



## N - Old Manor House, Cutthorpe

The building is said to have been built by the first mayor of Chesterfield, Ralph Clark, in 1625 as a country residence. It was struck by lightning in 1943 which left the building badly damaged until restoration work began in 1946.

In the village stands a large tree with the unusual addition of a tree seat around its base.

## S - Rumbling Street

This is a small settlement on Far Lane which has its origins in Roman times when it was built to transport lead ore to Chesterfield. Perhaps the name 'Rumbling Street' refers to the noise of the passing traffic.

## Easy to follow circular routes

See the map inside and follow these waymarkers. They are fixed at changes of direction. Full walk distance is 10.5 miles (16.8km).

Allow 6 hours. The shorter route is 7.5 miles (12km). Allow 4-5 hours.

Make sure you wear suitable clothing and footwear. Mud, stiles and steep slopes can make this walk difficult for some people. As we look for opportunities for improvements there may be changes to stiles and gates - look for the waymarkers if you are unsure.



## Travel information

Start from Linacre Reservoirs, Cutthorpe, off the B6050 where there is ample parking available at **A**. Parking charges may apply.

For bus services call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 (national rate call), Type Talk on 0871 200 22 33. For more details on public transport in Derbyshire log on to [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport/public\\_transport](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport/public_transport)



## For further information

Linacre Reservoirs are owned by Severn Trent Water and managed in association with Derbyshire County Council's countryside service.

Contact the Linacre Rangers on 01246 567049 or Tapton Lock Visitor Centre on 01246 551035. You can also find us on [www.facebook.com/derbyshirecountryside](http://www.facebook.com/derbyshirecountryside)



If you have difficulty in reading this leaflet it can be made available in other formats. For details telephone the above number.

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# Linacre and Cordwell Valleys

Countryside Walks in Derbyshire No. 9  
With links from Holmesfield and Barlow



Linacre Valley





# Features of Interest

take a closer look - see map overleaf ☆

## A - Linacre and Prathall

The word Linacre literally means 'arable land where flax is grown'. There are records from the 13th century that linen was made in the valley where the damp conditions would have provided ideal conditions for growing the crop. In medieval times the middle car park was the site of the original Linacre Hall. The hall was superseded by Linacre House, birth place of Dr Thomas Linacre (1460 - 1524), physician to the young Mary, Queen of Scots. The foundations of both buildings are beneath the car parking surface, which is considerably higher now than the original level.

The name Pratt is derived from an old English word meaning 'trick', although there is no trace of a local family of that name. Although the origins of the name are unclear it is known that the present hall was built in the 1600s and that the Old Hall - now part of Prathall Farm - is much older. With three remaining sets of cruck timbers it was used as both a dwelling and stable until the mid 1960s.



## B - Bluster Castle

Although the name suggests that there was once a castle on the site, it is believed that the farm was given its name because of its exposed position on the top of the hill.

## F - Unthank

This unusual name is believed to be of Anglo-Saxon origin derived from the word 'Unpanc' meaning 'ill will'. Perhaps squatters occupied the area in the past.



## G - Millthorpe

Millthorpe means mill hamlet and there has been a mill since pre-Norman times on the Cordwell Brook. The last mill was still in use up until the Second World War producing animal food, before finally being demolished in 1971.

## I - Cartledge Hall and Great Brind Wood

The present building is believed to date from 1492 when it was built by John Wolstenholme from Rochdale. The current hall has oak panelled walls and ornate plaster moulded ceilings that date from the early 1600s.

The name Brind Wood literally means 'burnt wood' and refers to the charcoal burning activities that were carried out in the wood from Roman times. The charcoal was used to smelt iron.

The lane itself was once a very important trading route, especially in the 15th century, when Cartledge Grange was owned by the monks of Beauchief Abbey.

## L - Barlow Pinfold

Originally under the ownership of the Duke of Rutland, the 200 year old pinfold, situated on Wilkin Hill, was used for penning stray cattle until they were claimed. The enclosure, of 20 square yards, has been out of use for over 100 years. The pinfold was restored recently by Barlow Parish Council.





# Linacre and Cordwell Valleys

**A** Park in the second car park at Linacre Reservoirs (on the left). Turn right up the road and on the sharp corner take the track on your left, (or if you arrive by bus, walk down the entrance drive to the sharp corner and turn right). Follow the hedged track, cross the field into a walled track, past Prathall and through to the road, (B6050). Bear left and walk up the hill on the pavement (the Gate Inn is on the right).

**B** Pass the first finger post by Cow Close Farm and turn left through the gate at the second fingerpost. Walk straight ahead. Pass through the kissing gate into the field and then diagonally through a gate half way down the hedge. Bear left towards the post in the bottom hedge. Cross the small stone bridge, through the gate, turn right and continue keeping the fence (then wall) on your right. Go over a wall stile by a gate. At the next stone stile, cross the wall and walk in a straight line up the hill, keeping to the left of the farm buildings known as Bluster Castle. Pass through a squeeze gap by the side of a gate and continue up, bearing right to a wall stile. Bear left across the field towards a wall stile. Walk straight ahead onto a farm track. Turn left up to the road.

