



## Holmfirth & Nora Batty's Haunts

A moderately strenuous walk through the Holmfirth Valley and round the haunts of Her with the Wrinkled Stockings

### Essential Facts

- Route distance: 14.7 km (9.2 miles)
- Approximate time: 4 hours
- Optional shorter route: 10.5 km (6.6 miles)
- Approx. total ascent: 273 metres
- Start point Grid Ref: SE 142 083
- GPS Ref: SE 14250 08377
- Recommended O.S. Map: Explorer OL1 or 288
- Toughness Rating: Peaks 2

Please see the notes on Toughness Ratings at the end of this report

Up For A  
**CHALLENGE ?**

Take a Great Walk and HELP  
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A Donation  
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A Team Effort

Full Info from the Great Walks web site

## THE ROUTE

Start the walk from Crown Bottom car park, **S**, on Huddersfield Road in Holmfirth. From the car park turn right for just 150 metres to the Fire Station and then left up Wood Lane. It becomes a footpath in front of a cottage, waymarked for Upperthong and joining a track by a bench where you turn right.

Follow the path leftwards weaving past a wooded clough. Ignore all path choices and keep left uphill on the path between walls which widens into a track again and turn left at a stile, **A**, towards the houses in Upperthong. Pass in front of the houses and turn right into the village, passing the Weavers House and the Royal Oak pub. At the end of Towngate turn left and in 100 metres take the second public footpath on the right, down a cinder track.

Cross the A635 going down the lane and up the other side. At a T-junction turn right onto Hogley Lane. These are narrow traffic free farm lanes and as you approach modern stone houses turn left up steps set in a high field wall, **B**. At the farm take the left stile, opposite an arched entrance to the barn. Keeping right and cross a stile halfway down to follow the short series of fields and stiles to the next lane. Turn right into Flush House hamlet.

Leaving this delightful hamlet turn left at the T-junction. Turn right at Austonley Manor using the stile by the gate-post. Past the house, go leftwards crossing diagonally an open field. On reaching cottages follow waymarks to a lane at **C**, and turn right to the dam wall and right again picking up the marked footpath to Digley car park.

Follow the track around Digley Reservoir and at a bench fork left to cross Bilberry Reservoir. At **D** go through two gates and over a little stream bridge before turning right up the grass bank to a marker post 20 metres away and bear left. Follow the Kirklees Way to Holme. At a lane turn left for the cobbled square at the main road and if you want refreshments at the Fleece Inn or public toilets go right 50 metres and return.

If using the shorter route, at **D** continue alongside the reservoir, across the dam wall to return to **C**. Take the path on the right opposite the one you have come on down into the wood and a track through the wooded valley to Holmbridge. At the A6024 turn right past the church and left on Bank Lane. Where it splits keep left on Smithy lane, then straight on to Dobb School where the main walk rejoins.

From Holme square turn left and in 100 metres turn right on the Kirklees Way, after the turreted house and proceed on the clear route winding through a wooded clough to cross the wall of Ramsden Reservoir between railings, and at the lane turn right.

Turn left alongside the picnic area and at a path junction, **E**, turn left, blue arrow marked UHVMW. Follow the worn path across the hillside and as it becomes a green lane turn left over a stile with a wooden gate down zigzags to enter a wooded clough. Halfway down fork right into a field following waymarks behind houses. After entering and leaving a copse, Dobbs Dyke, you emerge at a three way lane junction. Turn left to Dobb School.

Carry straight on to Hinchcliffe Mill, past the pond and turn right opposite Old Road to follow a narrow entry between cottages waymarked high on a lamp post. Cross the river on a metal footbridge, **F**, and carefully follow the riverside path to open grassland.



Nora Batty's Steps



The Valley Above Holmfirth



Last Of The Summer Wine  
Townscape

Head half right to a wooden post and enter the woodland, forking right uphill between high walls. At an old quarry continue uphill to a gate into pasture. Cross diagonally to cottages; pass in front to the lane. Turn left and follow the lane to Goose Green snicket, which goes into Holmfirth centre, near the market.

Now you have the opportunity to visit the various 'Last of the Summer Wine' locations and attractions. Turn left to see the Wrinkled Stocking tea room, and right to the church near where Sid's Café is located. From the church go across the bridge to traffic lights and turn right for your start point car park, **S**.

### Refreshment

The Fleece Inn  
Public House  
Holme  
Tel: 01484 683449  
Meals, bar snacks and  
real ales. Walkers  
welcome

The Wrinkled Stocking  
Tea Room  
Café and Restaurant  
30 Huddersfield Road,  
Holmfirth  
Tel: 01484 681408  
Home baked hot and  
cold food. Irregular  
opening hours

The Royal Oak  
Public House  
19 Towngate,  
Upperthong  
Tel: 01484 683450  
Bistro meals and bar  
meals available

Sid's Café  
Café  
4 Towngate, Holmfirth  
Tel: 01484 689610  
Café based around film  
location. Irregular  
opening hours



