

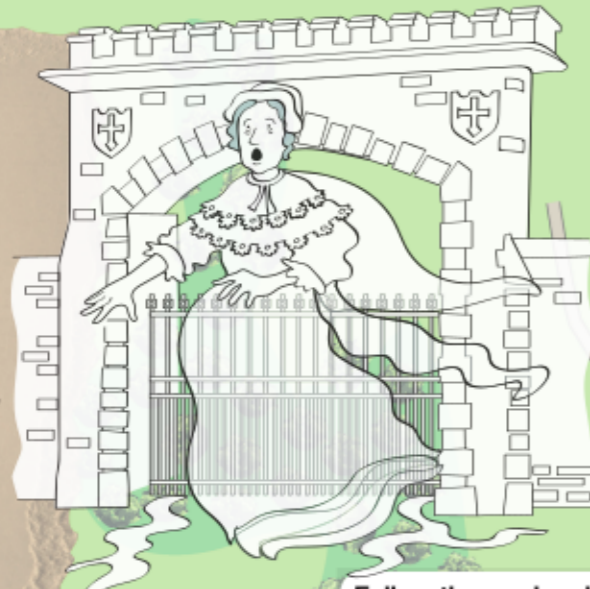
Hester's Haunt - led by Hester Whitaker the vicar's wife from the 17th century, reputed to haunt the vicarage.

A legend of Kirkburton,
You'll often hear it tell,
Involves a war, a wife, a death,
And a rebel priest as well!

They say in the first civil war,
The parish priest was a royalist,
And in 1644,
He claimed to be the loyalist.

So parliament came to arrest him,
And a fight broke out in his house,
A gun was fired,
And it transpired,
A soldier had shot his spouse.

And now if you see a ghost,
Wandering around Kirkburton,
You know it is Hester, the wife,
And now you will know for certain.



This place was known as 'Treacle Oil',
For the giant mill that once stood here,
They say the air was truly spoiled,
By smoke as black as dark stout beer.

But the children found a silver lining,
For the mill brought brilliant spots for hiding,
And in the pond they found frog spawn,
And sailed boats from paper, torn.

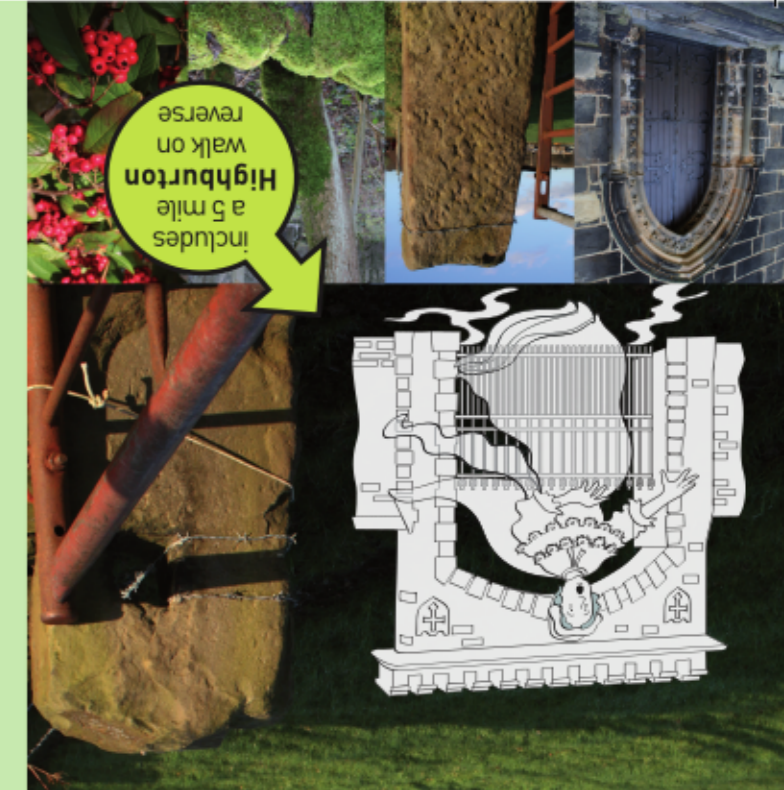
There used to be a railway,
That came along this way,
If you look about you,
You can see the track's remains.



