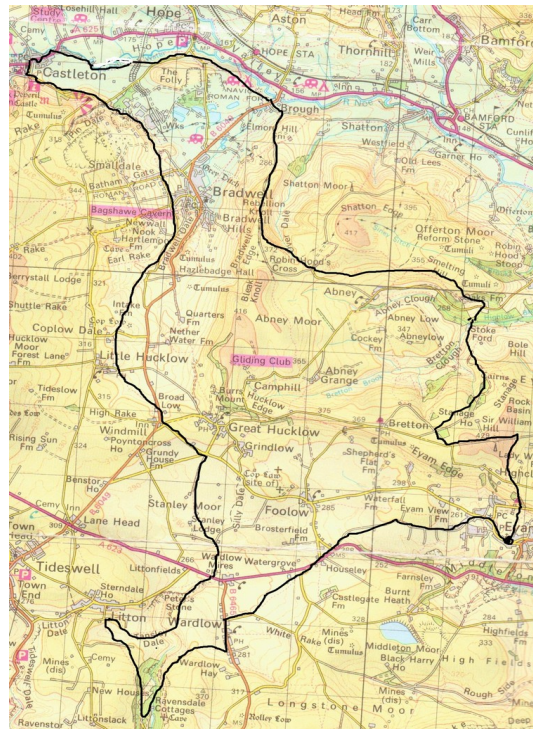


WALK 114.**EYAM. 114.****25-1 miles. 6 hours 56 minutes.****Map White Peak. Dark Peak. SK28/38.**

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Start at Eyam (216767). Walk up to Town Head, then go up a minor road that becomes a lane. Walk W along this lane to come to the A.623 at 195761. Walk W for 500 metres along the A.623, then go L on a road signed Cavendish Mill.

Just around the corner, go R off the road through a slot, then walk SW downhill through a field to a wall, though a gateway and continue in the same direction, over a broken wall to a corner ahead and a poor stile. Keep to the same direction and come to a gate in the wall, on its R is a stile, and so out on to the road at 185751.

Bear R and walk up to a road junction, in a few hundred metres; go L here and walk through Wardlow where, in ancient times, a Portway ran and continued to be in use until the C.18. The packhorse men used it too. Pass the church and the pub, then at a sign go R down a narrow jitty to a slot and into a field ; Wardlow Hay Cop on the L. come to a stile in a wall and a sign, Nature Reserve.

The view here is impressive a Limestone Gorge and Litton Dale to the R. To the L dark woods fill the dale, and this is the way to go, dropping down the narrow path to a footbridge. At this point do not carry on down the dale, but cut up the steep bank to the R to reach a level path. Walk S through an open area to enter woodland at a broken gate, in 50 metres go uphill at a footpath sign.

Climb up a steep bank through trees to the top then walk N, having done a U-turn, wall on L, steep bank and trees on the R, the path a little awkward, one in 400 metres to a stile on the L; a yellow arrow pointing to the R through a field.

Now walk NW on short grass, cutting the R-hand corner, and make for a stile in the wall. Continue NW level going through a field where a line of mounds betraying former workings, and come to a gateway in a corner, no stile, then make a straight line for the next wall then over limestone steps into a narrow field. Go 20 metres across it to a gateway; a stile on the R with

interesting gateway with quoins made of concrete. Drop to a wall with a step to go over into a lane. Cross the lane to a stile opposite. Drop down to a wall on the L with a stile in it. Drop down gently to a similar stile. Walk through a long field to a gate with a good stile on its L and come in to a lane and a footpath.

Go R along the lane; Litton lies on the L, a village standing 1000 feet above sea level. It has an interesting cross and a modern church, but has an old clergy house 1723; another of 1768 (Hammerton Hall). This tiny village was the home of the ancestors of the Earl of Lytton; a farmhouse stands on the site of their old home which was, in Charles 1 day, the home of William Bagshawe, the apostle of the Peak. Litton Mill, nearby was the scene of much cruelty to the child workers in the mill.

Walk several hundred metres E to a slot on the R, then after a long narrow field; follow the wall on the L to a corner where a footpath sign directs round, cutting the L and making for a stile on the L to climb over a wall to a stile on the other side and a sign to Cressbrook Dale Nature Reserve. Go down the steps in the bank and enter Tansley Dale; this dale can be a mass of colour when orchids are in season, walking down to Cressbrook Dale, a prominent and dramatic wall stiffened by great outcrops of limestone. Go over a wall and stream.

