**SECTION 4 CRAGG VALE TO LUMBUTTS**

Updated 28/06/2018

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| ***Length and time*** 3 miles (5km). Should take you about 2 hours.  ***Highlights*** Withens Clough Reservoir, Te Deum Stone, causey path, great views of the landscape and Stoodley Pike, Lumbutts water tower  ***Gradients*** The first half is a fairly gentle climb followed by a steeper descent  ***Terrain*** The routeis on stretches of narrow tarmac lanes and good tracks  ***Obstacles*** Thereare several gates with interesting catches to deal with!  **Facilities**  Hichliffe Arms at the start, Mankinholes Youth Hostel, Top Brink pub at Lumbutts  **Bus access to the route**  To Cragg Vale 901, from Lumbutts T6 or T8 to Todmorden or the main road in the valley bottom. |

1. From the Cragg Road (and nearby bus stop descend the tarmac road signposted ?? down to the church.
2. From the church (SE00I232), bear left past the Hinchliffe Arms and follow the tarmac road up the valley for 1½ km (ignore turnings off). At the top, go through the gate to Withens Clough Reservoir.
3. At the dam, follow the track straight ahead along the right-hand edge of the reservoir. The track turns to the left and ½ km further on, turn right up a grassy track to a junction of paths where you go straight on (the wider track turning left joins the Calderdale way in 200 metres). At the end of the wall, turn left and shortly re-joins the wide track.
4. Keep ahead and at a gate turn right uphill. You pass a stone stoop bearing the inscription “Te deum laudamus" (“We praise thee O Lord") and go through the gate on to the moor, picking up one of the great stretches of old causey path.
5. After 200 metres you reach Withens Gate where you cross the Pennine Way with Stoodley Pike to the right. A great place to stop and admire the panoramic view.
6. Keep ahead going downhill on the causey path. The path picks up a wall on your right and shortly after you reach a gate going into a walled lane leading to Lumbutts and Lee Dam. Here you turn right on a walled grassy track descending to the hamlet of Mankinholes.
7. Go straight ahead on the tarmac road through the hamlet, watch out for the drinking troughs for cattle and pack horses and Mankinholes Hall, now the Youth Hostel.
8. At the end of houses, opposite the graveyard of a former Chapel, turn left down a walled lane on to the back of the Top Brink Inn.

*Link Path G steeply descends to Lobb Mill and the Rochdale Canal in the valley bottom and buses.*

1. Coming out of the pub entrance, bear right and go down the setted path down to Lumbutts with its distinctive water tower.

*Here Link Path H is a less strenuous way to the Valley bottom and buses.*