

Village & Country Walks



BURGH^{BY}SANDS

Burgh by Sands Village *points of interest.*



THE FOLLOWING POINTS of interest cover the village of Burgh by Sands and surrounding areas.

The War Memorial.

Burgh by Sands war memorial is in the new cemetery to the North side of the road, opposite St. Michael's church.

This memorial, which has a two step base, plinth and tapered staff topped by a Celtic cross, was purchased from public subscription and unveiled in October 1921.

The front, as you approach, and two side faces are inscribed in the memory of 16 named servicemen who gave their lives during the so called Great War of 1914-18.

The nine local servicemen who fell during the Second World, 1939-45, were, until 2009, remembered on a second memorial, an incised bronze plaque in a carved wood frame, which is in St. Michael's church. These names were transcribed to the rear face of the primary memorial, which was then re-dedicated in November 2009.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

St. Michael's Church.

12th Century and built from stones sourced from Hadrian's Wall and the Roman Fort, on the site which the church stands. It is unique in having two towers. King Edward I lay in State in 1307, after his death on Burgh Marsh.

The fortified west tower was used as a place of refuge during the Border Raids.

During the 17th and 18th centuries local children were taught in the church's vestry.

There is a three bay arcade of pointed arches, on octagonal columns and the north aisle has stained glass windows representing northern saints and King Edward I.

St. Mary's Church - Beaumont.

This Norman church was constructed on the site of a Roman milecastle, largely using stones

from the Roman Wall. The church yard commands fine views north to the Solway and Scotland, east to the Pennines and south to the Lake District. The porch is Arts and Crafts period and the simply styled interior is well worth a visit.

The Roman Occupation.

This part of the Solway Plain was the location of a number of Roman military encampments used to guard nearby river fords frequented by northern raiding parties.

Within Burgh by Sands parish there is evidence of two forts which pre-date Hadrian's command, possibly dating to AD 79.

The village name, Aballava to the Romans, and chronologically Burch (c.1180), Burg en le Sands (c.1292) and now Burgh by Sands, derives from the Old English 'burh' meaning stronghold - the later names also referring to the Roman fort(s) having been located amongst the sand dunes.

The western end of Hadrian's wall, including the section through Burgh, was originally constructed (c.AD122) using turf with stone mile-castles.

Later it was rebuilt in stone; turret 71B being demolished to allow a fort to be built astride the wall slightly to the north of St. Michael's church. The southern defence ditch, or vallum, was built at the same time. The wall and fortifications were later plundered for stone to build houses, farm buildings and local churches, including St. Michael's.

Today, above ground in this village, there is little evidence of Hadrian's wall and associated vallum. The wall ran just to the North and the vallum approximately 100 metres to the south of the main street through Burgh by Sands.

Clay Houses.

In Burgh by Sands village and surrounding area clay built houses, known locally as clay dabbins, survive from as early as the middle ages. Usually long houses, this type of building provided homes for the majority of Solway people for the best part of 1000 years.

The clay house building technique was developed by Vikings who, when expelled from Dublin in the 9th. Century, settled on the Solway Plain. As there was a scarcity of wood and suitable stone they adapted a building technique then used in Scandinavia. Cobbles from the river were used to form a base that supported a type of wooden 'A' frame, or cruck, to carry a thatched roof and walls, built using a mixture of straw, reeds and clay mixed with sand.

Many good examples of clay dabbins can be seen in Burgh by Sands, including Cross Farm and Fauld Farm. Lamonby Farm and Edna's Cottage both retain thatched roofs.



LAMONBY FARM

Tatie Pot Alley.

Tatie pot is a Cumbrian version of stew that originally tended to be a dish for communal eating in the winter maybe at a village get-together or society celebration.

There are numerous variations of the hearty and popular Tatie pot but it was primarily of lamb, black pudding and potatoes (taties).

Tatie Pot Alley was used as a short cut from Main Road near White Row through the village to North End. The name derives from the fact that there was a public bake house on waste land adjacent to North End where villagers could take their bread and tatie pots to be cooked for a small charge.

The communal bake house was demolished in the 1950's to be replaced by a telephone exchange.

The Public Hall.

The Public Hall was opened in 1894 and managed for 28 years by Burgh Public Hall Company Limited; no record of how it was originally funded has been found.

In January 1923 the company was voluntarily wound-up but one month later a

Board of Trustees was formed for the future management of the Hall. The current constitution was compiled in 1965 and the Hall then granted charitable status.

The car-park behind the Hall was created during 1965 following the acquisition of additional land.

As was common across the country, the village school(s) had no facility for providing lunches so up to the early 1960's pupils walked to the Parish Hall for lunch.

The Hall continues to provide a meeting and entertainment centre for the community.



PUBLIC HALL

The Village Green and Wildlife Area.

The Village Green and adjoining Wildlife Area are at the centre of the village.

This public amenity was conceived during the 1980's and became part of the Burgh by Sands Parish plan, compiled in 2003.

The existing grazing land was purchased with money donated by local people.

The redesign was agreed in consultation with, and the implementation achieved with, energetic and enthusiastic support from the community.

