



City of
Newcastle
upon Tyne

WALBOTTLE



Circular Walks Series A No. 1

WALBOTTLE CIRCULAR WALK

The walk described in this leaflet follows a route through Newburn Village from the Tyne Riverside Country Park, Newburn. It drops down into Walbottle Dene through Walbottle Village and then along the route of the old Walbottle Moors wagonway. It returns south along the disused North Walbottle railway line, through Blucher and Walbottle to the country park. It is advisable to wear stout boots and to take waterproof and warm clothing especially in winter. You are advised not to take dogs although if you do so please keep them on a lead.

ACCESS

• By Car

Follow the A6085 from Throckley or Lemington into Newburn and follow the information signs to the Tyne Riverside Country Park. Parking at the Country Park. From the south cross Newburn Bridge and follow signs to the Country Park.

• By Bus

Please contact P.T.E. Travel Line (091) 232 5325

THE CIRCULAR WALK

Leaving the visitors centre follow the river down stream on the footpath past the 'Boathouse' PH, turn left at Newburn Bridge, across the disused level crossing and then right along Station Road to the High Street. Turn left along Church Bank to the War Memorial.

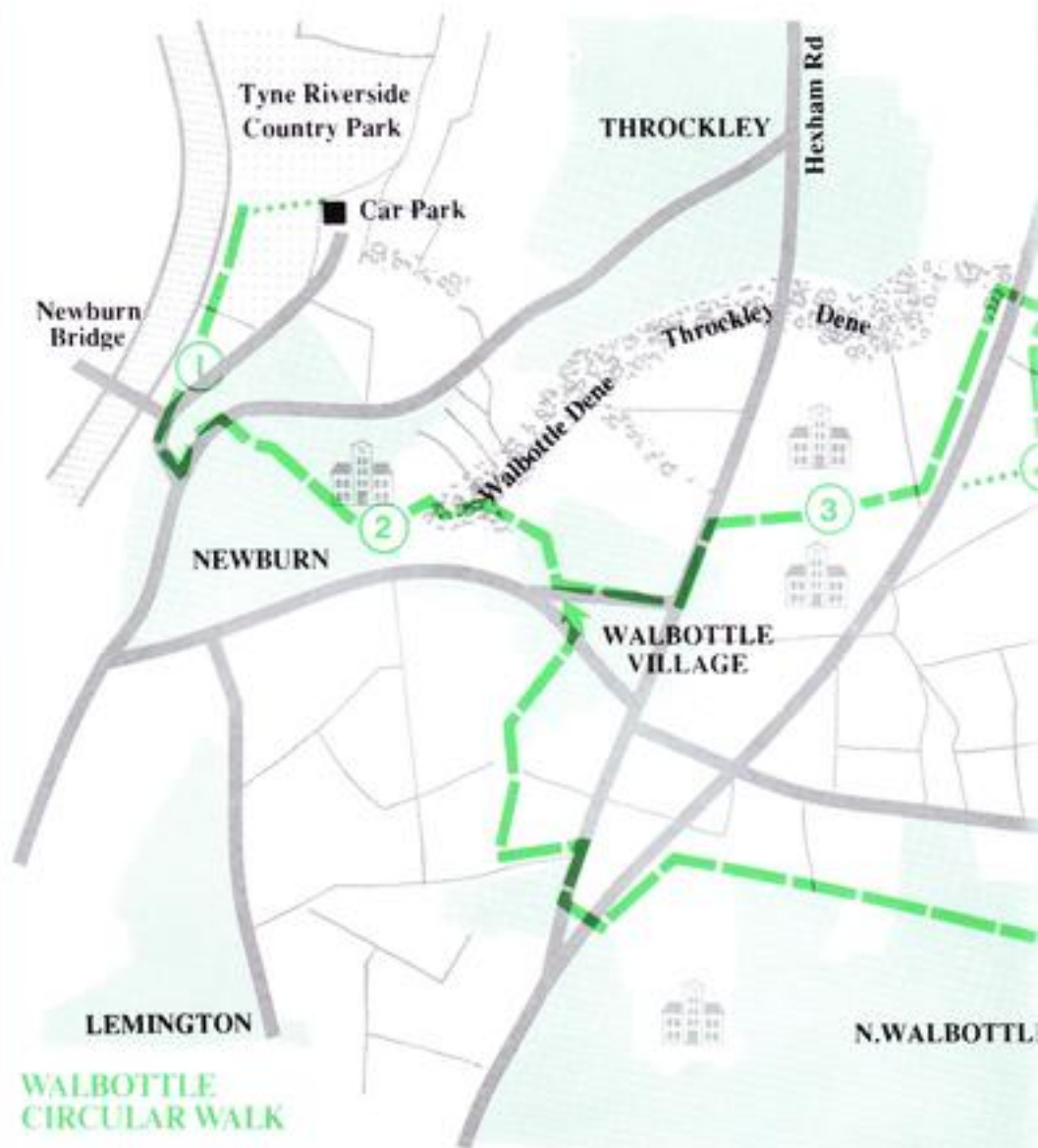
① *The riverbank footpath follows the route of a disused wagonway, adjacent to the Boathouse was the Water Row Pit. It was at this pit that George Stephenson was put in charge of the revolutionary 'Hawthorne' pumping engines in 1798. The Wagonway closed in 1867, although parts of it were used to build the trackbed of the Scotswood Newburn and Wylam railway in 1875/6 which itself closed in 1968.*

After ascending the flight of steps follow Hareside Path, past Berkley Terrace turning slightly left to descend down into Walbottle Dene past a series of buildings crossing over the 'New burn' before turning right to follow a path up a steep sided tributary valley to Walbottle Dene, emerging in Walbottle Village.

