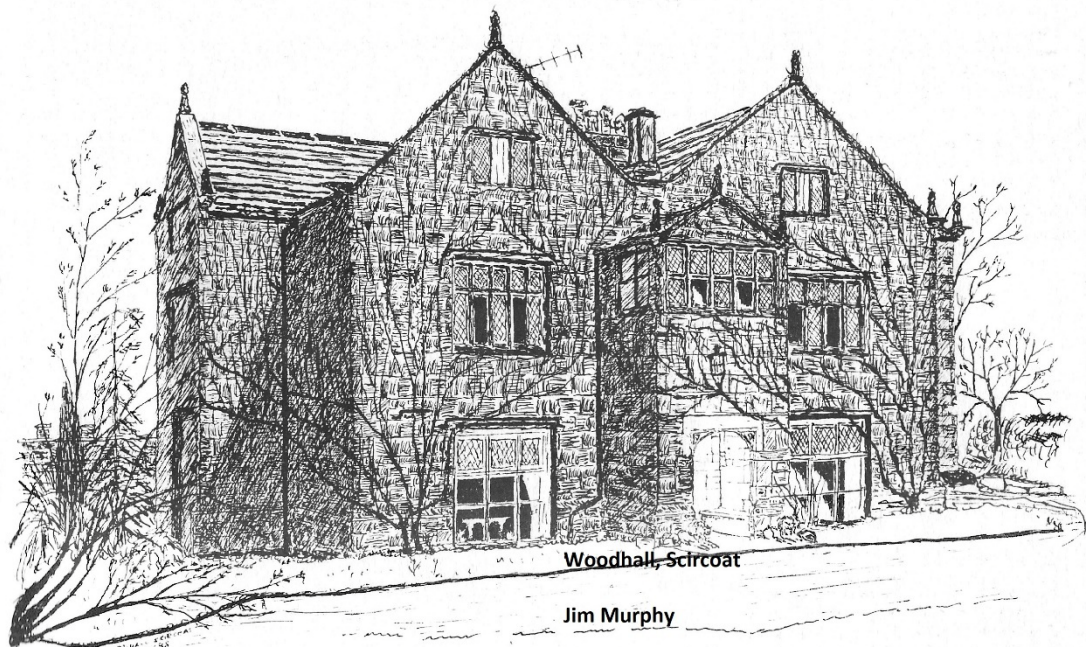


Calderdale Heritage Walks

April to October 2024

2 to 3 hour Guided Walks exploring the heritage of this special area with our experienced



guides.

Contact us

To be added to our mailing list for programmes and newsletter, or to contact us on other matters, please email us on CdaleHeritageWks@gmail.com

SummerWalks2024

This programme details our walks for the 7 months April to October. As usual, the vast majority of walks are on Sundays though there are a few on Saturdays and Bank Holidays.

Most walks last 2 to 2¼ hours and those are fairly easy walking - normally on surfaced paths. A few walks are a little longer, use rural paths or are harder walking - there will be a note in the text about those. Almost all starting points are served by public transport. The majority of walks are circular, finishing at the starting point; however a few walks are linear, and these are marked in the text. Good walking shoes are recommended.

Except where stated otherwise, the charge for our walks is £4 (all ages) and £6 for booked walks.

For many walks there's no need to book, just turn up and pay on the day. However, others do need booking through

TicketSource - <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/calderdale-heritage-walks>. If you need help with this, please call at Halifax Information Hub, Woolshops, near the Piece Hall.

The bookings for Outlaws & Nuns, Suffragettes, and What Anne Lister Inherited will open at 9am Monday 22nd April and for Dobroyd at 9am on Monday, 3rd June.

Walks that require booking are shown in a box.

We must reserve the right not to take anyone on walks who seems unlikely to cope with the conditions. Every effort is made to adhere to the published programme, but we must also reserve the right to cancel or amend any walk if circumstances make that necessary. For insurance reasons, children younger than 13 can't join our walks.

Our website has more information about us and the walks at:<https://calderdaleheritagewalks.org.uk>

You can also catch us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/CalderHeritage> Should any issues arise which might affect a walk's viability, we aim to post details on our page there.

