

Wortley Walks

1	"Round the block"	2km	1.3 miles
2	Through Copley Wood	2.2km	1.4 miles
3	Across the Park	2.4km	1.5 miles
4	Well End short	2.4km	1.5 miles
5	Well End longer routes	4km	2.5 miles
6	Wharnccliffe Woods (shorter)	4km	2.5 miles
7	Pennine trail and Well End	4.8km	3 miles
8	Wharnccliffe Woods (longer)	7.2km	4.5 miles
9	Ivy Cottage	6.4km	4miles
10	To the South of Wortley	6.4km	4miles
11	Rural walk through an industrial estate	6.4km	4 miles
12	Cheese Bottom	9.6km	6 miles
13	Round to Wentworth	10km	6.3 miles
14	Wharnccliffe Lodge and crags	13km	8 miles
15	Grand Sweep of Wharnccliffe Chase	15km	9.5 miles
	History notes		

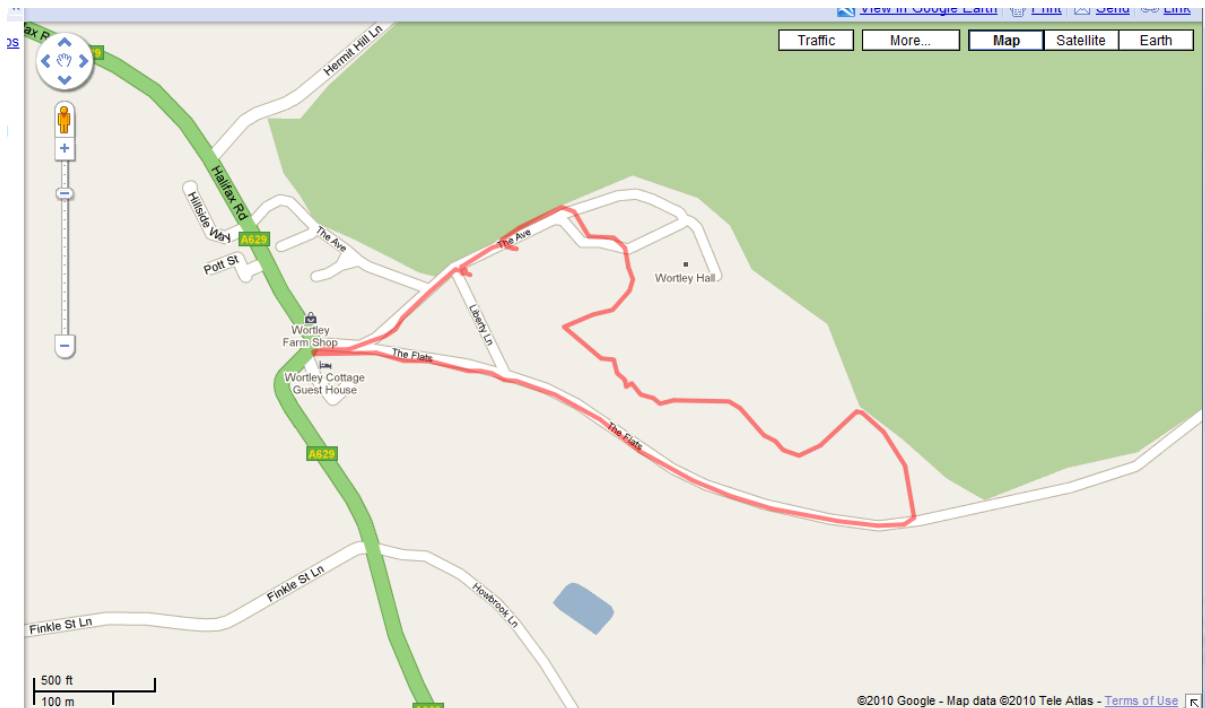
This booklet supercedes John Barstow's '15 Parish Walks Around Wortley' which was produced when walking down local roads was a pleasurable experience, and walking across the Stocksbridge by-pass was feasible. These walks now stick to footpaths as much as possible, although Mr Barstow's influence lingers on, not least in the historical notes. The previous book said "We hope this booklet will help you to enjoy getting to know Wortley better" and that hope remains for this current set of walks. It's a lovely village in a lovely setting.

Car parking: the walks are all based on setting out from Wortley Village. Car parking there is very restricted and much more is available for all-day use at the Trans-Pennine Trail car park at Finkle Street, known as Cote Green Car Park. To get to Wortley from there follow the end instructions for Walk 5. Walks 7,9,12,14,15 all pass that car park as part of a circular walk so they can be easily adapted.

^{HNXX} means there is a history note at the back of this booklet.

GPS: All the walks are available as kml files, currently at e.g www.vtcc.org.uk/walks/2012/01.kml

Walk 1 Wortley Hall



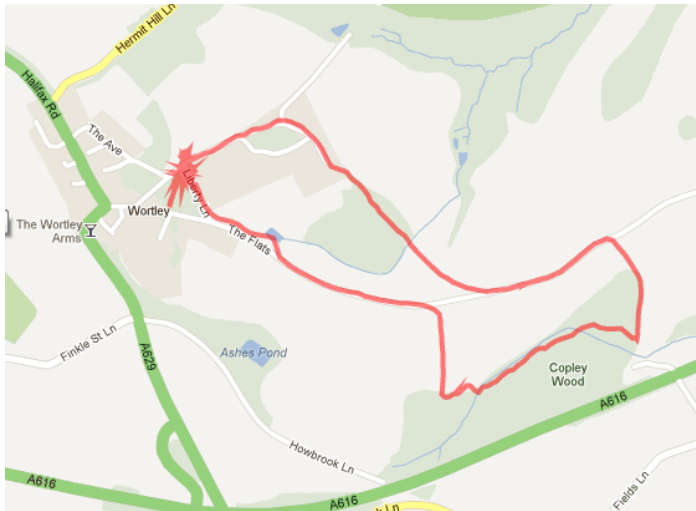
Road walking: virtually none (Wortley Hall drive)

Roads to cross: none

Distance: 2km or 1.3miles 30mins

From the Post Office/Countess tea rooms walk downhill towards the old sweet-chestnut tree which has a bench around its trunk. Bear right and continue down the lane and through some white painted gates into an open field with a clear track (this is the Timberland trail). Keep walking on this track until the fence on your left stops by a field gate. Turn left here, keeping a small copse on your right and heading for a pair of large iron gates. Just to the left of these gates is a pedestrian gate into the grounds of Wortley Hall^{HN19}. Through the pedestrian gate are two 'cattle-grid' bridges (unfortunately making the walk unsuitable for wheel-chair users) and then a permissive path through the grounds of Wortley Hall. You can go straight ahead, passing a very gnarled old sweet chestnut tree on your left. This path takes you up to the car park at the front of Wortley Hall with its magnificent formal gardens and a tremendous view, and then the Hall's drive up to the village. Nicer is to turn left after the cattle-grid bridges, keeping the gnarled old chestnut tree on your right, and walk up the path (always bearing left if in doubt as other paths join) till you come to the Hall's old pond with an ancient oak tree at the far end. Walk past this ancient oak, along an avenue of young hornbeams and then turn right at the entrance to the walled kitchen gardens to go down the Peace Walk, through a gate to a drive with the Hall's stable block on your left. Join the drive leading out of Wortley Hall here and walk up to the village of Wortley, past the old Head Gardener's house^{HN17}.

Walk 2 Through Copley Wood



Road walking: Virtually none Roads to cross: none

Distance 4.8km or 3 miles

As for Walk 1 walk down the slope towards the old sweet chestnut tree with the bench beneath, bear right on the Timberland Trail and follow the lane down to the white painted gates leading into Wharnccliffe Park. Through the gates walk to the end of the hedge on your left, and then turn to your right where a path leads over a stile and towards the trees of Copley Wood. Follow this path till you reach the trees, turn left along the field edge, and 15m on turn right sloping down into the wood (the footpath is marked but often difficult to see, it's where Copley Wood sticks furthest out into the field). Follow this path downwards until you meet a path crossing yours. Turn right here towards the Stocksbridge by-pass and you shortly come to a modern kissing-gate. Go through, then turn left up the permissive bridleway to join the Timberland Trail by a bench with a fine view of Wortley Hall. Turning left on the Trail you can go straight back to Wortley, retracing some of the walk you've done or, recommended, bear right soon after the first gate you come to. Keeping the copse on your left you can then walk to the gated entrance to Wortley Hall and back up to the village (see Walk 1).

