

## **The Kettlewell Clamber 22 Mile Walk Route Notes Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

### **KETTLEWELL TO STARBOTTON DISTANCE 2 MILES**

Leave the car park crossing the road with care and turn right. Walk past the garage on your left hand side & the pay & display car park (there are public toilets here). Cross the bridge and turn right, half way up this road is Kettlewell Village Hall and the Kettlewell Clamber Walk Base. Please register here and let us know that you have arrived.

After checking in, leave the building and turn right. Head back towards the main road and you will see The Blue Bell Pub to your right. Walk up the side of The Blue Bell Pub on a tarmac road. At the top as the road bends right we carry on straight ahead up a stony track and through your first stile of the day. The stone wall bends around to the left follow this wall and you are now on a distinctive path which you will follow for two miles of delightful walking. There is about eight stiles to cross and some beautiful views to admire.

After about 1.5 miles you will see Starbotton in the distance. At the finger post (in the wall corner) pointing down the field, go through the wooden gate and down the steps. Half way down the field there is another signpost at a metal gate go through this to a second metal gate and out on to a road. Turn right past Foss Gill cottage then left past Low Barn on your right hand side. You are now on the main road of Starrbotton.

**CHECK POINT ONE. – STARBOTTON - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.  
DISTANCE SO FAR 2.00 MILES – STILL TO GO 13.00 MILES  
STARBOTTON TO CRAY 5.50 MILES (VIA BUCKDEN PIKE 3 MILES UP 2.5 MILES  
DOWN)**

Turn Right on the main road and go past the Fox & Hounds pub, turning right up the side of the pub on a tarmac road. On your left, go over a small stone bridge signposted to Walden Head. Take the stony track on your right, quite steep at first. Continue all the way up and climb over the ladder stile. Carry on up this track keeping the wall on your left hand side, passing a finger post by a wooden gate on route, heading in the Walden Head direction.

Further along the track you go through a disused gate, keep following the track that bends to the left, to the wall corner, then ahead along the rutted track.

When the track passes through a section of a crossing dry stone walls, take the right hand fork, then with the broken wall on your right go ahead ascending the hill passing a Bridle Way finger post on route.

The wall changes over to your left after a gap in the wall, eventually veering to your left up hill. Leave the wall and go ahead to a crossing wall and gate. Go through the gate and ahead, at the second cairn the path swings around to the left. Still climbing you pass a stone shelter on your left (good sarnie stop).

Go through the gap in the wall, continuing forward with a wall on your right hand side to go through a gate. Turn left and you should have a wall running up the left hand side. If boggy, pick your way through to the top of the hill.

This takes you to the top (yippee) via the Memorial Cross. This was dedicated to the polish airmen who in January 1942 crashed here. Two of them lost there lives, the third survived by following a fox's track through the snow to safety at Starbotton. He returned years later to erect this cross in memory of his friends. You will see a fox's head and a bit of old plain at the base.

Cross the stile you see in the wall, and turn right following the wall until you will see a cairn and white trig point and a signpost reading Buckden Pike National Trust. This is the summit of Buckden Pike.

Have a breather and enjoy the views you have deserved it!

After a little rest, continue ahead with wall on your right on a well maintained path. Following this down hill you should be able to see the hills Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent in the distance. At the Bridle Way finger post, take the path leading away from the wall. As you continue down the hill the path becomes a little sketchy in places, just carefully pick your way down towards a crossing wall with a gate in it.

When you reach the gate just after the NATIONAL TRUST – UPPER WHARFEDALE sign, go through and head across the field to a corner gate and finger post to Cray High Bridge, do not go through the gate turn right keeping the wall on your left to another gate, go through and follow this path though gaps in dry stone walls and gates until you reach a finger post pointing left towards Cray. This path takes you down towards the river and the small hamlet of buildings which is the village of Cray. Cross the stepping stones to your Second Checkpoint and refreshments.