Unless stated, walks begin at 2pm. Please wear appropriate footwear.

PRIVATE PARTY WALKS.

We have around 100 walks in our collective repertoire covering much of Calderdale and can provide experienced guides to lead walks for private parties or societies.

For more information, please contact us on CdaleHeritageWalks@gmail.com

SUNDAY, 7th April SOWERBY BRIDGE EAST END.

A walk to look at the historic development of the eastern end of Sowerby Bridge town centre, chapels, canals, mills and more. Dogs on a lead can come, but it is an urban walk. Not suitable for mobility scooters - there are some steps.

Meet David Cant outside the Moorings, Sowerby Bridge Wharf, HX6 2AG.

SUNDAY, 21st April PEPPER AND GINGERa new walk

Explore a corner of Shelf away from the main road which is full of history. A fourteenth-century cattle thief, the 'Man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo,' a Chartist Unitarian preacher and one of the last potteries in Calderdale were all to be found here. Good footwear is required. The walk is not suitable for mobility scooters. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Meet Ben Stables outside Pepper Hill Unitarian Chapel off Brighthouse and Denholme Gate Road in Shelf (HX3 7TH)

SUNDAY, 5th May NORTH NORTHWRAM LADIES IN COURT

Ladies fight in court in seventeenth century slander case. From Baxter Lane to Marsh Hall and Landemere. Older histories from the north side of Northowram Village. All roadside walking, dogs welcome.

Meet Mike Beecham at the corner of Baxter Lane, Northowram. HX3 7EF

SUNDAY, 12th May SAM HILL'S SOYLAND

Visit sites associated with irascible Sam Hill of Making Place, a well-known 18th century textile entrepreneur & the greatest landowner in Soyland at the time – he was quite a character! 2½ - 3 mile walk, mostly on quiet lanes and footpaths. One steep ascent from Mill Bank to Soyland Town. Stout footwear & outdoor gear recommended. 3 hrs.

Not suitable for mobility scooters

Meet Anne Kirker at St Bartholomew's Church, Ripponden. HX6 4DF.

SUNDAY, 19th May TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRY IN TODMORDEN

The improvement of transport through Todmorden had a dramatic impact on the development of industry. This walk explores the development of road, canal and railway and how it opened up markets beyond the local area and changed the fortunes of local businesses. Dogs on leads welcome.

Meet Anne Mealia outside Todmorden Railway Station OL14 9BL

SUNDAY, 26th May LOST RAILWAY TERMINUS, TOFFEE FACTORIES AND ART SCHOOL

View a lonely church spire, 'the smallest house', Madam Oldroyd's Dance Hall, new St Paul's Church, site of St Paul's railway terminus and coal yard, Mackintosh's 1890s factory, a biscuit-making works, and locations of several lost chapels. We shall see a notable Art School, hear about a murder of 1889, and see the site of a 1938 'Slasher' attack.

This is a **linear walk** of 2 ½ hours + [Paved surfaces all the way]. Suitable for dogs on leads. Suitable for mobility scooters. The final destination is Jasper Street, HX1 4NT.

Meet David Glover in the park by church spire King Cross Road HX1 3JP (opposite William IV pub)

SUNDAY, 2nd June HIPPERHOLME, LIGHTCLIFFE AND THE SCOTTISH CONNECTION

The area is remarkable in its many Victorian house and street names associated with Scotland. There is a school too, built by Ann Walker's Scottish nephew E C Sutherland Walker. We visit all the sites including the grounds of many of the properties and consider how the link came about. Suitable for mobility scooters. Dogs welcome.

Meet John Brooke in Lightcliffe C E School car park, off Knowle Top Road. HX3 8SH

SUNDAY, 9th June A WALK AROUND COPLEY

Built by the Akroyd family in the mid-19th century, Copley village not only provided a steady supply of labour for the Akroyd's mill, but was a social enterprise through which Akroyd hoped to improve the lives of his employees. Take a walk around this picturesque village, see Akroyd's vision for a better society, and learn how it all worked out.