Walk 3 Across the Park

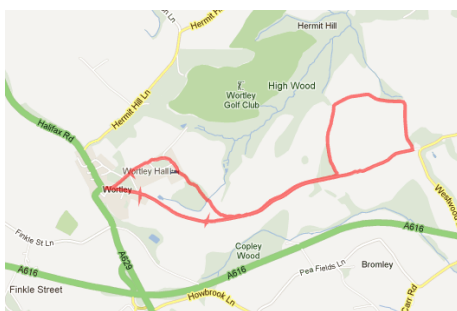


Road walking: none Roads to cross: none

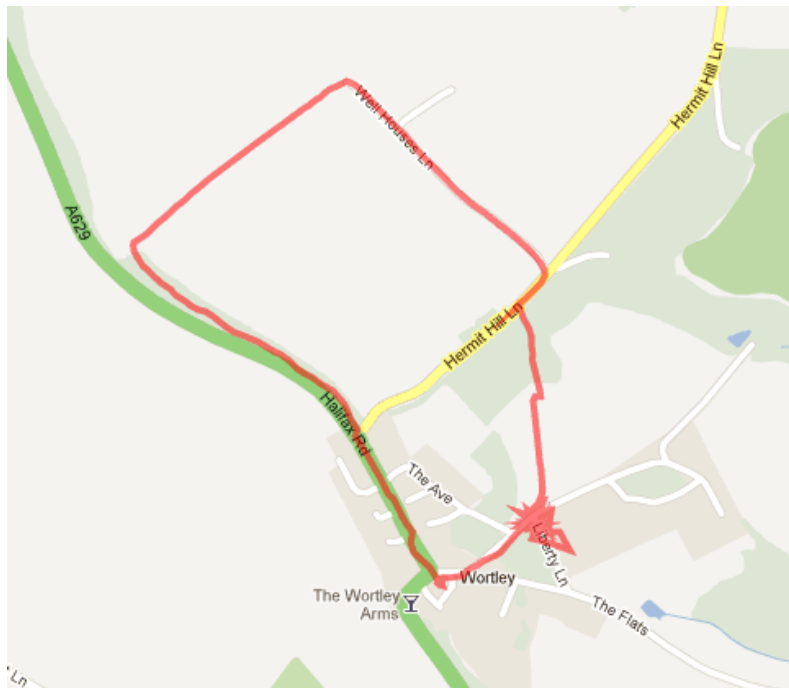
Distance 4.8km or 3 miles

As Walk 1 make your way to the old sweet chestnut tree in the village square and bear right down the Timberland trail. Follow this trail right across the Park to Westwood Lodge by the gates onto Carr Lane/Westwood Lane. If you don't want to turn round here and re-trace your steps, bear left down the field edge and walk entirely round the field boundary (this will take a good 20 mins) to arrive back on the Timberland trail where you turn right for Wortley, using one of the two endings from Walk 2.

Distance 5.5km 3.4miles



Walk 4 Well End Short



Road walking: 20 yds

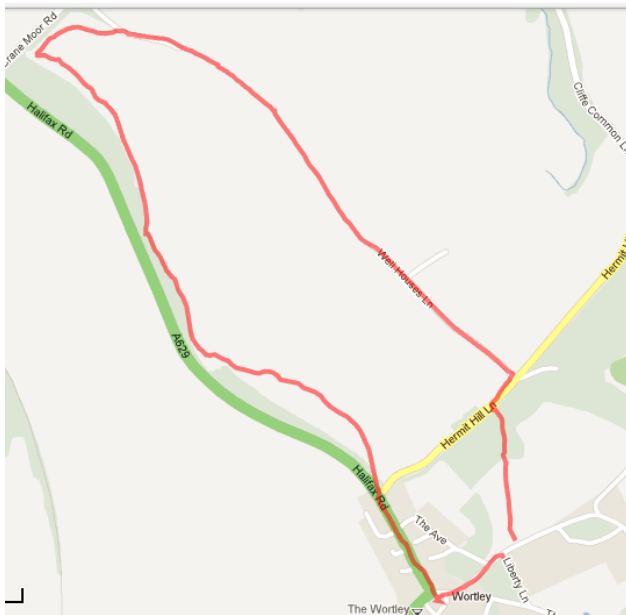
Roads to cross: Hermit Hill Lane

Distance: 3.5km 2.2 miles 40mins

On the church side of the main road running through Wortley walk northwards (towards Huddersfield) until there are no more houses on your left. You will now be at the junction with Hermit Hill Lane and there is a sign for Wortley Golf Course. Cross the main road here so as to enter the belt of trees running alongside the main road. This is a permissive footpath. After a flat patch with beech trees this path meets a cross bridleway (Cross Lane) where you turn right and continue until you reach some houses, Well End^{HN20} with their drive on your right. Turn right and walk down the drive (this is Well End Lane), passing Northorpe Farm^{HN16} on your left. At the end of the drive you emerge onto Hermit Hill Lane with the Golf Clubhouse on your left and Royd Cottage on your right. Turn right here and walk up Hermit Hill Lane past a stone trough. Twenty yards further on there is a break in the wall on your left with a public footpath sign directing you up some steps. Go up these steps and through a small wood to arrive at a stile leading into a sheep field. There is a fine view of Wortley Hall's stable block and the walls of the kitchen gardens. The path leads across the field to a stile in front of the old Head Gardener's^{HN17} house. Turn right here and up the drive to Wortley village.

Walk 5 Well End longer routes

a)



Road walking: 20m of Hermit Hill Lane

Distance 4km or 2.5 miles

These two walks reverse the direction of walk 4.

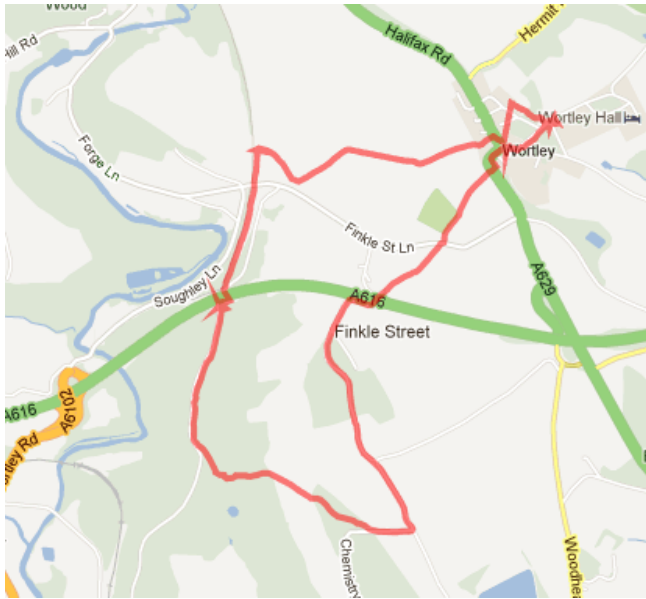
From the Post Office head down towards the sweet chestnut tree with the bench underneath, bear left and head down the hill. After a road to your left take the stile on your left opposite the old Head Gardeners House^{HN17}. Across the field there is another stile into a copse, and a trail through to steps (which can be slippery) down to Hermit Hill Lane. Go down and turn right and soon afterwards turn left down Well End Lane beside the golf course. Go to the end of this lane and continue on the footpath with Well End houses on your right. At the end of their gardens is a stile which you take and continue ahead with a hedge on your right. At the end of the hedge is another stile which you take and continue straight ahead to join a fence on your right along which there is a stile on your right after 100m. The walks then split.

For the longer walk climb the stile and immediately turn left along the field edge, heading for the house known as Clappers. The path skirts the edge of the house and you go down their drive, keeping a good lookout for a stile on your left tucked away in the hedge. Take that stile and climb upwards to your right through the field. On reaching a plateau you'll see a stile on the field edge parallel with Crane Moor Road. Head towards that stile but turn left just before you reach it to go round the field end and up the field edge with the wood on your right to a stile which takes you into a short detour through the wood to reach the top of the field. Here there is a path along the eastern edge with the A629 below and parallel to you. ☺ Go along this path to its end and then dip down into the wood (with magnificent beech trees) and follow the twisting path until you reach a broad path coming up from the road on your right. Turn left here for a few metres until the ground is flat

and then there is a path on your right going through the woods, emerging at the northern end of Wortley.

