

Wander  
With  
History  
*Walks in Kirklevington & Castleavington*



WALK 5 - WORSALL AND BACK

# FOOTPATHS AROUND KIRKLEVINGTON



This booklet is an attempt to describe the historic and natural history of the footpath routes around Kirklevington and its immediate vicinity.

All the footpaths are public rights of way unless a permissive path is indicated. The walks described are all indicated on the relevant Ordnance Survey Maps.

- 1) Outdoor Leisure 26 North York Moors (Western Area).
- 2) Ordnance Survey Landranger 93 Middlesbrough and Darlington Area.

Walkers should obey the Country Code and respect the landowner's property.

Footpaths which may be visible but are not marked as public rights of way on maps should not be walked. These footpaths are for the landowners use and there is no right to roam over any of the land covered by the walks in this booklet.

Walkers should be adequately dressed and have suitable footwear for the weather and ground conditions. A relevant map and possibly a whistle should be carried at all times.

All walks start and finish at Kirklevington Village Memorial Hall.

## INFORMATION ON RIGHTS OF WAY

A public right of way allows members of the public access across privately owned land under the following conditions:-

Footpaths are for pedestrians only.

Bridleways may be used by horses, pedestrians and pedal cyclists only.

All footpaths and bridle ways are based on the relevant current Ordnance Survey Map and show all public rights of way at the issue date of the map.

- The maintenance of paths is the responsibility of the local council.

The local council is the Highway Authority responsible by law to carry out the following:-

- Protect the rights of the public to use the rights of way.
- Prevent where possible the obstruction of the rights of way.
- The public have the right to walk along the footpath but cannot deviate into the adjoining land. The public may however stop on the footpath and rest.

- The right of way may have no legal width but progress along a right of way must cause the minimum amount of damage hence single file through arable land.

Paths can be ploughed out but must be reinstated within two weeks. Paths along a field boundary must not be ploughed out. Sufficient space should be left to allow for safe passage.

- No recognised breed of bull over 10 months old may be kept in a field with a public right of way crossing it, except in the case of a bull which is accompanied with cows or heifers.
- Any other animal known to be dangerous may not be kept in a field which may be accessed by the public.
- Any dispute between the owner of the land and access to a public right of way should be reported to the local authority for clear determination.
- Public rights of way can be altered usually by declaration of the local authority and after satisfactory notice. In some cases these changes may not be on the ordinance survey map but way mark signs should clearly indicate the change on the ground.
- Permissive footpaths are not rights of way but have been indicated by the land owner to direct the public away from the original right of way. This in no way prevents the right of way being used and the existing right of way should be defined on the ground. Although the permissive path may be closed at any time by the land owner. It is hoped by mutual consideration the permissive path will be used as an alternative to the public right of way and so protect what the land owner considers of importance.
- Control of dogs is an important issue in a farming environment. Dogs should be kept on leads or close control (i.e. trained to walk to heel and obey commands without fail). All dog excrement must be picked up. Dogs must not be allowed to foul the landowner's fields or damage any crop or chase stock.
- Waymarkers are used to show the route. Footpaths are shown by Yellow arrows, Bridleways are shown by Blue arrows. Do not interfere with Waymark signs, this is an offence

## THE COUNTRY CODE

- Prevent fire risks.
- Close and fasten all gates.
- Dogs to be kept under close control.
- Keep to the path.
- Avoid damage to crops, fences, hedges and walls.
- Do not leave litter.
- Do not make unnecessary noise.
- Do not pollute water supplies.
- Respect the natural heritage and wildlife.
- Be aware of traffic on country roads and lanes.
- Do not interfere with livestock and machinery.
- Respect the heritage and life of the rural environment.

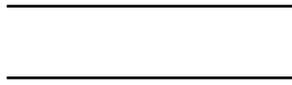
# KEY TO SYMBOLS



Stile



Footpath



Road or Lane



Footbridge



Fence Line



River or Stream



Tree or Wood



Hedge

The sketches are drawn more to give an indication rather than scale. Where possible the scale is approximately 1: 10,000.

All salient features such as buildings, roads, rivers etc. are not to scale.

Where the sketch is broken into 2 or 3 sections by directional section arrows, the section indicates the continuation of the map and the arrows indicate the direction of sight.

Walks 5 to 9 are continuation of previous walks as indicated in the text and on the individual route sketches. To understand the complete walk the relevant walks have to be read together.

## WALK 5 - WORSALL AND BACK



*Distance - 4.8 miles short route, 6.6 miles long route*

*Difficulty - **Moderate.***



**Worsall Old School**

Follow walk 3 until you reach Hole Beck/Saltergill Beck. Instead of turning right, turn left along the beck and towards a house in the corner of the field. This house was once Worsall School which catered for the children of both Worsall, Kirklevington and the surrounding area. Follow the line of the beck until opposite the house, notice how the beck is eroding its sides creating extensive loops and possible Oxbow Lakes.

