



three circular walks from

The Woodman Inn

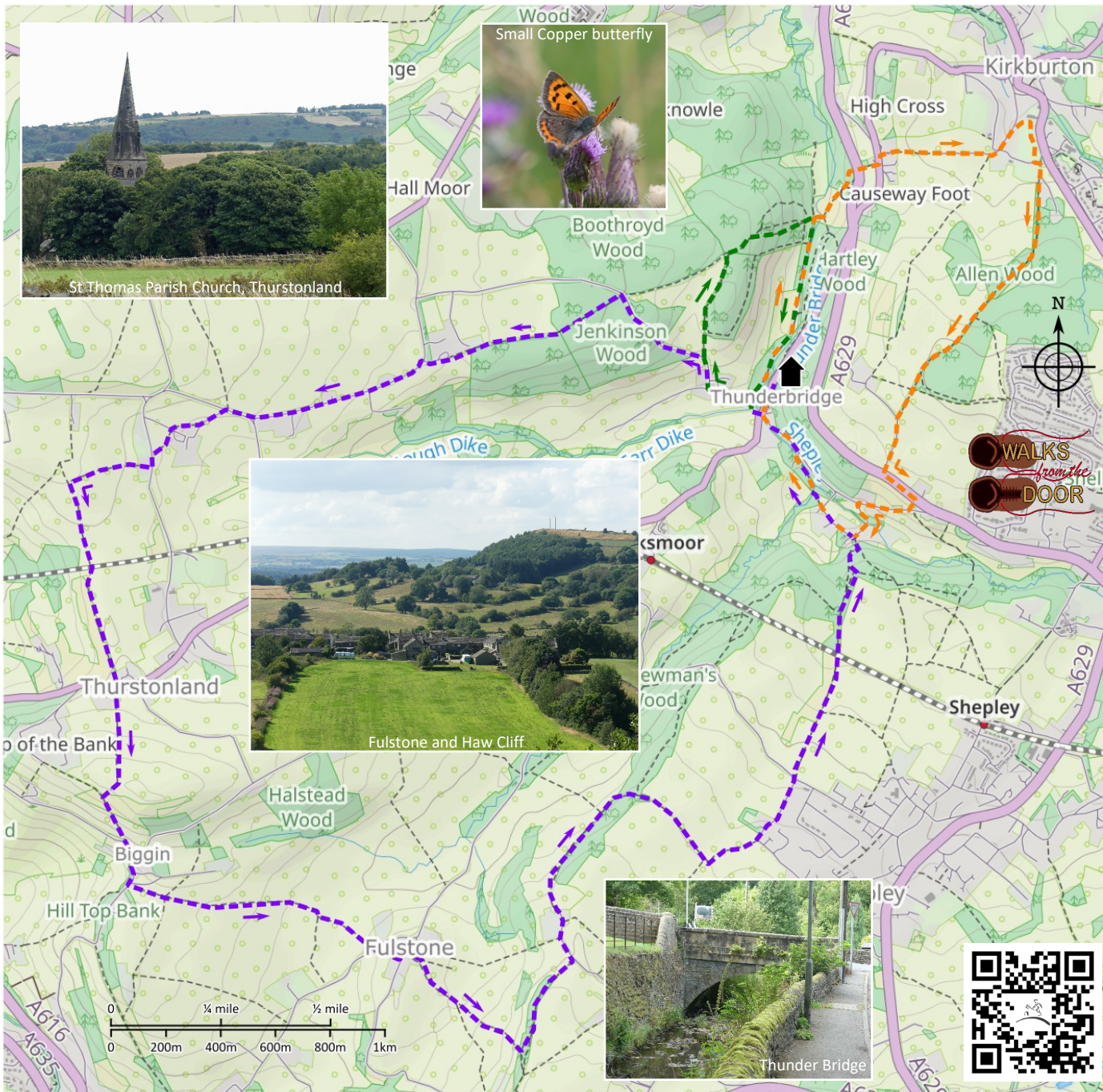
THUNDER BRIDGE, WEST YORKSHIRE



THUNDER BRIDGE MEADOWS
 1¼ miles: easy
 A woodland stroll to our local nature reserve, with a pretty streamside return.

KIRKBURTON
 3 miles: fairly easy
 Walk along a stream and through woods and meadows, then climb to a hilltop church and village.