For the shorter route, don't take the stile but turn left instead to climb up the hill to a stile, then straight across a field to a path at the edge of a wood. Turn left along this path and follow the directions from point © above.

Walk 6 Wharncliffe Woods (shorter)



Road walking: none

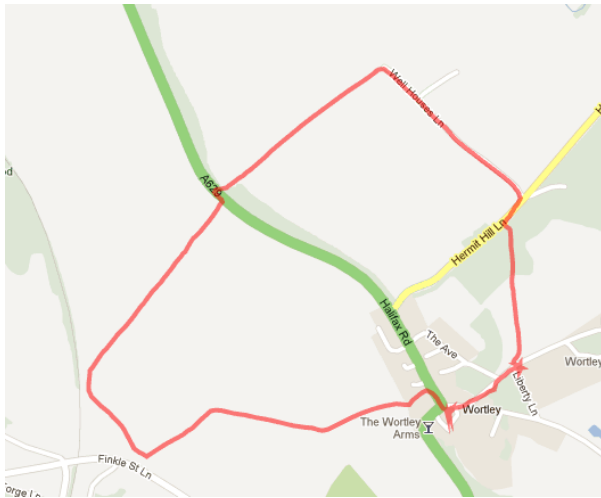
Roads to cross: Finkle Street Lane

Distance: 6km, 3 miles but involving a steep climb

Time: 1 hour

Take the footpath just to the N of Wortley church^{HN1}, through a kissing gate and down the paved path through the fields and turn right at the bottom towards the riding stables. Follow the drive round through the stables and dip down onto the Pennine Trail where you turn left, marked "South via Wharncliffe Woods". Pass the old Wortley station, over a road bridge, past more riding stables on your left and through the tunnel under the A616 Stocksbridge by-pass. Continue straight on up an incline and then through old woods. The Trail then splits with the right hand path dipping away, marked "Sheffield". However, you carry straight on past two old stone gate posts until there is soon (about 100m) a small wooden bridge on your left (and an old footpath sign on your right). Go over this bridge (1 pace) and follow the path steeply up and slightly to the right through the woods until you get to a high stone wall with steps. Climb over and head diagonally right across a field towards a gate, but turn right in front of the gate in favour of another set of nearby wall-steps. Over these is a path to the diagonal right leading up through a lovely beech copse, and emerging onto a farm track where you turn left down towards Moorside Farm^{HN11}. Turn left by their silo and follow the track along to Moor End Farm, continue straight ahead down through Gosling Moor and past the retired greyhounds on your right, through a tunnel under the A629. Turn immediately right, over a stile next to a cattle grid, keep a stone wall on your right and climb another stile. Here you need to turn slightly right in order to negotiate crossing a small stream by utilising a part buried land drain. Then head up the hill taking a path between the two telegraph poles you can see. This takes you to a stile onto Finkle Street Lane which you cross and then take the entrance to the rugby field. Just as you pass the children's playground at the playing field there is a path heading up to Wortley with a stone wall on your left. At the top of this path is an old milestone, a ginnel between two houses, and then onto the main road and almost immediately into the Wortley Arms^{HN2}!

Walk 7 Pennine Trail and Well End



Road walking: 20 yds

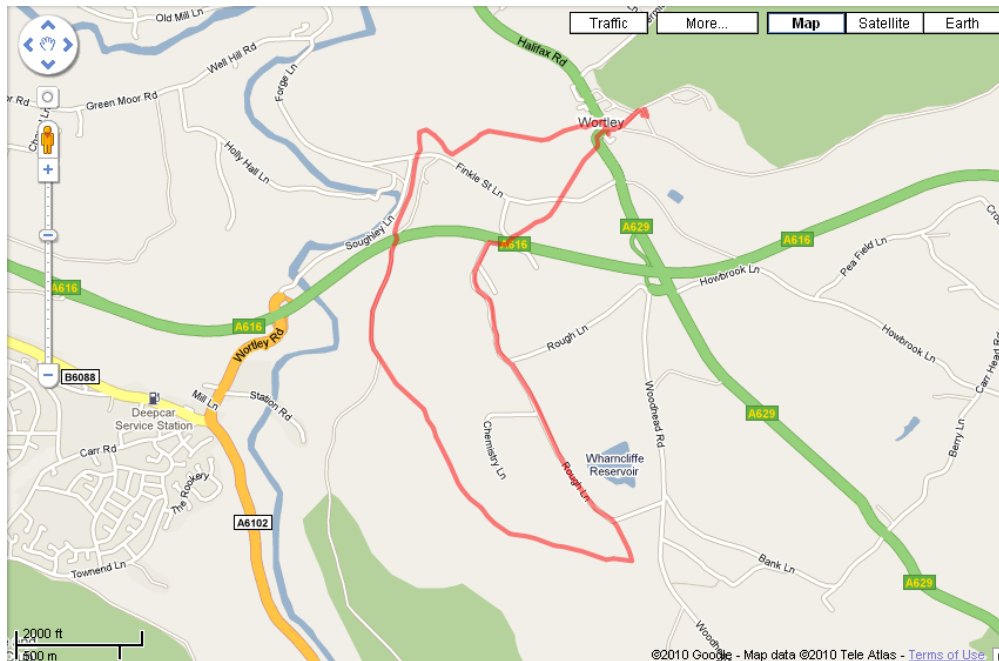
Roads to cross: A629, Hermit Hill Lane

Distance: 4km 3 miles, 1½ hours (aborted 4.67km, 3miles)

(Do the walk this way round to avoid a dangerous road crossing)

Take the paved footpath starting just N of Wortley church^{HN1} and proceed down the fields. Just before the kissing gate at the end of the path there are wall-steps on your right taking you onto a drive cutting through some stables and then on to the Pennine Trail. Turn right along the Trail and continue walking until the woods on your left drop away and you cross over a small bridge. At this point look up to the horizon on your right and try to pick out a break in the stone wall bordering the A629 as it heads northwards from Wortley. Just to the right of this break is a timber structure and a footpath sign where you will be heading after leaving the Trail. On the North side of the Trail bridge you can turn left, down the old railway bank and then cut back left under the bridge you've just walked over. Turn right at a field edge and then go over a stile on your left. Turn diagonally right to go up through the sheep field past two footpath markers, the first one indicating Thurgoland Boundary Walk leading left and straight on is your public footpath. You get to the complicated wooden structure which takes you over the stone wall bordering the A629. Cross this road and go through a break in the low stone wall opposite to turn right on a permissive path through the woods. Continue until another path joins from the road to your right and your current path carries on towards Wortley (you can see the church tower from here). You turn left at this point and walk down the bridleway known as Cross Lane to its end by some houses known as Wellhouses^{HN20}. Turn right here and walk down to the junction of this drive with Hermit Hill Lane (Wortley Golf Club is on your left). Turn right and road-walk for 20 yards till there is a footpath (up 14 steps) on your left. There is then a path directly through a small wood and then a stile leading on to a field with a path leading to a stile opposite the old house which was built for a Wortley Hall Head Gardener^{HN17}. Turn right here up the drive to Wortley.

