

old quarry edge. Keep children and pets under close control.

- At the top of the hill take time to briefly leave the path and look at the view. Take care near the edge. There are good views down the Derwent valley. Landmarks such as Heage windmill and Crich Stand can be seen on a clear day.
- Join the path again and follow it as it gently travels down through the wood. Eventually the path joins a wider path. Do not follow the path to the YHA but continue ahead. At the junction turn left to continue downhill.

This area of the wood belongs to the Grith Pioneers. The Grith Pioneers group originally began life as the Grith Fyrd, or Citizens Peace Army. They were formed in the early 1930s, a time of great social deprivation especially amongst the working class. Unemployed young men were given the opportunity to live a lifestyle which encouraged self-sufficiency and co-operation with others, coupled with the chance to be part of and to understand their natural environment. The pioneers still uphold their original ideals and welcome folks into Shining Cliff Woods so that their beauty can be enjoyed by all.

- At the bottom of the hill turn right to travel back the way you came through the old wireworks. Follow the path along the bottom of the wood and turn left along Holly Lane. Cross the A6 (beware of traffic). Turn left and then right to go under the railway bridge, right again, and right again up the steps and back to the railway car park.

WALK TYPE	Hilly countryside with several steep climbs, passing quarry edges
DISTANCE	4 miles (6.8 km)
TIME	Allow 3 hours
BUSES	Traveline on 0871 200 2233 (7.00am - 9.00pm)
TRAIN	Rail Enquiry Services on 08457 484950 (open 24 hours)
WAYMAKING	Routeway 12
OS MAP	Landranger (1:50,000) 119 Buxton & Matlock Explorer (1:25,000) 269 Chesterfield & Alfreton

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Consider other people.

For further walks and visitor information go to www.visitambervalley.com

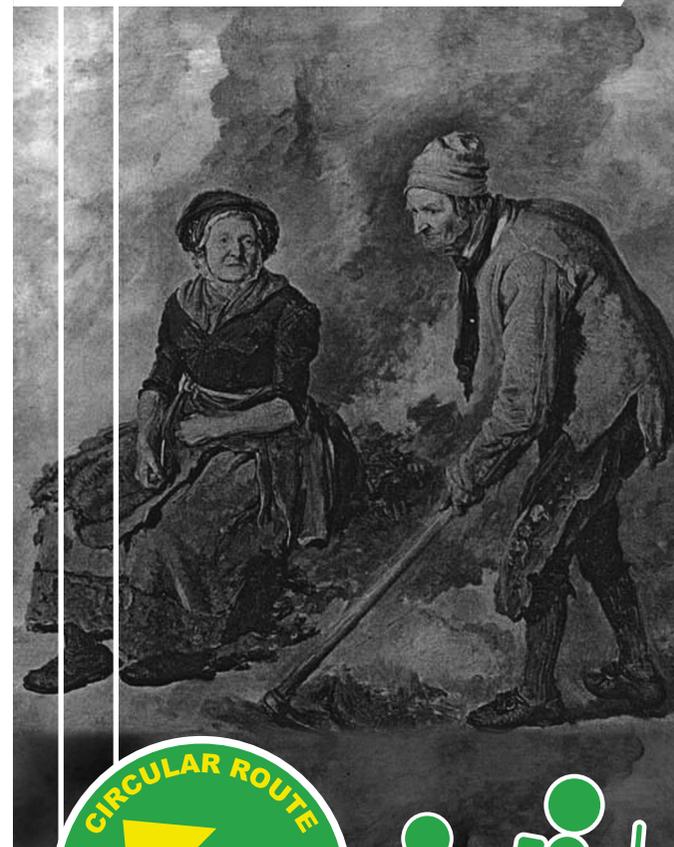
If you have any comments about this leaflet contact Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield & Mansfield on 01773 841566 (Registered Charity No. 1004253)

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AMBER VALLEY ROUTEWAYS

BETTY KENNY WALK (AMBERGATE)



Start - Ambergate Railway Station car park (Grid Ref. 348 516)

1. Go out of the car park entrance and down the steps on the left. Go down to the main road (A610). Turn left to go under the railway bridge and left again to walk along the A6.
2. Cross the road (beware of traffic) opposite Holly Lane. Walk down Holly Lane with the church on your left, and over Ha'penny Bridge.

Looking over the bridge to the right, you can see the River Amber joining the Derwent. The Amber's source is close to the village of Ashover and it flows southwards through Ogston Reservoir to Pentrich and then westwards through Wingfield Park to join with the River Derwent at Ambergate, a total of 21km (13 miles).

Turn right and follow the single track road that runs along the bottom of the woodland. Continue for 1/4 mile and take the public footpath on the right (no vehicular access). Follow the path as it leads down through the old wire works. Continue all the way through the works following signs for the YHA until you reach the woodland. At the woodland do not continue to follow signs for the YHA but go straight ahead through the woodland (a mixture of sweet chestnut, oak and sycamore of approximately 100 years old) travelling parallel with the River Derwent and A6. Whilst in the wood, follow the wooden posts with the white stripe at the top.

Shining Cliff Woods is an ancient woodland. It was part of a Royal Hunting Forest called Duffield Frith owned by the de Ferrers family of Duffield Castle. The family was disgraced after the Barons Revolt against Henry III; the castle was destroyed and the lands given to the king's son Edmund. Local legend has it that a local man gave his magnificent white horse as a gift to Edmund and in return received the ownership of Shining Cliff

Woods. In 1690 the wood came into the ownership of the Hurt family and remained with them until several years after World War I. The majority of the woodland is now managed by the Forestry Commission.

3. Continue through the barrier and follow the path. After 1/4 mile take the right fork to follow the path downhill for a short distance.

Shining Cliff Woods is a Site of Special Scientific Interest due to the huge variety of plants and animals found in this ancient woodland. The wood supports a diverse bird community including warblers and flycatchers and, in the winter, bramblings and other finches. You will see that the species of trees and the management of them changes through the woodland. Notice the coppiced sycamore trees, beneath which in spring is a carpet of bluebells.

PLEASE STICK TO THE MAIN PATHS

4. After half a mile take the main path on the left. Follow this uphill (marked by white posts) with pine trees on your right. Halfway up the hill, take the path on your right uphill into the pine trees. The white posts lead you to the remains of the Betty Kenny Tree.

Betty Kenny (Kate Kenyon) and her husband Luke lived during the late 1700s in a huge yew tree reputed to be 2000 years old, the remains of which you can see. Their house was formed within the yew tree. It probably had a turf roof. The Kenyans raised 8 children. Local legend has it



that a bough of the tree was hollowed out to act as a cradle for their children. Local legend also suggests that this is the origin of the nursery rhyme "rock-a-bye-baby". Luke was a charcoal burner and he and Betty became favourites of the Hurt family. They had their portraits painted by James Ward of the Royal Academy (see front cover illustration).

5. Follow the path beyond the Betty Kenny tree down the hill, head towards the stone wall at the edge of the wood. Cross the public footpath and continue ahead, skirting the edge of the wood next to the stone wall. (Over the wall are views of the Hurt family home, Alderwasley Hall, and their estate.)
6. Follow the path and go over the boardwalks. Continue straight ahead, climbing through the woodland. Take care to keep away from the