The Royal Oak Pub

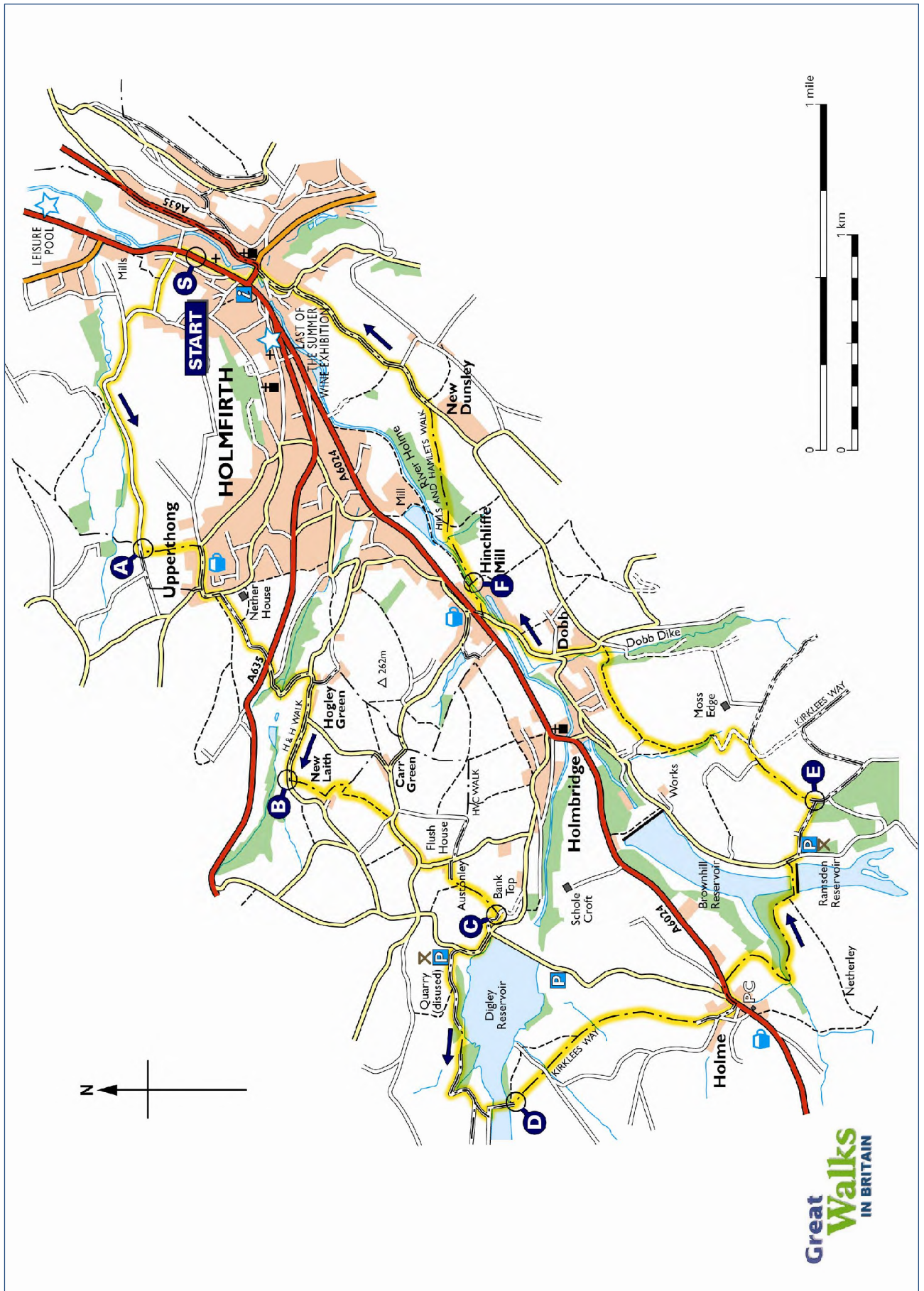
## LOCAL INFO

**Holmfirth** and the Holme Valley have become famous through the television series Last of the Summer Wine. First seen in January 1973 as a one-off Comedy Playhouse production, it's now the UK's longest running comedy programme and visitors are drawn to Nora Batty's steps and Sid's Café. Despite a terrific cast the real star of the programme is the valley itself. With stunning south Pennine scenery, this walk also takes you inside the northern boundary of the Peak National Park.

Why not visit the 'Last of the Summer Wine' exhibition? It is located behind the Wrinkled Stocking Tea Rooms, on Huddersfield Road.

### HOLMFIRTH & NORA BATTY'S HAUNTS G.P.S. WAYPOINTS

WAYPOINT NAME	MAP REF	CO-ORDINATES	ELEVATION: Metres
HOL S	S	SE 14250 08377	135
HOL A	A	SE 12934 08697	242
HOL B	B	SE 11854 08023	278
HOL C	C	SE 11171 07001	250
HOL D	D	SE 10631 06928	253
HOL E	E	SE 11740 05577	271
HOL F	F	SE 12755 07161	174



MAP LEGEND					
	Great Walks route		Church with tower		Spot height - metres
	M6 Motorway		Church with spire		Information centre
	A23 Main road		Other place of worship		Parking
	B2116 Secondary road		Cathedral / Abbey		Public convenience
	Minor road		Building		Public house
	Other road		Built up area		Picnic site
	Track		Woodland		Camp site
	Footpath		Sand, shingle or mud		Major tourist feature
	Bridleway		Water feature		Other tourist feature
	National trail				
	Railway				

## Safety First

**Safety should always** be your first priority in planning and undertaking a walk, whether on your own or leading a group. Please read these Safety First and Walking Our Routes notes.

