**SECTION 14 BRIGHOUSE TO WEST VALE**Updated 26/06/2018

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| ***Length and time*** 5½ miles (9km). Should take you 3 hours.  ***Highlights*** Some wonderful panoramic views of Halifax and the Calder Valley, great mixed woodland, tranquil towpaths, the climbing wall at Brighouse and the canal basin and guillotine lock at Salterhebble.  ***Gradients*** The start of the walk is level, along the canal, followed by a steady climb through woodland. Thereafter the gradients are mainly downward or level, including two steep descents.  ***Terrain*** The routeis on a mixture of paths and tracks with some stretches of (relatively quiet) road walking. The descent leading to the dual carriageway near the end is currently difficult (June 2018).  ***Obstacles*** Thereare several stiles and near the end of this section, an awkward descent and crossing of a very busy road.  **Facilities**  Brighouse has several places to eat and drink.  **Bus and train access to the route**  To the start at Brighouse there are loads of buses from Halifax and Huddersfield. There are trains from Leeds, Halifax, the upper Calder Valley and Manchester.  From the end at West Vale there are several buses to Halifax. |

**Beginning at Brighouse**:

*Exit the railway station as signed on the platform then turn left to walk down the main road, across the river bridge, until you reach the canal (opposite Sainsbury’s). Turn left onto the canal towpath.*

*Exit bus station and follow signs for the railway station or ask for directions to Sainsburys where you turn right onto the canal towpath.*

**Continuing from Stage 13:**

Continue along the canal towpath.

1. With the canal to the left, follow the towpath under Anchor Bridge to Ganney Lock (SE140229), a distance of about 750 metres.
2. At Ganney Lock, cross the bridge and continue along the towpath for about 700 metres to Camms Mill Bridge. Cross the canal here and continue ahead to cross Elland Road (A6025) and take the track to the left and uphill through Freeman’s Wood.
3. Stay on the main track, keeping along the wall on the left, until reaching power lines. Turn left onto the path between the first two pylons and go down the long flight of steps to a farm. You have a good view of the valley and Cromwell Lake as you descend.
4. At the bottom of the steps turn right and follow the grassy track up into Cromwell Wood for about 2 km, until it becomes a walled path. Continue on the same path for about 150 metres, until you reach a 4-way junction.

*Link Path Y goes off to the right for Stump Cross*

1. Turn left down a path which goes over a stream, left and up to a farm lane. Turn right and almost immediately left, through a stile signed School Lane. Continue up the field-edge, following the hedge on the right.
2. At the top of the field go through the stile in the corner and turn right along the fenced path to emerge into School Lane, Southowram. Continue ahead, uphill along the tarmac road (School Lane). On reaching the junction at the end of School Lane, turn right towards the bus stop at Ashday Lane and then left into the road called West Lane.
3. Continue for about 1.25 km, passing Marshalls on the left. As the panorama opens in front of you, the Wainhouse Tower on the edge of Halifax comes into view on the right. From here the view gets wider as you proceed, taking in Halifax and large tracts of Calderdale.
4. About 1.25km from the Ashday Lane bus-stop, at a right-hand bend in the road, opposite a telegraph pole on the righthand side of the road, bear left, off the road onto a signposted track. Immediately bear right onto a narrow path leading to a stile into a field.
5. Walk down the edge of the field, keeping the field-wall to your right and continuing along the wall into a second field. Then turn right over a step-stile and bear left towards an isolated tree at the end of a wall.
6. From the tree, with the wall and tree behind you, walk straight on to the corner of a fence, then continue straight on, with the fence on your right, to a stile in the corner of the field. Cross the stile and continue downhill through another field to Exley Lane. Cross the stile and turn left along the road.
7. Follow the road past the farm buildings to a left-hand bend. Here, go right over the stile into a field and bear left, passing behind a barn, and go over a stile below a pylon. Go right again to follow the wall on the right to a further stile in the ﬁeld corner. Go through this stile into the wood.
8. Take the waymarked path down through the wood, eventually reaching steps to a lay-by on the Elland By-pass (A629). Cross the dual carriageway here and slant off left, then immediately bear right down a narrow path through the trees to Long Lees Lock.
9. Use one of the railed walkways to cross the canal. Go right and follow the towpath to Stainland Road, using the pedestrian tunnel to reach the guillotine lock and canal basin at Salterhebble*.*

*You have three choices here:*

*Unless you want to complete the Calderdale Way circle and go all the way to its start, or are planning to continue onto Section 1, we suggest you end your walk here, rather than walk along the busy Stainland Road.*

*Link Path Z, the ‘Hebble Trail’, leads to Halifax railway station.*

*There are frequent buses from here into Halifax.*

1. To continue to the official end of this Section, leave the towpath to join Stainland Road. Walk along this road, in the direction of Stainland, for about 0.5km. A waymarked track goes off to the right, near a bus stop soon after the railway bridge and leads to Clay House, West Vale (SE0972l4): the start and finish of the Calderdale Way.