To take the shorter route, please follow instructions from **Q**.

**Q** From 'C' turn right and walk down the road for approximately 200 metres and then take the bridleway on the left. Follow the track down hill and take the first walled track on your left. Continue downhill through a gate and up the other side to a farm. Follow the signs around the farmyard and out onto the road.

**R** Turn left and then right onto a footpath by a barn. Go through the gate and follow the hedge down the right-hand side of the field, go over a stile and walk diagonally right to the corner of the field by an oak tree. At the stone gap bear slightly right across the field down to the corner of woodland and then follow the path down to the road.

**S** Turn right and then left over a wall, bear left on the footpath to a footbridge and then follow the path up into a field. Follow the right hand field boundary up the hill, over a stile to the road. Turn right for approximately 200 metres.

**T** Take the footpath on the left signed to Bradley Lane. Walk down the left hand side of the field, cross a stone stile and then follow the right-hand hedge. Cross two wooden stiles and continue down the road.

**U** Turn right for approximately 250 metres.

Please follow instructions from **K**.

**C** Go straight across and walk down the road (Barlow Grange on the right) and to the next T-junction. Take the footpath straight ahead up a walled track which leads into fields. Continue, keeping the wall on your left, and pass over a stone stile. Follow the wall on your right to the second stone stile. Bear diagonally down the field, through a gap in the holly hedge and diagonally right to the wall stile. You are now at Grange Lumb Farm.

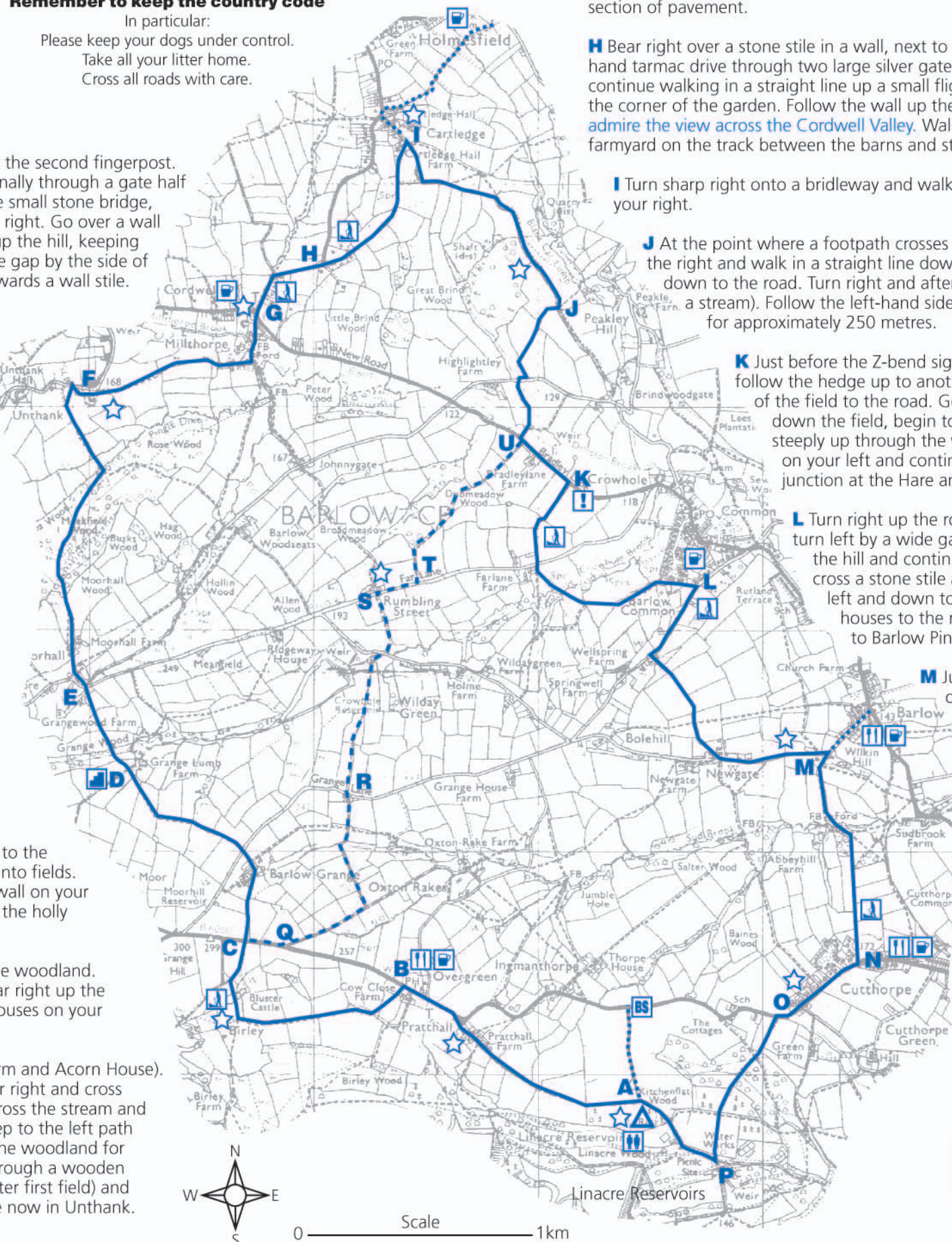
**D** Walk straight across the field and track and go through a squeeze stile into the woodland. Follow the track and steps down to a stream, cross on a wooden bridge and bear right up the stone steps and go over the stiles. Continue ahead over a third stile. Keep the houses on your left and carry on to the road.