THURSTONLAND AND FULSTONE
 6 miles: moderate
 A varied hike through two attractive villages, with woodland walking and wide views from gritstone edges.



St Thomas Parish Church, Thurstonland



Small Copper butterfly



Fulstone and Haw Cliff



Thunder Bridge



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THUNDER BRIDGE MEADOWS

1¼ miles: easy

Allow 45 minutes. One moderate climb and descent. Streamside path may be muddy in places.

1 From the front door of the pub, turn left and walk up to Thunder Bridge. **2** Cross the bridge and turn immediately right into Grange Lane. Ignoring the path on the right (our return route), follow the road uphill. **3** Walk past the Dye House on the left and follow the road round a right-hand bend, still climbing. **4** When the road bends left after the last house, take a path straight ahead, to the right of a field gate. Follow the field edge to a gate into the wood on your right. **5** Follow the path inside the wall, until you meet a crossroads of paths at a corner of the wood. **6** Turn right and follow the path downhill through the trees. At the bottom of the wood, enter the Thunder Bridge Meadows nature reserve. **7** Ignoring the footbridge ahead, turn right to a gate. Follow the path beyond, with the stream on your left. **8** Pass through a couple of kissing gates with a narrow meadow between them, then continue alongside the stream below a bank. The last section may be muddy. **9** Eventually you reach a kissing gate into Grange Lane. Turn left over the bridge, and left again to return to the Woodman.

KIRKBURTON

3 miles: fairly easy

Allow 1–2 hours. One climb and descent. Streamside paths may be muddy in places.

1 From the front door of the pub, turn left and walk up to Thunder Bridge. **2** Cross the bridge and turn right into Grange Lane. **3** Turn immediately right onto a permissive path, through a kissing gate, past the board welcoming visitors to Thunder Bridge Meadows nature reserve. The first section of the path may be muddy, but the surface improves shortly. **4** Pass the Woodman car park on the opposite bank and continue left of the stream. Between two kissing gates you cross a narrow open meadow. **5** After the second kissing gate, continue to a final gate into another meadow. **6** Immediately afterwards turn right, crossing a footbridge over the stream. **7** Ignoring an unofficial path on the right, bear left up the slope. The path enters the trees through a squeeze stile and winds below the main road, before turning right up steps to a stile onto the pavement. **8** Cross the road carefully and climb a wooden stile opposite into a field. Walk up the left-hand side of the field to a wall stile, beyond which the path bears right to another road. **9** Turn left, then shortly right, along a narrow footpath beside the entrance to number 63, Overdale. This path leads to a gate into fields. Continue along the wall with Emley Moor TV mast prominent ahead, and beyond a gate join a walled path towards Kirkburton village. **10** When you get to the village, take the right-hand road, passing the entrance to a farm on your right. **11** After 100 metres, turn right up

steps under the lychgate to Kirkburton Parish Church. Turn right then right again by the church building, and walk down through the churchyard, parallel to the road on your left. Keep right at an archway and walk down to another lychgate at the bottom of the churchyard. **12** Turn left then immediately right. At the entrance to Shelley Lodge, take the path to the right of no. 1 Box Ings Lane. **13** This path leads uphill, with gardens on the left, and then runs along the edge of Shelley Wood; ignore paths into the trees on the left. **14** Beyond the top of the hill, carry straight on at a crossroads of paths. **15** When you meet a driveway, turn left and walk down to the main road. **16** Cross carefully and turn left. **17** Beyond the 30 mph Shelley signs, turn right just before The Mill 150 and walk down a short rocky path to the Dam Hill road. **18** Turn right in front of the terraced cottages and walk downhill, passing some weavers' cottages on the right. **19** At the Trans-Pennine Trail sign, turn left into Long Lane. Cross the river and walk up the other side, between houses. **20** Turn right into Cote Close. **21** Pass to the right of a couple of houses then, at the end of the road, ignore a private drive to the right and go through a hand-gate in front of you onto a fenced path with a field on your right. Cross the stream at the bottom and turn right before the field gate in front of you. **22** Follow the stream on your right until you meet a driveway, where you turn right to rejoin Dam Hill. **23** Turn left to Thunder Bridge, and right to return to the Woodman.

THURSTONLAND AND FULSTONE

6 miles: moderate

Allow 3 hours. Several minor ascents and descents, and multiple stiles. Livestock encounters likely.

