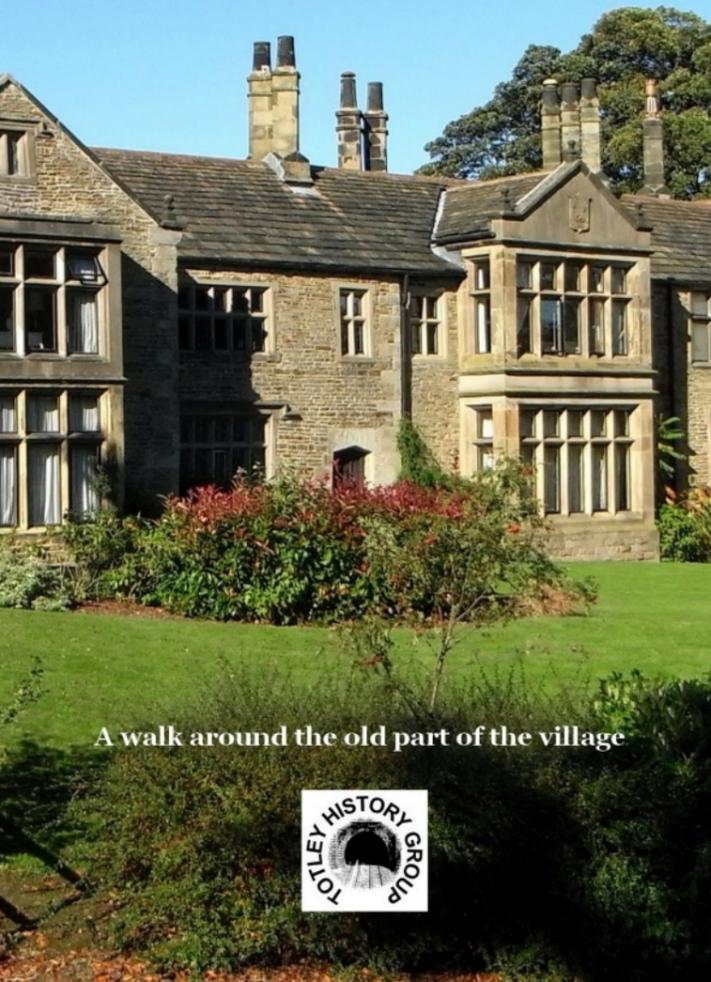


TOTLEY Village Walk



A walk around the old part of the village



The walk starts and ends at the The Cross Scythes, Baslow Road, S17 4AE, about 6 miles southwest of Sheffield on the A621 and a stopping point on bus route 97 from the city centre. There is a large car park for customers and guests only; otherwise on road parking nearby is available.

The short walk around the old part of the village is an easy-going 1½ miles and is suitable for wheelchair users. It links into a longer walk (3¼ miles in total) which includes a section on public footpaths across fields and which navigates a number of steps and stiles.

1. Cross Scythes Baslow Road, north side. The oldest part of the building faces Cross Grove House and is known to be more than 300 years old. When the turnpike road was built at the beginning of the 19th century, Samuel Hopkinson, a farmer and scythe maker, took the opportunity to open a pub. During the 18th and 19th centuries a stagecoach ran regularly between Sheffield, Bakewell and Buxton. The building to the left provided stabling for the horses used to pull the coaches.



1777 it became part of the Sheffield City Polytechnic which eventually became Sheffield Hallam University. It was sold in 2006 and has been converted into privately owned apartments. The walk now returns along the west side of Totley Hall Lane.

8. Totley Hall Farmhouse Totley Hall Lane, west side. Once the Home Farm of Totley Hall. It was built about 1780 and there are early 19th century additions to the left. A survey of 1549 shows that this land was being farmed at that date so there may have been an earlier farmhouse on the site.

On your journey back along Totley Hall Lane, detour to the left at Stocks Green Drive and walk up the hill to the T-junction.

9. Totley Well Stocks Green Drive, west side. The well originally stood at the lower corner of the Fleur-de-Lys car park. It was moved to its current site in 1983 when the Stocks Green estate was being built



10. Fleur-de-Lys Totley Hall Lane, west side. The current building dates from 1933 and stands on what was formerly the village green. The stocks once stood here and there was also a pinfold to the rear of the old Fleur which stood further back than the present building. It is thought that this may be the third inn on the site.



Brian Edwards, the well-known local historian, believes that there was an ale house called The Quene here as far back as 1561. Cross Baslow Road at the pedestrian crossing and walk around the corner into Hillfoot Road.