The land adjacent to the road was filled, levelled and grassed to form the Village Green, with the front wall being rebuilt to closely replicate the style of the original wall but with added access gates. Story Construction Ltd undertook creation of the Green, surrounding footpaths and wall rebuild.

The land behind and to the West of the Public House was landscaped to create a Wildlife Area that includes a re-profiled stream, dry and

damp meadow areas and a pond, all of which have been planted with native species.

Much of the planting was completed by children of the village.

Funding for the development mostly came from the Heritage Lottery and Big Lottery funds.

The Village Green and Wildlife area maintains, opens and enhances the green space that existed within the village whilst creating a valuable recreation and wildlife resource for the public to enjoy into the future.

Watch Hill and the Jacobite Rebellion

Burgh's coastline has been a hive of illegal activity over the centuries from the raging Reivers to the movement of contraband!

Watch Hill, the highest point locally, just to the west of the village was used as a 'look-out' since pre-Roman times.

The most famous person to cross the Solway Firth was Bonnie Prince Charlie at the start of the Jacobite Rebellion in 1745, staying at the 'Stonehouse' in nearby Moorhouse.



BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE

Disused Canal/Railway.

The 11½ mile Carlisle Navigation Canal between Carlisle and the village of Fishers Cross, later renamed Port Carlisle, was opened in March 1823. This canal, having 8 locks and being 18 feet wide, was used to handle goods mostly from Liverpool. Typically the sea and canal journey from Liverpool to Carlisle took 1 day.

This canal was beset with problems, the harbour at Port Carlisle was tidal and the building of a viaduct at Bowness on Solway caused Port Carlisle to quickly silt up, so was financially not viable.

By Act of Parliament the canal was closed in August 1853 and converted to a railway which opened in May 1854, this connecting with steamer services to Liverpool.

In 1856 a railway extension was built from Drumburgh to Silloth where a deep water harbour was under construction. The branch line to Port Carlisle closed in 1932.

Following completion of the Silloth rail extension, the Liverpool steamer service was moved to Silloth. Thereafter Silloth developed as a resort and the rail line became increasingly popular with visitors from Scotland, Carlisle and West Cumberland as well as providing a connecting service for local people and a method of transport for farmers' livestock and produce.

In 1883 the line carried 8,000 passengers, in one day, to the Barony Races at Burgh by Sands which celebrated the accession of a new Lord of the Manor.

The Silloth to Carlisle line was closed in 1964 as part of British Railways rationalisation under Lord Beeching.

The canal/railway line ran roughly parallel to and 200 metres to the South of Main Street through Burgh by Sands. The village station is now a private dwelling; otherwise the bridge at West End, is the only obvious sign of a canal and railway having run through Burgh by Sands.

Local Flora and Fauna

The birds, animals and plants that you are likely to see, will be dependent upon the time of the year, weather conditions and, on some walks, the state of the tide.

The Solway coast is designated as an 'area of outstanding natural beauty' which attracts many seasonal migratory birds, like barnacle geese.

The salt marshes and mudflats of the Solway Firth are the third largest in the UK and are recognised as a Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The local grass is equally famous as it provided the turf for the old Wembley stadium, plus the grasses provide the locally reared lamb with a distinctive taste!

If you are interested in finding out more about the local flora and fauna, the Roman occupation, Edward I and Anglo-Scottish border disputes, the Border Reivers, the Jacobite Rebellion or the local railway and canal why not visit Tullie House museum in Carlisle - 01228 618718.



