

Route 2

Take the route to the right to face the spire. You will meet a metal gate with a stile on the right.

The route bears clockwise around the base of Cuckoo Hill. Follow the track keeping the fencing on the left and the hill on the right. Cross the stile on your left to walk across a field with stone slabs to your left. At the next stile, take the metalled road, left up the hill. The route leads onto Church Street.

It is possible to turn left just before the Church to Bradley Farm on Bradley Lane. Then take a similar route to the one described in Route 1.

Alternatively, carry straight down Church Street passed St Thomas Church. The church was built of Bath stone and shows up as a white spire in the landscape.

<http://www.stthomasnewhey.org.uk/about-u/>



Huddersfield Rd is at the bottom of Church Street. Turn left and then left again onto Bradley Street. The quarry is beyond the main entrance but you may have to climb over the stile at the right hand side to gain access.



While most of the quarry is safe, take care going near the scree slopes below the quarry face. Rocks regularly fall down. A hard hat is recommended.

Return via the tram from Newhey.

Link to route on OS Maps
<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/osmaps/route/4542390/St-Chads-Newhey-Quarry>



Thanks to National Lottery
players for making this
project possible

For more guides,
information on the project
and resources go to
[http://skylightcircusarts.com/
news/rochdale-fossils](http://skylightcircusarts.com/news/rochdale-fossils)



If you would like to look deeper into the local geology there are two academic papers about the area.

1. The Rochdale Survey
2. The Geology of the Rossendale Anticline. (Chapter X, page 131, Glacial and Recent Deposits.)

Skylight Circus in Education
T/A Skylight Circus Arts

St Chad's Fold,
Sparrow Hill
Rochdale
Lancashire
OL16 1QT



For more information, to book workshops or
onto one of our classes, please email
martine.b@skylightcircusarts.com or give us
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Registered Charity No. 1001570
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SEABED WALK

A walk to a quarry site of
geological interest

Walk Length: 7 km
Time roughly: 3 hours



St Chad's to
Newhey Quarry

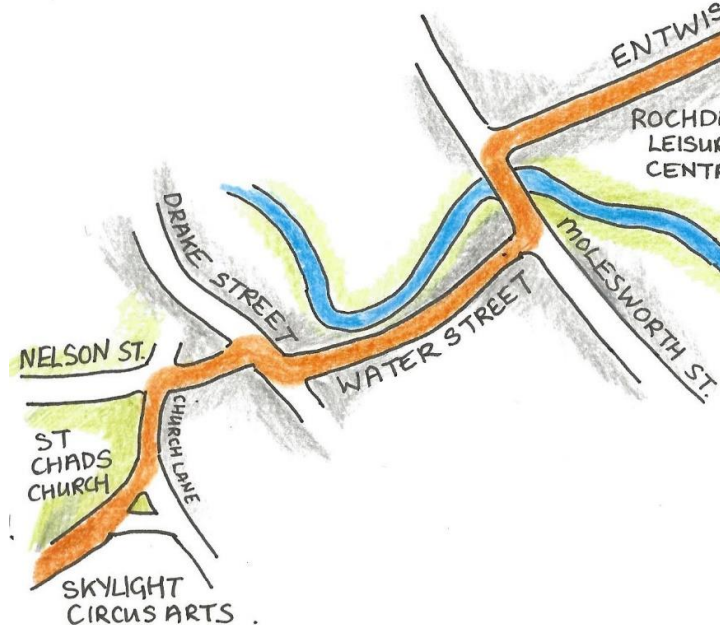


The walks start at Skylight Circus Arts, opposite St Chad's Parish Church, originally a Saxon church with some original stones remaining.