11. Cross Grove House Hillfoot Road, east side. Stands on land that originally belonged to the Cross Scythes where the stagecoach horses were rested and grazed. The house was built in 1884 and gets its name from the old Market Cross which stood opposite the end of Summer Lane. The large



The Cross Scythes was also the terminus for the horse bus which ran from Dore & Totley station from 1885 until shortly before the First World War.

2. Grange Terrace Baslow Road, south side. Opposite the Cross Scythes is Grange Terrace. The lower section was built in 1895 but the upper terrace is earlier. It includes the old Police Station at number 331, the old Post Office at number 337 dated 1882 and, between the two, Howard's Farm which dates from 1773. Prior to the building of the turnpike (now Baslow Road) in the 19th century there was no road from Sheffield to Totley. The main route was the ancient lane leading from Holmesfield in the south to Dore in the north via Totley. This is now cut in two by Baslow Road.



The short walk continues firstly down Totley Hall Lane on the Holmesfield side before returning to the cross roads and continuing down Hillfoot Road on the Dore side.

stone visible in the grass outside the boundary wall of Cross Grove House is thought to be the base of the old cross now largely covered by earth. Legend has it that John Wesley was mobbed here by 'Totley louts'.

12. Summer Lane off Hillfoot Road, west side. Holly Tree Cottage is all that remains of two rows of terraced cottages that housed a thriving community of about 50 people. This included a smithy, four file shops and a grocers. Formerly known as Ogden's Road it was served by a walk-down well which stood at the far end of the lane.



13. Hillfoot Road Cottages Hillfoot Road, west side. Bryn Cottage, with a date of 1704 above the door, and Moor Cottage are both Grade II listed buildings.



Turn right into Butts Hill.

14. Ash Cottage Butts Hill, north side. Built in the mid 18th century and Grade II listed. It formerly belonged to the Cannon Hall Farm Estate.



15. Cannon Hall Butts Hill, north side. A Grade II listed cruck-framed farmhouse and adjoining stables and barn under a continuous roof built in the 16th century with early 17th century additions. The name may derive from the Canons of Beauchief Abbey who passed close by on their way to Strawberry Lee pastures.



Since this photograph was taken the view of Cannon Hall has been obscured by solid wooden gates.

16. Shrewsbury Terrace *Butts Hill, east end.* An attractive row of cottages standing at the end of Butts Hill built about 1875 and named after the Earl of Shrewsbury, a local landowner. *Retrace your steps down Butts Hill back to Hillfoot Road and then turn right down the hill.*



17. All Saints School *Hillfoot Road, west side.* Built in 1876 with several extensions and alterations to the original building. When Topley Tunnel was being constructed (1888-1892) a wooden addition was built as the children of the navvies swelled school numbers. It became known as the Mission Hall as it was used for Sunday services and it also served as a community centre until it was demolished in 1939.



18. The Pinfold *Hillfoot Road, west side.* One of the two pinfolds in the village stood at the top of Chapel Lane. This was where stray animals were kept until their owners paid a fine to the pinder in order to retrieve them. *Hillfoot Road bends to the right below the Pinfold but continue straight ahead down the narrow Chapel Lane.*



19. Topley Chapel *off Chapel Lane, west side.* The Chapel was built in 1849 for a board of trustees that included both local members and established Methodists including George Bassett (liquorice allsorts) and Thomas Cole, founder of Cole Brothers department store in Sheffield (now John Lewis). The land for the Chapel was given by Job Green, landlord of the Cross Scythes at this time. It was extended in 1898, closed in 1967 and converted to a house in the 1970s. *This is the end of the short walk. You can either retrace your steps to the Cross Scythes or continue the walk down Chapel Lane for a further 2 miles. Please note that this walk includes a short section on public footpaths across fields and navigates a number of steps and stiles.*



20. Bents Footway *between Chapel Lane and Penny Lane.* An ancient footway between Topley village and Topley Bents which was cobbled at private expense between the two World Wars. *When you reach the bottom of the footway turn right on Penny Lane. Almost immediately you will see a pair of old gatepiers on your left. These mark a path into the wood which can be overgrown with brambles at certain times of the year.*



21. Number 1 Airshaft and Tip *off Penny Lane, north side.* This heavily wooded area has grown up on one of the waste heaps left from the building of Topley Tunnel. Hidden among the trees is the Number 1 Airshaft. This area was originally farm land with two cottages which stood at the corner of Hillfoot Road and Penny Lane. *Walk to the end of Penny Lane and turn right into Hillfoot Road.*