There are many weavers' cottages,
That stand around this place,
Which tells us there were hand weavers,
And weavers of the stays.

They worked long hours and cloth was dear,
And losing work was a great big fear.

But this was not a rich man's job,
And Kirkburton was poor,
Though compared to those that had no jobs,
The weavers had much more.



Includes
a 5 mile
Highburton
walk on
reverse

Follow the road and
up to the houses, take
the path to the left at
the top.

Continue until you can
see a road opposite
leading to Woodsome
Lees and follow this
road down the hill.

Turn left down the
road to the main
road at the bottom
and turn right.

Walk round to the right
towards Burton Dean
Park. Cross the footbridge
and follow the path
around the boules pitch
and into the open field.
Follow the path with the
fence to your left and then
take the path to the right
up and across the field.
At the top follow the wall
to the left and to the road.

Continue down to the
bottom, then take a left
down the Hallas.

Continue along and
cross over, near the end
of the houses take a
narrow lane to the left.

Turn right along Paddock Road.

Take the 1st footpath to the left
- signposted and follow the path
across the field and through 2 stone
squeezes and across a field and
down to a gap and the road.

Cross over the road
and go down Burton
Royd Lane opposite.



Continue on this path for some way,
until you get to a fork, and take a left.
Go down to the footbridge, through
two wood kissing gates and take the
path up the hill and turn right onto the
road. Alternatively, to cut out the long
road walk, turn left onto the road and
make your way through Storthes Hall
to the wall on the far edge of the wood and
turn left.



Almost at the top of the
hill, take the path to the
left through the wood
and then turn left back
onto the road.



Take the left turn
down Wood Lane and
follow the lane down
and through into the
wooded area.

Turn left through the
stone squeeze, and
follow the path next to
the wall on your right.
Continue straight on
through the woods.

At the bottom of the wood,
cross over the stream over
the footbridge and follow
the path bearing left and
up to the stone squeeze.

Follow the wall and
over another stone
stile and right to the
road, and turn left.
Cross over and follow
the path signposted
down the ginnel. Go
over the wood stile and
through the field and
follow the path.

Go down the road, cross over and at the
bottom take a right up Lane Head Lane.

Go through the lychgate and the graveyard
and through the large portcullis gate, to
finish the walk.

At the crossroads take the gravel road to the
right, and follow to the lychgate.



All Hallows Church that you can see,
Was built in the tenth century,
Bits were adapted through the years,
Like a hole in the wall so lepers could peer,
Into the church from a place outside,
So that, from church, they could not hide.



- Key**
- The route
 - Stone stile
 - Wood stile
 - Wood gate
 - Kissing gate
 - Footbridge
 - Viewpoint

Kirkburton Hester's Haunt

A 5 mile ghostly walk

Kirkburton Parish Walks

Issue 2 2023 Edition

How to get there:
By bus: regular services from Huddersfield to Kirkburton, see www.wymetro.com for details.
By car: park at Kirkburton Health Centre, HD8 0SJ.

- Other walks in the series:**
- Higgler Hike
 - Fitton Frolic
 - PC Dibb Dash
 - Jessop's Jaunt
 - Lizzie's Lollipop
 - Beaumont's Bolt
 - Billy Sweep Saunter
 - Molly Mangle's Meander
 - Wardroper Wander
- Area covered by OS Landranger Sheet 110 / Explorer 288

See: www.kirkburtonparishwalks.co.uk

Supported in partnership by:

Look out for the Hester' Haunt Waymarker disc to help guide you around the walk.

Walking in the East Peak - www.denbydale-kirkburton.org.uk

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