Walk 8 Wharnccliffe Woods (longer)



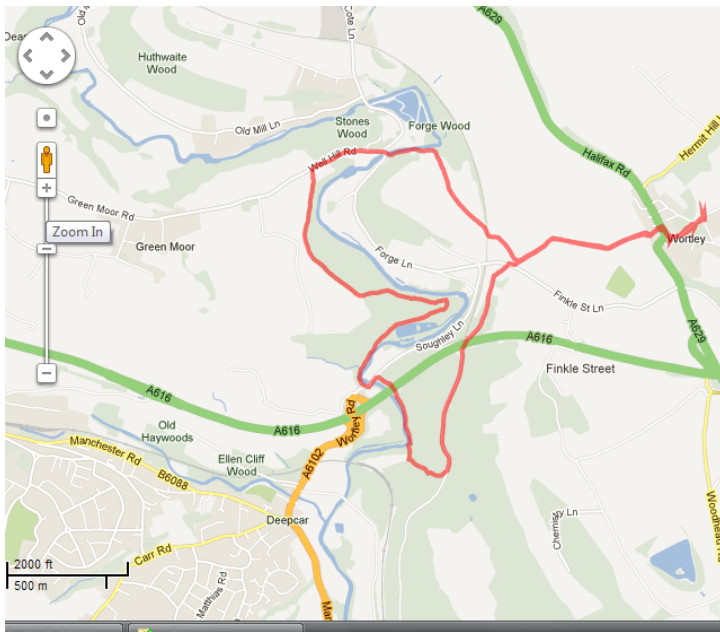
Length 7km, 4½ miles Time 2 hours

Road walking: none

Roads to cross: 1 lane

Walk from the village in the Sheffield direction, past the church lych gates and the cottages on the right. Pass through the opening (a "ginnel") between the last two cottages and down the steps. Notice a very old milestone at the top. The path goes by the graveyard and the rugby pitch to the playing field's entrance in Finkle Street Lane (yes, Street Lane!). Cross over the lane and over the stile attached to the wall. From here you can see, to the left of the farm and some cottages and outbuildings^{HN10}, a tunnel going underneath the A616 Stocksbridge by-pass. Head slightly leftwards of this tunnel and cross a small stream using a part buried drainage pipe, then over two stiles before you go through the tunnel and turn right. Follow the drive round and up the hillside leaving the retired greyhounds on your left. The path climbs up through Gosling Moor to a wooden farm gate and then on to Moor End Farm on your left. This track is an old salt route, and it carries you on straight through Moor Side Farm^{HN11} to a long straight stretch past a reservoir on your left. Where the salt track veers left there is a gate on your right into a field with a path cutting diagonally to nearly the far corner. Follow this path to another gate with a small copse on your left. Through the gate you turn right. After 100 yards the path splits and you take the larger leftmost path, which now goes gently downhill with a stone wall on your left and ancient oak and beech on your right. Arriving at Wharnccliffe Woods, walk straight on downhill on a broader track with occasional orange capped pipeline posts marking your way. Eventually you go through a tunnel under the A616 Stocksbridge by-pass. Almost immediately the path splits; take the left hand path and pass the riding stables on your right and the old Wortley station to arrive at a "public cross-paths" just before an overhead bridge. Turn right here up a short bank with, at the top, a fine view of Wortley church on the horizon. Follow the track round to the right, through the riding stables and then head towards a gate with wall-stones to the left. After this you turn left up a paved footpath to Wortley emerging beside the church^{HN1}.

Walk 9 via Ivy Cottage

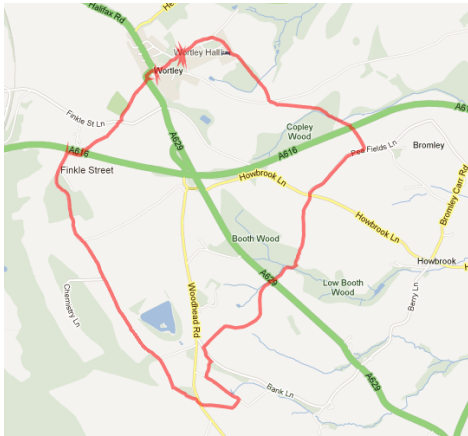


Road walking: 0.5 miles Roads to cross: 2

Distance: 4.7 miles or 7.6km Time: 2.5 hours

Take the paved footpath starting just North of Wortley church and proceed down the fields. Just before the kissing gate at the end of the path there are wall-steps on your right taking you onto a drive cutting through some stables and then on to the Pennine Trail. Cross straight over the Pennine Trail, up a slight bank and take the Public Footpath marked to Low Forge. Across a field it emerges onto a drive leading to some cottages^{HN18}. Go down the drive and emerge by a bridge over the river Don at Forge Lane^{HN15}. Cross over the lane and bridge and walk up West Hill Road until you get to Ivy Cottages on your left. Here there is a footpath running in front of the cottages, then between a stable and an outbuilding and then onto a well worn track high over the river Don in woodland. This path comes to a stile at the edge of a field. Turn left here and at the fence end is a stile into a broad old track which gently descends through fields and woods to eventually meet the river Don. There is a metal bridge here, and stepping stones, but you turn acute right before the bridge on a broad track heading through the beech woods. The track continues past fishing lakes on your left and you eventually reach a road, Soughley Lane, where you turn left. Over a small bridge there is a footpath on your right taking you under a Stocksbridge by-pass bridge. Walk along with the river on your right till you get to an old river bridge, now defunct. Turn left here and climb up a slope with a stone wall on your left. You come to some wooden railings marking the entrance to a short tunnel on your left. Go through this tunnel and up the path. The path forks at a spot with a yellow capped gas marker post. You bear left at the fork and soon join the trans-Pennine Trail by a marker post saying "Wortley". Bear left along the trans-Pennine Trail, then under the Stocksbridge by-pass and bear right. The track takes you past Mallard Stables and onto Finkle Street Lane, which you cross and head on the paved footpath to Wortley.

Walk 10 To the South of Wortley



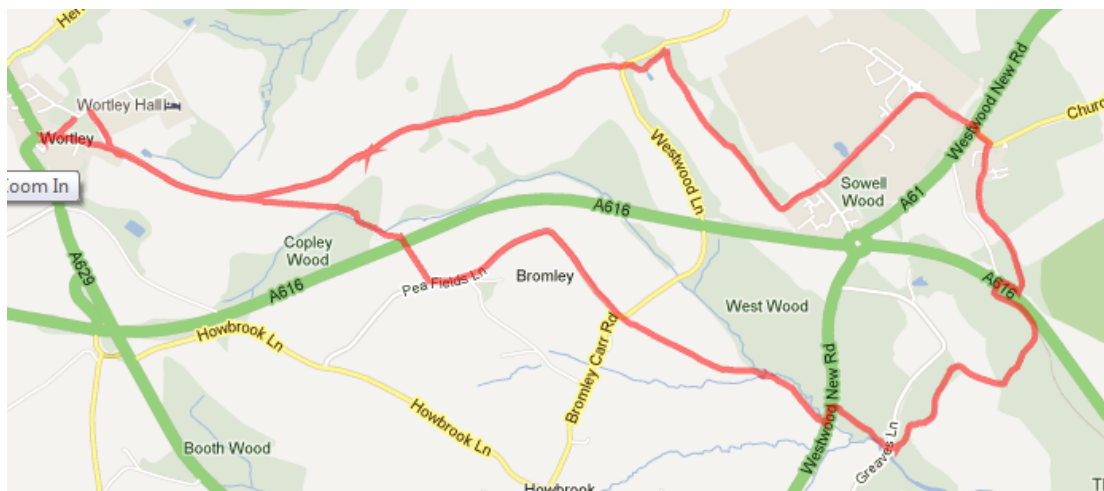
Road walking: 0.5 mile of Pea Field Lane (a very country lane)

Roads to cross: Finkle Street Lane, Woodhead Road, Bank Lane, A629, Howbrook Lane

Distance: 7.9km 5miles 1½ - 2 hours

Take Walk 5 along the salt track past Moor End farm to the copse. For Walk 5 you turn right here, for this walk turn left and shortly arrive at the Woodhead road. Turn right and almost immediately left down a drive to Smithy Fold. Continue in front of the houses and left again up their drive. 50metres before you re-reach the Woodhead Road there is a footpath on your right leading diagonally across a small field and up a bank, emerging onto Bank Lane. Not far on your left is a path opposite leading down the side of a field and turning right at the bottom so as to skirt Carlton House ^{HN14} which is now visible. Walk round three sides of this field and you reach a path descending to the A629. Cross straight over and descend into Low Booth Wood. The path turns right at a stream and then goes leftward up a bank with railings to help you. At the wood edge proceed straight across the field to emerge onto Howbrook Lane at its junction with Pea Field Lane. Go down Pea Field Lane for 0.5miles until you reach a permissive bridleway on your left which takes you under the A629 Stocksbridge bypass. Soon after this there is a modern kissing-gate and a woodland path which turns into a path bisecting a large field, terminating at a stile. Over the stile turn left up the Timberland Trail to Wortley village, or go straight ahead for Wortley Hall, as in Walk 1.

Walk 11 Rural walk through an industrial estate



Road walking: ½ mile

Roads to cross: 3 (nasty ones!)

