

THIS TRAIL IS VALID UNTIL 31st DECEMBER 2012

PLEASE NOTE: The organisers are not responsible for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable trail.



**White Cross Walkers
WENTWORTH & ELSECAR
HERITAGE TRAIL
PT No 156 DISTANCE 10 Km**

ENTRY FORM	
Please register me/us as having completed the WENTWORTH & ELSECAR HERITAGE TRAIL	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
OTHER WALKERS	
Date Walked	
Do you want free certificates for the walkers? Yes/No* *delete as appropriate	
ENTRY FEE(S)	
If you would like your cards returned to an address outside the UK please add £1 in total towards return postage)	
..... Walkers @ £1.00 per person	£.....
..... Cloth Badges @ £1.50 each	£.....
Excess postage (if applicable)	£.....
Total amount enclosed	£.....
If you need the stamps on new insert cards please tick box <input type="checkbox"/>	
Please send completed form and fees, IVV books/ insert cards, and an S.A.E. (large enough for A5 certificates, if required) with sufficient postage, to: Stuart McNab 16, Wayland Avenue, Ward Green, Barnsley, South Yorkshire. S70 5HY	

ANSWERS

Please give your answers to the questions asked in route description, here.

A

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B

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C

D

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E

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START/FINISH: Village Car Park, Wentworth ROTHERHAM
OS Landranger Map 111 Grid Ref. SK387981

Grading : The trail is grade 2. The total ascent is 148 metres, (approx 484 ft)
The Car Park is Pay & Display between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. each day. Charges at time of writing: 50p up to 2 hours, £1 over 2 hours. Disabled badge holders may park free at any time and motorcycles and bicycles are also free.

Route Description (Updated 29/12/2011)

Wentworth is an old estate village with virtually all buildings belonging to the Wentworth Estate; they can be easily recognised by their distinctive green paint. Cottages still belonging to the estate can be similarly picked out in several local villages.

1 Leave car park and turn right on road. Take first right (Clayfield Lane) and follow it to a right hand bend with a bench and litter bin on the left hand verge.

Question A: What is the name of the council shown on the litter bin?

2 Do not continue on the road but cross the stile to join the signed public footpath. Go ahead up field edge with fence on left, pass under power lines and continue to field corner. Ignore stile on left and turn right on field edge, with hedge on left to stile in next field corner.

3 Go ahead over stile and continue in same direction over three further stiles to join a track. Turn right on track to road. Turn left on road to reach a t-junction.

Shortly before the T-junction you will pass a disused windmill. This was in use until the 19C when it was replaced by a new one on Mill Lane which you will pass later(also disused).

4 Turn left on Cortworth Lane, and go forward passing the former estate kennels and old building yard (now craft workshops).

Question B: Left of the entrance to the Old Building Yard is a large sign for Wentworth Forge, what is the name of the blacksmith shown on it.?

Immediately after the entrance to the Old Building Yard is a gate on the left marked "Private". From the gate there is a distant view of "The Needle's Eye" folly, the oldest folly on the estate. Our route will eventually take you there.

6 Continue along the road and cross over Coaley Lane. Approx. 200 metres later, near a bus stop sign, turn left into the drive of Cortworth House. In 100 metres, where drive swings left, go forward through a kissing gate and ahead on field edge, with hedge on left, to reach road (Street Lane). Turn left on road to reach a T-junction.

Question C: As you approach the T-junction there is a post box on the left hand verge. What is the time shown for the Saturday collection?

7 Turn right for a few metres. Just past the end of the cottage on the left, turn left up the bank to reach a kissing gate.

Just to the right of the gate is a square stone pillar about 2 feet high with a hollowed top: this is the old "plague" stone. When plagues occurred regularly, villages often limited access to prevent the disease from spreading. If goods etc. were brought to the village they were exchanged on the boundary. The money and any change was placed in vinegar in the hollow of the stone to disinfect it.

8 Go through the kissing gate and ahead on footpath with hedge on left. You will shortly reach a kissing gate on the left which gives access to the Needle's Eye folly.

The folly is on private land but the Estate have no objection to people visiting it so long as they return to the footpath the same way and do not trespass any further. Built between 1730 and 1745, by the second Marquis, supposedly so that he could win a bet that he could "drive a carriage through the eye of a needle". As it is built on the old private carriage road from the North Lodge to Lions Lodge at Brampton Bierlow, this is possible..

9 Continue on the footpath, initially with hedge on left, over several fields and stiles, away to your left are views over the village towards the distant Pennines. Keppel's Column, another of the estate follies can be seen to the left of the village and slightly behind you.