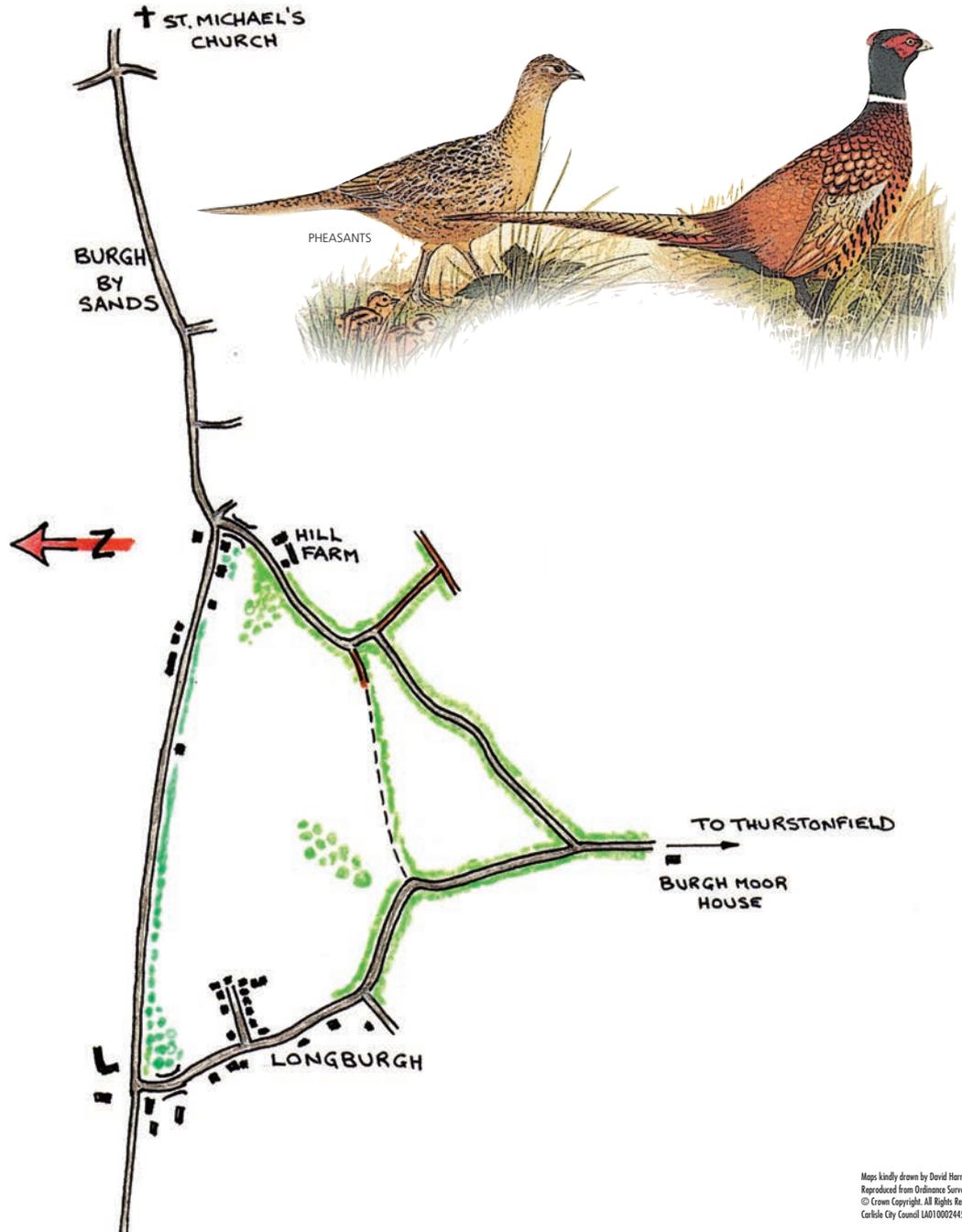
DRAGONFLY

ROUTE 1: Longburgh and Burgh by Sands Triangle.

This route description of a circa 2 mile road walk assumes a start and return at the western road junction within Burgh by Sands village, close to West End and The Hill. The route is all on hard surfaced, mostly minor, roads and is proposed as suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs etc. Stout walking shoes or trainers would be suitable.



FIELD MUSHROOM





FROM THE 4 WAY junction (West-end Croft/Thurstonfield)

at the western end of Burgh by Sands go west along the road towards Drumburgh passing 'The Stackyard' on your right.

You will then pass a number of properties mostly on the right side of the road before the road starts to drop towards Burgh Marsh on entering an avenue of trees. With 'Dykesfield House' set back on a gated drive on the right, reach a road junction signed to Longburgh and Thurstonfield. (1.12 kilometres this section)

NOTE: On the right of the road junction there is a restored Cumberland County Council cast iron directions post complete with its Dykesfield location 'crown'.

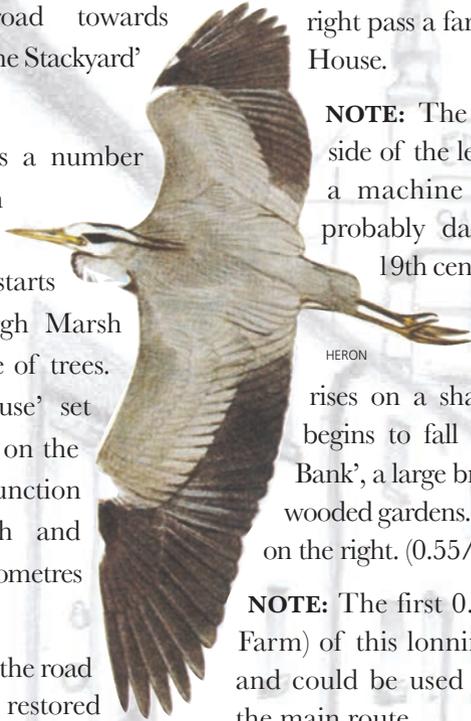
Turn left at the junction, taking care across the road.

NOTE: The bridge was built, circa 1820, to span the Carlisle Navigation Canal that ran between Port Road, Carlisle and Port Carlisle, a distance of 11 miles. In 1853 the canal was closed and subsequently superseded by a railway laid in the canal bed.

Burgh by Sands Coastguard Station can be seen over the right hand parapet.

Head into Longburgh, on your right pass a farm, then Longburgh House.

NOTE: The barn to the north side of the left road junction has a machine belt drive pulley, probably dating from the late 19th century, projecting from its wall.