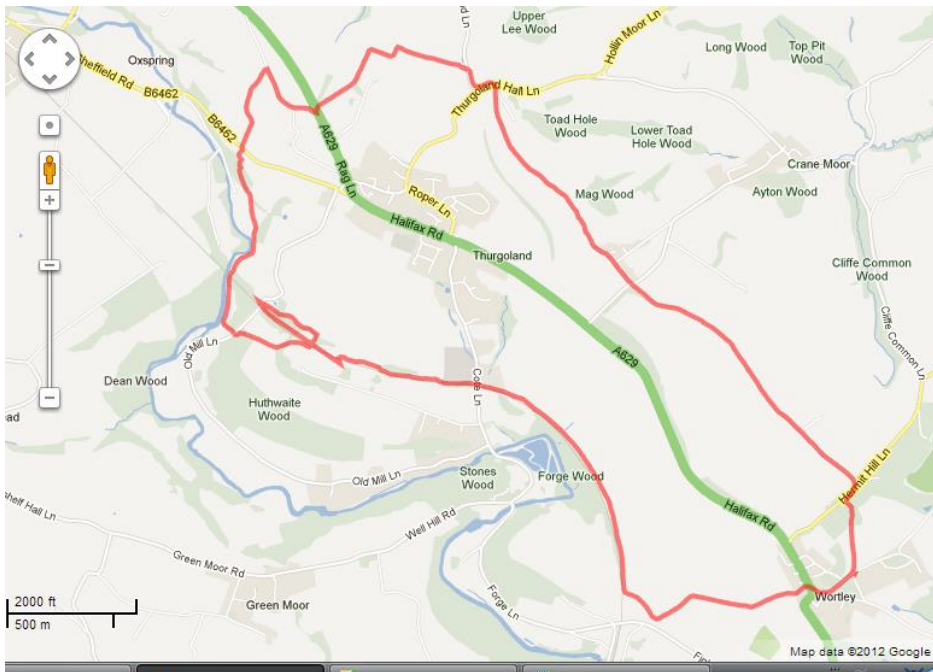
Distance: 9.5km or 6 miles

Time: 2 hr

From Wortley Post Office walk down to the old chestnut tree and bear right to go down Park Lane and into Wortley Park on the Timberland Trail. Just after there is a path to your left going to the big iron gates of Wortley Hall, a stile on your right and then only a little further on another stile on your right leading on to a path which cuts diagonally across a field. Take this route, cross the field, go through Copley Wood, through a modern kissing-gate, under the A629 Stocksbridge by-pass and up a drive which meets Pea Field Lane. Turn left there towards the houses of Bromley and stay on this lane (the name changes from Pea Field Lane to Cross Lane) for a half a mile till it meets a larger lane, Storrs Lane. At this junction you walk straight ahead, through a field mostly with a sporadic hedge on your left, bearing left at the hedge end. The path joins a stream and emerges into another field where you walk along the edge to the next field corner just before which, quite abruptly, there are easily visible steps up to your left which take you up to the A61. Cross over this the pavement on the other side, turn left and walk 50 yds to a well marked footpath on your right. This woodland path takes you to Greaves Lane, where there is a gated entrance immediately opposite bearing various footpath logos. Go up the path after only a few yards there is a split where you bear left. 100yards further on there is another split and you bear left, keeping the fence on your right. Similarly at the stile at the top of the hill, bear left before the stile, so keeping the fence on your right. You emerge onto a broad bridleway where you turn right along a field edge as far as the field corner where you meet woodland. Turn left into the woods and immediately bear left following the path through lovely beech wood until you come to a path running alongside a busy main road. Turn left here and up a slope there is a pedestrian bridge over the A616 marked Trans Pennine Trail – Forest Loop. Over the bridge turn right for 100yds and then left by iron railings (you are now behind a trucker's lay-by). Keep straight along this path until you come to stables on your left. Keep going through the Tankersley Manor hotel complex, under their arch and down their drive to the main A61 road. Cross straight over and go down the pavement of the road leading to the Wentworth/Gladman industrial estate. Take the first road on the left, Maple Road, past the Fire and Rescue services to the end of the road. Cross over into Maple Court at the end of which there is a footpath, the sign pointing in

your current direction. Take this path and soon the path veers right along a wooded edge to bring you to a stile next to a security fence. Over this stile go straight ahead, keeping the fence on your right until you have crossed the field and have come to another stile set in trees. Turn left just before the stile and walk along parallel to Carr Lane until you come to a sharp turn left in your path as the road bends. Turn right here, cross Carr Lane and enter Wortley Park through the gates at Westwood Lodge. Walk straight across the Park to arrive back at Wortley village, the last part re-tracing your original steps.

Walk 12 Cheese Bottom



Road walking: None

Roads to cross: the A629 , Crane Moor Road, Old Mill Lane, and Thurgoland Bank

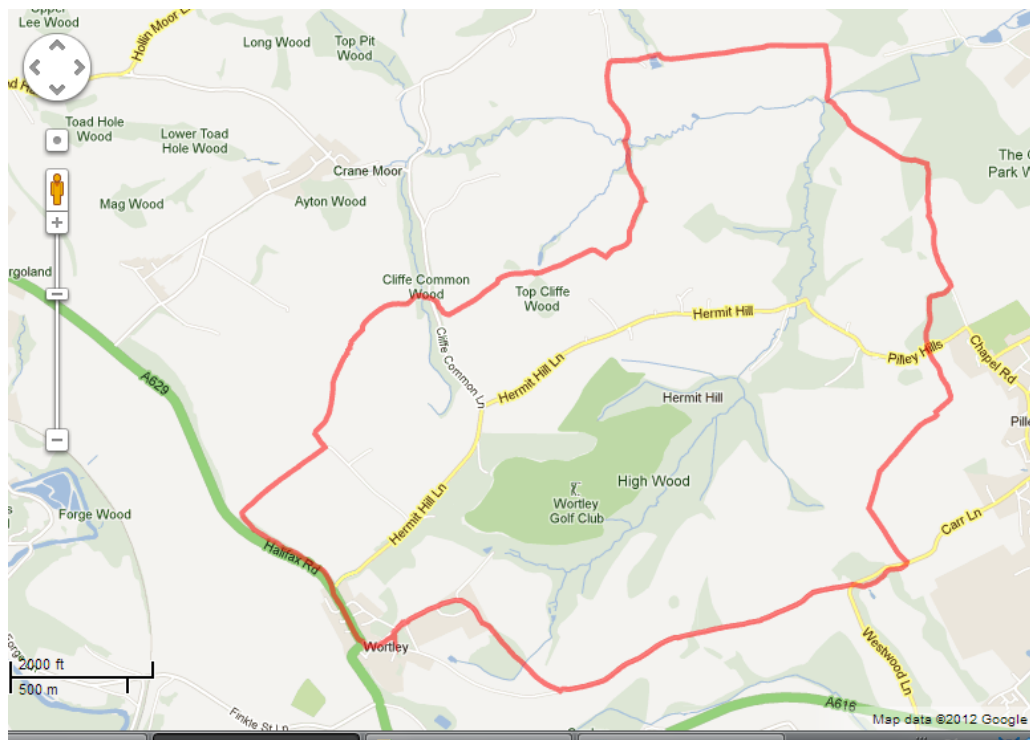
Distance: 10.5km or 6.5 miles (3 hours)

(Do the walk this way round to avoid a difficult climb at Cheese Bottom)

Leave Wortley on the permissive path through the woods running parallel to the A629 heading North. After a flat patch with beech trees this path meets a cross bridleway (Cross Lane) where you turn right and continue until you reach some houses (Well End)^{HN20} with their drive on your right. Turn left here, over a stile and along two fields with a hedge on your right. Cross another stile and head for the house you can see (Clappers). Soon you come to another stile on your right, take this and then turn immediately left so that the field edge is on your left. You come to another stile and then proceed down Clappers' drive to Crane Moor Road. Go straight over here, past the ends of houses of Crane Moor Nook onto a footpath which heads straight on from your road. Continue on this path till you reach a farm track and a stile on your left. To avoid the farmyard (this is Lower Todd Hall) take this stile and turn diagonally right up the field to its far corner where the farm's drive emerges onto Thurgoland Hall Lane. Cross over the lane and take the leftmost stile, turn left and follow the field hedge round the corner till you come to a field entrance on your left. Across Pinfold Lane you can see the entrance to two fields. Take a stile into the right-hand field, and bear left up the field keeping the hedge on your left, then across the field top until you are past the barn of Pule Hill Hall. Over a stile on your left you go up the field, keeping the barn on your left, to a high stile. Climb it and bear slightly right. Over the brow of the hill you can see a stone wall and a stile by steps leading up to the A629 road. Over this road and a few paces to the left is a metalled track. Go along this track and take the second Public Footpath sign on your left before the only house on this track.

