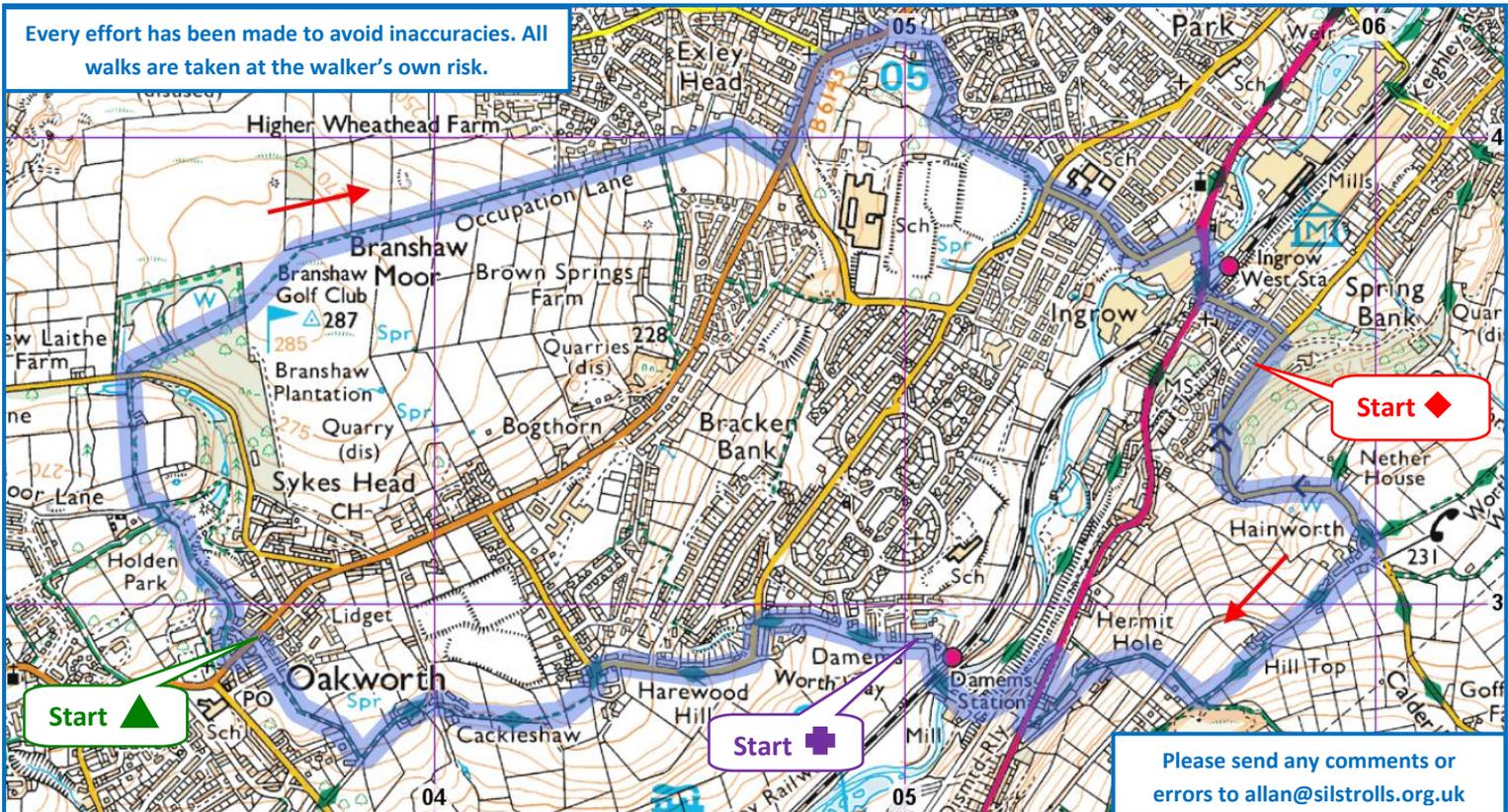


Keighley Rotary Ramble 2016

5 miles, taking in superb views from the tops either side of the Worth Valley; meanderings along hidden paths, across meadows and over moorland; and around 1¾ miles of on-road walking – an interesting mix of town and country. The Keighley and Worth Valley Railway (kwvr.co.uk) is with you on your left