HERON

The road slowly rises on a shallow left bend and begins to fall as you pass 'Beech Bank', a large brick built house set in wooded gardens. Pass Shield Lonning on the right. (0.55/1.67 km so far)

NOTE: The first 0.7 km (up to Shield Farm) of this lonning is hard surfaced and could be used as an extension to the main route.

The road bears left, between marshy fields, then sharp right (take care!!) and uphill.

NOTE: The footpath on the left leads towards Hill Farm and could be used by walkers to short cut the main route.

Nearing the crest of the hill turn left at the road junction signed Burgh by Sands. The road meanders and undulates, later narrowing, to eventually reach an S bend (please take care!!).

NOTE: The lonning in the left bend could be used by pedestrians as an alternative route, via Station Cottage, to the centre of Burgh by Sands. The lonning in the second bend is from Longburgh.

Continue to pass The Hill farm, then over a canal/railway bridge to rejoin the start point. (1.6/3.38 km total)



'GEORDIE' SOLDIERS HELP OVERCOME JACOBITE REBELLION IN 1745

SAFETY NOTE:

On public roads having no pavement it is generally recommended that pedestrians walk on the right hand side of the road – facing oncoming traffic. An exception to this rule might be in 'blind' right hand bends where it could be preferable to walk on the left side of the road, making it easier to be seen by oncoming traffic.

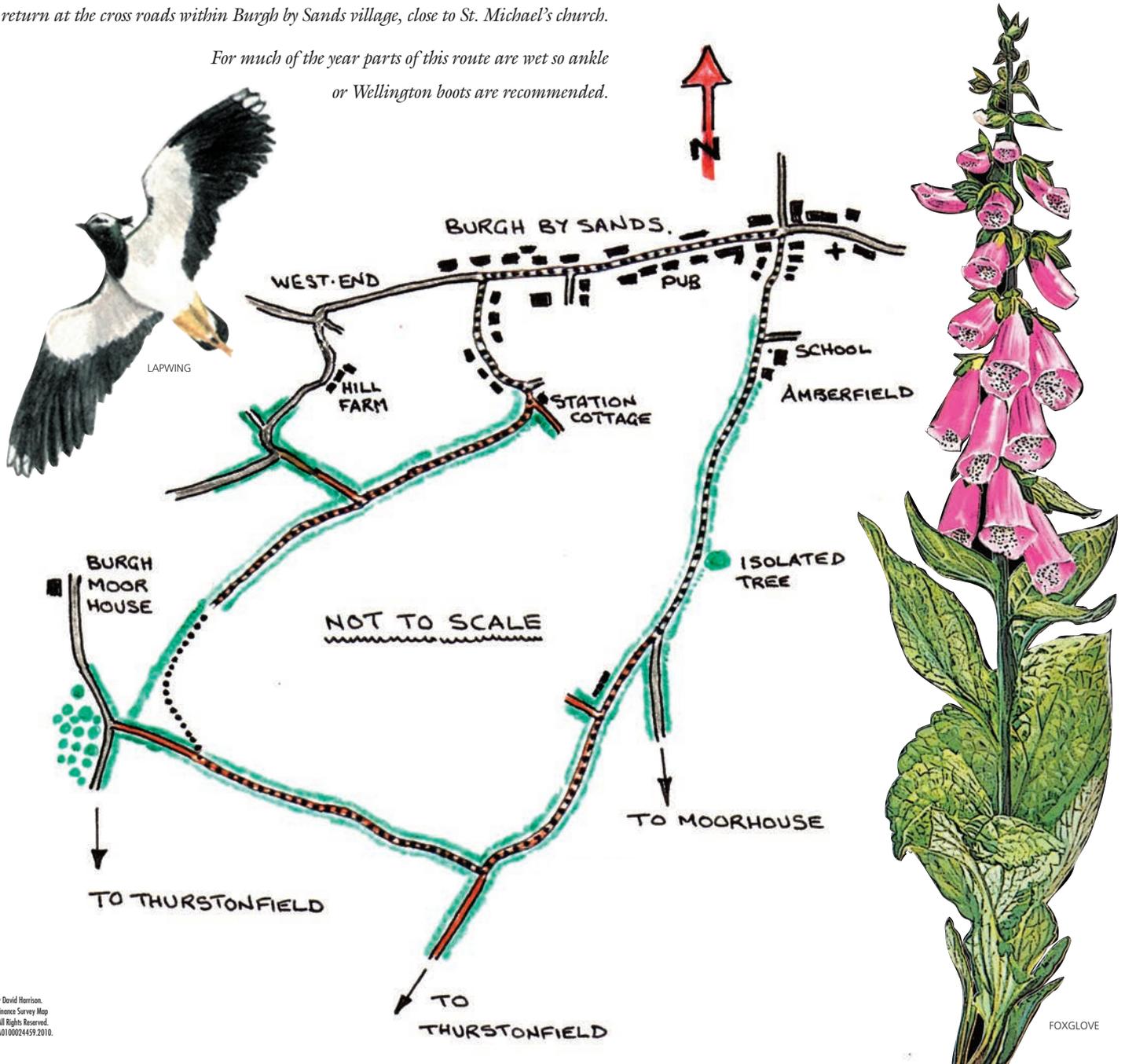


WILD BUTTERCUP

ROUTE 2: Burgh by Sands and Thurstonfield Triangle.

