

Walking in the Area

You may also be interested in these other walks in surrounding areas.

Ecclesfield

Three leaflets outlining historical walks have been produced by Ecclesfield Conservation Group, see www.conservation.ecclesfieldgroups.com

- Discover Ecclesfield's working past 1. The Village Core
- Discover Ecclesfield's working past 2. From Whitley to Smithy Wood
- Discover Ecclesfield's working past 3. Nether Lane to Butterthwaite Dam

Grenoside

Two leaflets outlining historical walks have been produced by Grenoside and District Local History Group, see www.grenosidelocalhistory.co.uk

- A Historical Walk around Grenoside Village.
- Wheata Wood Archaeology Walk.

Tankersley

A leaflet outlining two walks around Tankersley has been produced by Tankersley Parish Council, entitled Tankersley Trails.

Bradfield

A series of ten short and longer walks around Bradfield and the surrounding areas in the parish have been produced by Bradfield Parish Council and Bradfield Walkers are Welcome. All walks are available for download from www.bradfield-walkers.org.uk

Trans Pennine Trail

The Trans Pennine Trail crosses the Ecclesfield Parish. This is a coast-to-coast route for walkers, cyclists, horseriders and people using pushchairs and wheelchairs. For further information visit www.transpenninetrail.org.uk or telephone 01226 772574.

Walks in the East Peak

The East Peak Innovation Partnership LEADER programme has funded a variety of walking projects across the East Peak area. As well as maps and directions for walking routes, the projects also provide information on public transport and local facilities. The leaflets are available to download from:

www.denbydale-walkersarewelcome.org
www.denbydale-kirkburton.org.uk/walksandtrails.aspx
www.upperdenby.org.uk/ddpwg
www.kirkburtonparishwalks.co.uk
www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk
www.stonetosteel.org.uk
www.penline.co.uk/walks.htm
www.visitpenistone.co.uk/walks/walks.html

Circular Walks Around The Parish

A Walk from Mortomley to Thorncliffe Woods

This leaflet is one of a series of 8 walks published by Ecclesfield Parish Council. The aim is to provide information to walkers, to encourage them to enjoy walking in our beautiful area and stay and enjoy the facilities that local businesses can offer.

The walks in the series are:

- Ecclesfield Common to Horbury Lane
- High Green to Wortley
- Potter Hill to Greno Woods
- Charlton Brook and Thorncliffe Pond
- Mortomley to Thorncliffe Woods
- Grenoside to Whitley
- High Green to Tankersley
- Ecclesfield Church to Whitley

Ecclesfield Parish Council seeks to promote responsible walking. Please follow the Countryside Code when visiting the area.

- ✓ Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs.
- ✓ Leave gates and property as you found them.
- ✓ Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.
- ✓ Keep dogs under close control.
- ✓ Consider other people.

Great care has been taken to ensure that the information in this leaflet is accurate. Ecclesfield Parish Council accept no liability for any claim, loss, damage or injury (howsoever arising) incurred by those using the information provided.

If you have any comments about the walks, encounter any difficulties or would like information on other activities in the Ecclesfield area please contact Ecclesfield Parish Council, Council Offices, Mortomley Lane, High Green, Sheffield S35 3HS. Tel. 0114 2845095, email ecclesfieldPC@aol.com