Keep the hedge on your right hand side and you get to a stone wall which you keep on your left hand side as it curves around giving you panoramic views of Cheese Bottom and Oxspring. When the path you are on joins a hedge you can see a stile below you and a Public Footpath sign on Thurgoland Bank. Over this stile there is a stile diagonally across the road which you take. Shortly after this you come to a thicket of hawthorn and elder through which a track descends leftwards. Scramble your way down the bank on this track, arriving close to Cheese Bottom Farm where there is a stone wall running to the left alongside which the path runs. After the farm buildings there is a stile on your right, marked for Thurgoland Boundary Walk. You then head diagonally left towards a corner of a field where there is a stile and then a path onto what must be one of the country's most beautiful patches of riverbank. There are kingfishers here. Soon the path crosses a field towards and underneath a high viaduct. After the viaduct, carry on with the river Don on your right as far as the field corner where there are Footpath signs. Turn left here, up the slope, with a stone wall on your left. You come to a stile, a small road (Old Mill Lane) which you cross straight over. Shortly after your path has turned to the left you come to a stile where you turn right towards buildings. At the end of a field climb a rough stone stile by a gate and walk up the lane to a stile, where you turn right. Keep Huthwaite Hall on your right until you reach their farm track, where you turn left to the brow of the short hill. Turn left here, now keeping Huthwaite Hall on your left. At the next stile go slightly leftward and downwards skirting the horse boxes on your right. Cross over Old Mill Lane and descend to the Trans-Pennine Trail. Turn left and through the tunnel. Walk along until there is a path on your left just after you have gone under a bridge, turn up this path past the Cote Green car park, through some stables, down their drive and straight ahead at the bottom, then turn left up the flagged path to Wortley church^{HN1}.

Walk 13 Round to Wentworth



Road walking: none

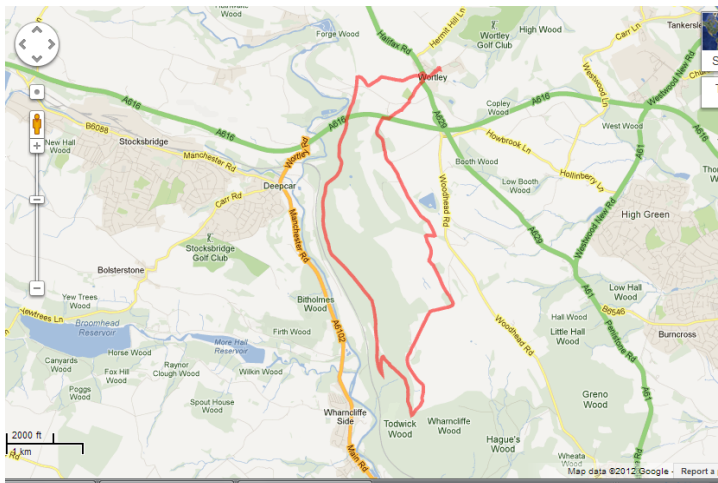
Roads to cross: 2 lanes

Distance: 10.6 km 6.6 miles

At Wortley's northern limit is Hermit Hill Lane with a permissive path through woods starting next to the road sign. Take this path through the woods keeping the main road, A629, on your left. The path arrives at a stone wall with a descent on your left towards the main road. Turn right here and walk to the end of the path where you come to some houses (Well End Houses^{HN20}). Turn left here and turn right soon after, at the edge of the houses' gardens. After a gate you go down a field keeping the hedge on your left, over a stile and then head for the far left corner of the field. Through the hedge there is another stile and a footpath with a small stream to your left. Halfway down the field is a plank crossing the stream followed by another stile. Turn right after this stile so as to keep the stream running parallel to you, on your right. You shortly come to a stile on your right, another stream crossing and then a left turn in the path to get you back walking down a field edge, with the stream again on your left. At the bottom left corner of this field is a stile into a small wood. You descend slightly to the right and then climb up a series of steps with wooden edges. This brings you to Cliffe Common Lane. Cross over and 10 metres to your right there are a few more wood-edged steps to a stile where you turn right for the field corner. Turn left at this corner, away from Cliffe Common Lane and continue until you meet a stone wall which you join at an angle. There is a stone slab set into the top of the wall which you cross and then turn right, heading to the right of a small group of trees and with a field entrance in sight, and the stone wall on your right. Through the field entrance (you may need to use the two stiles) bear diagonally left and up the hill towards a public footpath sign which can be seen on the horizon. At the sign there is a large stile after which the path bears straight ahead. Keep on this path until you come to a "hedge-corner" with a post with

bridleway signs. Turn left here, downhill, with the hedge on your right. The path wends its way to a small wood with a metal gate, and then a track which crosses over a small plank bridge. Beyond the bridge the path takes you to a gate into a field where you head slightly to the right so as to join the right hand field edge, which then takes you to a gate leading on to a farm track with hedges on both sides. Go up here for a short way and you come to the drive leading to houses on your right. Go down this drive and then over the stile on your left. Walk down towards a pond with a hedge on your left. Go past the pond and up the wooden-edged steps, turn right and then left at a stile. From here you walk straight ahead, with a fine view of a statue to the Duke of Wellington on your left, across the tops of several fields. After crossing a double stile set in a thick hedge you cross a field top and come to a large gate with, beyond, a footpath on the left into the Wentworth Estate and Stainborough Castle for food and toilets. Assuming you are not diverting into the Estate you should turn right here, over the stile and diagonally right downhill to a stile by a metal gate and rutted track at the bottom. At the end of this track is a gate, with your path heading leftwards and gently upwards. The path cuts across a field to a gate at the edge of a wood. Through this gate the path wends gently upwards through the wood. After 130 metres take the first track on your right to arrive at a stile leading onto a small field. Heading slightly rightwards up through this field you come to the farm track into the field, with a stile at the very end of the hedge on your right. Make your way up through the farmyard and up their drive to where a wood commences on your right. There is a small metal railing painted blue marking a permissive path at the corner of this wood which wends its way round the edge of the wood i.e. you keep the fields on your right hand side. The path takes you to a gate onto Hermit Hill Lane. You cross straight over this lane and go straight ahead. There is then a stile in the fence leading you into a field which you cross to another stile where you turn right so as to walk away from Pilley Farm with a hedge/fence on your right. At the next stile keep straight ahead, and at the next stile head diagonally left. By this stile there is a small sitting bench, but if you deviate a bit from the walk you can turn right here and, after 5 minutes, reach a better bench with a magnificent view of rolling English countryside, Wortley Hall^{HN19}, and Wortley church's stub tower^{HN1} on the horizon. Assuming you haven't deviated, follow the path across a field to a stile at the far edge where you turn left walk to the field-end on Carr Lane. Cross the lane and turn right on the path parallel to the lane with a security fence on your left. When the security fence stops continue straight on until you see Westwood Lodge on your right where you join the Timberland Trail towards Wortley. Walk straight across the Park and turn right towards the end if you're staying at Wortley Hall, otherwise back into Wortley via Park Lane.