This description of a circa 3.0 mile walk assumes a start and return at the cross roads within Burgh by Sands village, close to St. Michael's church.

For much of the year parts of this route are wet so ankle or Wellington boots are recommended.





WALK SOUTH (190°) from the cross-roads on the Moorhouse road passing the Primary School on the left. Continue on the road to pass an isolated tree in the left hedge.

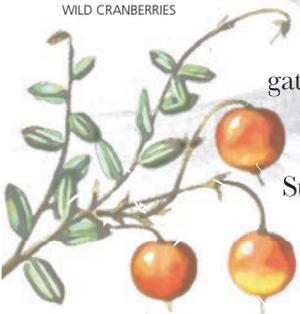
When the road begins to lose height bear right onto a byway towards Thurstonfield (initially 200°). (1.1 km this section)

Pass the first track on the right then after a pronounced right bend, enter the second track on the right towards Burgh Moor, marked with a finger post. (0.8 km / 1.9 km so far)

Continue (initially 290°) on this narrower track to reach and cross a stile, with finger post, into a field on the right. Near the highest point on this track good views to the Solway coast, Dumfries and Galloway, can be seen over a gate in the right hedge. (0.75 km / 2.65 km)

Cross the field, in the same general direction, (initially 320°) towards the second tree in the boundary hedge. Close to the tree, bear right (towards North) with the hedge to your left.

WILD CRANBERRIES



In the field corner reach a gateway (the eastern end of the village, North End and St. Michael's church is clearly visible when looking half right). (0.2 km / 2.85 km)

Head through the gateway and along a track to pass an adjoining track on the left (which goes towards The Hill farm). If the ground is very wet an alternative, drier route can be followed here - *see panel.**

Reach a high stile to join an overgrown track (muddy in places) leading to a double stile (again with no way through for dogs).

Cross both stiles and continue on the path, which becomes progressively clearer, later with a water filled ditch on the right to reach a lonnin at Station Cottage. (1.2 km / 4.05 km)

Turn left on this lonnin (initially bearing 280°) to reach and continue ahead into St. Lawrence Lane.

At the T junction turn right onto the main road through Burgh by Sands (initially bearing 30°). Soon cross to the left side of the road to continue on the footpath.



HEDGEHOG



WOODLAND FUNGI

WHITE LADY BUTTERFLY

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE:

Turn left into the track towards The Hill farm.

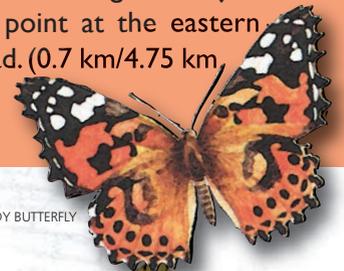
Turn right onto the road, keeping to the right hand side of the road, to pass The Hill farm.

Continue over the canal/railway bridge to reach the main road through Burgh by Sands at West-End.

Bear right, cross to the continuous pavement on the left side of the road.

Shortly pass St. Lawrence Lane.