At this point a stream runs into Hole Beck and is crossed by a homemade bridge of plastic construction. You leave Hole Beck at this point, the beck continues its journey to the river Tees.

Hole Beck is left behind as you follow the path through a gate and head towards the B1264. On reaching the B1264 turn left towards Worsall and the Ship Inn. If you are arriving at midday, consider a stop for refreshments.

Opposite the Ship you will see a stile. This is the direction you need to take but before you cross the road to the stile, you may want to follow the road to the Worsall War Memorial, which will be on your right and just before the entrance to the village.

On the memorial you will find the name of a member of the crew of HMS Good Hope which was sunk at the battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile on the 1st November 1914, possibly the 1st major defeat of a British Naval Force in WW1.

Although the German Admiral Spee caused the remaining British Naval Force to retreat, Spee had to use half his ammunition.



**The Ship Inn**



**Worsall War Memorials**

The result of the battle meant that when Spee met a reinforced British Fleet at the Falklands he was fighting at a disadvantage. Admiral Spee and the majority of his fleet were sunk at the Battle of the Falkland Islands.

Return to the stile opposite the Ship Inn enter the field and keeping the hedge to your right walk to the end of the field. If the hedge has been cut, look over the hedge and you will see into a narrow valley with side spurs. The valley is well hidden from the adjoining roads and comes as quite a surprise.

On reaching the corner of the field you will see a gate to your right, do not go through this gate but continue into the corner of the field where you will see a stile. Cross the stile and go directly across the valley to a narrow bridge. Take care when crossing the bridge, a tree branch lies across the bridge and you may have to squeeze past it.

After crossing the bridge you will see a stream entering the valley from the South.

Keep the stream on your left and walk along the edge of the wood, which borders the stream. Eventually you come across a crossing place over the stream. Cross the stream and turn right and follow the fence line. Note how the stream is changing its stream bed at this point. Approximately 50yds along the fence line you will need to cross a stile over the fence then cross the stream again. On your left is another stile which you will need to cross. Agility will be required.

Once over the stile follow the hedge line on your left until you reach Forest Lane. Turn left into the lane and walk towards Kirklevington until you reach a signpost pointing into a field on your right. At this point you can decide if you wish to continue onto Picton or return to Kirklevington.

If you wish to return to Kirklevington by the direct route continue along Forest Lane. If you wish to walk to Kirklevington via Picton then turn right into the field. The path can be a little indistinct and the walk is best carried out in spring after the farmer has sprayed his crop. The ground is hard and the path is clearly marked, either by posts or by a sprayed path.

The path takes two right angled bends one to the left and one to the right and heads towards Hillilees Farm. This field system is like a prairie, most of the hedges being grubbed out, you do have a view of the North York Moors as you head towards Hillilees.

On reaching Hillilees keep to the right and walk down the farm lane until it bears left. At this point the path becomes a little indistinct and a map will be useful. You walk directly across the field in front of you towards a small gap in the hedge where a low wire, not barbed wire, may be crossed.

The ground you are walking across is thought to be the position of the Picton Racecourse. Races were held on this course in the early 20th century and it even had a small grandstand possibly a shed. With a little imagination it may be possible to see the rough line of the course.



Direction towards hedge T junction and gap

On reaching the low wire, note the footpath marker and pass into the next field, heading towards the remains of a hedge halfway across the field. A redundant gate post at the edge of the hedge bears a footpath marker. On reaching the post continue on to the gate in the next hedge where another footpath marker may be found. Pass through the gate and head for the farmhouses in front of you.

The access to the farm yard is via a gate and the surrounding area can be extremely muddy, in fact sludge may be the correct term. Best to be tackled in summer. On reaching the farmhouses pass through the farm yard, remember you are walking in the farmer's back yard so take care.

You will arrive at the main road passing through Picton. On your right will be a sign post indicating the footpath you have just walked. Turn left onto the main road and within 400 yds. you will reach a junction. You need to take the left hand lane. At this junction there was a sign post, hidden in the hedge which had indicated a Bridle Path to Kirklevington, the sign top has disappeared either through neglect or metal thieves.

Continue along the lane until you reach a cottage on your right. This cottage is described in Walk 4 Picton Circular. You can turn right at the cottage and continue Walk 4 or continue along the lane and do the reverse of Walk 4, either way you will return to Kirklevington.



Looking back towards the T junction

# WALK 5 - WORSALL AND BACK

