

Jessop's Jaunt - led by Mary-Ann Jessop who made fireworks for her family firm in Lepton from aged 8 until she was in her 90s.

Miss Jessop, that's my name,
And through my trade I found my fame,
I am the oldest in the land,
To make whizzer pops and fizzle bangs!

That's right! I make great fireworks!
And have done all my life,
I made them as a little girl,
And made them as a wife.

My first whizz popper that I did make,
Was at the ripe old age of 8,
I made my final fizzle bomb,
At the age of 91.



Making of cloth was often done,
Within the home, by everyone.
Children carded all the wool,
Then when the basket top was full,
The women started then to spin,
Until the thread was fine and thin,
The men would then take up the loom,
And weave the thread in the highest room.

At the road junction turn left, and take the second footpath signposted on your right, and walk up the hill.

Follow the hedge, to the left and up to the wood stile. Follow the path over two more wood stiles.

Walk to the second bend in the road and go through the gap and keeping right follow the path to the road. Cross over and turn right.

Turn left down the tarmac path signposted to the road. Turn left and immediately right down the road and take the footpath straight on to the road.

Turn left and left again and cross over and then turn right up the next road. Follow the road to the top and take the path into the woods.

Follow the path to the roads, then up the steps and turn right.

Continue on the road and take the brideway down on the right at the side of Rowley Lane Club. Follow the path to the road and turn left.

Turn right at the footpath signposted, follow the road up in front of the house and up to the wood. Take the path straight ahead and then the path veering to the right through the wood.

Follow the path, then turn right across the field to the woods. Follow the path through the woods.

Continue up the road and up the hill, take the footpath signposted across the field, to the road and turn right. Take the next footpath signposted left.

Go through the farmyard and follow the road to the bottom. Turn left up the road.

In 1357,
A coroner's report was writ,
To say that John Long of Lepton born,
Fell into a coal pit.
Coal mining in this area,
Had been a worthy trade,
And an iron forge for ironstone,
On this site was made.

Continue way past the houses, to the bend in the road and take the path to the right. Follow the path down the hill.

Follow the path, through a kissing gate. Take the right path in the middle of the field to the kissing gate. Turn left down the road.

Cross over the main road and take the footpath opposite.

At the house turn left to the road.

Follow the path up straight through the fields to the road, turn left and back to the car park.

At the corner take the left path signposted. Follow the path up the hill.



Lepton, many years ago,
Was quite a different place, you know,
With the industrial revolution,
Came lots of mills and production.
The town was spotted with chimney pots,
And of loud noises, there were lots;
Hooters called the town to mill,
And fire work tests were loud and shrill.

The first man to make fireworks,
In this little town,
Was known as Allen Jessop,
And he soon found great renown.
He used to sell his fireworks,
From baskets door to door,
And the people of Lepton loved them so,
They asked for more and more.

Photography - Ian Lumb, Project manager - Michelle Atkinson, Story telling - Ruthie Boycott-Garnett, Sculptor - Dave Bradbury, Graphic design - Kirklees Graphics, Illustration - John McGregor
Thanks to: Malcolm McDonald, Geoff Hickey and Robert Barraclough for their work on the Kirkburton Parish Council to initiate these walks.