② *Within Walbottle Dene on the site of the allotments and small garages once stood 'New Winning'. A small settlement based on the several small coal mines, was at its most active in the early 19th century when Duke Pit was at its height of production. The Dene has a wide variety of wildlife and is particularly attractive in early Spring with the woodland flowers and birds.*



Walbottle Dene



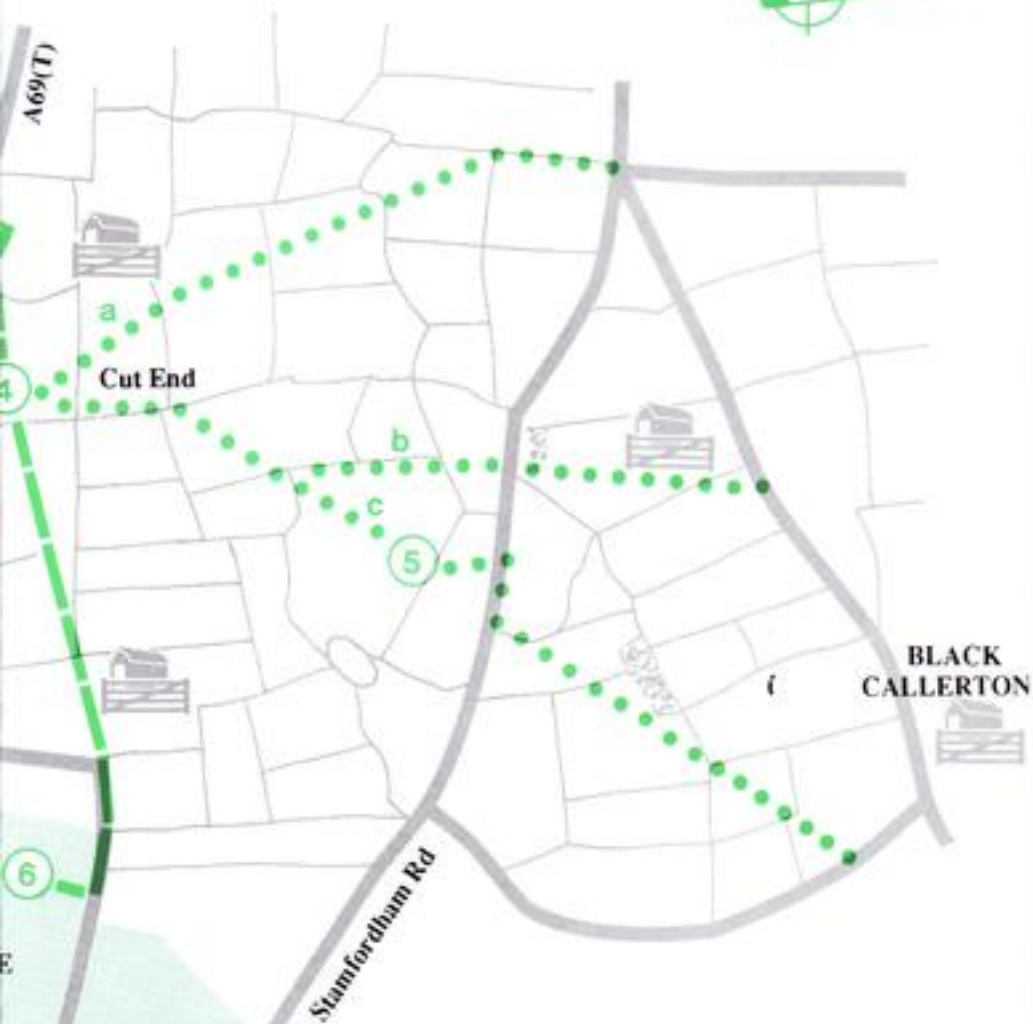
**WALBOTTLE
CIRCULAR WALK**

Distance Approximately -
3/8 miles (5/13 Km)
depending on route.