Go L and walk up the dale, high above stands Peter's Stone a high tower of limestone easily climbed, enter a lane and come to a gate and so out on to the road at Wardlow Mires at 180756, the scene of the hanging of a highway man who was hanged, many years ago. In ancient times, the Portway went through this tiny place; later, it was mentioned in the Turnpike Act of 1759, being one of the Chesterfield Turnpikes.

Walk E past the Pub; in a few metres go L down a gateway with the ball finials of Somerset House Farm; follow the signs through the farm yard. Walk up through a field following the wall on the L. Stanley House standing in front. Go up to Stanley House to a gate with a stile on the L. go up to the farm; on the L are steps to come out in to a lane at 179761. Bear L and walk WNW along a lane for 300 metres to a footpath sign; either side of the lane. Go over both stiles either side of the lane in to a field, walk N with wall on the L to a corner with a slot. Stanley Lodge Farm standing on the L. in the next corner, the wall has excellent stone steps. Go through a field, a disused building nearby, and the next corner, has strong stone steps in it.

Walk N through a wider field, see the next slot ahead; level going in the next field to a wall with cemented stones. Nearby is a footpath sign and so enter a lane near Stanley Moor Farm, going straight forward on a hard surface, wall on either side, to reach a road junction at 177774. Bear L so as to walk NW towards Windmill. At a road junction go straight forward for a few metres, then cross the B.6049 and enter the Hamlet of Windmill which has always had the distinction of being situated from Roman Times on a much used route. Go forward 40 metres between the houses to a sign directs R to go between two houses to a pedestrian gate and so in to a field, walking N.

Drop down to the L to a stile, then walk with wall on L to a corner with a stone step, repeat this to the next corner and steps in a wall, then enter a wider field to walk through to the far corner and a gate, step over a low wall and enter a large field. Bear L and contour around to a good stile, then it is only 10 metres across a long narrow field to a low wall to a slot, enter a field and walk with wall on the R.

In the corner look for a difficult to find stile. Go 25 metres across a narrow field to a wall with stone steps, then forward to a far broken wall and gaze down a minute dale. Take a worn cart track that leads down into the depression then up the other side, then walk through a narrow field. Where it begins to drop, go L into a field alongside and walk to a wall with steps and a sign. Come out on to the road at Little Hucklow (165785).

Bear L and walk through the Hamlet, where the pub has many items of farm machinery attached to the exterior walls. Just around the corner from the pub, goes R along a lane, passing farm buildings with massive gritstone quoins and dressings in a limestone building. Go N along the grassy lane, where a slot leads into a field. Go R to the corner, then L into a rough lane which passes a cottage on the R. make sure not to go near the farm on the L where the mud is unspeakable, and so come out on to the road at 164790.

Bear R and, in 30 metres, go L into a drive, house on R. in a few metres, see a gate on the R, steps at its side. Keep to the wall on the R; Lower Farm is to the R of that, and soon come to two metal gates: Take the one on the R with a stile, and go forward through a short lane that opens out into a field. Cross the field, dropping a little, and come to a far wall with red triangles are to be seen in abundance. Cross into the next field; on the R see Intake Farm above. At the wall, see, again red triangles to show footpaths and another good stone step obstructed by wooden cross bars. In the next wall, to the L of a gateway, is a stile marked red. Go forward; wall on the R to the far R corner and a stile with three uprights, one blocking the way. The logic of these stiles is deceiving.

Now enter a large field to drop to a stile which is a piece of timber thrust through the wall. Then to the L see Intake Dale. Bear R and walk downhill, cutting the R corner, to a good stile and so out on to the road at 167798. Bear L and go forward 100 metres to a fork to go L up a farm drive. Now is a difficulty: where the drive curves to the L, the footpath goes to the R, but there is no stile, so go over and forward in a narrow corner of rough grass to a gate. Now in Jennings Dale on a junction of footpaths; go R and E on a worn path, probably an old lane between walls. In several hundred metres, come to a minor road at 169802.

Bear L, climb gently, going N, down below to the R stands Hazelbadge Hall. An ancient manor House, once the home of the Vernon's who built the surviving gable wing, but previously the home of the Strelley's, a family who fought at Agincourt. Its lands were mentioned in the Domesday Book. The arms of the Vernon's are carved on one gable. It was part of the dowry which Dorothy Vernon brought brought with her when she married Husband Sir John Manners. The house now a farm, is much reduced; it is dated 1594. Hazelbadge has passed subsequently, like Haddon, to the Dukes of Rutland.