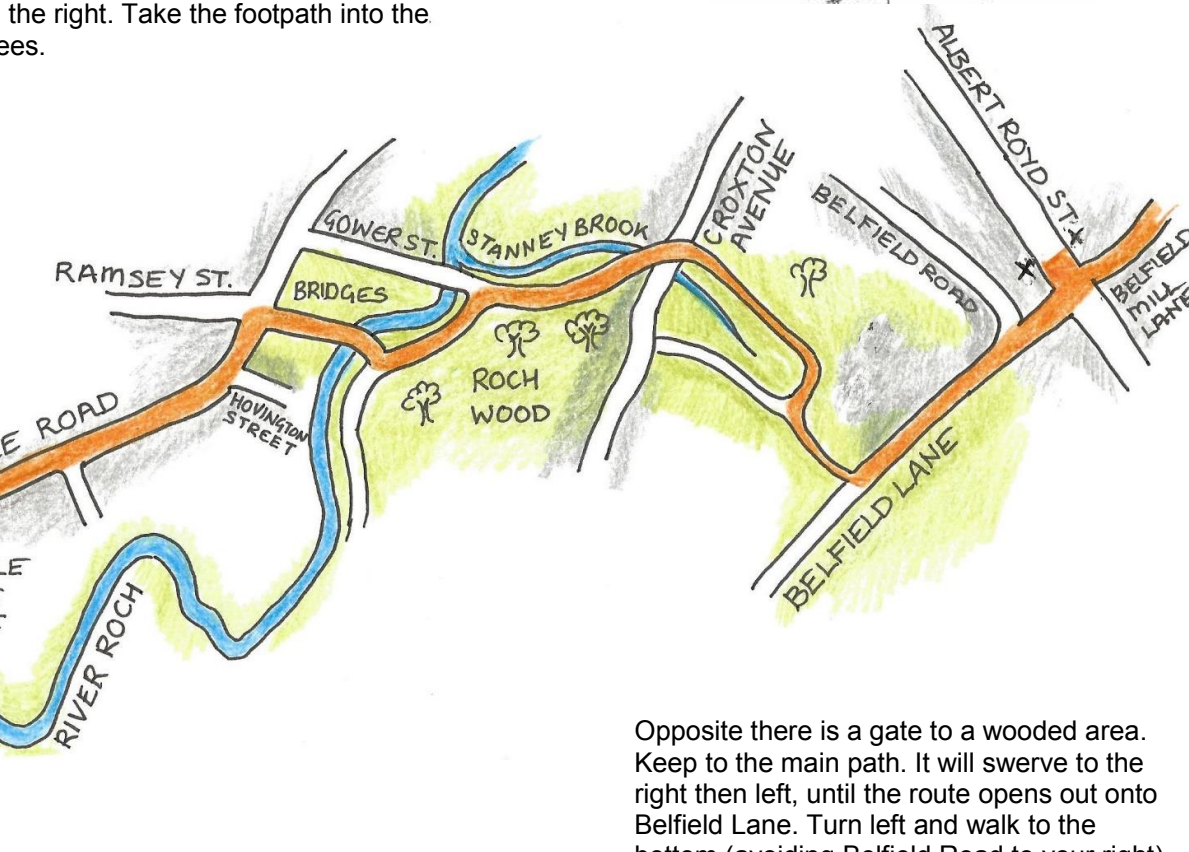
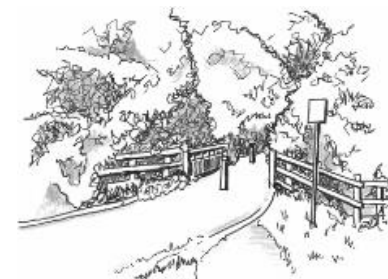
<http://www.rochdaleparishchurches.org.uk/history/history.php>



Facing St Chad's, turn right down Church Stile and then along Church Lane to Nelson Street. At the top turn right onto Drake Street and then left onto Water Street.



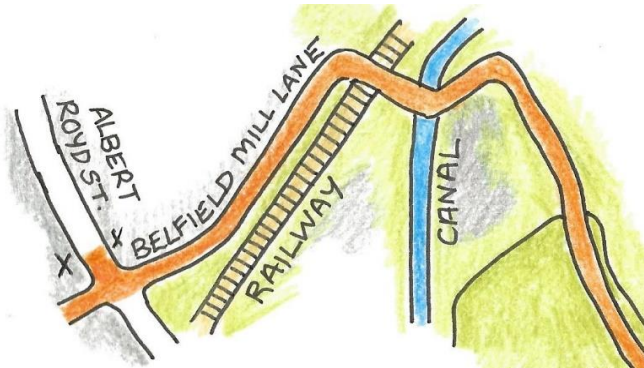
At the end of the road, turn left up Molesworth Street over the River Roch and then right onto Entwistle Road past the Leisure Centre. About half a km up the road, there is a footpath signed "Newbold" to the right. Take the footpath into the trees.



Cross the two footbridges across Hey Brook and the River Roch and take the path to the left, until you come to a second bridge. Follow the obvious path away from the bridge up to Croxton Avenue. Take care crossing the road.

Opposite there is a gate to a wooded area. Keep to the main path. It will swerve to the right then left, until the route opens out onto Belfield Lane. Turn left and walk to the bottom (avoiding Belfield Road to your right). Go through the small cut to Albert Royds St.

Cross the road and you will find Belfield Mill Lane on the other side. Be careful of the traffic coming over the bridge on your right so use the crossing further down to your left.