Walk 14 Wharncliffe Lodge and crags



Road walking: none

Roads to cross: 1 lane

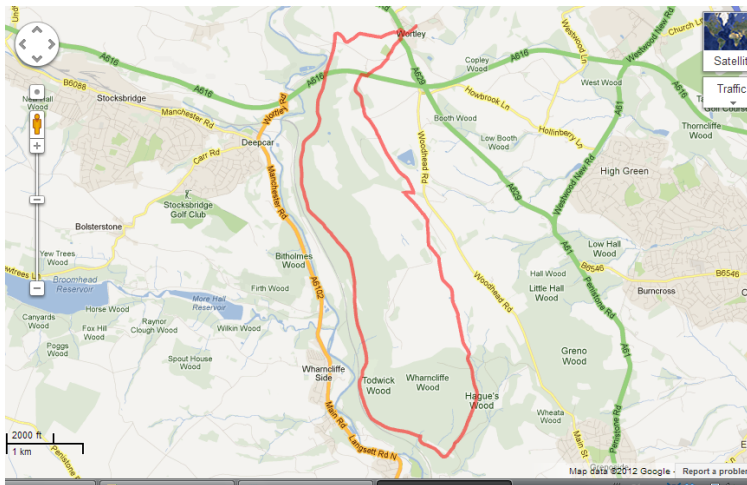
Distance: 13km or 8 miles

On the main road go past the two church lych gates and the cottages on the right. Pass through the opening (a "ginnel") between the last two cottages and down the steps. There is a very old milestone at the top. The path goes by the graveyard and the rugby pitch to the playing field's entrance in Finkle Street Lane (yes, Street Lane!). Cross over the lane and over the stile attached to the wall. From here you can see, to the left of the farm and some cottages and outbuildings ^{HN10}, a tunnel going underneath the A616 Stocksbridge by-pass. Head slightly leftwards of this tunnel and cross a small stream using a part buried drainage pipe, then over two stiles before you go through the tunnel and turn right. Follow the drive round and up the hillside laving the retired greyhounds on your left. The path climbs up through Gosling Moor to a wooden farm gate and then on to Moor End Farm on your left. This track is an old salt route, and it carries on straight through Moor Side Farm ^{HN11} to a long straight stretch past a reservoir on your left. Where the salt track veers left there is a gate on your right into a field with a path cutting diagonally to nearly the far corner. Follow this path to another gate with a small copse on your left. Through the gate you turn right and slightly uphill. After a few trees there is a gate on your left labelled "Wharncliffe Chase Open Access Land". Go through here and keep going down the main track heading for the right hand edge of a copse on then near horizon. After 300m the path forks with the right hand option curving away to bring you nearly back on yourself. Take the left hand fork, heading for the copse and some nearby horse jumps. If the ground is dry take a route heading to the right hand side of the copse where there is a stile over which you turn right on a road/track. If the ground is boggy head for the fence running towards the copse, walk towards the copse with the fence on your left hand side, and just before you are cut off by another fence, half way through the copse, there is a small stile on your left. Take this, turn right along the fence to emerge onto the main road/track from Chase Lodge where you turn right and soon pass the stile which is good for dry ground conditions. Walk along the road/track to where it splits, with stone walls on each side, and a sign indicating the left turn is private. Go through the gate on the right and down to Wharncliffe Lodge with Wharncliffe farm on your left. (Before you reach the Lodge you'll notice a gate in the fence to your left and immediately opposite an unmarked path leading to your right. This path takes you to Wharncliffe Crags and good walks but with

scrambling to rejoin the current walk). Keep going past the fronts of the row of houses, Wharnccliffe Lodge^{HN21}, to a gate marked "Wharnccliffe Chase Open Access Land", through which there is a broad path with a radio mast clearly visible ahead. Keep going and take the path to the right which takes you to the radio mast itself and then beyond. You go downhill towards a 2metre wall over which there is a ladder stile to a path through woods. This path meets another path by a yellow stripe marker post, where you turn right and slightly uphill for a short stretch. The path flattens and eventually bears left and steeply downhill to meet a path by a pink cycle-badged marker post. Here you turn left and downhill for the Trans-Pennine Trail, which is just visible through the trees. Turn acute right on the Trans-Pennine Trail by a sign saying "Wortley".

The Trail now leads you to a concrete underpass with the noisy A616 above. Immediately through the underpass go through the galvanised steel gates to your left, leaving the main track which goes up to your right. You are still on the TPT and soon there is a TPT post marked Oxspring 5.5km and Wortley 0.5km. Not long after there is a multi-coloured National Cycle Network marker post and a bridge over a road. Ignore a path to your right going up to a gate but take the next path to your right immediately before you would have gone under a bridge. Go through some stables, down their drive and straight ahead at the bottom, then turn left up the flagged path to Wortley church^{HN1}.

Walk 15 Grand sweep of Wharnccliffe Chase



Road walking: none

Roads to cross: 1 lane

Distance: 15km or 9.5 miles

On the main road go past the two church lych gates and the cottages on the right. Pass through the opening (a "ginnel") between the last two cottages and down the steps. There is a very old milestone at the top. The path goes by the graveyard and the rugby pitch to the playing field's entrance in Finkle Street Lane (yes, Street Lane!). Cross over the lane and over the stile attached to the wall. From here you can see, to the left of the farm and some cottages and outbuildings ^{HN10}, a tunnel going underneath the A616 Stocksbridge by-pass. Head slightly leftwards of this tunnel and cross a small stream using a part buried drainage pipe, then over two stiles before you go through the tunnel and turn right. Follow the drive round and up the hillside leaving the retired greyhounds on your left. The path climbs up through Gosling Moor to a wooden farm gate and then on to Moor End Farm on your left. This track is an old salt route, and it carries on straight through Moor Side Farm ^{HN11} to a long straight stretch past a reservoir on your left. Where the salt track veers left there is a gate on your right into a field with a path cutting diagonally to nearly the far corner. Follow this path to another gate with a small copse on your left. Through the gate you turn right and slightly uphill. After a few trees there is a gate on your left labelled "Wharnccliffe Chase Open Access Land". Go through here and bear left after a few metres, leaving the track running away to right in order to keep to the brow of the hill, with a fence on your left, and walk across to Chase Lodge, the only building visible from the gate. At Chase Lodge take the broad track/road leading to your right, dipping and then rising to a copse on the near horizon. There are magnificent views to the right. When you reach the first tree of the copse leave the track and turn left over the open access land keeping to the same level (you are continually on the edge of a slight dip). After 300m you join a broad track where you turn right to gently descend. There are pylon wires to your right. Just after a small duckpond on your right, as the path goes under the pylon wires, there is a stile with a double bar on top. It's a wonderful experience to sit on that stile and eat your sandwiches, whatever your intentions of keeping them for later. Continue on the path which forks after 100m. Bear left, leaving the main path and head towards the pine woods with a stone wall parallel to you about 150m away. The path enters a boggy patch to arrive at a large ladder/stile. Over this there is a broad track

coming in from your left. Go straight ahead on this track to continue your path southwards (don't take the cycle route to your sharp right). Ignore the branch of the track to your right which is flanked by two red stripe marker posts and walk a kilometre or so through intensive conifer forest and then into more mixed woodland with beech, chestnut and maple amongst the conifers. At one point paths join from right and left; keep straight on gently downhill. You come to a point where about five paths meet, but there is a Trans-Pennine Trail marker post saying "Wortley" marking the one you want, going slightly to the right and downhill. You are now on the Trans-Pennine Trail and the Trail continues southwards, curves westwards and then northwards to take you to Finkle Street near Wortley. Sticking to the Trail is easy and it will eventually take you through an unmissable concrete underpass. Since the Trail is easy the following notes are for reassurance only. The TPT initially bears to the left with pylon wires high up to the right. As it starts to turn to the right a path to Grenoside leaves to the left, with a TPT marker post. The path increasingly bends to the right and there is a power cable clearing with a view down to the Oughtibridge paper mill. Bear left at a split in the path adjacent to the start of another power cable on your left and another "Wortley" TPT post. You pass an old quarry on your right. Later, under some pylon wires there is a gravel path dipping away to your left but you bear right and up a slight hill on the main path. A major path joins from the right and you bear slightly left.

The Trail now leads you to a concrete underpass with the noisy A616 above. Immediately through the underpass go through the galvanised steel gates to your left, leaving the main track which goes up to your right. You are still on the TPT and soon there is a TPT post marked Oxspring 5.5km and Wortley 0.5km. Not long after there is a multi-coloured National Cycle Network marker post and a bridge over a road. Ignore a path to your right going up to a gate but take the next path to your right immediately before you would have gone under a bridge. Go through some stables, down their drive and straight ahead at the bottom, then turn left up the flagged path to Wortley church^{HN1}.

