

Countryside & Rights of Way

Oakworth to Keighley (Via Newsholme Dene & Holme House Woods)

4 mile (6.25km) Linear walk

A walk with a good mix of fields and woodland, ending in the urban suburbs of Keighley.

Comfortable strong waterproof shoes/boots are essential, with outdoor clothing to suit the season.

A packed lunch is advisable. This walk is not suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs and people with restricted mobility.

Walk start point: Oakworth bus terminus (Low Bank).
Please note the bus may stand a few minutes at Windsor Road, Oakworth which is one stop prior to the terminus at Low Bank.

If you have access to private transport we suggest leaving your vehicle at the bottom of Oakworth Road, Keighley to catch the 717 bus service to Oakworth from the front of the nearby Oakworth Road Medical Centre. If you rely on public transport there is a frequent 717 service from Keighley bus station, Stand C, which runs every ten minutes Monday to Saturday and hourly after 0840 on a Sunday. Contact Metroline on: 0113 245 7676 for further details.

Start by walking uphill from the bus stop to the junction with Wide Lane, here turn left along Wide Lane passing Oakworth Cricket Club on the right and the Crematorium on the left all the way to the next 'T' junction with Slack Lane. At the junction with Slack Lane cross the road and go over the stile in the dry stone wall opposite the main gate of Oakworth Crematorium.

Once over the stile follow the footpath downhill as it bears left across the field to a stile near the bottom of the stone wall on your far left. Go over the stile and across the bridge which can be seen ahead, then go through another stile on the opposite side of the bridge and follow the path uphill, keeping the dry stone wall on your right.

As the field levels out continue straight ahead towards the houses in front of you. On nearing the garden wall of the houses look out for the stile in the dry stone wall on your right. Go through the stile and turn left along the double walled field track down the side of a house to the junction with a narrow surfaced road.

Turn left along the narrow road turning right uphill where it joins the main road, opposite Green End Farm. After

only a short distance the road turns left, leave the road here and climb the stone steps ahead, which are between the post box and the entrance to Cliffe Farm.

Follow the stone paved path along the side of the house and through the back yard, out onto the rough surfaced road. Turn left then first right up the narrow unsurfaced road between the houses, bearing left behind the houses along the grass track. After approximately 200 yds/185m the track bends to the left, leave the track here by turning right through the second gap in the wall on the right. Follow the path across a field keeping close to the wall on your right, then go over the stile at the far end next to a gate.

Once over the stile the path goes straight ahead for a short distance before dropping steeply downhill into the woodland below. Follow the well-defined, but often wet and slippery footpath through the trees. At the bottom of the woodland go through a gate into a field (Newsholme Dene), continuing straight ahead and across a packhorse bridge. Take a look at the old clapper footbridge here on your right before continuing by following the field track as it bears to the right through a gate, gently climbing to meet a more well-defined track near to a few houses.

Bear right here along the track, following the top edge of the fields before bearing left uphill at the converted farm building (Newsholme Dene Barn). Continue up the track for a short distance, where, at the rear of the next converted farm (Rose Cottage), we rejoin the footpath by turning right off the track to walk behind the former farm building.

Continue along the footpath, which is paved in places and often slippery, as it goes gently downhill into the woodland. After a short distance the path divides, take the path to the left walking on the level through the trees parallel to Dene Beck in the valley below. Nearing the end of the woodland the path passes an old mill dam on the right, before crossing a bridge over the Mill Race and eventually crossing a second bridge spanning Dene Beck. Here you will need to climb a few stone steps and go through a stile onto a road.

Turn left along the road walking through the hamlet of Goose Eye, leaving via a very steep climb up the road. Continue uphill beyond the first right hand bend where, ahead, a stile in the stone wall near the sharp left hand bend will provide a short cut up into the centre of the village of Laycock.

Turn right along the main road for approximately 150yds/138 m, before turning sharp right off the road down a track opposite Dial House, a rather imposing three storey house on the left. After a short distance a flight of rough stone steps on your left offers a short cut across a corner, however, the track may be a little longer but a better option.

Continue following the track downhill, noting as you go the horse trough built into the stone wall on your left. Just beyond the trough the track turns right, continue on down for a short distance to the next right hand bend, near to the metal gates. Here rejoin the footpath by leaving the track on the bend to walk straight ahead down the stone steps following the narrow path steeply downhill into Holme House Woods.

