

Disclaimer: The route on this leaflet was checked in Spring 2007, all routes are on public rights of way or permissive routes. Environmental Alliance takes no responsibility for changes to the route or accidents occurring on the walk. The information in this leaflet was correct at the time of publishing.

River Corridor Greenways Project

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EASY:



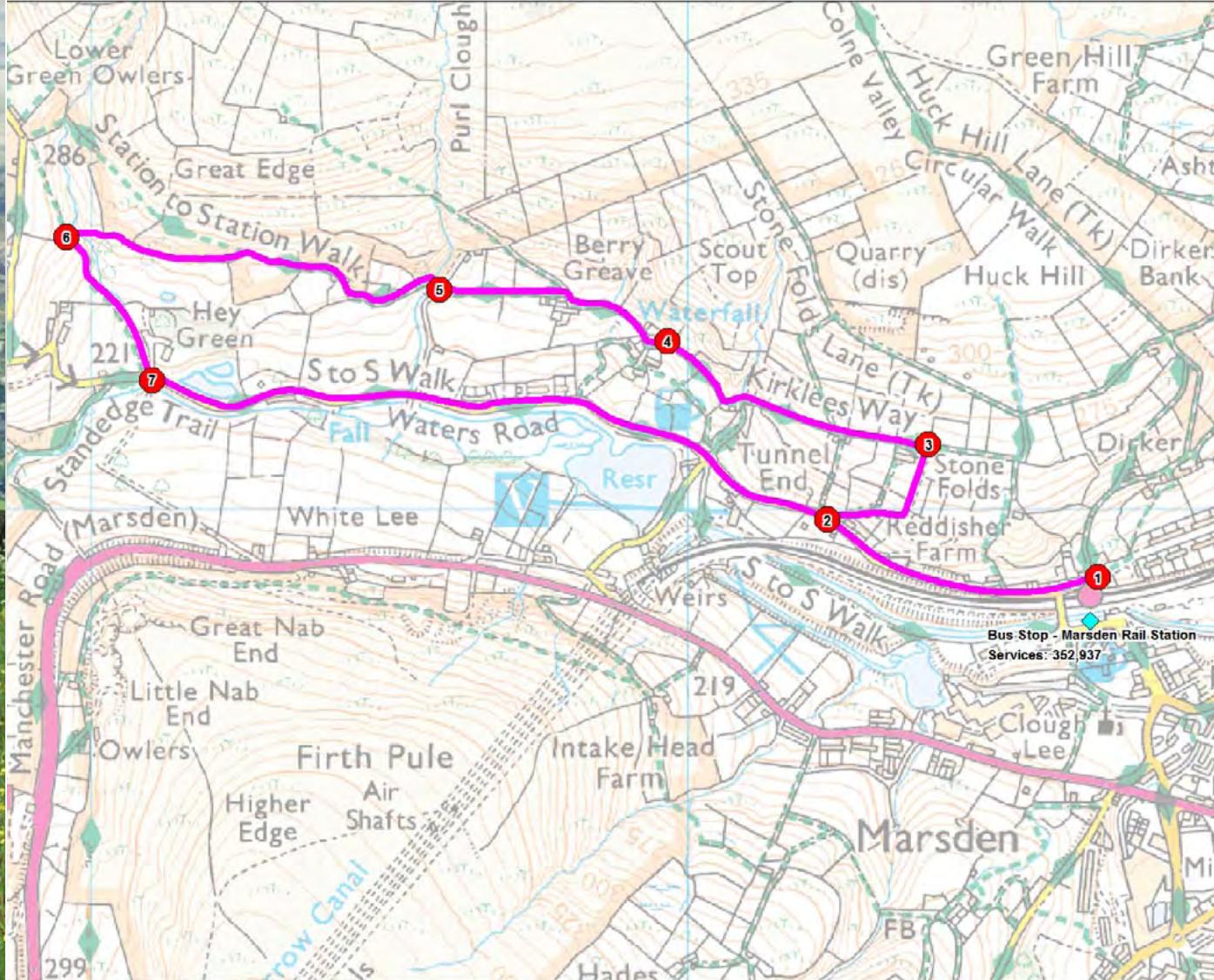
MODERATE:



CHALLENGING:



LOTTERY FUNDED



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TUNNEL END CIRCULAR

GRADE: MODERATE

TIME: 1 HOUR

DISTANCE: 2.4 MILES

River Corridor
Greenways Project

This is a short, varied walk with stunning views across the Colne Valley. There are steep ascents and descents, passing along quiet lanes, wide stone tracks and narrow footpaths. Varied countryside of wet grassland, wooded clough and moorland makes this an appealing walk for bird watchers and botanists. Cellars Clough Mill dominates the valley view, a legacy of the great textile heritage of the Colne Valley, whilst the upland farming heritage is marked by several ornate iron field gates (see points of interest). On the return, an attractive line of stone pillars dated 1847 run the length of a field. The Hey Green Hotel sculpture gate gives visual access to the water-powered generator beyond (see points of interest).

MAP REFERENCE POINTS

- Leave the main entrance of Marsden railway station turn right up and over the railway and then left. Follow signs to the Tunnel End Pub.
- Take the public footpath signposted on the right and follow the very steep track to the top of the hill, where it meets a stone cobbled track.
- From here turn left and follow the road passing through a small hamlet of stone cottages.
- Turn right just before the road bears left down a steep hill. Follow Kirklees Way arrows on posts, the road passes behind a house on the left. The path narrows before it opens out on to moorland and rough grassland, with stunning views over the Colne Valley and rocky outcrops of heather and bilberry.
- Take the right fork, crossing over a stream and several boardwalks following the Kirklees Way.
- Cut across the slope to the stone wall and over the stile, follow the line of stone pillars running down the length of the field to the road. There is a bus stop here with a timetable to Marsden.
- Passing Hey Green Hotel on the left and the sculpture gate a bit further along, follow the road through Lower Hey. Pass the cottages on the right, either follow the road back toward the Tunnel End Pub and station or alternatively go through the gate on right into Tunnel End Nature Reserve.
- Follow the path through the nature reserve and exit through the gate at Tunnel End Pub, following the road back to train station.

Time:	1 hour
Distance:	2.4 miles from Marsden station and back.
Grade:	Moderate (steep short climbs)
Terrain:	Very muddy in one section in winter
Start/Finish:	Marsden Railway Station



Hey Green Hotel Sculpture Gate
(artist~ Jason Thompson)



Stone Pillars

POINTS OF INTEREST

Traditional iron field gates

In 2004 the River Colne Project commissioned West Yorkshire Archaeological Services to analyse the iron field gate survey, carried out by local volunteers between Slaithwaite and Marsden. In total 195 iron gates were recorded. Despite appearing to be a common feature of the upland farming landscape, these 18th and 19th century gates are gradually being replaced by modern aluminium and steel fabrications. Although not unique to the area, the presence of such a large number of gates in a small area and their continued use and survival are of great importance to the local heritage of the Colne Valley.

Hey Green Hotel Sculpture Gate

An example of a more contemporary gate, the Hey Green Sculpture Gate is cast in metal and depicts the story of the Hey Green's historical connection with the South Pacific. Behind the gate is a water-powered generator supplying domestic electricity. The River Colne Project secured Local Heritage Initiative funding to create this 21st century gate in 2002.



Traditional Iron Gate



View from Top



Cuckoo Flower



Weir

Context

This walk been devised as part of an initiative by the River Corridor Greenway Project, which aims to create a better environment for people living and working in the River Colne area.

With funding from Big Lottery under the Transforming Your Space programme, the project has been managed by Environmental Alliance in partnership with Paddock Community Forum, the River Colne Project, Milnsbridge Enhancement Group and Longwood Village Group. Projects undertaken in these areas have been designed to link to a wider network of green spaces and greenways being developed along the river corridors. This network can be used in many different ways for recreation, relaxation and, as an environmentally friendly means of travel. It is a safe, healthy and heritage-rich environment.

Credits

The River Corridor Greenway Project is grateful for the support it received from Kirklees Council and the many volunteers who have contributed to the project.