Acknowledgements

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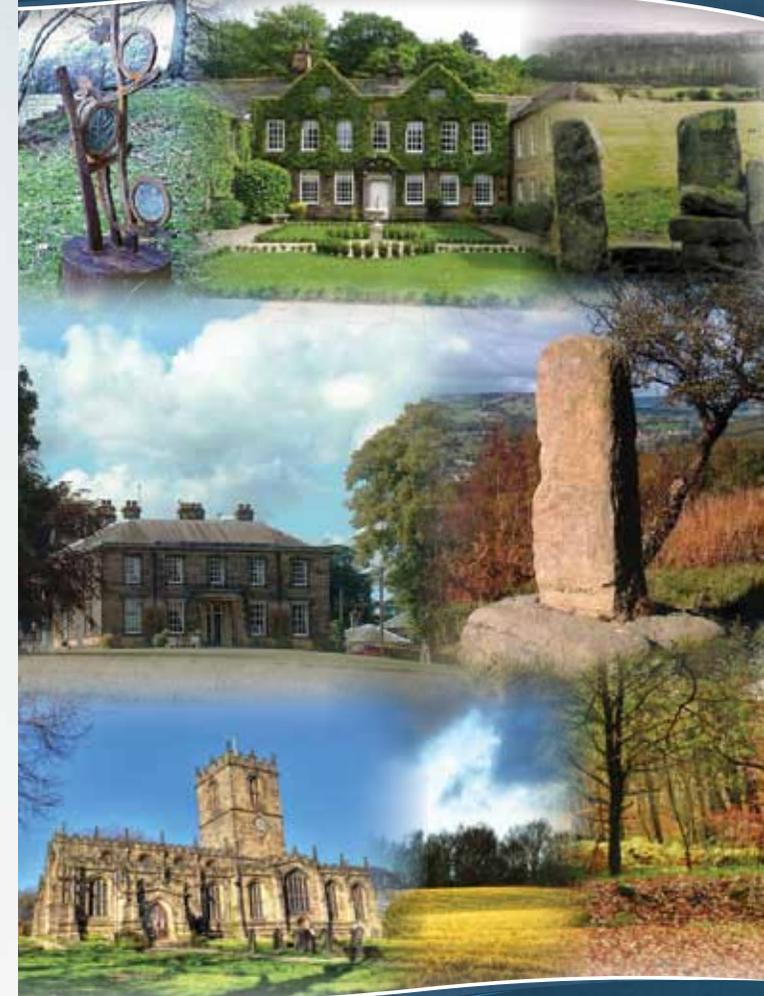


Scan Me



A Walk from Mortomley to Thorncliffe Woods

A woodland walk of around 2 miles into Thorncliffe Woods, returning alongside Westwood Dam and the brook winding down the valley.



ECCLESFIELD
PARISH COUNCIL



Points of Interest

Mortomley Hall



Mortomley Hall

Mortomley Hall was situated almost opposite the Parish Council offices; apartments now stand on the site. The hall was built in 1703 and demolished in the 1960s. It was known locally as the doctor's residence.

Tankersley Pit

Les Sansam used to work at Tankersley Pit and described his job working with pit ponies underground. He said the work "...consisted of fetching full tubs of coal up a steep slope from where the fillers or trammers had pushed them and taking back empty tubs from the upper level... the small tubs contained about a third of a ton. For a full six shift week you received the princely sum of exactly £1 take home pay." Quoted in J. & M. Jones (1993) "...A Most Enterprising Thing..." p15 - 16

Westwood Country Park

The park, managed by Sheffield City Council, was created on the former Tankersley Colliery site.

Westwood Dam

The dam, now a fishing pond, was created by Newton Chambers & Co. to supply water to Thorncliffe Ironworks.

Westwood Rows

Until they were demolished in the late 1960s, a double row of cottages and Methodist chapel once stood on the far side of the dam. They were built by Newton Chambers & Co. to house non-union workers during the 1869 - 70 Miners' Lockout.

Thorncliffe Wood

Thorncliffe Wood may be part of the 'pasturable woodland' referred to in the Domesday book as belonging to the manor of Tankersley, although it is first mentioned by name in a document dating from around 1600, listing the woodlands belonging to Gilbert, 7th Earl of Shrewsbury. At this time the wood was used for the production of charcoal and other products.

Thorncliffe Wood today is recovering from the devastation caused by coal mining and iron working and is described as a semi-natural ancient woodland. Although it is now dominated mainly by sycamore, it also has significant numbers of oak trees as well as a few beech and ash. The shrub layer consists mainly of young sycamore, and ash, plus a few willow and birch trees. It is one of the few local woods where elm forms a significant feature and indeed there are some large mature elms which seem to have escaped the ravages of Dutch elm disease.

Westwood Riots



The 1869 - 70 Miners' Lockout occurred because Newton Chambers & Co. had decided to reduce miners' wages and refused to negotiate with the union. 850 workers who refused to accept the company's terms were locked out, although several hundred continued to work. The company recruited new non-union workers and built houses for them at Thorncliffe and Westwood Rows.