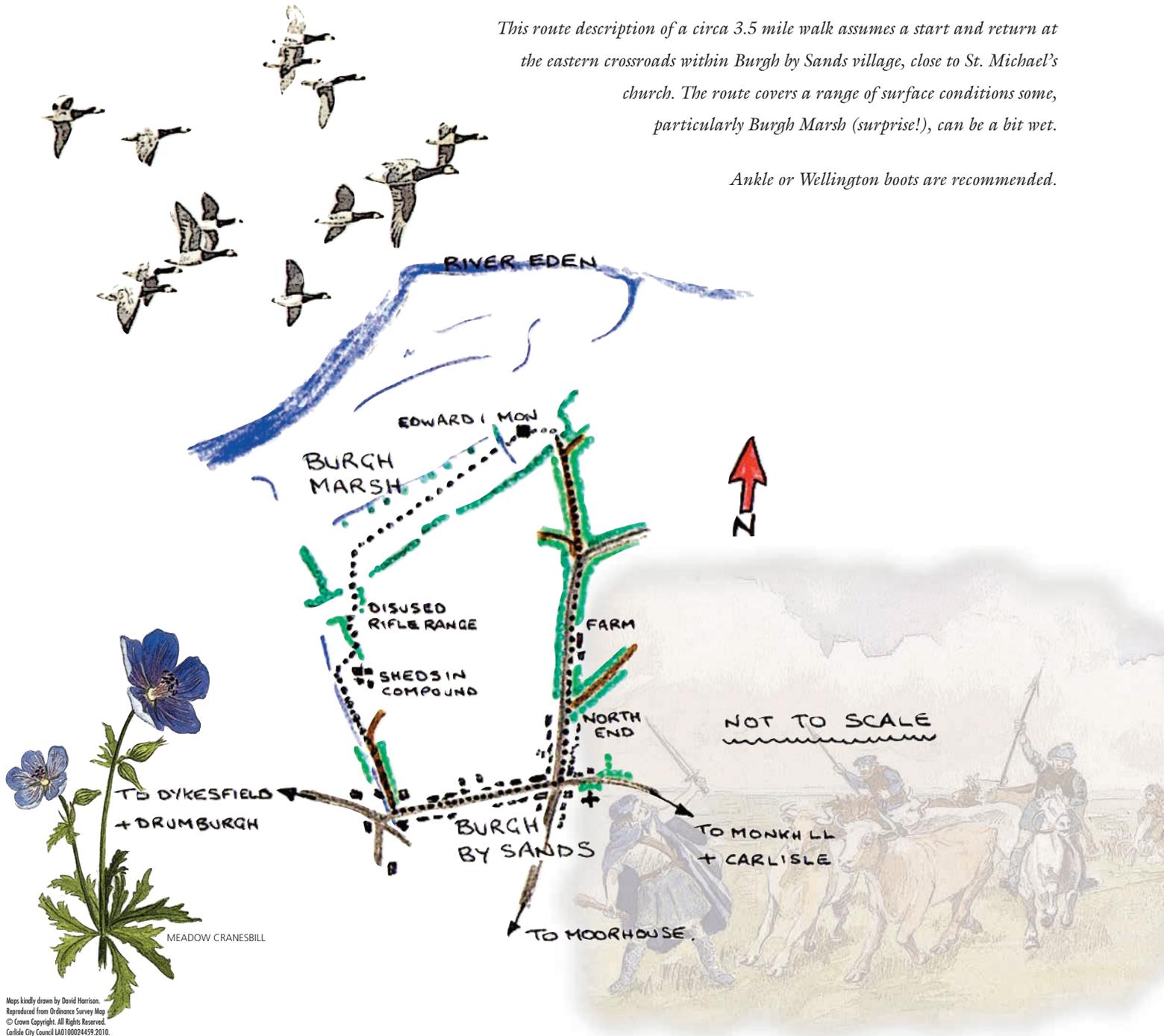
Pass (or not) The Greyhound Inn on the right and Fauld Farm on the left, another example of clay dabbling construction, gaining height through the village to rejoin the starting point at the eastern crossroad. (0.7 km / 4.75 km total).



ROUTE 3: Burgh by Sands, the Edward I Monument and Burgh Marsh.

This route description of a circa 3.5 mile walk assumes a start and return at the eastern crossroads within Burgh by Sands village, close to St. Michael's church. The route covers a range of surface conditions some, particularly Burgh Marsh (surprise!), can be a bit wet.

Ankle or Wellington boots are recommended.





FROM BURGH BY SANDS crossroads go north through North End. Once out of the village continue on the road to pass a lonnin and then farm on the right.

Where the road turns sharp right continue ahead onto a wide track and shortly pass to the right of a grass triangle on the track towards Edward I monument.

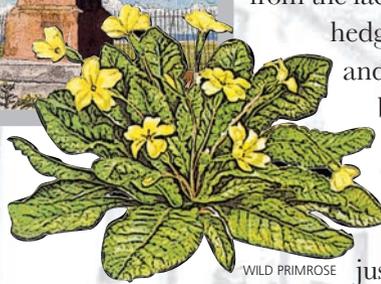
Continue downhill to a stile beside a gateway and ahead, across a narrow marshy field, to a stile and finger post in the hedge. Cross the stile, a footbridge and second stile to reach Burgh Marsh. (1.8 km this section)

Turn left half left (280°) to approach the right side of Edward I monument.

NOTE: the marsh is ridged with slight ditches generally parallel to the required direction – to avoid wetter ground it is best to walk along the top of a hump, in the general direction of the monument.

On reaching the monument, turn left (210°) heading just to the left of a line of low gorse bushes, about 150 metres further on. There is an indistinct track (made by the local stockman's quad bike) which goes in the required direction; near the gorse bushes the track becomes more obvious and forms a 'bridge' across a wide dyke.

EDWARD I MONUMENT



WILD PRIMROSE

Continue in the same general direction (230°) for about 1 km (0.7 mile). It is best to keep mid-way between the marsh boundary hedge to the left (South) and a line of isolated gorse bushes (that grow on a low bank) to the right.

You will be facing towards a boundary hedge that juts out into the marsh.

Turn left when you are roughly an equal distance from the facing hedge, the hedge to the left and the gorse bushes on the right.

There is a gate and stile just to the left of a gap in the hedge through which sloping grass fields can be seen. Walk towards the stile. (1.5/3.25 km so far)

Reach a wooden walkway, through a kissing gate, over the stile. Keeping to the field edge, turn left then right going uphill with the hedge on your left.

Over the brow, reach a small cattle pen then a gate with stile, on the left side, just beyond the disused Rifle Range butts.

Cross the stile then turn right along a wide track for a short distance (avoiding rough wet ground near the field right edge) towards a gate and some buildings; look for a stile mid-way along the right-hand hedge.

