






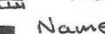
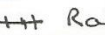


## Heritage Centre New Mills to Lantern Pike Circular

A level walk along the Sett Valley Trail then a moderate climb up to Lantern Pike before returning via Sitch Lane. Mostly paths, farm lanes and fields with some quiet roads and roads with pavements. There are some steps and stiles and it can be muddy after rain. About 7 miles.

1. From the centre turn left down the steps to Torrs Riverside Park. At the bottom of the steps take a look round to the right to see the Millennium Walkway and Torr Vale Mill, home of the Shrub Club and the Cheese Wheel before heading left and walking under the Union Road Viaduct.
2. At the confluence of the rivers Sett and Goyt is the site of Torr Mill and much more recently (2008) Torrs Hydro, a community owned and run power scheme using a reverse Archimedian screw to generate electricity from the rivers.
3. Continue along the path round to the left then cross the river Sett over the stone bridge, immediately turn left then recross the river over the new Torr Top Bridge, turn right and follow the path by the river.
4. Walk up a slight incline, climb the steps straight ahead then turn right, you are now on the route of the old railway (New Mills to Hayfield opened in 1868 closed 1970) which emerged from the tunnel on your left.
5. Walk over the river bridge and under the road bridge, labelled Sett Valley Trail and pass the leisure centre and medical centre on your left. The railway went through this ground and at the far end near the road you can see the arch of the tunnel.
6. Cross the road (Church Lane) and rejoin the trail on the other side. Walk down some steps and turn right onto a zigzag path decorated with a 400' rock snake up to St Georges Road, cross the road and continue the trail on the other side.
7. Stay on the main trail through the woods ignoring all the side paths for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile. Cross the next road (High Hill Road, the return route rejoins the trail here) and continue along the trail.
8. At the white cottage next to a former level crossing carry straight on, the trail reaches a main road after just under half a mile, next to the Sett Valley Cafe.
9. Cross the road and rejoin the trail following it for a short distance before taking a path to the left, signposted Lantern Pike, leading down past Birch Vale Reservoir. Here the route joins the New Mills Parish Boundary path for a while.
10. Cross a bridge then bear right up the grassy field, the narrow path at the top of the field leads up to the road.
11. Turn left on the road, past the hen coops and then follow it sharp right up the hill to join Sitch Lane.
12. Follow the uphill lane on the other side of the road to a gate with a National Trust sign, erosion control diversion signs point to the path up to Lantern Pike summit, a lovely viewpoint.
13. After enjoying the summit views continue on the path, it now heads down to rejoin the lower path, go through the gate and carry on down the hill towards Blackshaw Farm.
14. Near the farm several paths cross; take the left path towards Birch Vale via Wethercotes, keeping the wall on your right, the footpath turns into a stony track leading uphill to a gate.
15. Go through the gate and follow the track, ignoring right turning paths, carry on through Wethercotes Farm to join Sitch Lane.
16. Walk down Sitch Lane and where it joins the main road turn right onto the main road following it down past the Printers Arms to a junction by Thornsett Band Institute.
17. Turn left and where the road crosses the Sett Valley Trail take the right-hand trail gate and follow the trail back to New Mills.

Sett Valley Trail, Birch Vale  
Lantern Pike and Thornsett

**KEY**

-  River
-  Road
-  Sett Valley Trail (SVT)
-  Line of walk off SVT
-  Other minor footpaths
-  National Trust sign & Gate
-  Named buildings
-  Railway
-  Reservoir

Scale  
1/2 mile