Follow the path along the valley bottom keeping the beck on your right as it meanders through Holme House Wood, crossing streams and through stiles, eventually reaching 'Tinker Bridge' (a metal footbridge spanning the now re-named 'North Beck').

Turn right and cross Tinker Bridge to follow the footpath straight ahead uphill keeping close to the trees, bushes and broken down drystone wall on your right. As you near the top end of the field climb the grass covered stone steps and go through the stile to walk along the narrow path enclosed between the fence and the drystone wall before going through a second stile out onto Fell Lane. Here turn left to walk downhill on the lefthand side of the road for approximately 400yds (364m) before turning left onto Holme Mill Lane, at the corner by a bungalow, number 200 Fell Lane. Immediately after turning onto Holme Mill Lane turn right and cross the road to walk down Wingate Avenue. At the bottom of Wingate Avenue, at its junction with Holme Wood Lane, cross over the road bearing to the left to walk along the paved path diagonally between the grassed area and the bungalows, to join Raglan Avenue.

Bear right along Raglan Street to its junction with an unmade road and turn left to go through or around the side of the large metal gates, marked 'no through road, vehicular access to Castle Mills only'. Walk down the rough concreted narrow road passing some wasteland and a derelict building on the left. Go through or around another set of large metal gates to walk parallel with the North Beck before negotiating the metal barrier at the end of the road out into Becks Road.

Here bear right along the old stone setts to the end of Becks Road and its junction with Oakworth Road then turn left to return to Keighley town centre and the main bus station.

Points of Interest

Newsholme Village

Situated in the far west of the Bradford District near to the boundary with North Yorkshire. Probably the last remaining typical 'Dales type' village left relatively intact in the Bradford district, where farming is still the main occupation.

Newsholme Dene

A once popular picnic area where in the late 1940's and 1950's families from the surrounding industrial towns came to enjoy a day out. Children enjoyed paddling in the nearby Dene Beck, playing on the swings or table tennis in the barn of Newsholme Dene Farm. Refreshments were also available, with fizzy pop and crisps being the most popular treat for the children.

Goose Eye

Best known today for the Turkey Inn where traditional ale and good food is served. In days gone by this small hamlet was built to house the mill workers of the nearby mills, one of which made paper for banknotes.

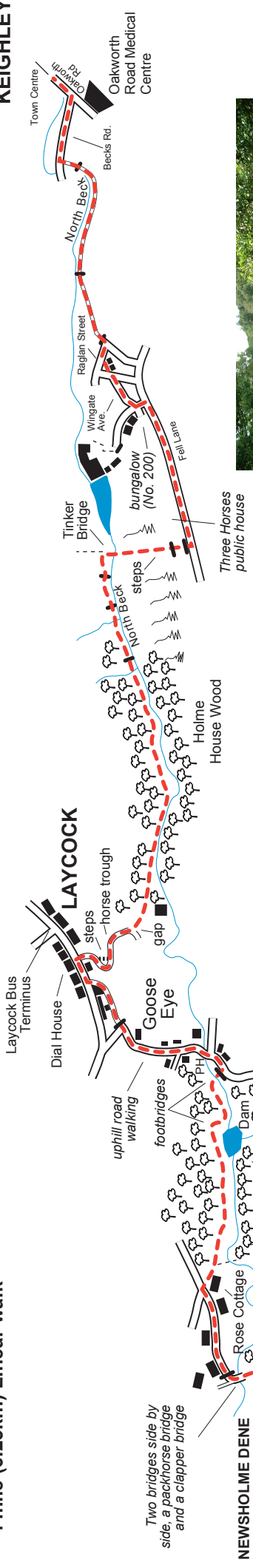
Tinker Bridge

Another popular site for families to have a picnic. Paddling in the clean waters of the now renamed North Beck, swimming in the nearby mill dam or fishing for sticklebacks being the main entertainment for the children.

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Two bridges side by side, a packhorse bridge and a clapper bridge

Steep descent through woodland

this section gets very wet

steps & post box

road walking

Green End Farm

Church

Cliffe Farm

NEWSHOLME

footbridge

Newsholme Beck

Cricket Club

Crementorium

road walking

OAKWORTH

PH

START

BUS TERMINUS



Clapper and packhorse bridges at Newsholme Dean



Newsholme Village



Postbox at Newsholme village

Key	
	Route
	Stile/Gate
	Footpaths

Footnote : strong waterproof footwear recommended on this walk