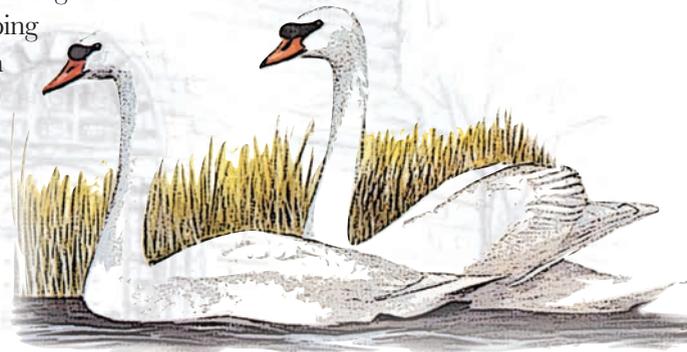
Cross to the stile, a footbridge (**MIND YOUR HEAD** on the overhanging oak tree!) and a second stile. Go diagonally, half left (190°), across the field to pass through a gate.

Continue on the track (150°) and if necessary use the right hand bank (to avoid poor underfoot conditions) alongside a stream filled ditch.

Pass to the right of a compound with buildings, continuing close to the stream.

Join a surfaced track and continue, passing the sewerage works, to reach the main road through Burgh by Sands at West End. (1.4/4.6 km)

Turn left to walk uphill through the village, passing (or not) the Greyhound pub on the right, to rejoin the starting point at the eastern cross-road. (0.9/5.5 km total)

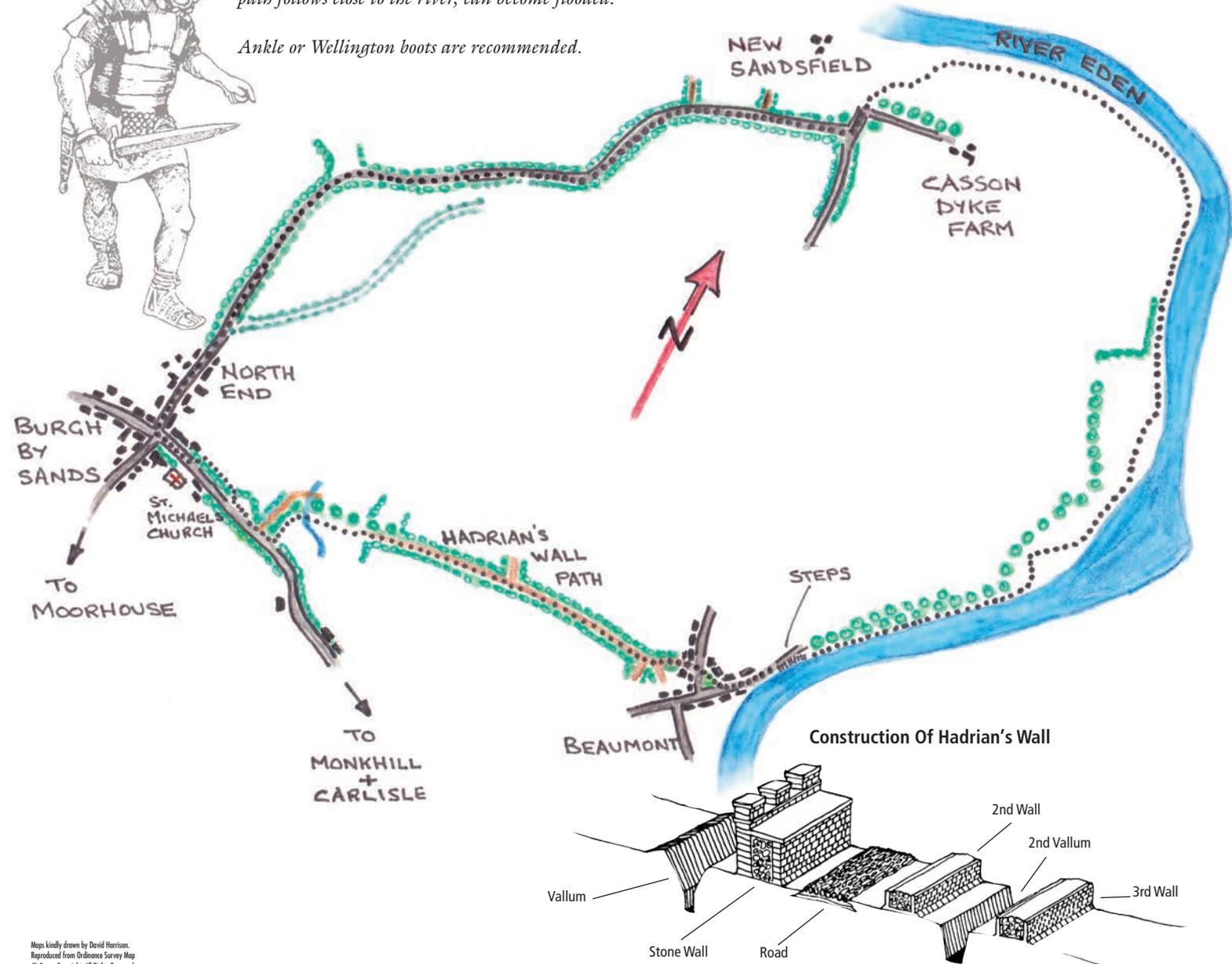


MUTE SWANS

ROUTE 4: Burgh by Sands, Beaumont, the river Eden and Sandsfield.