In several hundred metres, go L at a fork and soon come to Bagshawe Cavern which was discovered by lead miners. A flight of 130 steps leads down to the remarkable crystalline formations which were found there. In under a half a mile, come to a busy road to cross to go up a farm drive which becomes a grassy lane between fields. The industrial town of Bradwell stretches down the dale on the R; to the E rises the steep hillside to Bradwell Edge well known for its Hand-gliding.

At the end of the lane, go R through a tall slot in a wall and enter a field. Bear R and make for a farm building at a lane; on its L is a stile that leads into a field. Walk up to the R of a house with green paint and find in a wall a stile on the R. enter a field and cut the R hand corner to go to a gate on the L is a stile that leads into a lane at 169818.

Walk N and face the prospect of walking through the cement works that has been seen from a distance and many walks. (The further away the better); the experience is not edifying. Eventually leave it behind on a narrow footpath that comes to a road at 161824.

Bear L and follow the road as it curves to the R; Pin Dale lies to the L. soon Castleton is entered. Leave this popular town on the R on the Hope Road to a sign Number 25 erected in 1908 by the P.D. and N.C. Footpath Society, it indicates the way to Hope. Go R at the sign up a lane to a slot stile, stream on the L, fence on the R, and walk to a fence in front with a stile to go into a field. Continue over a series of stiles on a good path to come to a railway line which feeds the cement works. Cross the railway with care to a stile.

This pleasant walk becomes more interesting with the stream on the L and views all around. This flat bottom valley is the result of glacial movement with small hills left behind by the glaciers. Go over a fence and stile then continue to another that comes out on to a road at 171832.

Bear L; walk downhill to a fork in 100 metres, then R uphill in 100 metres to a gate with a stile on the L, and a sign to Brough. Walk SE on a grass track up to a gate with a slot on its L, then continue forward to a gateway with a slot on its L. the views are remarkable and too easily taken for granted; with the added interest of a Roman Camp on the other side of a footbridge now reached. (Although very little remains). Go over a ladder stile then to a metal gate and out on to the road B.6049 at 182825. There is also a sign here No. 38 erected in 1909 by the P.D. and N.C. Footpath society to Hope and Castleton via the Roman Station Anavio. Altitude 616 feet.

Go L across the stream, then cross the road, go R between houses to Brough Lane and start climbing to the S. come to a point at 182806 to go L over a wall at a stile and so into a field. The path clings to the hillside, and come to a sign difficult to read: it seems to indicate a Nature Reserve.

Go R and walk close to fence on R and Eyam's Mast comes into view. Arrive at a wall which, has good steps; go forward on good grass, level going to a minute stream, then close to a wall on the R to come to a stile over it.

This lands into a rough area of wet reeds to cross to a bank where there is a good path to the top where there are views over Abney and Eyam Moor. The path leads to a well-worn hard track alongside a wall at 189802. Here stands a green sign with three arms. Go L in several hundred metres along the track, come to another green sign. A little further on is a good step stile and continue walking, wall on R, level going on good grass. To the R the wall goes off downhill, a sign stands here. Follow the track down until a track leads off to the L into heather.

Walk ESE on a good track through heather to a junction of paths and a sign. Walk now over Smelting Hill, pass another green sign and come to Oaks Farm to go around it to a step stile, then follow the wall on the L. get a view of Stoke Ford. Come to a hard far track which leads down to a step stile and a green sign. Cross the road here at 213797, take a stile at a gate, then descend through a field to a stile in a fence and continue, trees on L, along a narrow muddy track to a step stile. Cross a footbridge, go through a gate, cross another footbridge and come to Stoke Ford and a metal sign, No.99 erected in that fateful year of 1939 by the P.D. and N.C. Footpath Society; Pointing the way to Eyam. Do not take it, but walk S alongside Bretton Brook to a wooden stile and a ditch. The good path goes off to Bretton Clough. But do not take it, go L and walk E along a track that goes into a small Clough. Climb out of the Clough on a U-turn, going S, wall on R, climbing all the way to a gate with a stile on its R. level going now to a metal gate with stile on the side, then enter a lane to then bear L. walk Se up the road at 209777. Follow it around to 215774 where a stony track goes R. take this and walk down to Eyam and the start.