The Riots took place when striking miners attacked the non-union men. On 21st January 1870 a crowd, estimated at between 300 and 1500 armed with picks, pistols and bludgeons, attacked the cottages on Westwood Rows. The police could not contain the situation and it was only when reinforcements arrived from Barnsley was the violence, damage and looting brought under control. Although no-one was killed, one miner and at least one policeman were seriously injured. 23 men were sent for trial at York assizes and 11 received prison sentences. The dispute continued for another 7 months. Miners returned to work but had to accept the company's terms, including lower wages.

For more information see J. & M. Jones (1993) "...A Most Enterprising Thing..."

Walking Information

Walking with Dogs

There are things to consider when walking in the countryside to ensure you, your dog, other rural users and landowners can all enjoy the countryside. The Countryside Code advocates keeping dogs under 'effective' or 'proper' control - where they stay close by and you are confident they will respond to your command - but there are certain situations, and times of year, such as when birds are nesting, when specific rules apply that require dogs to be kept on a lead.

Dog walkers should take extra care when walking dogs around livestock (especially young farm animals) and horses, where there are ground nesting birds, near reservoirs and streams used for public water or by the coast. There may also be local restrictions banning dogs from areas that people use.

If you find yourself being threatened by cattle - which can become unsettled by the presence of a dog - while out walking it is always best to release your dog from its lead. The dog will be able to run away and the cattle's interest will be diverted from you to the dog.

Remember to clear up after your dog, even on farm land, as dog faeces can carry diseases that can affect humans, farm animals and wildlife. It is also worth remembering that some people are wary of dogs and may find even your friendly dog intimidating!

Public Rights of Way

The information below is intended to give general guidance only about public rights of way - it is not intended as a definitive guide to the law. Always observe any signs when you are out walking.

Public Footpaths- are for walkers only.

Public Bridleways- can be used by walkers, cyclists and horseriders BUT NOT motor vehicles, including motor bikes.

Restricted Byways - can be used by walkers, cyclists and horseriders BUT NOT motor vehicles, including motor bikes.

Permissive paths - are paths which an owner has given the public permission to use, but it can be withdrawn at any time. Usually they are for walkers only.

Cycle tracks - are usually specially created paths, over which there is a right of way on pedal cycle and possibly also on foot.

For more information see Ramblers website - www.ramblers.org.uk

Reporting Problems on paths

If you encounter any problems when using public rights of way, please contact Ecclesfield Parish Council or Sheffield City Council Rights of Way Unit.

A Walk from Mortomley to Thorncliffe Woods

Distance: **2 miles** Time: **Allow 1 hour**

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 278 Sheffield and Barnsley

Start: Ecclesfield Parish Council Offices, Mortomley Lane, High Green S35 2HS

Public Toilets: None on route.

Refreshments: Bloomer Cafe, Queen's Head and Market Inn at Mortomley roundabout Wortley Road; Pack Horse Inn, Packhorse Lane.

Level of Difficulty: Moderate. A walk through mature woodlands. Mostly surfaced paths but with some stiles and steep up and down hill sections. Boots or stout shoes advisable when wet.

The Route

Points of interest are shown in bold

1 From Ecclesfield Parish Council Offices go down Packhorse Lane and continue straight down the public footpath to the right of the Paces Campus. Turn right after passing through the A frame gate at the bottom of the hill. Follow the green metal fence enclosing the pond round to the right.

2 At the end of the green metal fence take the wide surfaced path which goes up the hill to the TPT sign (Trans Pennine Trail).

3 Turn left and continue on the TP trail through the woods to an A frame gate beside a metal gate at the end of the woods. Continue straight on, ignoring a wooden stile on your left, to follow the path round the outside of the grassy field, keeping the fence on your left. Beware of model aircraft flying in this area.

4 When you reach the woods take the path on the left leading steeply down the hill. Follow the path down to the bottom of the hill, turning right at the bottom to join the road (Greaves Road) at Westwood Bottom.

5 Turn left onto the road and almost immediately left again onto the public footpath by the side of the stream. Follow the path through the woods.

6 **Westwood Dam** appears on your left. On reaching the houses on the right take the path which leads beside the fence to a gate into a car park area by the dam wall. Cross the car park to the path opposite and carry straight on through the trees. At a junction with another path turn right and follow the paved public footpath up behind St. Mary's Catholic Primary School to emerge on to Mortomley Road. Turn left and go down the road to return to the starting point.

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