Meet Steve Crabtree outside the Volunteer Arms, Wakefield Road, HX3 0UD

SATURDAY, 22nd June SUFFRAGETTES AND SLAVES

A 4-hour walk from Skircoat Green across Savile Park, visiting the homes of Halifax's own nest of suffragettes. Our route goes along Queens Road and down Pellon Lane to the Mechanics' Institute where in 1911, Emmeline Pankhurst urged women to boycott the census.

Please bring a packed lunch and drink. We return to Skircoat Green by bus about 3.30pm.

Meet Jill Liddington and David Glover at 11.30am by the Standard of Freedom, New Lane. HX3 0TE.

This walk is £6 per head. **Pre-booking is essential** and it will not be possible to just turn up on the day! Details and directions are sent out with the tickets.

SUNDAY, 30th June GENTLEMAN JACK MEETS THE KNIGHTS

A walk up towards the top end of Shibden Valley where Addersgate leads to Knightroyd and on to a Gentleman Jack filming location. Concludes with rowdy John Mitchell of Scout Hall. A more challenging walk with steep sections and rough surface pathways, walking boots essential.

Meet Mike Beecham at Shibden Mill Inn overflow car park. HX3 7UL.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 6th& 7th July OUTLAWS & NUNS

These walks are on the private Kirklees Estate near Clifton, by kind permission of the owners. They include the former Nunnery site, Gatehouse, 15th to 18th century farm buildings, the Robin Hood connection and his grave there, plus other features of the estate. This is a working farm and dogs are not allowed.

The guides are David Cant, John Billingsley, David Glover and Ian Philp. The walk is 1½ miles, partly on woodland paths, and strong shoes are advised. Unsuitable for mobility scooters. The walk will be repeated several times over the 2 days. There are no buses to the Estate on Sundays.

These walks are £6 per head. **Pre-booking is essential** and it will not be possible to just turn up on the day! Details and directions are sent out with the tickets.

SATURDAY, 13th July WHAT ANNE LISTER INHERITED AND WHAT SHE BEQUEATHED.

A short walk round the Shibden estate nearest the Hall. Judge for yourself how Anne Lister transformed her inheritance – and how her legacy went on to benefit Calderdale.

Meet Jill Liddington at the front entrance to Shibden Hall (by the blue plaque) at 10.30. The circular walk ends at noon. At this point, you are offered a choice: either browse the Shibden shop, have a cup of tea and Q&A or explore inside the magnificent Hall (for which you are advised to pre-book your ticket.)

This walk is £6 per head. **Pre-booking is essential** and it will not be possible to just turn up on the day! Details and directions are sent out with the tickets.

SUNDAY 14th July DOBROYD CASTLE

By kind permission of the owners, this afternoon walk goes to, around and inside the striking 'Brass Castle' built above Todmorden by John Fielden in 1869. It includes the house and walled garden with details of their history and the family. Timing and meeting point details are issued with the tickets. The Guide is Anne Mealia.

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL and it will not be possible to just turn up on the day. This walk is £6 per head.

This walk is 1½ miles, part on woodland paths and strong shoes are advised. Ticket-holders should meet the Guide in Todmorden at 2.15 pm (full details supplied with tickets) for a ½ mile walk up the wooded hillside to the Castle. No dogs allowed. Access to the Castle by car is difficult but if you need to go by car, route information will be supplied when booking.

SUNDAY, 21st July TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE – a new walk

On this extended walk we explore the outskirts of two villages with two guides. We discover farms between Norwood Green and Shelf on paths that can be muddy and steep. We'll pass a waterfall and a former picnic garden. At the end there is an option to visit the Wheel 'Oile pub at Norwood Green – sadly it closed years ago!

Dogs welcome, about 2 miles with some steep sections, boots recommended.

Meet Ben Stables and Mary Twentyman at the turning circle in Norwood Green HX3 8QR

SUNDAY, 4th August 4 ROUTES FROM HALIFAX TO WAKEFIELD..

..but we're only going to west Hipperholme from Shibden Hall park.