**CHECK POINT TWO - CRAY - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.**  
**DISTANCE SO FAR 7.50 MILES – STILL TO GO 14.50 MILES**  
**CRAY TO YOCKENTHWAITE 3.00 MILES**

(White Lion pub just across the road)  
The next part of the walk is idyllic

After checking in take the stone track up behind the pub sign posted to Stubbing Bridge & Yockenthwaite. Carry along this path up hill through a farm yard and straight ahead through a wooden gate. Follow the track through the fields until you descend to a wooden footbridge, cross this and follow the metal fence on your left hand side. Carry on through a gate stile with a sign post Scar House & Yockenthwaite. After a few more gates, stiles, and another bridge and after crossing a rocky outcrop adjacent to a farm, proceed ahead to a double gated stile just beyond a finger post to Yockenthwaite. Follow the path and the yellow markers through a wood until you come out onto a stony track. Head left downhill towards the farm and then right towards the river and the road. Cross the bridge and turn left, crossing the road and walking on the grass verge. Head towards the fingerpost just before the cattle grid, pointing right towards the hill side and Halton Gill.

**CHECK POINT THREE - YOCKENTHWAITE - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.  
DISTANCE SO FAR 10.50 MILES – STILL TO GO 11.50 MILES  
YOCKENTHWAITE TO HOLTON GILL 2.75 MILES**

This is your next climb of the day (it's not as bad as it looks) this path hair pins right towards another fingerpost again Signposted Halton Gill via Horse Head. Take the well defined path up wards heading for a lone tree to your left. You will also see some posts with pink bands around them. There is not much more to say now except carry on up the hill side keeping the stream initially to your left. Cross a stream that comes in from your right and then keep ahead until you reach a stone wall and gate. This is the top (Hurray!). Go through the gate and carry on ahead, you will now start to descend passing through two more gates. When reaching the gate with the fingerpost to Beckermonds, go through and turn left towards Halton Gill. You then reach a gate leading to the road. Turn left to the hamlet of Halton Gill, and check point three.

**CHECK POINT FOUR - HOLTON GILL - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.  
DISTANCE SO FAR 13.25 MILES – STILL TO GO 8.75 MILES  
HOLTON GILL TO ARNCLIFFE 4.75 MILES**

Carry on down the road. At the junction take the road to your right and then just over the bridge, turn left through the gate stile and follow the riverside footpath. The footpath soon starts to move away from the river follow this footpath until you reach a gravel path. Go left down the path and turn sharp right towards a farm. Go through a gate and turn left. Go over the bridge and turn left to follow the beck on your left hand side.

Once you have crossed a ford next to some farm buildings, take the path to the right through a metal gate signposted Arncliffe. This footpath will take you into Arncliffe. As you enter Arncliffe walk over the bridge, turn left once again having the beck on your left hand side. Follow this track down to the church and Check point 4.

**CHECK POINT FIVE - ARNCLIFFE - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IN.  
DISTANCE SO FAR 18.00 MILES – STILL TO GO 4.00 MILES  
ARNCLIFFE TO KETTLEWELL 4.00 MILES**

At the side of the church gates there is a footpath sign. This path will take you into the Hamlet of Hawkswick. Go over the suspension bridge and turn right down the road until you reach a house on your left called Bramblewood, here there is a footpath sign for Kettlewell (*last hill honest*) head up the hill there is a good path so no instructions needed.

At the top there is a cairn, you can follow the footpath behind or follow the footpath around the side they both lead to the ladder stile over the wall. Cross over the wall and once again there are two distinct footpaths and again both meet up so take your pick.

Follow this path as it heads down hill towards a wood, go through the wood still heading down hill to the road. At the road cross over, please walk in single file as this road does get busy. Walk down the road back into Kettlewell and back to the village hall.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO CHECK BACK IN AT THE VILLAGE HALL BEFORE YOU LEAVE, SO THAT WE KNOW YOU HAVE ARRIVED BACK SAFELY.**

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE WALK!!!**