10 Cross stile by tree and start to descend, enjoying good views forward to Hoyland and Elsecar villages. Continue downhill with fence on left, and cross another stile. Follow path across centre of the next field to reach and cross yet another stile. Continue across next field half left, aiming for a stile in bottom left hand corner. Cross stile and go ahead for 10 metres to a path junction.

11 Turn right and ignoring all side paths, follow this path as it eventually swings left downhill. Pass under two sets of power lines and continue towards Elsecar Heritage Centre. Go forward over a level crossing with the Heritage Centre (which you will visit later) to your left to reach a T-junction with the road.

Question D: As you reach the junction there is a large sign fixed to the building on your right. What activity does it advertise?

12 Turn right and pass Elsecar Church on your left. Continue forward passing rows of old stone cottages on your left. These cottages were built to house the miners and their families.

The Earls Fitzwilliam were benevolent mine owners and conditions in their mines were much better than in most other mines in the area. The larger houses at the far end of the village would have housed the mine officials.

13 Just before the bridge turn right through a fence gap with bridge wall on your left. Continue with the path as it swings through 180o to join canal towpath and head back towards the Heritage Centre. Continue on towpath to canal basin and then go ahead on path/track with railway on left.

The disused canal was the Elsecar branch of the Dearne & Dove Canal which was mainly used for carrying coal. The branch was 2 and 1/8 miles long with 6 locks. It opened in 1798 but closed in 1928 due to mining subsidence.

Across the railway line you will see a tall narrow building with the date 1787 on the door lintel. This building houses the Newcomen type beam engine which drained the Elsecar New Colliery (and later collieries) from 1795 to 1923 when it was replaced by electric pumps. It ran again briefly in 1928 when the pumps were overwhelmed by flooding.

It was built by John Barge of Chesterfield and when operating at its peak could draw 600 gallons of water a minute. It is the only engine of its type to remain in its original location. The Elsecar New colliery closed in the 1850's and was replaced by other collieries, close by, which still used the beam engine for drainage. The last one, Elsecar Main Colliery, opened in 1908 and closed in October 1983.

Heritage Lottery funding has now been obtained for repair of the beam engine which was damaged several years ago when it was put into steam for one of the regular steam week-ends. Once repairs are completed it is intended that further steam week-ends will take place.

14 At the end of the path pass through metal barrier to reach and cross a narrow road. Go ahead through the double wrought iron gates into the Heritage Centre and continue forward with the steam railway to your left

(Note: dogs are now allowed in the centre providing that you clean up after them. If you prefer not to visit the centre then turn right on the narrow road, just before the gates, and then left at the T-junction to rejoin the route at The Market public house).

Elsecar Heritage Centre is based in the former workshops and ironworks owned by the Earls Fitzwilliam which supported their mining activities. It was taken over by the National Coal Board in 1947 and was the area central workshops, but the decline of the mining industry made it surplus to requirements. It was purchased by Barnsley Met. Borough Council in 1988, together with the beam engine. The restored buildings now house antique shops and craft workshops, a café, toilets, and an exhibition hall. There is a regular programme of events based in the centre and on the associated steam railway.

14 Turn right with the road into Ironworks Row and continue to the Brambles Café. Should you wish to explore the Centre, please make sure you return to this point to continue your walk. Leave the centre through one of the two exit doors in the wall to the left of Brambles Café. These doors lead to a track on which you turn right.

15 When you reach the road, turn left, passing in front of The Market public house. In approx. 30 metres, cross the road to join an enclosed footpath to the left of house No.17. Follow this path as it swings left to pass cricket and rugby pitches.

16 Continue with path until it ends at a tarmac track. Turn right on the track, passing through a barrier/gate, to reach the road and turn left. Continue with road to reach a track on the left, signed Skiers Hall. Take this track, pass between buildings and ignore a stile on the left. At a multi-way sign post turn left, signed Timberland Trail (West).

17 Pass through woodland to reach another multi-way signpost and turn right over a wooden bridge. Go ahead on this path, initially with Elsecar Reservoir (formerly a canal feeder) on your left. Path swings right and a gateway leads on to the road. Turn left on the road and at the junction, turn right. Pass a disused windmill to reach a T-junction. Turn left on road to pass the sign for Wentworth village.

Question E: What wording is shown on the sign below the village name?

18 As road swings left, cross to join an enclosed footpath and follow it to a tarmac track. Cross the track to another tarmac track opposite and go ahead with the school on your right. Pass the old church (disused) and churchyard on your left.

19 Continue on the track with the new church on your right. Pass through a metal barrier and continue until reaching gates on to the road. Turn left on road to reach a T-junction and war memorial. Turn left on road passing the Rockingham Arms public house and the bowling green on your right, to return to the village car park.