22. The Crown *Hillfoot Road, west side.* The building is reputed to be over 300 years old and has been a pub since at least 1813. This area now known as Hillfoot was once a small hamlet called Bentley. There were several cottages, a farm, stables and a corn mill here. *Continue down Hillfoot Road passing the end of Penny Lane and across the Needham's Dike.*



23. Topley Grove *Hillfoot Road, east side.* Built probably by John G Waterfall in 1852, it has been known by various names including Topley Vale, Topley Dale and Grove House. The drive to the east now comes out on Topley Brook Road, but before the building of the railway, it joined Baslow Road on what has become Grove Road. The entrance to Topley Tunnel lies in the field to the southeast. *Continue along Hillfoot Road and turn right at the end of the high wall, over the stile and follow the path through the field to a kissing gate.*



24. Needham's Dike Bridge *off Hillfoot Road, east side* The smaller of the two 18th century bridges incorporated into the walls of Topley Grove, this bridge crosses Needham's Dike close to its confluence with Old Hay Brook. The Bentley Corn Mill and later the Upper Mill Scythe Works stood nearby..



25. Dam Field *off Hillfoot Road, east side.* As you retrace your route to Hillfoot Road you will pass a door in the boundary wall of Topley Grove. Stand and notice the line of six mature trees to your right which marked the edge of the mill pond.



26. Topley Bridge *between Hillfoot Road (to south) and Old Hay Lane (to north).* A Grade II listed road bridge over the Old Hay Brook built in the late 18th century and forming the traditional boundary between Topley and Dore. Prior to the bridge being built there was a ford here. *After crossing the bridge walk to the next corner where you will see the entrance to Avenue Farm. Follow the signposted public footpath leading down steps to the left immediately before the entrance gates.*



27. Old Hay *off Old Hay Lane, west side.* Between the 16th and early 19th centuries this was the site of a leadmill and the waters of the Old Hay Brook were heavily polluted with poisonous effluent. Later this became a scythe mill, grinding blades from Topley Forge, further upstream. The terrace of cottages was built to house the mill workers. *Walk up the drive and through the courtyard, up the steps and over the stile into the field. Keeping close to the wall, follow the path to a second stile and then pass through gates into and out of Bents Farm to Penny Lane beyond where you will turn left.*



28. The Cricket Inn *Penny Lane, south side.* Built as a farm in 1865 on land that was originally part of Topley Commons until the 1839 Enclosure Award. The Award also gave the adjacent Recreation Ground to the village. During the smallpox epidemic of 1893, the Cricket Inn was used as a mortuary. *Now retrace your steps back along Penny Lane.*



29. Lower Bents Farmhouse *Penny Lane, north side.* Mainly built in the mid and late 18th century but with earlier origins dating from the late 16th century. It is thought to be one of the earliest buildings in the area and is Grade II listed. Note the barn to the rear which was constructed with bricks left over from the building of Topley Tunnel.



30. The Grouse *Penny Lane, north side.* Originally a farmhouse, in the 1830s it was recorded as an alehouse and in the 1890s it was popular with navvies building the Topley Tunnel. The pub survived until the 1950s when it became a house and dairy.



31. Number 2 Airshaft and Tip *off Strawberry Lee Lane, south side.* Topley Tunnel waste tip and airshaft constructed in 1889. Visible from the bottom of Strawberry Lee Lane.



32. Monnybrook Lane *Head Road, east side.* Monnybrook is thought to have been named after the many brooks that join together to form Needham's Dike. The cluster of buildings includes farms, cottages and the old Topley Workhouse, now part of Monnybrook Farm. *Turn left at the junction of Lane Head Road and Baslow Road.*



33. Lane Head *Baslow Road, north side.* The row of terraced cottages opposite the milestone on Baslow Road was built at various dates in the 19th century, the earliest one in 1823.



34. Topley War Memorial *Baslow Road, north side.* Built by public subscription and dedicated on 27 November 1920. Plaques commemorate the ten local soldiers who lost their lives in World War I and the 13 servicemen and women killed in World War II. Topley History Group has researched the lives of the WWI soldiers and published a book entitled "Topley War Memorial WWI 1914-1918".



Continue along Baslow Road until you return to the Cross Scythes.



www.topleyhistorygroup.org.uk

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