Time needed - two to three hours



*Based on Ordnance Survey Map with the
permission of the Controller of H.M.S.O.
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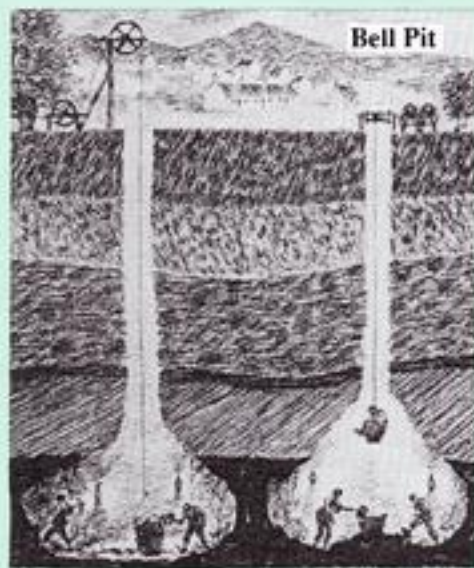
LEGEND

-  The Route
-  Alternative/Extended Route
-  Roads
-  Field Boundaries

-  Built Up Areas
-  Woodland/Planting
-  Farm
-  School

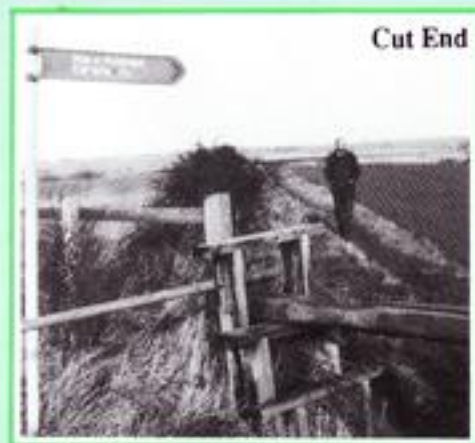
Turn left at Walbottle Post Office up the hill along The Green to old Hexham Road, turn left and then right to follow the footpath on the west side of The Engine Inn. Continue on this footpath - the route of the Walbottle Moors Wagonway, until you reach the A69(T) dual carriageway.

④ *This wagonway, which was operational by 1780, was part of a system owned by the Duke of Northumberland to transport coals from his Walbottle pits to the coal staithes on the River Tyne at Lemington. The Duke branch, which we are following, incorporates parts of the Callerton system from Holywell Main, constructed before 1767. Coals were conveyed by horses and on an inclined plane, to Lemington, where Keelmen were employed to tranship the coal to seagoing vessels downstream from Newcastle Bridge.*



Walkers are advised not to cross the busy A69(T). If you do cross Take Care. The alternative is an underpass some 300m westward, then walking eastwards from the underpass to the junction of the footpaths. If you do cross the A69(T) follow the footpath on the side of the field to Dewley Road. Turn right along Dewley Road if you wish to follow the circular walk.

Alternatively you can follow the routes up the now disused wagonway, now almost invisible across the Walbottle Moors.



④ *'Cut End', named after the cutting made for the wagonway at this point. The western branch a) served the Dewley Pit area where Stephenson lived in the 1790s and then Northwards to Greenwich Moor. The north eastern branch b) served the mines at Black Callerton and the Holywell Main area including Dolly Pit where Stephenson worked as a brakeman.*

a) The western branch follows the raised embankment towards Dewley Farm then diagonally crossing four fields ending at Callerton Lane Ends. The footpath as waymarked b) the north eastern branch follows the fence line to a stile, diagonally across the next field to a stile where the footpath divides. The north eastern branch crosses two fields to Stamfordham Road. On the other side of Stamfordham Road the path follows the wagonway diagonally across the fields to Callerton Road. c) The western branch heads north crossing Stamfordham Road through Broom Hall Farm to Black Callerton Lane.

④ *The countryside north of Cut Ends is dotted with the spoil heaps from the 18th century coal mining. 'Bell pits' were excavated down to the shallow coal seams. When the coal was exhausted, they were filled in and a new one dug nearby.*

The Circular Walk is eastwards along Dewley Road from Cut End past Fell House Farm on the left to the junction with North Walbottle Road. Turn left and along North Walbottle Road for 350m turning right at Whorlton Terrace onto the footpath. Continue south on this path through a landscaped area once the site of Coronation Pit to the A69(T) by-pass where the path turns left and then right through the underpass to old Hexham Road.

② *Whorlton Terrace and the Village of North Walbottle housed the workers of Coronation Pit and North Walbottle Colliery. The Colliery was on the reclaimed land north of the Village, and was in operation until the 1940s.*

Turn right along Hexham Road for 100m crossing the road and heading left along the reclaimed railway and wagonway lines. There are information boards along the side of the path at Blucher that explain the history of the village.

The Circular Walk turns right, past the brick pumping station and Walbottle Hall onto Queens Road joining Walbottle Road at the overgrown and wooded Sandstone Quarry. Cross the Village Green, once the site of a large pond to rejoin the earlier route at Duke Pit, near Walbottle Post Office. Retrace your steps to the Tyne Riverside Country Park.

We hope you have enjoyed your walk. Look out for other circular walk leaflets in this series.

REMEMBER THE COUNTRY CODE

*Keep dogs on a lead.
Stay on the footpaths.
Close all gates.
Leave no litter.*

Supported by the
Countryside
COMMISSION

This Leaflet was jointly produced by Newcastle City Council Planning and Recreation & Leisure Departments as part of a series of Circular Walk Leaflets.

For further information please contact Newcastle City Planning Department, Tel: (091) 232 8520 ext 6113 or the Ranger at Tyne Riverside Country Park, Newburn, Tel: (091) 264 8501.



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