Follow the path past the cottages, round to the right and take the track that opens out onto Firgrove Playing Fields.

Follow Belfield Mill Lane across the Railway and Canal - from here two ancient barrows are visible:-

Snoddle Hill, above Littleborough Summit
<https://www.megalithic.co.uk/article.php?sid=8412>



Owl Hill, between Wildhouse lane and the haunted Clegg Hall.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clegg_Hall

To the east, look for Blackstone Edge and the Roman Road.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackstone_Edge



PLAYING FIELDS

FIRGROVE PLAYING FIELDS

RIVER BEAL

ASHES LANE GATE

ST JAMES CHURCH



Looking down from Ashes Lane, you can see how the river has eroded the landscape over the millennia. Initially, the melting glaciers on the hills cut clefts and valleys into the landscape, as described in *Ice Age: The Carving of Cheesden Valley*.

<https://www.heywoodhi story.com/2016/07/ice-age-carving-cheesden-valley.html?m=1>

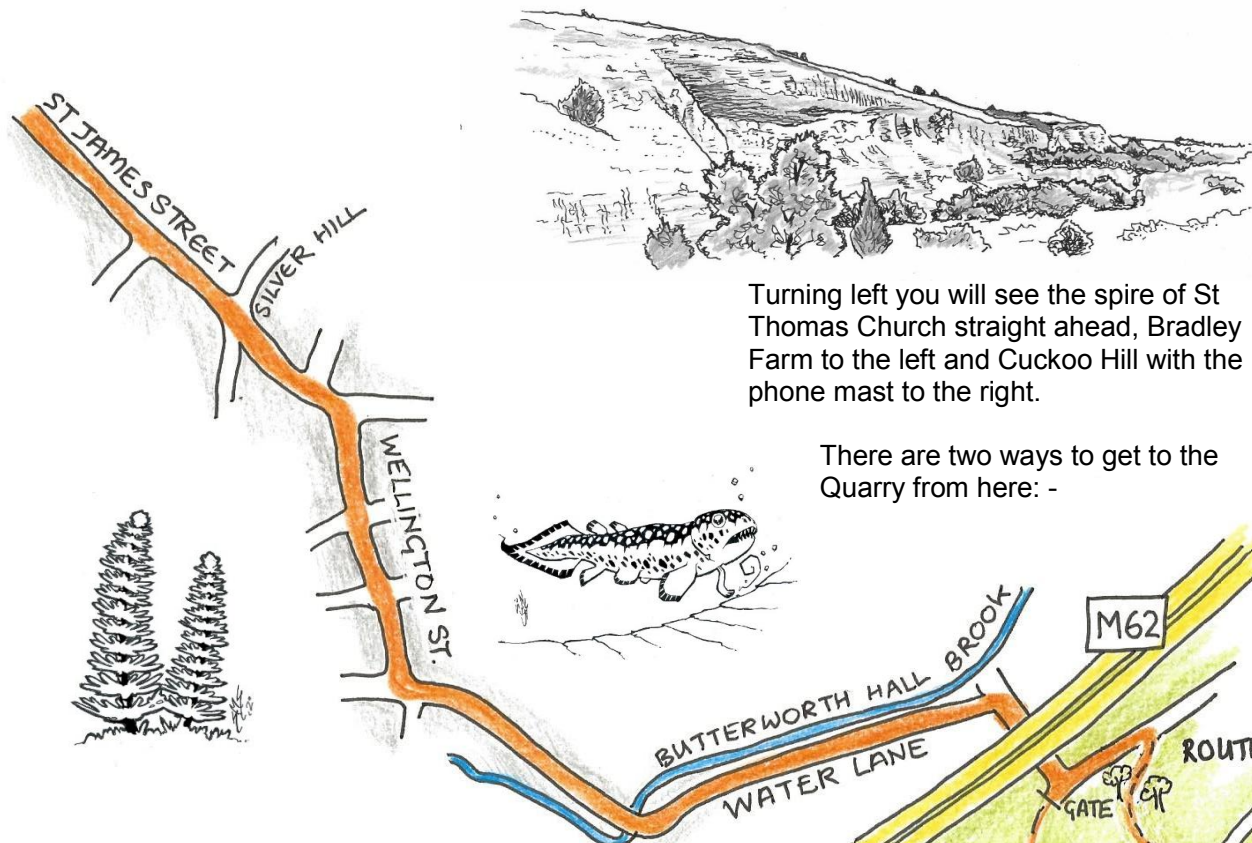


Cross the first field to the tarmac road and turn left.