Notes

The name 'Wortley' is of Anglo Saxon origin and means "clearing for growing vegetables". Wortley is only some 30 miles distant from Cresswell Crags, the site of Britain's only Stone Age cave paintings, so Wortley's lands were certainly known to the hunters of 10,000 years ago. Archaeological investigation on Wharnccliffe Chase has shown the existence of a small British settlement during the period of the Roman occupation. Several local placenames bear Scandinavian origins, including Whamcliffe or Quernccliffe. Wortley ("*Wirtleie*") was included in the Domesday Survey of 1087 as land "wasted" by the Normans. In the late 1100s and early 1200s, Cistercian monks were laying the foundations of the South Yorkshire iron industry, and local iron forging began at this time. The Wortley forges produced cannon balls in 1643 and possibly made arrow heads for Crecy 1346 and Agincourt 1415.

The first record of a family with the name of Wortley is that of a Ralph de Wortley in the early 12th century. Sir Thomas Wortley built Wharnccliffe Lodge as a hunting lodge in 1510 and later Lady Mary Wortley Montagu stayed here. In 1586 Sir Richard Wortley re-built an existing manor house on the current site of Wortley Hall. In the wars between the King and Parliament in the reign of Charles I, Sir Francis Wortley raised a force of about 900, many from his Wortley estate, to fight for the King. See note (19) for the current Wortley Hall.

(1) St Leonards Church. There is a record of a church at Wortley in 1268, the present church being built in the middle of the 18th Century when the records show a great amount of work being done, nearly all paid for by Mr. Edward Wortley and his daughter Lady Bute.

(2) Wortley Arms Hotel. Once known as Wharnccliffe Arms, the present building dates from the 18th century. The Sheffield Directory of 1861 stated that Petty Sessions were held on alternate Fridays. Cattle sales were held here twice yearly. From 1830 meetings of the Wortley Union were held here, the first local government in the district.

(3) Tower House. A small house standing at the north base of the church tower, visible from the footpath to Wortley Station. Said to be the original school dated around 1659. Very small rooms, perhaps originally by the side of the road in 1750.

(4) Tividale Cottage. Possibly the site of the oldest house in the village, this dwelling was rebuilt and modernised in 1983. It stands North of the church on the path to the Tower House and Wortley Station. Said to have been the Headmaster's house when Tower House was the school. Original date circa. 1600. Home of William Nevison, Headmaster and Chapelwarden, 1703 and 1706, died 1723. Possibly the birthplace of John Nevison, Highwayman.

(5) Cottage East of Church. Its date stone says 1840, but it could be much older for it stands in a row, facing Halifax Road, and the next house shows a date over the doorway of 1786. It has a stone roof, gable end with porch, two storeys and stone mullioned windows. It could have been an inn or alehouse, as it has an expansive cellar. It is in a straight line with Tower House and Tividale Cottage.

(6) The Old Vicarage. Built 1880/81 in an acre of land. The erection costs were met by a grant from the York Diocese Extension Society of £150 and also £1520 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It has large stone mullioned windows and a stone slated roof.

(7) Beech House. A brick house in mock Tudor style, known locally as 'The Gas House' as it was built by the first Earl Wharnccliffe for the gas equipment 'manager' at Wortley Hall. Later it was occupied by the person in charge of electrical equipment installed in Wortley in 1910/12. (Wortley Church was lit by electricity in 1912 and the Hall and village a little earlier).

(8) Harper Hill Farm. Situated off the old salt road, in the hamlet of Finkle Street near Finkle Street Green. The salt road was from Finkle Street, past Moor End Farm and Moorside Farm, joining the old Wharnccliffe Road, now known as Woodhead Road. The original house was here in 1269, but was re-built long ago. In 1642, the house and land of Harper Hill then belonged to the Countess of Devonshire, the widow of Sir Richard Wortley (died 1603) who granted the rent as a charity to be shared between two persons from Wortley and two from Tankersley. The farm and land were sold around 1919 to the Wharnccliffe Estate,

(9) Sycamore Farm. Originally (1750) known as Sycamore Tree Public House, now a farmstead standing on the road side of Finkle Street Lane. At one time the house probably had mullioned windows but has been modernised.

(10) Laundry Row. Off Finkle Street Lane, opposite Harper Hill Farm. Originally the Workhouse (dated 1765) and later made into four cottages.

(11) Moorside Farm. This farmhouse was once three houses, and they were known to have been here in 1662 when a Thomas Windle was Chapelwarden. One of the old farm buildings is said to have been a bear house when bear baiting was held in the area.

(12) Cundy House Farm. Situated on Woodhead Road near Carlton House and Carlton House Cottage. Said to be 17th Century in origin. Originally a number of cottages with hostelry. No doubt it could have been a calling house for coaches on the main Sheffield to Halifax and Sheffield to Manchester Turnpikes. The name commemorates the name of Edmund Cundy, Curate at Wortley 1592-1629. At the junction of the Woodhead Road with Wortley Bank (left hand side going to Sheffield) is the base of a stone cross known as Cundy Cross and opposite this cross is the old milestone.

(13) Smithyolds Farm. Now two farms and buildings. At one time a thriving hamlet off Woodhead Road to the east and also approachable from Bank Lane. Cromwell is alleged to have stabled his horses here when going south. Better known as a nail making centre — once upon a time it had a 'cruck' barn but unfortunately this was demolished. Records in the church register show various trades here: Nailor, Charcoal Burner, Wood Collier, Stone Getter, Forgerman, Cordwainer and Keeper.

(14) Carlton House. This house stands on the Woodhead road, the old coaching and turnpike road. Was originally called Cotefield and was the home of the Curates and Vicars of Wortley, being provided by Lady Mary Stuart, Countess of Bute, until 1890. Carlton House is a large square house with a magnificent view to the east from the front of the house. There are two storeys and it is surrounded by trees. It was built circa 1730, and has a Yorkshire slate roof. The eastern facade is typically Georgian, but the western wing is a slight contrast being lower and of a less typical design.

(15) Wortley Forges — Top, Low and Tin. Said to have been operating during the 12th Century, although the earliest documentation is 1567. In full swing in the 17th Century with leases granted by Sir Francis Wortley. There were a succession of forges on the river Don — the Old Wire Mill, the New Wire Mill, the Tilt Mill, Top Forge, Low Forge and finally the Tin Mill in Wortley. The Top Forge was

chiefly occupied with the conversion of pig metal into malleable iron — at Low Force were 'chaferies' where the rough unfinished products of the Top Forge were forged into bars. The Tin Mill, opened in 1743, was a powerful rolling mill producing thin sheets and plates for the manufacture of shovels and spades. It closed about 1870.

Iron castings were also produced at the Top Forge and some of the first railway axles were made here about 1838. Chains were made in the same period. The forges were noted for the reliability of their products but Wortley's small forges could not survive unless they had something special to offer when the larger blast furnaces were built. Although the local ironworkers boasted that no axle of Wortley ever failed in service, and the legend was that Wortley chain held under the greatest strain, the Top Forge was forced to close in 1912 and the Low Forge in 1929. The Top Forge is being progressively restored by the Sheffield Trades Historical Society.

(16) Northorpe Farm. Records show that a farm on the site of Northorpe farm existed in 1318 for in that year Nicholas de Wortley gave to William Calthorne (a chaplain) "the farm at Northorpe and 47/6 a year".

(17) Head Gardener's House. Named Avenue Cottage by the Earl of Wharnccliffe this cottage was built in 1862 in the corner of one of Wortley Hall's walled kitchen gardens.

(18) Chemistry Cottages. Named after Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's interest in science.

(19) Wortley Hall. Built from 1743 onwards on the site of a previous manor house. The Hall was owned by the Earls of Wharnccliffe until 1952, when it was sold to the Labour Party, The Co-Operative Party and a group of Trade Unions to become "the workers' stately home". It had been occupied (and damaged) by the American Army during the Second World War. It is now a co-operative providing conference facilities and accommodation. The Hall has a number of books detailing its history.

(20) Well End. Well End houses are the site of a farm which was owned by a Francis Wood "who in the year 1713 gave forty pounds secured on an estate called wellhouse in the Lordship of Wortley"

(21) Wharnccliffe Lodge, built by Sir Thomas Wortley in 1510. It was Sir Richard Wortley's action 79 years later in enlarging and enclosing his park which caused violent opposition and inspired the satirical ballad "The Dragon Of Wantley" The lodge has strong associations with Lady Mary Wortley Montagu who resided there for a short period in the early 18th century. The floor of one of the rooms bears the inscription of Henry VIII's reign. It is said that from the lodge one can see five counties.