**Lead a group** of other walkers only if you have leadership and navigational experience adequate for the 'worst case' conditions which may be encountered on the particular walk, bearing in mind the terrain, possible weather and navigational demands.

**Weigh up the capabilities** of your party, in terms of fitness and walking speed. Adjust your time expectations accordingly.

**Ensure** all your party are adequately clothed for the weather and conditions. Footwear is particularly important. Clothing must protect against cold, wet or strong sun according to the time of year.

**Emergencies** are quite rare, but it is essential to think ahead about what to do if someone in your party sustains an injury. Will you have a First Aid kit? Is there a qualified First Aider in the party? How could help be summoned in a serious eventuality?

**Refreshment**, particularly water, can be vital. Dehydration in hot summer conditions can be rapid, and frequent intake of fluids is essential.

**On tougher walks** it is a good idea to tell someone where you are planning to go – and when you expect to be back. Remember - mobile phones often lose reception in mountainous or isolated areas.

**All our walks use legitimate routes:** Public Rights of Way, Public Footpaths, Bridleways, Permissive Paths, Access Land, Byways and Roads.

**Road** walking calls for particular care. When there is no defined footpath or verge wide enough for safe walking it is usually best to walk on the right – facing oncoming traffic. An exception may be a tight bend, where walkers would be more visible on the left.

**Occasionally** you may find a public footpath blocked or unuseable. It is perfectly in order to take the shortest available diversion without damaging crops, perhaps around a field margin.

**It is courteous** to close gates after passing through, sometimes even if the gate was open when you arrived – particularly if it is obvious livestock may escape.

**Mutual respect** for farm animals is to be encouraged! Don't frighten or annoy them, but equally don't put your party members in danger or discomfort. You certainly wouldn't be the first walkers to go round the outside of a field of frisky bullocks.

**Dogs** should always be kept on a lead anywhere near farm animals, and under close supervision elsewhere in the countryside.

## Walking Our Routes

**Our walks** are designed to be negotiated using the route directions in conjunction with the map section provided. We suggest walkers also take the Ordnance Survey Explorer or Outdoor Leisure map recommended for each walk.

**On mountain, moorland and open heathland** walks it is **ESSENTIAL** to have navigational expertise and tools, including the recommended Ordnance Survey map(s).

**Take care** to observe any cautions in the route description; exposed paths, areas liable to flooding etc.

**Consider conditions before setting off.** Will heavy rain have made a water meadow impassable? Will frost or snow make a path slippery?

**When navigating the route** look for clues to confirm you are in the right place. Are map features where you would expect on the ground? Are features mentioned in the text where expected? If you suspect you may have taken a wrong turn, take action sooner rather than later. It is better to re-trace to a known point rather than carry on regardless with the possibility of becoming increasingly confused.

**All our routes are carefully checked** before publication, but features can change on the ground – sometimes surprisingly quickly. Footpaths may be re-routed, buildings can appear or change significantly and these days pub names seem to change frequently.

**The approximate time** given for each walk is based on an average walking speed of 2.5 miles per hour (4 km/hour), plus an allowance for ascent, descent and any difficult terrain.

**Total ascent** is the approximate total ascent over the whole walk.

**GPS users** can enter in the waypoints provided in each of our walk reports. It is important to read our guide **Introducing GPS for Walkers**, available as a PDF file from the Great Walks in Britain web site.

**Remember that GPS** is a great navigational tool, but only one of those available to the navigator. Never dispense with conventional map and compass – and the training and skills to use them, especially on mountain, moorland or open heathland walks.

### TOUGHNESS RATINGS

Most of our **Peak District** routes can be undertaken by reasonably fit walkers able to utilise the map segments and our recommended Ordnance Survey maps, together with the route guidance notes.

The toughest walks should be undertaken or led only by experienced mountain walkers with navigational expertise. Always consider recent and forecast weather.

Each walk has been allocated a **Toughness Rating**:

1. Easier walks with modest ascent and generally on well defined paths. There may be stiles or narrow gateways to negotiate.
2. Routes which are more demanding. They may include more ascent and possibly paths which are looser or more difficult underfoot.
3. More strenuous walks. There may be prolonged steep ascents, and perhaps several ascents over the whole walk. Conditions may be challenging underfoot.
4. The toughest walks, requiring considerable fitness and navigational experience. There may be prolonged steep ascents. The ability to navigate by compass may be essential.

Toughness Ratings are allocated in the context of the terrain in the edition area. For example a walk rated as demanding in Cambridgeshire may be equivalent to an easier or moderate route in the Peak District.