Follow the path round the turning until the scrap metal yard is visible to your right. Just over the crossing of the River Beal, go down the few stone steps onto the narrow riverside path on your right and follow along the side of the river. This can get quite muddy at times.

From this path, just as the field on your left ends, you will see a steep uphill track to your left between an avenue of trees. This leads up to Ashes Lane.

The quiet of Ashes Lane meets the loud traffic of Kiln Lane. Carefully cross Kiln Lane and keep straight on through the estate along St James Street.



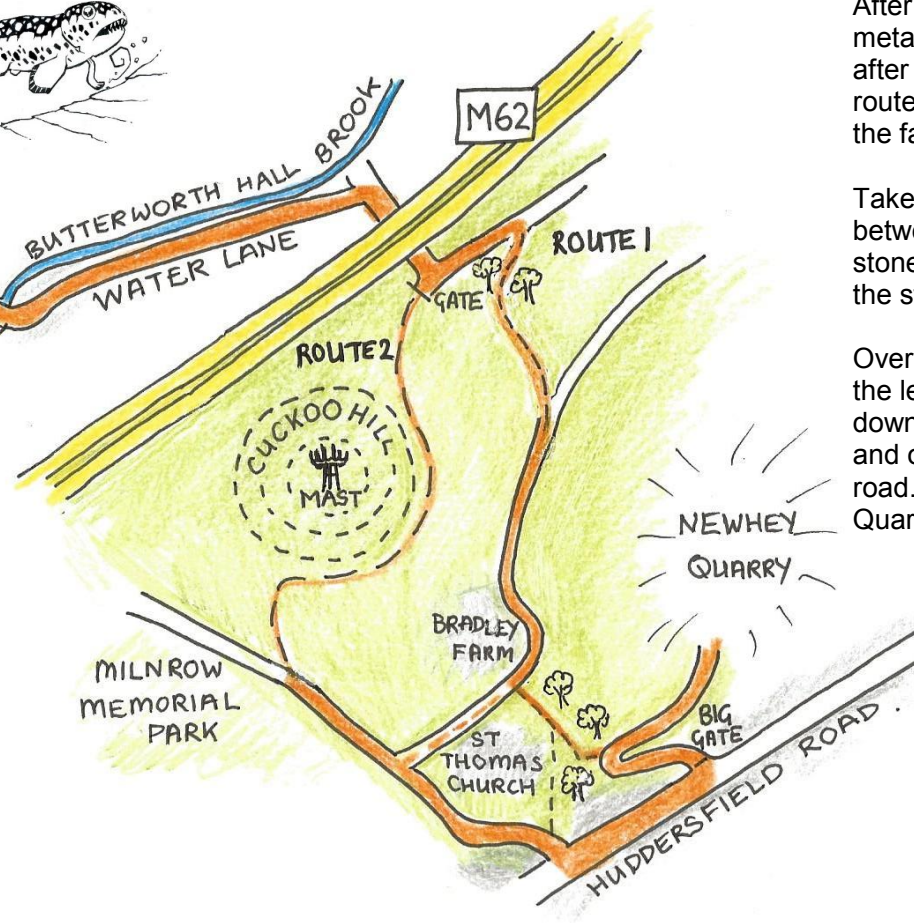
Turning left you will see the spire of St Thomas Church straight ahead, Bradley Farm to the left and Cuckoo Hill with the phone mast to the right.

There are two ways to get to the Quarry from here: -

St James Street will fork off into Wellington Street. At the end, turn left at the T junction to Water Lane and follow to the bridge.

Here the old road ran up the bed of the stream. The gated entrance can be seen by the bridge. The bed of the stream used to be paved and came back out nearer the next bridge. Older residents remember this.

Follow the road by the stream and bear right under the motorway. Are the dinosaur graffiti still there?



Route 1

Bear left and follow the road up the gentle slope. The road will have sets further up. Just before the sets give out, turn a sharp right - almost going back on yourself. There is a path on the verge leading sharply upwards towards a gate and stile.

Go over the stile and follow the route next to the fence, steadily climbing and over more stiles. This provides an excellent view of the area.

After the third stile, the route joins a metalled road. Close the two metal gates after you have gone through them. The route bends to the right as you walk past the farm buildings of Bradley Farm.

Take the overgrown path on the left between the last farm building and the dry stone wall and through the gate down to the stile at the bottom of the muddy field.

Over the stile, take the woodlands path to the left. This small path is very up and down. The path will finally rise sharply and over the ridge, you will see a tarmac road. Turn left and this will lead to the Quarry.

