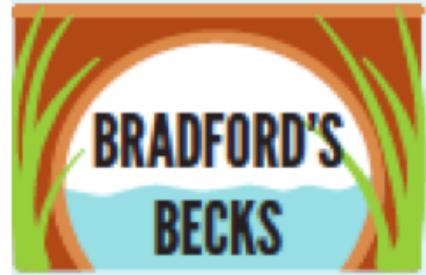


Help us to get our directions right!

Below are the instructions for one of the walks which we plan to include in our booklet of walks around Bradford's Becks. You can help us by following the instructions and letting us know of any errors or any improvements that can be made. We haven't yet done any mapping, but the walk can be found on OS Explorer 288 (Bradford & Huddersfield). However, we hope that the directions are good enough not to need to check the map.



Please send any comments to rose@walkout.demon.co.uk Thank you.

A Six Beck Circular

This walk takes a circular sweep of west Bradford to visit six of the becks that make up Bradford's river system, including sight of Bradford Beck itself before it starts its miserable culverted course towards the city centre. Take a packed lunch and take your time to explore the river network that runs through Bradford's suburbs.

Length: 9km

Terrain Generally easy going, with a short steep descent and climb at Chellow Dene. Some road walking.

Starting point The small bridge over Pitty Beck in Leaventhorpe Lane. GR126329.

Parking By the bridge in Leaventhorpe Lane

Bus Buses from Bradford city centre along Thornton Road (505, 607, 615, 696, 697, 698). Get off at Rhodesway. Walk back towards the city centre for a short distance and turn right down the snicket between 1055 Thornton Road and the commercial buildings. At the end, cross Leaventhorpe Avenue and take the footpath opposite. The path descends to go alongside Pitty Beck and emerges onto the starting point of the walk in Leaventhorpe Lane.

1. From the southern side of the bridge go past the metal gate and take the path beside Pitty Beck (**beck No 1**). At the flat concrete bridge Clayton Beck (**beck No 2**) comes from the right to join up with Pitty Beck, when it becomes Middle Brook (**beck No 3**). Cross the bridge and turn left along a grassy path. The Beck swings round in arc on your left, but keep forward along the path. This rises slightly to follow a line above the Beck. Where the path forks, take the smaller path on the left to keep following the Beck. Follow this path towards a metal gate ahead. Pass by the gate to join a track.

3. Take the small path opposite which climbs slowly up. Go over the crude stile into a field. The path goes half right to exit the field by another crude stile – beware of the barbed wire. Turn left and follow the path down. Before you drop down to reach the footbridge, take the path on the right and go through the second kissing gate. Follow the path forward, still with the Beck below you on the left. When you see a line of wooden posts ahead, go half right to a footbridge. This crosses Bull Greave Beck (**beck No 4**) coming down to join Middle Brook. After this, the river becomes Bradford Beck.

4. Go over the footbridge. Follow the path through two sets of wooden posts until you reach the weir on Bradford Beck (**beck no 5**). Cross the footbridge next to the weir, and take the path to the left across rough ground to emerge out on a road. Turn right and walk up to Thornton Road. Cross the road and walk up Shuttleworth Lane opposite. At the end, cross the road and turn right. At the next junction, by the church, turn left into Ings Way and enter Chellow Dene Wetlands where the road bends to the left.

5. Follow the path with Chellow Dene Beck (**beck no 6**) on your right. Ignore the first footbridge on the right, and keep forward to cross the Beck at a second footbridge. Turn left and follow the path with the Beck on your left. Eventually, cross the Beck by stepping stones and follow the path as it rises uphill and emerges onto a road. Turn right and walk up to Allerton Road. Turn right and then carefully cross the road using the central refuge island.

6. Go over the stile and follow the path which runs along the right side of the field, with the Beck on your right. When you reach the Ireservoir, ignore the stile on the right and keep forward to go through a stile and follow the path as it rises slightly and bends right. Go straight forward, over the remains of a broken wall, heading for the trees ahead. When you reach the woodland, go through the stile near a set of steps and follow the path beside the wood as it rises towards three upright stones on the horizon. When you reach the woodland, go through the stile near a set of steps and follow the path as it rises towards three upright stones on the horizon. When you reach the stones, continue forward, go steeply down and steeply up and keep forward to meet a broad track coming from the left. Follow this track, ignoring a footpath sign pointing right, until you reach a junction of paths. Ignore the path to the left, take the path half right for approximately 10 metres and then take a small path which rises up on the left. Keep to the right of the field, following the wall, past a footpath sign, and into a walled path. At the end of this turn left and follow the track to the road.

7. Cross the road, turn right, and then turn left into Cote Lane, and right into Bailey Fold. Follow this road as it turns left and goes downhill. At the end of the road take a grassy path which goes half right. Go through the gate and follow the wall on your left through two fields. When you enter a third field, keep forward along the line of an old wall on your right. When you reach Pitty Beck, turn right and walk along until you find a concrete slab across part of the beck – it is possible to cross here. Cross the beck and turn left to find a stile in the wall on the right. Go through this and follow the left hand wall through two fields. At the top take the very narrow stile at the side of a metal gate and then over the stile at the next gate. Turn right towards the farmhouse, and shortly turn left to take a grassy walled path. At the end go through a stile to walk across the field, over another stile and go forward to take the track to the road.

5. At the road, turn left and with great caution cross the road to reach the narrow footpath. Walk down the road, over the bridge and go right by the metal gate. Ignore the path going uphill, but go right towards the Beck. Follow this path, with Pitty Beck on your right. Cross a footbridge and keep following the left hand side of the field until you reach stepping stones. Go over the stepping stones and continue following the path, past the wetland area on your right, until you emerge on to Bell Dean Road. (*If the water is too high to cross the stepping stones, climb half right and follow the path across fields and through woodland to reach Thornton Road.*) Turn right to reach Thornton Road and cross this carefully. Turn left and walk along Thornton Road to a snicket between 1055 Thornton Road and commercial buildings. At the end, cross Leaventhorpe Avenue

and take the footpath opposite. The path descends to go alongside Pitty Beck and emerges onto the starting point of the walk in Leventhorpe Lane.