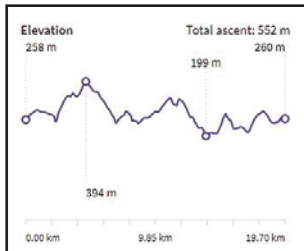


Acknowledgements

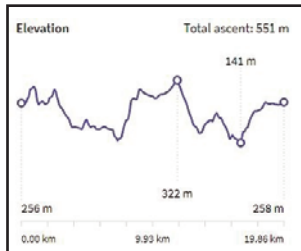
These rides have been compiled and produced by Heritage Highways volunteers. Historical research and working out the best routes to use has been a team effort. The team would like to especially acknowledge Ivana Podlakova for devising the original ride routes on which these rides are based and all the work undertaken by Melanie FitzGerald in hand drawing the maps, writing up the history and directions and designing the leaflets. Thank you to Nick Blaney for his input on the ride directions and info. for cyclists. The Heritage Highways Team would also like to acknowledge the landowners over whose land these rides pass. *Georgina Hartley*

Elevation profile for each ride

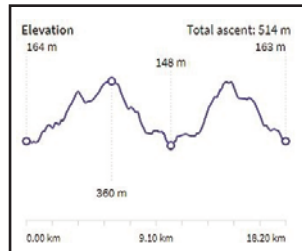
Ride 1 from Langsett Barn



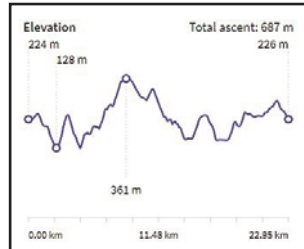
Ride 2 from Common Lane



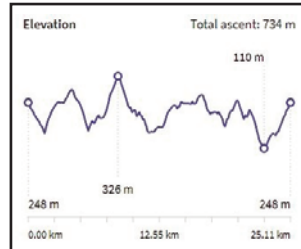
Ride 3 from The Sands



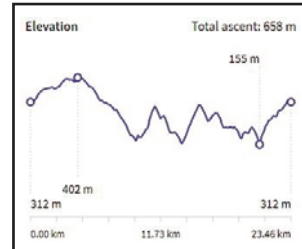
Ride 4 from Worrall



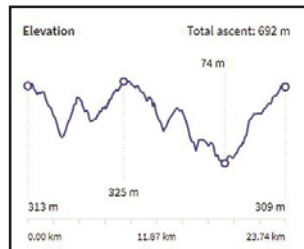
Ride 5 from Loxley Common



Ride 6 from Moorwood Equine



Ride 7 from Moorwood Equine



Rides Disclaimer

While all due care has been taken in the preparation of the maps, text and details featured in these leaflets, neither Heritage Highways volunteers, or anyone acting on their behalf, accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies which may have occurred. It should be borne in mind that landmarks, weather, path and road conditions may change.

It is assumed that the user has the relevant Ordnance Survey Map and knows how to use it.

Sheffield Lakelands Heritage Rides



**Rides that we hope will not only lead
to an enjoyable day out
but will also inspire an awareness of the history
beneath the feet, hooves and wheels of
those who follow them.**

Introduction

The Sheffield 'Lakelands' are a man-made landscape. Over millennia, human kind has left their mark. The light footprint left by hunter-gatherer communities of the Mesolithic period is only known through archaeological excavation and the discovery of flint tools. The signs left by those that followed are a little easier to see; hollow ways, stone paving, narrow bridges with low parapets and stone guide stoops all from the pack horse era, cruck-framed buildings and barns can still be found if you know where to look for them and patches of grass on heather moors show where peat cutting for fuel took place. Dry stone walls underscore the Inclosure period and, more recently, the construction of the reservoirs and management of the moors for grouse have left their very visible mark on the landscape.

Volunteers with the Heritage Highways project have researched one main aspect of man's use of the area – the old highways and packhorse trails. To help you to get the most from these rides we've included snippets of the history of the paths along with the directions, as space has allowed. For 'The Historic Rivelin Valley' ride space was very limited. History here is already well documented with the water driven wheels serving numerous mills especially those of the early metal industries of Sheffield. In the other rides we have pointed out paved sections, hollow ways, guide stoops and way marks – all indicators of pack horse ways. The inscribed guide stoops, indicating the direction for a traveller to take to reach their destination, were put up at cross-roads in our area from 1733 by order of the West Riding JPs. The system was to turn right from the face of the stoop inscribed with your destination. Pack horse bridges were originally made from wood. Many were replaced by stone bridges at around the same time as the stone guide stoops were erected. The stone pack horse bridges had low parapets to enable pack horses with panniers either side to pass over. Some of the replacement stone bridges were widened at a later date to take wheeled carriages - Unsliven Bridge, on ride 2, was widened in 1796.

The old highways were the network by which goods travelled into, out of and around the Sheffield Lakelands area. They were extremely important to our ancestors as trade routes and for local travel. They are equally important in modern times as a leisure resource – especially those paths that remain un-sullied by tarmac and away from motorised traffic. A green dashed line on the map indicates routes off the road that can be ridden, some of which we have not included in the rides.

Georgina Hartley

Information for Riders

The Sheffield Lakelands area has some very steep hills; pack horses could cope well with these hills but they may present more of a challenge to leisure horses and some cyclists. Be aware that you/your horse will need a reasonable level of fitness to tackle the longer rides although shorter options are also given.

For those travelling into the area, some of these routes can become busy at the weekend and it may be preferable to ride them on a weekday. If this is not possible then plan to set off early. Parking suggestions are given for individual rides. Alternative parking for horse boxes and trailers has been provided, although this will need to be arranged with the provider. This means there are various starting places which are made clear on each ride. The maps are to scale and follow OS Explorer map for the Peak District OL1 (with Sheffield/Barnsley 278 for ride 7). Waymarkers have been added to indicate the off road sections of the rides. The gpx files will be available on the S&RWT website at www.wildsheffield.com

Riders and Cyclists please:

Make sure that you are visible - wear fluorescent clothing/tabards. Show consideration towards each other and other road/path users. Cyclists please call a greeting and slow down to pass horses.

Riders please slow to walking pace to pass other path users.

Be alert - remember that you are part of the traffic and some of the lanes are narrow and twisty. Horse riders - only ride if your horse is sensible and reliable in traffic. Ride/cycle with a companion if possible and let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return. Take care not to frighten livestock. Leave gates & property as you find them.

Langsett Barn Car Park used for ride one. On the right side, at the rear of the parking area there are 3 horsebox parking spaces. The parking area can be extremely busy at weekends; for horse boxes or trailers, early mornings on weekdays are the best time to go in order to secure a parking space. Alternative horse box parking can be reserved at The Mustard Pot. (*see Ride 1*)

Refreshments:

Some suggestions for refreshments have been made for the various rides. *The Schoolrooms* in Low Bradfield offers a take away service which can be pre-booked by phoning 0114 2851920

B&B and Horse Livery: can be arranged at Moorwood Equine, Stannington. Contact: James Russell-Williams on 07718 425147