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.

Longwood Valley Circular

Grade: Challenging
Time: 2 hours
Distance: 3.5 miles

River Corridor Greenways Project

EASY: ★
MODERATE: ★★
CHALLENGING: ★★★
3. Follow the wide lane downhill through the woods until you continue up Parkwood Road to join the walk at point 14.

4. Take the cobbled street (Cliffe Ash) signposted Colne Valley Museum. Pass the museum and continue ahead onto Ridings Lane. After five minutes, reach the end of the houses, and continue straight ahead on a footpath. The path winds around the top edge of a steep-sided gorse.

5. As you approach Blades Road, the right way passes through the yard of a private building Turn right at the road, then left up Swallow Hill. Before the bend, take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

6. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).

7. From Longwood (800 yards, 10 minutes each way)

Walk down Dodlee Lane to the refurbished Parkwood Mills, then continue up Parkwood Road to join the walk at point 14.

8. Turn off to the left of the track and then bear left again, following the walls to remain in the woods. Pass through a large glade, continuing to follow the foot of the wooded slope to the left. Emerge onto a heath dotted with rowan trees, walk across to the houses at Whin Gate then join Hall Lane.

9. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

10. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

11. Turn left on the road across fields. Continue around the hillside along the telegraph wires down to a stone footbridge. Continue to follow the valley downstream as far as a wooden footbridge. (Bear right to continue the walk, to the left, the track heads uphill towards New Holme Road, 15 minutes away.)

12. Walk up the steps to the right. Turn left and follow the path along the top of the riverbank towards the reservoir, then over the stile onto the dam of the reservoir. Do not cross the dam. Watch out for waterfowl such as moorhens and coots. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow footpath along the left bank of the valley. In places, it becomes a deep, sheer-sided gorge, with exposed outcrops of rock.

13. After 15 minutes, reach a gravel-surfaced track. Continue ahead for five minutes to the junction. Take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

14. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).

15. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

16. Follow the lane downhill to the right to Shaw Farm.

17. Turn left, following the waymarks through private land and follow the telegraph wires down to a footbridge across Longwood Brook.

18. 14. Turn right and head uphill on Parkwood Road as far as the Holme Field (Bear right to continue the walk, to the left, the track heads uphill towards New Holme Road, 15 minutes away.)

19. Walk up the steps to the right. Turn left and follow the path along the top of the riverbank towards the reservoir, then over the stile onto the dam of the reservoir. Do not cross the dam. Watch out for waterfowl such as moorhens and coots. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow footpath along the left bank of the valley. In places, it becomes a deep, sheer-sided gorge, with exposed outcrops of rock.

20. After 15 minutes, reach a gravel-surfaced track. Continue ahead for five minutes to the junction. Take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

21. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).

22. From Longwood (800 yards, 10 minutes each way)

Walk down Dodlee Lane to the refurbished Parkwood Mills, then continue up Parkwood Road to join the walk at point 14.

23. Turn off to the left of the track and then bear left again, following the walls to remain in the woods. Pass through a large glade, continuing to follow the foot of the wooded slope to the left. Emerge onto a heath dotted with rowan trees, walk across to the houses at Whin Gate then join Hall Lane.

24. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

25. Follow the lane downhill to the right to Shaw Farm.

26. Turn left, following the waymarks through private land and follow the telegraph wires down to a footbridge across Longwood Brook.

27. 14. Turn right and head uphill on Parkwood Road as far as the Holme Field (Bear right to continue the walk, to the left, the track heads uphill towards New Holme Road, 15 minutes away.)

28. Walk up the steps to the right. Turn left and follow the path along the top of the riverbank towards the reservoir, then over the stile onto the dam of the reservoir. Do not cross the dam. Watch out for waterfowl such as moorhens and coots. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow footpath along the left bank of the valley. In places, it becomes a deep, sheer-sided gorge, with exposed outcrops of rock.

29. After 15 minutes, reach a gravel-surfaced track. Continue ahead for five minutes to the junction. Take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

30. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).

31. From Longwood (800 yards, 10 minutes each way)

Walk down Dodlee Lane to the refurbished Parkwood Mills, then continue up Parkwood Road to join the walk at point 14.

32. Turn off to the left of the track and then bear left again, following the walls to remain in the woods. Pass through a large glade, continuing to follow the foot of the wooded slope to the left. Emerge onto a heath dotted with rowan trees, walk across to the houses at Whin Gate then join Hall Lane.

33. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

34. Follow the lane downhill to the right to Shaw Farm.

35. Turn left, following the waymarks through private land and follow the telegraph wires down to a footbridge across Longwood Brook.

36. Turn right and head uphill on Parkwood Road as far as the Holme Field (Bear right to continue the walk, to the left, the track heads uphill towards New Holme Road, 15 minutes away.)

37. Walk up the steps to the right. Turn left and follow the path along the top of the riverbank towards the reservoir, then over the stile onto the dam of the reservoir. Do not cross the dam. Watch out for waterfowl such as moorhens and coots. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow footpath along the left bank of the valley. In places, it becomes a deep, sheer-sided gorge, with exposed outcrops of rock.

38. After 15 minutes, reach a gravel-surfaced track. Continue ahead for five minutes to the junction. Take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

39. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).

40. From Longwood (800 yards, 10 minutes each way)

Walk down Dodlee Lane to the refurbished Parkwood Mills, then continue up Parkwood Road to join the walk at point 14.

41. Turn off to the left of the track and then bear left again, following the walls to remain in the woods. Pass through a large glade, continuing to follow the foot of the wooded slope to the left. Emerge onto a heath dotted with rowan trees, walk across to the houses at Whin Gate then join Hall Lane.

42. Take the footpath opposite the pub, between houses and fields. Follow this path until a left bend, go up the steps and across the field to the road. Turn right onto a track marked Hill Hall Lane.

43. Follow the lane downhill to the right to Shaw Farm.

44. Turn left, following the waymarks through private land and follow the telegraph wires down to a footbridge across Longwood Brook.

45. Turn right and head uphill on Parkwood Road as far as the Holme Field (Bear right to continue the walk, to the left, the track heads uphill towards New Holme Road, 15 minutes away.)

46. Walk up the steps to the right. Turn left and follow the path along the top of the riverbank towards the reservoir, then over the stile onto the dam of the reservoir. Do not cross the dam. Watch out for waterfowl such as moorhens and coots. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow footpath along the left bank of the valley. In places, it becomes a deep, sheer-sided gorge, with exposed outcrops of rock.

47. After 15 minutes, reach a gravel-surfaced track. Continue ahead for five minutes to the junction. Take the signposted footpath to the right. Bear right, at first staying between a retaining stone wall to the left and a fence to the right.

48. Leave the fields onto the narrow Old Lane, and turn left uphill for a few yards. Take the second driveway to the right (leading to house no. 4) and then look out for the waymarker disc indicating the start of a footpath between two fences. Follow this rough path across a bank to reach the main route at Hollin Hall Farm, point (1).