much of the journey out between Damems and Oakworth. The Ramble passes through spectacular displays of buttercups in spring around Oakworth. Two start points, other than ◆ Hainworth Rd. - + Damems and ▲ Oakworth, both accessible with stations on the restored steam railway. You can also steam train it from Keighley to start your walk from Ingrow station. And there are several clear places where the Ramble can be shortened along B roads if you wish. Sturdy footwear essential, as are sun cream and water in sunny weather. Leave gates as you find them.



Start – from Keighley follow the A629 Halifax Road. At Ingrow West lights, turn left up Haincliffe Rd to Hainworth Wood Rd. at its top. Park considerably here.

(NB – this start section ends with a steep descent on a narrow bridleway, very tricky underfoot, especially after rain. You may prefer to cut out this section, and start instead by walking back down Haincliffe Road, and going left along the main road to **Damems Lane** half a mile along.)

With the town below to your right walk to the end of this road and climb the setted road to Hainworth hamlet. Turn right, passing before several lovely old cottages. Keep ahead, ignoring signs beckoning you aside, and enjoy the increasingly panoramic view below. After ten minutes, reaching the visible former quarry workings on the left, drop down the slope via the gate by the power pole to cross a track, and continue ahead. Follow this bridleway all the way to its end as it bears left down to Halifax Rd.

CROSS WITH GREAT CARE. Drop downhill towards town and after 100 yards, having just passed house Great Northern Railway 230, turn left on **Damems Lane**, and descend to the halt's level crossing. Climb the setted road to where it becomes tarmacked at a small estate + (alternative start point).

Follow this road (still Damems Lane) ahead, following its extremely unmade section up to the T junction, where you turn left. Goose Cote Lane brings you up to houses and a sharp right-hand bend – however you turn left, pass over the Worth Way stile, go through the gap in the wall ahead, and then down the slope via a couple of stiles to follow the path along the wall to the gate on to Cackleshaw.

Pass the left hand cottage, and immediately pass through the “car park” on the left to the usually vehicle-obscured path at the rear. At the end exit left, passing through the opening by the gate. The track soon becomes tarmacked with broad meadows either side. The B road comes into view ahead, but you turn right to follow the sign to Oakworth. (If you want to end your walk at this point with a steam train journey, continue down to Station Rd. and turn left downhill to Oakworth station).

Keep ahead, crossing Maple Ave., and go along Lark Lane to reach the B6143 Keighley Rd. (Lidget) in Oakworth. Cross, go left then right, up Clough Lane. (▲ alternative start point). Climb this, following the path through trees and rough grassland, turning sharp left and reaching a large gated house – Chase End - where the rough track becomes tarmacked once more. Opposite the house entrance is your stiled path, which you follow through two gates to reach a small fishing lake and Slaymaker Lane.

Take the stile opposite, and follow the wall round right, to a stile on to Burnshaw Golf Course. Cross diagonally left along the slightly depressed path (beware flying golf balls!) to the end of the wall, which you follow down to the gate and the track taking you to Occupation Lane. Good views of Exley Head, and Laycock in the far left distance open up here as you descend, passing after ten minutes between the restricted width signs and reaching Keighley Rd.

Turn left a few yards, then CROSS CAREFULLY below Damems Lane. Keep downhill on Keighley Rd. for ¼ mile, then turn right on Exley Rd. just past the bus stops. Immediately after the school entrance the signed path goes into a private garden, exiting by a little gate on the left opposite the back door. Drop down this long snicket, passing the school, to reach Ashbourne Rd. Cross, drop down Ingrow Lane ahead; over Queen’s Rd, passing works on the right to gain the busy A629 South Street. Go right, to reach the Ingrow traffic lights. Cross and climb Haincliffe Rd. to the top and your car.

