

POP OUT WALKS

Town Trail 2, Todmorden



Length

About 2300 steps: x miles.

Start and finish

Starts and finishes at the front of Todmorden Town Hall.

How strenuous?

Easy going, gentle slopes.

How uneven?

Pavements, asphalt and earth paths.

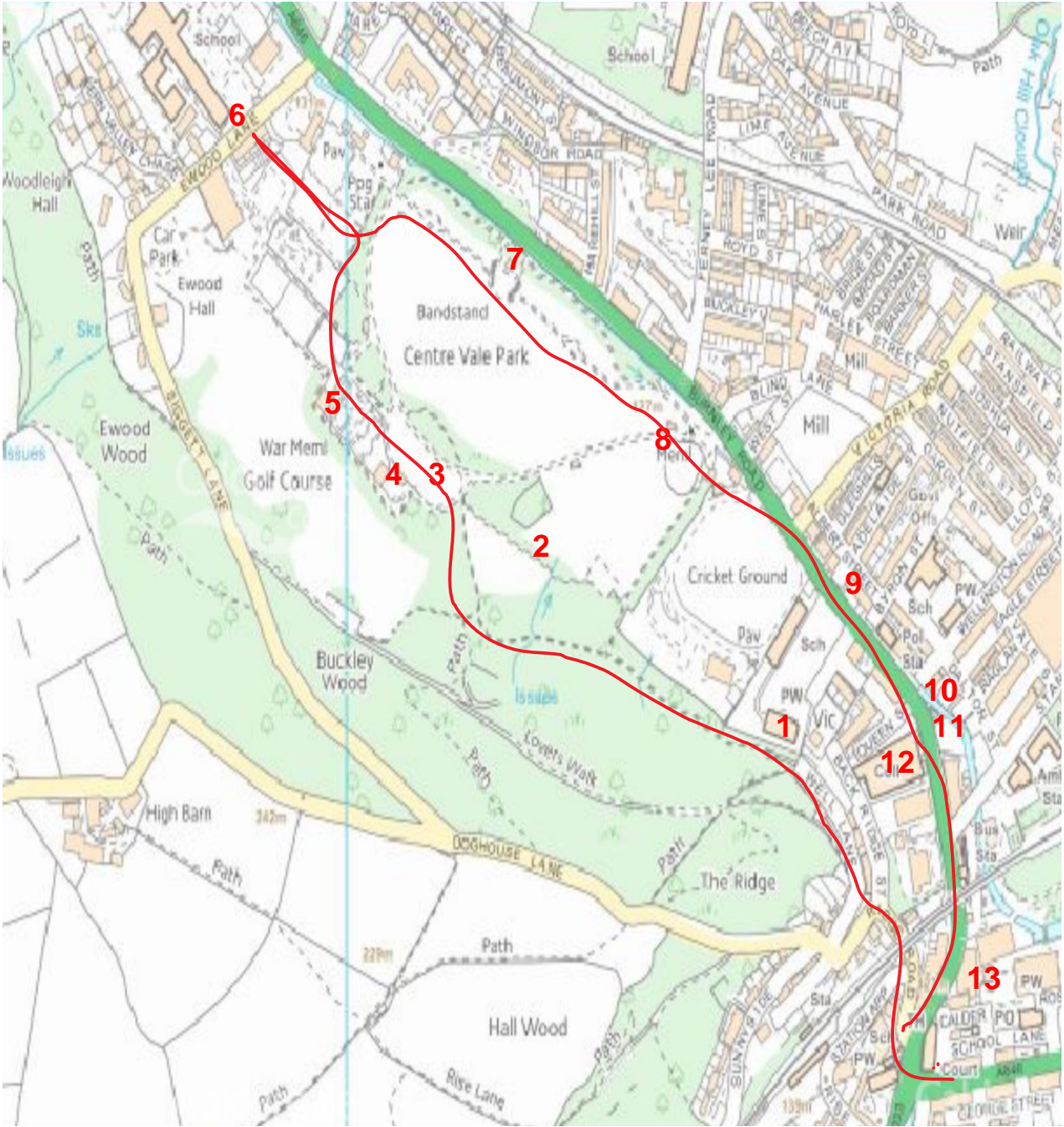
Obstacles

Steps.

Points of interest

This walk is based on the second half of "The Todmorden Trail". It passes some of the notable sights of Todmorden, including Centre Vale Park, the Market Hall and ... "Lucky Dog".

POP OUT WALKS take under an hour and are ideal for popping out for a summer evening or taking a break from work or being indoors.



POP OUT WALKS: Town Trail 2

With your back to the Town Hall turn right... cross road... pass the front of the White Hart... go under the viaduct... up Ridge Steps on the right... turn right...right fork Well Lane...

1 Christ Church (on the right) built 1830-32 to replace St Mary's; 50 years later St Mary's preferred by the congregation; Christ Church eventually sold for private housing. Adjacent buildings: Vicarage and School built at the same time as the church. The Vicarage, before the church was the scene of the dramatic murders of Reverend Anthony Plow and Jane Smith (nurse) in 1868 by Miles Weatherill – later executed in Manchester.

...continue straight on main path...

2 Centre Vale Park opened in 1912; purchased from John A Fielden, with a further bequest of woodland by Mrs Greenwood.

...continue for 350 metres, ignoring two footpaths on the right... look out for and turn down to the a statue on the right ...

3 Statue of John Fielden moved here from Fielden Square and before that from outside the Town Hall; local successful mill owner; M.P. involved in promoting the Ten Hour Act 1874; known as "Honest John"; father to John, Samuel and Joshua Fielden.

turn left at the statue on the main path...look out on the left for...

4 Lucky Dog by a local sculptor; made famous by Derren Brown in a TV "social

experiment" programme; on the site of Centre Vale Mansion, a Fielden house and then a military hospital.

...continue...on the left...

5 Garden of Remembrance on the site of Centre Vale Mansion's kitchen garden; war memorial to the fallen of both world wars; architects Gilbert Bayes and Norman Thorp.

...continue on the main path...can divert by the bowling green pavilion to...

6 The Fielden Centre 1871 elementary school built by Sarah Fielden, wife of Samuel Fielden; architect John Gibson; has been an art school and local authority special school; now run by a trust for the community.

...return to the park path...continue round the park...

7 Bandstand constructed 1912; refurbished 1999; suffering from structural problems and vandalism; there is a campaign for restoration.

...continue...

8 Taplin Memorial Drinking Fountain built here to replace original from by the Town Hall; Reverend Taplin was a supportive figure during the 19th C 'cotton famine' and smallpox epidemic (1874).

exit park ...cross road at crossing... continue towards town...

9 Weavers' Institute (opposite school) built 1914 as a centre for workers'

education; has also been used for the County Court and Citizens' Advice Bureau.

...continue...after the shops on side street...

10 Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson Blue Plaque on the end house of Wellington Street; plaque to one of Todmorden's two Nobel Prize winners.

...continue...

11 Patmos Gardens Site of Patmos Chapel demolished 1975; small war memorial; notice River Calder behind.

...across the road see...

12 Community College built 1951-5; opened by Sir John Cockcroft, the other Nobel Prize winner; architect H Bennett.

...continue...under railway viaduct...

13 Market Hall built 1879; foundation stone laid by John Fielden; Todmorden Market is over 200 years old.

...continue back to Town Hall.

POP OUT WALKS are still being developed. Please help by emailing any comments, especially corrections or confusions to gelliott123@gmail.com Thanks.

