

# WALK 5

## WATERY LANE/ELLERKER LANE

**Start Point:** The Fox, Main Street Thorner. LS14 3DX

Walk approximately 2 miles with options to vary.

- (1) From the starting point, cross the road, and take Heathcote Avenue, the footpath between the Over 60s Bungalow, and the boules area, and head out onto Butts Garth. Turn right and follow Butts Garth round to the left, and up the unmade track of Littlemoor Lane.



- (2) After a couple of hundred yards, and before the bridge, take the track to the right, which leads to a metal kissing gate out onto the former railway line, not used since the Beeching axe. Walk along the railway line for a short distance, to the footpath sign and kissing gate, off to the left.



- (3) The track proceeds uphill, initially with the hedge on the left, and then, from the brow of the hill, with the hedge on the right. This eventually ends at a junction of paths.
- (4) The short route back to the village is to take the track to the left, along Watery Lane. After a couple of hundred yards the definitive footpath runs through the middle of a wooded area, but there is a clear walked path to the outside of the wooded area, along the field edge.
- (5) Both routes converge, just round the corner where the wood juts out. The path continues along the field edge down to a stile into another field, known locally as the Sledging Field. The path continues, with the stream to the right, to a stile and wooden bridge leading to the bridleway that runs behind the houses on Kirkhills.
- (6) Turn left down to the road (Stead Lane) At the old railway bridge turn left down Butts Garth, and take any of the paths to the right (Prestons Ginnel, Heathcote Avenue, Butts Garth View) back to Main Street and the Fox.



- (7) A longer alternative from the junction of paths ((4) above) is to turn right away from the village, along the rough track, which can be muddy in poor weather.
- (8) After about 100 yards there is a clear wide track off to the left. This track is not on the Definitive Map, but use is permitted by the landowner. The track joins at the end with Ellerker Lane. Turn left at Ellerker Lane and follow the track to the top of the village.



- (9) As an alternative to the track on the left, continue along the original track for another hundred yards, reaching a gate, with a stile on the left.
- (10) Over the stile a path running diagonally through the woods, leading eventually to the A64 York Road, opposite Flying Horse Farm.
- (11) Instead of this path, take the path to the left, along the edge of the wood (Saw Wood) This ends at a wooden bridge over the small stream. Where it ends there is a path along a track to the right, through the woods. This leads to the A64 near the Red Bus Café. The route to take is the path to the left, an enclosed path with the wood to the right.

- (12) This leads to a kissing gate and Ellerker Lane ((8) above). Follow Ellerker Lane to the end.
- (13) At the end of Ellerker Lane turn left down Kirkfield Lane. Where Kirkfield Lane becomes Kirkhills, and swings to the right (by the school) continue straight down the track, keeping the houses on the right. This passes the bottom of Watery Lane. Follow the instructions in (6) back to the Fox and the start of the walk.



