornhill Beck Lane. We turned left just before it.
- We will be walking up to it soon but, unfortunately, we can only turn left and walk along the disused railway line, as the other side of the bridge was demolished and no access is allowed to the bridge.
- Before Christ, access to God was believed to be limited to the High Priest who only entered the Holy of Holies (the innermost sacred room of the temple, viewed as the earthly dwelling of God's presence) just once a year.
- Christ can be described as a spiritual bridge now connecting God and humanity. Can you see that (literal) connection?
- Pause for a moment and give thanks that access is allowed by anyone to that bridge. We come just as we are.

JOURNEY ON

The path continues up the stairway and then bends round to the right. Continue ahead along the old railway line. Keep bearing ahead and slightly left.

There is a path off to the left (signposted Calderdale way), however, continue straight ahead as that other path rejoins the main path.

As you reach a clearing, immediately take the path down to your right in front of the wooden electric supply cable pole.

The path continues, bearing slightly right down the hill towards the park.

The Path enters the far end of the park. As you join the park turn right and then immediately left to join a smaller path that winds its way through towards a wooden bridge.

Reflection - Brighouse Flood Alleviation Scheme



Background:

The Environment Agency and Calderdale Council are working together to reduce the risk of flooding in Brighouse.

The Flood Alleviation Scheme for Brighouse includes:

- *Upstream storage in Whinney Hill Park and Wellholme Park*
- *Repair and replacement of defences along the River Calder and Clifton Beck.*

As well as reducing the risk to homes and businesses, the scheme will also deliver environmental benefits along the Clifton Beck Catchment by creating and enhancing natural habitats and supporting Natural Flood Management measures.

Reflection

- The landscape and brook has been re-shaped and re-formed for the good of the people of Brighouse, as such devastation has been caused by the previous floods. It's an example of Creator and creation working together to improve life.
- We have the amazing ability and opportunity to co-create with God.
- Take a look around and give thanks for this wonderful creation.

JOURNEY ON

Feel free to enter the park by going over either of the two bridges and perhaps go for a coffee in the park café.

When you are ready, rejoin the path by coming back over the bridge. The path winds through the new flood alleviation area and returns to the car park.