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Walkers are Welcome UK is a nationwide network which aims to encourage towns and villages to be 'welcoming to walkers.'

#### Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk

## Short Walk: Whitwell Moor from Stocksbridge Leisure Centre

- Length 3.0 miles
- Grade Well defined paths. Can get muddy in places in wet weather. Some stiles and rough ground
- Start Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre, Moorland Drive, Stocksbridge, Sheffield S36 1EG
- Grid Reference SK262 982
- Maps OL1 Dark Peak, OS Explorer 278
- Parking Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre or adjacent street parking
- Public transport 57 and 201 bus routes to Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre
- Refreshments none on this route



### Description

The route climbs steadily from <u>Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre</u>, past farms and on to moorland before reaching a trig point (359 m). We then continue past quiet woodland which contains ancient earthworks and the remains of mill stone production, before returning by a trackway with an old guidestoop.



The Canyards and Broomhead Moor, seen from (10)

#### **Route Instructions**

1. Take the tarmac path out from the top right of the large car park (1).

The building was opened by Walter Winterbottom CBE Director of the Sports Council, on 12<sup>th</sup>. October 1973. As a result of Local Government spending cuts and following considerable local protest it was 'mothballed' in early May 2013. Within two months Sheffield City Council and 4SLC had reached an outline agreement regarding the future running of the centre. It reopened in late September 2013, the swimming pool reopening in 2016.



2. Follow the path up past the rhododendron bushes up to the bench and the open ground (2).

On your right, there is a commemorative plaque mounted on a large piece of rock: 'This 34½ acres of land were presented by Mr.Thomas Oxley to the inhabitants of Stocksbridge for the purpose of a public park or recreation ground. The cost of laying out and the maintenance thereof being borne by Messrs Samuel Fox & Co.Ltd.' Thomas, a local fruit farmer, presented this land in 1921.

- 3. Turn left and go up the hill to the stone stile at the top of the grassy area (3).
- 4. Follow the path, with the wall on your left and the fence on your right, up to the gate at <u>Greave House farm</u>. Pass through the gate and continue up the lane, away from the farm. Go along the lane until it reaches New Hall Lane.
- 5. Turn left and follow New Hall Lane to the junction with Long Lane and Mucky Lane. Mucky Lane is the muddy/grassy track up towards the moorland (5).
- 6. Follow Mucky Lane to the gate at the top (6). Go through the gate and continue, keeping the stone wall on your left, as far as the stone stile at the top of the field which is on the left. Do not cross the stile.
- 7. Take the path that goes off slightly to the right, up on to open moorland (7).
- 8. Follow the path until it opens out on to grass land. A trig point is now visible in the distance, ahead of you. Go through the gate way. The footpath swings off to the right and follows the field boundary.

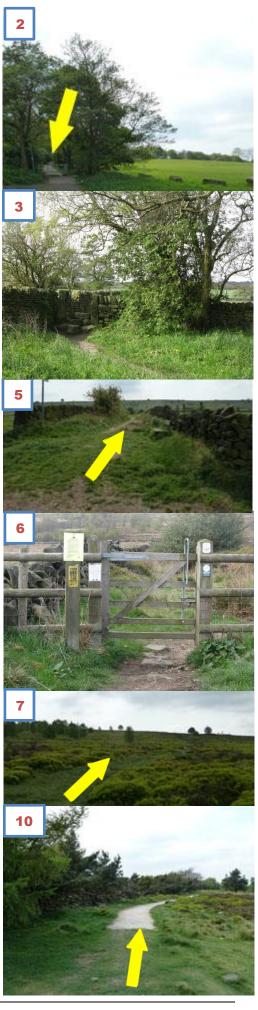
This area was part of the old salt route from Cheshire to Bawtry, and then on by boat to the rest of the country.

9. Proceed to the trig point (9).

The brass plaque commemorates Michael Jeffrey who died, aged 29, while taking part in the 2006 Great North Run. From the trig point you can see a large linear earthwork above the track on Broomhead Moor. Below the track there is a neolithic stone circle and burial cairns.

10. From the trig point (9) go through a gap in the wall. Keep the old wall on your left until you re-join the path (10).





You may wish to explore the woods on your left. There are remains of millstones that were manufactured from the grit stone outcrop. If you go through the broken slit stile on the left, immediately on your right is a wall of very large upright stones. About 40 m beyond are the remains of millstones. One set is over 1 m in diameter. These woods are unusually quiet, sometimes completely silent. Having explored the woods, return to the path and continue.

- 11. The path keeps to the right hand side of the trees. Take the right turn onto the path across the copse. This reaches Long Lane opposite the marked pathway, Pegg Folly.
- 11b. If you wish to extend your route, turn left for about 300 m. When the road bends to the left, cross the stile and take the footpath keeping the wall on your left
- 11c. Take the stile on your left (11c), pass through the farmyard and continue down the lane until the path reaches Machin Lane. Turn right onto the lane, pass Machin Farm on your left and continue.

On both routes, you will pass a guide-stoop (Guide-stone). These were set up in the late 17<sup>th</sup>. Century following a 1697/8 Act of Parliament. This stone has Penistone, Bolsterstone and Uden carved into it. The convention was that the traveller turned right at the inscription to follow the required route (11d).

- 12. Continue along Machin Lane past Green Farm. Just past New Hall Farm take the signed footpath over the stone stile into the field on the left (12).
- 13. Turn right in the field and then follow the path up the field, keeping the wall to your left.
- 14. Pass over the high stone stile into the lane by Greave House Farm (14a). Turn left and retrace your route back to the Leisure Centre. If you are lucky, the farm will have produce for sale (14b).

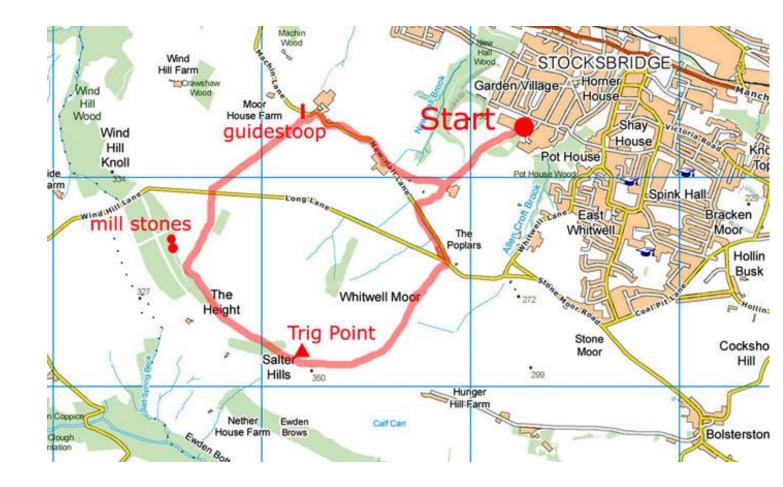












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Historical information on the area is available from Stocksbridge and District History Society: http://www.stocksbridgehs.co.uk/

Please utilise the 'contact' link on our website if you wish to suggest any amendments to these instructions

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# This walk leaflet was created with thanks to National Lottery players and the Heritage Fund

Layout: Dave Pickersgill photos and text: Allen Hudson & Dave Pickersgill

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