

HINCASTER TRAILWAY

The Hincaster Branch line used to form part of the Furness Railway in South Cumbria and the rails were removed in 1966.

However, old railway lines can have a new lease of life and lend themselves particularly well to safe traffic free routes for use on foot, cycle or horseback and also suitable for mobility scooters and wheel chairs.

The Hincaster Trailway Group is a community based support group, which hopes to see the old branch line developed into a local resource and maintained in perpetuity.

The new Trailway will offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy the rich diversity of plants, insects and birdlife and, by encouraging safe public access, this route will benefit the whole community.

How can I help? You can join the Hincaster Trailway Group and receive regular updates on progress. Membership is free and you will have the opportunity to take part in our calendar of events and help with the development of the route.

For more details contact the Secretary -

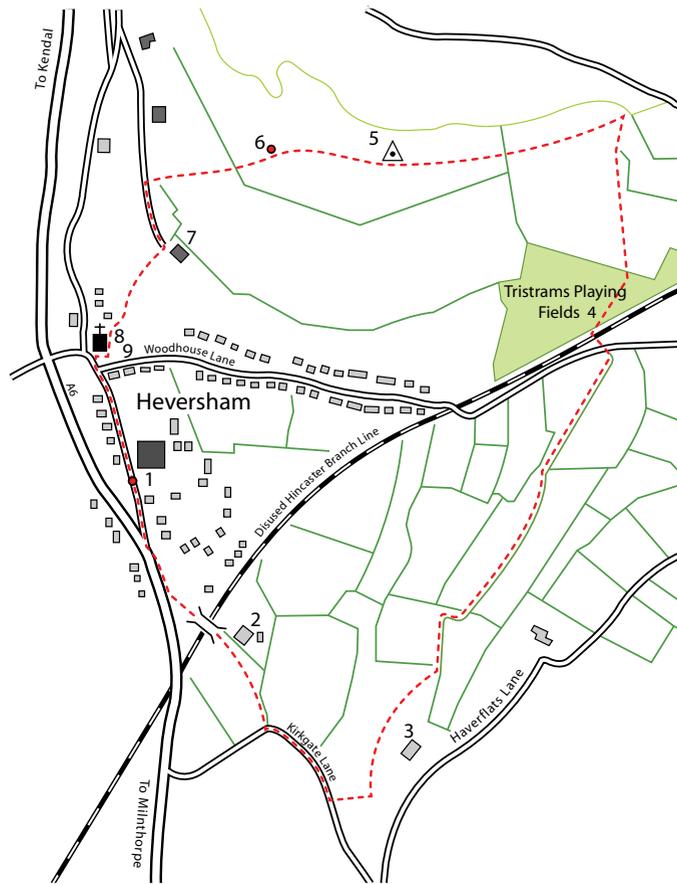
Bridget Pickthall T 015395 61243

or visit

www.hincastertrailway.co.uk

Remember The Hincaster Trailway Code

- Plan your route and dress for the British weather and possibly muddy conditions.
- Leave gates as you find them. All bridle gates should be closed.
- Please keep dogs under control at all times.
- Protect animals and plants and take your litter home.
- Take care crossing roads and walking along verges.
- Respect other people.



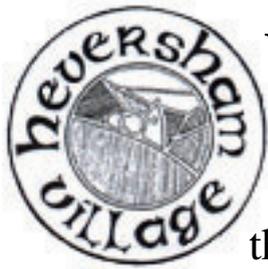
1. Dallam School
2. Horncop House
3. Lower Haverflatts
4. Tristrams Playing Fields
5. Trig Point
6. Diarama
7. Old Grammar School
8. St Peter's Church
9. Woodhouse Lane



The HEVERSHAM Trail

A
3 mile
ramble
through the parish
of
Heversham





We hope you enjoy the *Heversham Trail*, a three mile ramble through the Parish of **Heversham.**

The village has the only name in Cumbria still recognisable in use from the Dark Ages. Our walk begins on the main village road outside **Dallam School**, home to 120 residential boarders from over a dozen countries. Follow the footway in front of the school and continue south along the A6 to the footpath to the left signposted *Kirkgate Lane*. Maps from 1816 show this as an ancient footpath, which takes you through the field and over a bridge crossing the disused railway line which ran from Hincaster to Arnside. The line operated from 1876 to 1963 and was served by Heversham Station which was opened in 1890. Continue over the bridge. Ahead is **Horncop House** built in 1900 by J F Curwen, a celebrated local historian.



During the Second World War, Horncop House was used as a billet for evacuees. Go through the kissing gate on the right, turn left and follow the line of the hedge to the top of the hill, hold that line down to the stile onto *Kirkgate Lane*. Turn left on the lane and continue until you take the footpath on the left signposted *Woodhouse*, through the pinch stile into the field. Follow the footpath keeping **Lower Haverflatts** on your right. The name Haverflatts means 'oat- farm' in Norse, a reminder of the Viking invaders from 900AD.

Follow the footpath markers across the fields through a pinch stile, over a ladder stile, another pinch stile and over a high stone stile, from where there is a fine view across Morecambe Bay behind you.



Aim for the solitary tree straight ahead and hold that line to the far hedge where there is a pinch stile onto *Woodhouse Lane*. Turn left on the lane, then right following the footpath signposted - *Leasgil via Heversham Head*, at this point the route re-crosses the bed of the disused Hincaster Branch railway. Through the kissing gate, keep right to skirt **Tristrams Playing Field**, one of the remaining traditional school sports facilities in Cumbria.



Through another kissing gate follow the footpath straight on until you reach a pinch stile. Do not go through this stile but turn left and proceed to the gate at the top of the field. Through the gate, keep climbing to the highest point of Heversham Head where you will find the **Trig Point** marking 123 metres above sea level. Pause for breath and on a clear day, enjoy the magnificent view across Heversham Parish, Morecambe Bay, the Lake District, Lancashire, North Yorkshire and beyond.



Continue your line of travel and as you start the descent, you will pass the **Diarama** built by the village to commemorate the Millennium.



Continue through the kissing gate below and follow the fence on the right to the next kissing gate. Walk down the winding path through the wood turn left at the junction through the gate by the cattle grid, sign posted *Heversham*.

Straight ahead is the **Old Grammar School** founded in 1613 by Edward Wilson for the promotion of 'godliness and good learning'.

Other studies included country pursuits but times have changed since cock fighting was on the curriculum ! Turn right through the pinch stile and follow the footpath to **St Peter's Church**, dating from the 12th Century this is one of the oldest Churches in Westmorland. As you enter the Church yard look out for the enclosed grave on the left belonging to the Swindlehurst Family who survived sailing round Cape Horn in 1855 and returned to Hincaster House in 1859 after visiting Peru. Respectfully follow the footpath through the Churchyard and out through the lych gate. At the junction look to your left, up **Woodhouse Lane**, the white cottage on the left was originally The Eagle and Child Inn, visited by Colonel Budworth and described in "A Fortnights Ramble in the Lakes" 1795. Continue to **Dallam School** to complete the circuit.

For more detailed walks around the area refer to Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL7 and, if you are feeling adventurous, remember Land's End and John O'Groats are both only 418 miles from Heversham!

