

## Points of Interest

### Stocksmoor

Stocksmoor was a small community of farms, sandstone quarries and the Clothiers Arms Inn until well into the 20th century. It was only towards the end of the 1900s that dozens of new houses were added to the area to create the village that exists today.

### Thurstonland

In the Domesday book of 1086 Thurstonland was mentioned as Tostenland or 'Thorstein's Land'. The area was known for not only farming but also for mining. Thurstonland Brick and Stone Works, initially known as Thurstonland Quarries & Brick Works, was reportedly opened to provide bricks to line the nearby tunnels on the Huddersfield and Sheffield Junction Railway.

**Brockholes** traces its history back to the Middle Ages. A name which is generally accepted to mean 'badger (Brock), hole. Fitting very much to the character of this immediate locality, which is a deep woody ravine, where the badger and other wild animals in former ages might find shelter and security.

Brockholes village is dominated by a huge rock outcrop, which in 1870 gave the name Rock Mills to the nearby textile mill which manufactured high-class worsted cloth. The mill was demolished in 1975. The directors of the mill built two terraces of sturdy stone back-to-back houses for employees, aptly named Rock Terrace and Rock Cottages.

## Overview of Walk

The railway uses the 1631 yard Thurstonland Tunnel to facilitate a descent into the Holme Valley. We climb gradually, crossing fields and pathways to Thurstonland Village then descend deeply to Brockholes Station.

### Route Step 4 - Stoop Post

★ A replacement Guide Post or 'Stoop' on the route is an example of many ordered along hilltop roads from 1697 onwards to guide travellers who could easily lose their way in misty moorland weather.

### PLATEWAY (Top of the Hill)

This well-constructed path is known as a plateway because it is constructed not only with cobbles for traction for horses but 'plates'- smooth flagstones to reduce friction for cart wheels. It was used to transport coal and bricks. Look out for the Thurstonland Brick built into the wall.

### Amenities

**The Clothiers Arms, Stocksmoor** - A traditional pub with a decking area for the summer and open fire for winter months.

**The Rose & Crown, Thurstonland** - Traditional pub in the heart of Thurstonland with real ales and daily food offers. N.B. Annual Thurstonland Scarecrow Trail in June.

*\* Please check for opening times and availability prior to your visit. Information correct at time of print.*

Scan the QR code to view Penistone Line Partnership's linktree to all our social media.



Our funders who made the design and publication of the Penistone Line Trail guides possible are CrossCountry, through their Community Engagement Fund, and Community Rail Network through their Community Rail Development Fund.



The train operator for the Penistone Line is Northern.



Penistone Line Partnership has endeavoured to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within the trail guides and reserves the right to revise and update the contents without obligation to notify any person of such changes. Despite every effort to the contrary, errors, omissions or discrepancies may have occurred in preparation of the guides, and Penistone Line Partnership assumes no liability for loss or damages incurred due in part or in whole to such errors. All contents of the Penistone Line Trail Guides in printed and digital formats are © Penistone Line Partnership 2023.



THE PENISTONE LINE TRAIL



# Stocksmoor to Brockholes

Walk 12 - 2.5 miles / 4 km



ROUTE PDFs



TRAIN TIMES



BUY TICKETS



## Route Guidance

- 1 From Stocksmoor Station turn left to walk up to Station Road, turn left and cross the rail bridge.
- 2 At the crossroads continue straight on along Fulstone Road for twenty yards.
- 3 Turn right on a signed public footpath between gardens. The path swings left and over a wooden stile. Cross a field, through a squeeze stile between a wooden fence and a wall to the right. Keep straight on past houses, over a stone step stile with a stream to your left. The path is walled either side as it reaches another squeeze stile to continue in the same direction, (ignore the squeeze stile to your right).

- 4 Go through into a field and keep straight on to another stone stile. Over this, turn diagonally left across the next field to a large stone marker & stone stepstile.

Continue on the path towards the large oak tree, through two more fields to reach Ings Head Lane (public footpath sign).

- 5 Turn left and immediately right onto Halstead Lane, passing Lower Halstead Farm on your left.
- 6 The road rises to Upper Halstead where you turn right onto Haw Cliff Lane. Follow the lane past two seats to arrive at Manor House Farm in Thurstonland village.
- 7 Turn left here passing the Rose and Crown to begin the descent of Thurstonland Bank towards the Holme Valley (fine views ahead to Meltham Moor).

- 8 200 yards down the bank turn right onto a track signed Top of the Hill (public footpath sign). Follow it between the houses.

Past the last house, descend a paved track between walls to a stile next to a gate. Descend the field to a kissing gate to the right of a field gate.

Enter the wood and follow the wall on your left keeping straight ahead. (Ignore another kissing gate to the left). At the bottom a railway footbridge is reached on the right but not crossed. It does however offer a good view of the Thurstonland tunnel portal. Maintain direction on a path alongside the railway, passing through a subway under the line to continue next to the track and emerge in Brockholes Lane near the station.

- 9 Turn left under the railway bridge and right onto Ridings Field to reach Brockholes Station on your right.