1 From the front door of the pub, turn left and walk up to Thunder Bridge. **2** Cross the bridge and turn immediately right into Grange Lane. Ignoring the path on the right, follow the road uphill. **3** Walk past the Dye House on the left and follow the road round a right-hand bend, still climbing. Continue round a left-hand bend and continue uphill into woodland. **4** After the road levels off at the top of the hill, turn left onto a waymarked footpath into the trees. **5** The path follows a fence through the wood and then runs along the bounding wall. At the end of the wood, go through a field gate and continue ahead below a garden to a hand gate. Turn right over a stile to a fishpond, and turn left along the drive and walk out to the road. **6** Turn left along the road for 600 metres, passing Lumb House Farm on the left. **7** At a road junction, carry straight on. **8** Turn left down the entrance drive to Blake House, then at the entrance follow a footpath on the right that skirts the buildings, crossing a driveway into a path across a field that leads to a road. **9** Turn left for a short distance, then turn right at a footpath sign, between buildings. Climb a wall stile by a gate at the end of the drive and follow the field edge beyond, slightly uphill. **10** At the end of the fence, with wide views over the Holme Valley ahead, turn left. **11** The path leads over a series of stiles along the edge to Upper Fold Farm and exits into Thurstonland village. **12** Cross into a lane ("The

Village") opposite and turn right. **13** Pass a couple of houses, then turn left up a slight of concrete steps. Follow the path beyond between gardens and out into fields. Continue uphill to the hilltop, close to a pair of wind turbines, again with wide views. **14** Drop down the slope ahead of you, to a stile. Join a path below the wall and turn left, obliquely down the slope, through gorse. **15** In the far corner, join a walled path and turn left. **16** When you meet a road, turn right, downhill. Beyond the bend and just after an entrance on the left, turn left onto a signposted public footpath. **17** Follow the path along a wall on your right to a gate in the far corner, then continue with the wall now on your left. **18** Just beyond some small spoil-heaps, turn left through a gate and walk towards the village above and ahead of you. **19** Climb past a telegraph pole and aim just to the right of a farm, where a gap in the wall leads to a road. **20** Take a few steps to the right, then turn left over a stone step-stile and climb steeply past a house. At the top of the slope, beyond an animal paddock, the path bears right through a garden out to another road. **21** Turn left, then very shortly right into a driveway with a footpath sign on the right-hand wall. Beyond the buildings, head left between two hedges into a field. **22** Head half-right to a wooden stile, then left down to a ladder-stile at the bottom of the valley. **23** Walk up the opposite slope, to the right of a solitary tree, to the projecting corner of a tumbledown wall. Aim diagonally for the far right-hand corner, below a steep wooded bank. **24** Go over a stile and take a couple of steps right, before turning left along a narrow path that climbs the bank obliquely between holly trees. **25** At the top, turn left over a stile and follow the path below a wall on your right, with occasionally views to the left. Ignore an apparent path through a gap in the wall. **26** At the end of the trees, cross to a gate and stile and bear right to another gate. **27** Turn left along a farm track, then turn right, past a house on the left. Keep left of the second farmhouse, between barns. Go through a gate at the end of the farmyard then follow the field edge on the left before dropping down onto a track. **28** Follow the track right, along a hedge to a stile and gate, then continue below a wood. After a fenced section, climb a stile and look out for a second stile on the right into the wood. **29** Bear left along the bottom of the wood then follow the path through the trees. **30** Leave the wood to follow a fieldside path towards Shepley village. Cross a wall and bear left towards the cricket field. **31** After another wall-stile, turn left along another field edge, which leads to some fancy gates into a road. **32** Turn left and follow the road to a T-junction. **33** Cross over onto a footpath across a field then along a wall. At the bottom, pass a waymark ("Farnley Tyas 2¼ miles") and drop onto a fenced path down to the railway. **34** Cross the line, then continue along the edge of a small valley. After a squeeze-stile continue to a step-stile into a wood. **35** Follow the path along the top edge until the wall on your right bends right, at which point turn left downhill. On meeting a crossing path, turn right down a slightly sunken path, then follow a fence to a walled, cobbled track. **36** Turn left and walk down to a driveway. **37** Go straight on into Cote Close.

Now follow steps **21–23** of the **Kirkburton** walk.