We'll look at the transport links from the Middle Ages to the present with views of Halifax, two major construction projects of their time, down the old Dark Lane also known as the Magna Via and into Hipperholme and returning by Myholm to Shibden Park. There are 2 gentle climbs and a long descent. Dogs on leads. Not suitable for mobility scooters.

Meet Ian Philp by the Shibden Hall car park next to the café.

SUNDAY 18th August ALL ABOUT WAINHOUSE

Often overlooked compared to other big names in Halifax, John Wainhouse is responsible for the creation of one of Calderdale's most famous landmarks - Wainhouse Tower - known locally as the Tower of Spite. This walk explores some other projects of Wainhouse, and the role he played in the development of King Cross. The walk includes steep slopes, cobbles and steps. Good footwear is required. The walk is not suitable for wheelchairs/mobility scooters.

Walk does not include entry to the tower.

Meet Steve Crabtree at Wakefield Gate, adjacent to the tower, off Skircoat Moor Road, HX2 7EN

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, 26th August HEPTONSTALL TOWN

A stroll around the buildings and historic townscape of the upper valley's mother settlement.

Meet John Billingsley at Heptonstall Bowling Club car park, HX7 7LT

SUNDAY, 1st September OLD HIPPERHOLME - there is no overlap with the June 2nd walk.

The village of Hipperholme has a long history with several old pubs, an old grammar school, old houses and a house lived in by an early mayor of Bradford. The walk includes a 20minute stroll through an old wood ending in a short steep slope. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Meet Ian Philp in the car park near to the Hare and Hounds in Hipperholme. HX3 8JG

SUNDAY, 15th September SOWERBY BRIDGE WEST END

A look at the history of this area around the old bridge, the mills and both railway stations. Dogs on a lead can come, but it is an urban walk. Mobility scooter accessible.

Meet David Cant outside the Refreshment Rooms, Sowerby Bridge station HX6 3AB.

SUNDAY, 22nd September SOME HALIFAX HOSTELRIES

Halifax hotels & inns have been renowned for centuries for a variety of reasons – good and bad! And in recent years, the pub scene in Halifax has seen lots of changes. Find out more on this updated walk as we hear about some of them, and we may even call in one or two! Suitable for mobility scooters.

Meet Anne Kirker in front of Bull Green House, Bull Green, Halifax. HX1 2EB

**SUNDAY, 29th September EARLY HAUNTS OF BOOHTOWN'S MASS MURDERER -
AND OF A GAY FILMSTAR**

John Reginald Halliday Christie was hanged at Pentonville Prison in 1953. Much of his youth was spent in Akroydon, Halifax, and we view various Christie family homes, his church, the site of his school and his parents' grave. See the house from which Christie's wife - whom he strangled in London in 1952 - was married. Plus – the early years of Akroydon-born actor / filmstar Eric Portman. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Meet David Glover outside Bankfield Museum entrance HX3 6HG

SUNDAY, 6th October THREE VILLAGES MEET

Northowram, Hipperholme and Shelf where their historic stories overlap. Older houses and the road to Paradise that takes the congregation to Coley Church. The site of a lost property and a Stone Age hoard. Mainly roadside walking with one flat path through fields. Dogs welcome.

Meet Mike Beecham on The Green, Northowram, outside Northowram Methodist Church. HX3 7JE.

SUNDAY, 13th October ONE SIDE OF SKIRCOAT: THE GREEN

Skircoat Green became, and still is, the nucleus of the ancient township of Skircoat, although it is no longer an isolated hamlet on the outskirts of Halifax. Today, it has an interesting mix of buildings spanning three centuries, waiting to be discovered on this walk.

There may be some cobbles and steep stone steps, depending on route. Good shoes advised. Not suitable for mobility scooters.

Meet Anne Kirker at Brookes Cleaners, Skircoat Green Rd, Skircoat Green. HX3 0LX

SUNDAY, 20th October TODMORDEN IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

We will explore how the town and its people were affected by war, looking at war memorials and graves of those who died and the challenges faced by the town in supporting a military hospital, receiving refugees and keeping businesses going throughout the war. Dogs on leads welcome.

Meet Anne Mealia at Dalton Street car park OL14 5HJ