**E** Turn left at the road and then right down the next track (past Moor Green Farm and Acorn House). Cross the stile on your left just before the farm entrance, keep the barns on your right and cross another stone stile at the corner of the yard. Walk straight ahead, past a post, cross the stream and head left to a gate on the woodland boundary. Continue into the wood and keep to the left path that goes downhill to a stream. Cross and bear right. Follow the track through the woodland for about half a kilometre. When you reach a track junction, leave the woodland through a wooden squeeze stile on your left. Walk straight across the fields (hedge on your right after first field) and then on your left. Keep to the right of the bungalow and onto the road. You are now in Unthank.

## Remember to keep the country code

In particular:

- Please keep your dogs under control.
- Take all your litter home.
- Cross all roads with care.



**F** Turn right and follow the road for approximately 100 metres until the road bears off sharply to the left. Take the footpath straight ahead through a squeeze stile and follow the field boundaries (on your right). Cross a stone stile, pass a house and down a track. Turn left down to the ford and up the road to Millthorpe.

**G** Go straight across into Millthorpe Lane and continue up the hill until you reach a sharp left bend after a section of pavement.

**H** Bear right over a stone stile in a wall, next to a bus stop, into a series of surfaced driveways. Follow the left-hand tarmac drive through two large silver gates up to the house and garden. Keep the house on your right and continue walking in a straight line up a small flight of stone steps, past the telegraph pole, to a wooden stile at the corner of the garden. Follow the wall up the right-hand side of the field to a gate and stile. Turn round and admire the view across the Cordwell Valley. Walk up the walled lane to Cartledge Hall Farm. Walk through the farmyard on the track between the barns and stables and through two gates to Cartledge Cottage.

**I** Turn sharp right onto a bridleway and walk downhill for approximately 1km passing Great Brind Wood on your right.

**J** At the point where a footpath crosses the track (by an electricity pylon 081 060330) take the path on the right and walk in a straight line down two fields, over a stile into a third and then follow the hedge down to the road. Turn right and after 30 metres go left on to a footpath (through scrub and across a stream). Follow the left-hand side of the field, cross bridge and up to the road. Turn left and walk for approximately 250 metres.

**K** Just before the Z-bend sign on the road, turn right through a stone stile into a field and follow the hedge up to another stile. Cross and follow the hedge around the right-hand side of the field to the road. Go straight across and over a stone stile. Follow the footpath down the field, begin to bear left to the stream and cross on a bridge to your left. Walk steeply up through the woodlands. Cross the two fields and hedge stiles. Follow a hedge on your left and continue through to a tarmac track, past the houses and up to a road junction at the Hare and Hounds Inn.

**L** Turn right up the road for about 300 metres. Just before the red brick bungalow turn left by a wide gap and straight up the hill. Cross the stile by a wall at the top of the hill and continue straight on keeping the wall on your right. After three fields cross a stone stile and keep the wall on your left. At the next field walk diagonally left and down to a stile in the corner next to a tree. Continue between two houses to the road. Turn left and follow the road for approximately 400 metres to Barlow Pinfold.

**M** Just past the pinfold, turn right down some steps beside a house onto a Restricted Byway. Follow the Byway downhill to the first field gate on your right and go through the squeeze. (Do not continue down the Byway between the hedges). Walk, keeping the hedge on your left, to a footbridge near Abbey Hill Farm. Cross the bridge and keep left uphill on a track into Cutthorpe.

**N** Turn right at the junction with the main road and follow the pavement past Cutthorpe House.

**O** Cross the road when the pavement finishes and walk towards the Peacock Inn. Just before the pub turn left over a stone stile and walk keeping the hedge on your right at first. Cross the hedge by the first gate and continue keeping the hedge on your left to the corner of the field and into Kitchenflat Wood. Walk in a straight line through the woods to a squeeze stile into a field. Cross the field to a tarmac driveway. The toilet block is down to your left.

**P** Turn right and walk back up the hill to the car park.

## KEY

- Linacre and Cordwell Valleys Walk
- - - Alternative/ shortcut
- ..... Footpath links
- ▲ Suggested start/finish
- BS Bus stop
- ☆ Features of interest (see overleaf)
- Steps
- Hazard, take care
- Uphill gradient
- Toilets
- Food
- Refreshments



Scale 0 1km