This 7 mile route is comparatively dry except when the river Eden is high then some sections, where the path follows close to the river, can become flooded.

Ankle or Wellington boots are recommended.





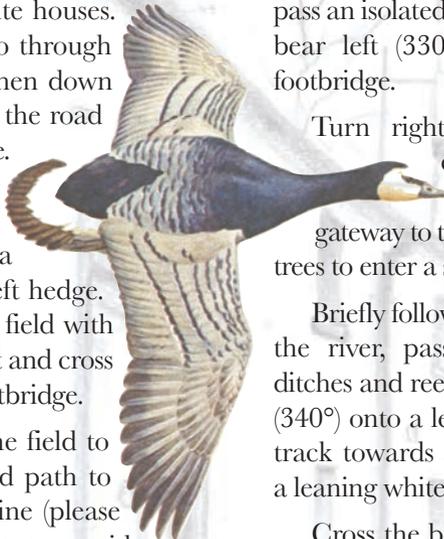
TO BEGIN, THE ROUTE follows Hadrian's Wall Path to Beaumont.

From the crossroads in Burgh by Sands go East (100°) on the right side of the road (where sensible, face oncoming traffic!) towards Carlisle passing St. Michael's church to reach white houses. Cross the road to go through a kissing gate and then down a field, parallel with the road to another kissing gate. Continue along the road soon to reach and pass through a kissing gate in the left hedge. Continue across the field with the hedge on the left and cross the double gated footbridge.

Head (80°) up the field to follow a way-marked path to the right of a tree line (please observe the request to avoid following existing tracks and for groups not to walk in line). Near the top of the field pass between trees to the kissing gate, head on the track ignoring a turn to the left and to the farm entrances on the right to reach the road in Beaumont. (2.1 km this section)

Turn right (Cumbrian Coastal path) for a few metres then swing left, to the North side of the grass triangle (finger post Hadrian's Wall path), to go down a road.

Continue on the road, bearing left past the first kissing gate (to Kirkandrews), to reach and pass through the second kissing gate, signed Sandsfield, in the right hedge.



BARNACLE GOOSE

Go down steps to reach the river Eden then continue on a path under trees along the river bank (beware that some sections of the path, close to the river, are eroding).

Shortly after crossing a stile the path widens into a water meadow. (0.85 km/3.1 km so far). Continue close to the river, pass an isolated tree in the river bank, then bear left (330°) to reach and cross a footbridge.

Turn right, briefly beside a deep channel, then along the river bank to pass through a gateway to the left of a clump of stunted trees to enter a second water meadow.

Briefly follow a distinct track, parallel to the river, passing water filled shallow ditches and reed beds on the left. Bear left (340°) onto a lesser, but still quite distinct, track towards a footbridge marked with a leaning white post.

Cross the bridge then bear right, with the water filled channel on the right, shortly continuing ahead (320°) to cross the next footbridge.

Half right (20°) to cross a further footbridge then continue with a fence on the right to cross another footbridge, over a fence stile to continue on the river bank.

Over a footbridge, pass a water filled depression, then back over the fence at the next stile. Continue with the fence on the right to cross the fence, yet again, just before the meadow boundary hedge.



BLACKBERRIES

NOTE: The next 200 metres, or so, can be flooded and difficult to negotiate when the river is high.

Turn left to continue along the river bank with the fence on the left past two fields. Once the bank opens out, continue along a sometimes indistinct, and sometimes water logged path, following the general line of the fence on the left.



COMMON FROG

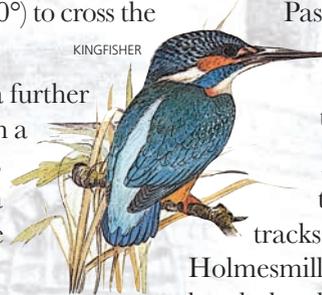
Continue in the same direction over three further footbridges to reach a fence with a stile (no way through for dogs) midway between the river and the fence on the left. (3 km/6.1 km)

Bear half left (220°) across the water meadow towards a footbridge, then half right to another footbridge. Continue, half left, following way-marking posts on a slightly raised bank towards a metal farm gate in the nearby tree line.

Pass through the kissing gate, on the left side of a farm gate, to continue ahead (180°) on the roadway. (0.5 km/6.6 km)

At the road junction turn right to continue on the road passing tracks to New Sandsfield and Holmesmill Farm, then around the left bend, shortly followed by a right curve.

After another 1/2 mile bear left with the road, then uphill to rejoin Burgh by Sands village at North End, continue to rejoin the starting point at the eastern crossroad in Burgh by Sands. (3.9 km/10.5 km total).



KINGFISHER



Please park responsibly and have suitable footwear/clothing.
(Some areas can be wet and muddy).

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY 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.

This leaflet has been produced by Burgh by Sands Tourism and Heritage Group.

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