

THURSDAY 7 AUGUST AT 6.30PM

Huddersfield’s Waterways – From Industry to Nature

Meet: River footbridge at Junction of Damside Rd and Queens Mill Rd, HD1 3RR, near Timber Specialists. Car parking available along Damside Rd

Join EPIKS (Environmental Projects in Kirklees) and Huddersfield Canal Society on a circular walk to find out about the history of the Huddersfield canals and River Colne, including the Snow Island weir from the Chair of the Canal Society. Also about current work by EPIKS to enhance habitats along the river, improving the natural environment for people and wildlife in and near Huddersfield Town Centre. A short, easy walk alongside the river and canal (1-2 miles) but involves some steps and uneven ground.

SUNDAY 17 AUGUST AT 2.30PM

Colne Valley Cloth: Milnsbridge

Meet: On the corner of Market Street and Scar Lane, Milnsbridge, HD3 4PE (by Aldi Supermarket)

Milnsbridge was once world renown for producing fancy woollen textiles, and home to around 13 woollen mills, together with associated trades; dyeworks, ironworks and chemical works. Join Julie Mahoney on a walk through the village and along the canal towpath. Exploring some of the fine examples of former textile mills, discover the Luddite connection and a former small weaving factory built c1840. This is a linear walk finishing on the canal at Ramsden Mill Lane.

SUNDAY 31 AUGUST AT 2.30PM

Tolson – An Historic House

Meet: Carpark, Ravensknowle Park, Wakefield Road, Moldgreen, HD5 8DJ

Join Ann Denham to delve into the interesting history of Tolson Memorial Museum, originally a ‘Brass Castle’ built by John Beaumont of Dalton. We will explore how this became Tolson Memorial Museum, a very local museum. Items in the grounds will be highlighted and the tour will include a visit to the museum where the newly refurbished bird room and the important Skelmanthorpe banner can be viewed.

WHO WE ARE

Discover Huddersfield is a partnership of: Huddersfield Civic Society, Huddersfield Local History Society, the Huddersfield BID, Kirklees Libraries, the Media Centre and the University of Huddersfield.



Heritage Open Days celebrate England’s superlative architecture and culture by offering free access to places that are usually closed to

the public or normally charge for admission. In 2025 the programme of varied activities will cover the period between Friday 12 and Sunday 21 September with Discover Huddersfield offering 3 free walks.

Both walks MUST be pre-booked. Details of all events will be found from mid-August at www.heritageopendays.org.uk and in the local brochure.

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER AT 10.30AM

Modernism Walk

Meet: St. George’s Square (Harold Wilson Statue)

Modernism has been with us for a century. Huddersfield embraced architectural modernism in its own way. Local stone has often been used as a medium by mid twentieth century architects who explored new thinking in architecture. Architectural researcher and writer Chris Marsden will lead a walk looking at some of the surviving hits, misses and messes.

WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER AT 2.30PM

Musical Sites of Huddersfield

Meet: University of Huddersfield Oastler Building, Queensgate, HD1 3DH

Huddersfield has always punched above its weight, musically. This walk will take in some of the key buildings and sites of the town’s musical past, including venues still in use today, as well as lost and lesser-known locations associated with a wide range of genres. Led by music blogger Victor Grayson.

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER AT 10.30AM

Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Railway – Marsden to Tunnel End

Meet: Entrance to the National Trust Carpark, Station Road, Marsden, HD7 6DH

Learn how first the canal, and later the railway, arrived in Marsden and how both subsequently developed, including the epic stories of the building of the four Standedge tunnels and the restoration of the canal after years of closure and

abandonment. The walk finishes at Tunnel End where the cafe should be open and a shuttle boat available for a trip back to the start. This walk is part of the Marsden Walking Festival in association with the Huddersfield Canal Society. The walk includes some steep and uneven ground.

SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Surprising Springwood

Meet: The Leisure Centre (front entrance), Merton Street, HD1 4BP

Join Natalie Pinnock-Hamilton and Heather Norris Nicholson to learn more about this intriguing area between Huddersfield ring road and Greenhead Park. Buildings, car parks, the ring road and a prestigious conservation award did not end this neighbourhood’s long history of welcoming newcomers from overseas. Look out for some fine Georgian and Victorian buildings and also learn about local life: backyard gardening, ‘The Den’ at the Waterworks, faith and community groups, school memories, the ‘Houses of Parliament’ benches and a pioneering housing association.

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Cowcliffe History Walk

Meet: The Shepherds Arms, Cowcliffe Hill Road, Cowcliffe, HD2 2NB

Join Lorna Brooks and Melinda Sharpe for a scenic history-walk around Cowcliffe. We’ll explore the sites of old farms and quarries, schools, a factory and churches. We’ll investigate village life and discover interesting people, including a luddite, a famous architect and wartime refugees. The walk involves slopes and uneven footpaths.

SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

A Walk Through Lindley’s History

Meet: Lindley Methodist Church, East Street, HD3 3ND

Join Dave Verguson for a walk though Lindley’s history looking at terraced housing and mansions, at clubs and churches and at some of the very interesting people who lived and worked in the village. Oh, and a very nice clock tower.

Guided Walks Programme 2025



Enjoy a guided walk, led by experts, to discover the history, culture, architecture and heritage that have shaped the town. Join us on morning, afternoon and evening walks to experience the very best of Huddersfield.

Walks last for approx 1.5 – 2 hours, with a charge of £5.00 per person (free if under 12 years old).

FREE on Heritage Open Days

NOTE

All walks in the 2025 programme MUST be pre-booked.

HOW TO BOOK

For full booking details of our 2025 walks programme via Eventbrite please go to <https://bit.ly/40YAPnj> or scan the QR code

Bookings can be made up to 14 days before each walk.





Guided Walks’ Programme 2025

Some of our walks may involve steps or rough surfaces. Please make us aware of any reasonable adjustments which need to be made for you to attend the walks.

SUNDAY 9 MARCH AT 2.30PM

Historic Kirkburton Walk and Graveyard Visit

Meet: Inside All Hallows’ Church, Kirkburton, HD8 0SJ

Join members of the Kirkburton History Group on a walk around the oldest part of Kirkburton to discover the history of the buildings and the stories that they tell. The walk continues through the graveyard of the beautiful All Hallows’ Church. Some of the interesting graves you will see include: a landlord buried where his kitchen garden once stood and a victim of the Holmfirth floods. Finish the walk and enjoy refreshments inside the church where you will find information stands displaying further facts and photos of Kirkburton. Please note that due to the narrowness of the pavements this walk is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.

SUNDAY 23 MARCH AT 2.30PM

Joseph Kaye – ‘Builder of Huddersfield’

Meet: Folly Hall Mills, St Thomas’ Road, HD1 3LT

Joseph Kaye (1779–1858) built many of the town’s most familiar buildings from the first half of the 19th century, but he was more than a builder. He was also a mill-owner, quarryman, brewer and publican, and claimed to be an architect too. Led by David Griffiths from Huddersfield Local History Society, the walk will visit a variety of sites in or near the town centre that evoke the life of this all-purpose entrepreneur, finishing at his recently relocated tomb at the Parish Church. It starts with an uphill walk from Folly Hall Mills into the town centre.

SUNDAY 6 APRIL AT 2.30PM

Exploring Castle Hill

Meet: Car Park at the top of the hill, accessed via the byway off Lumb Lane, Almondbury

Join John Bowen and Linda Beever from Huddersfield and District Archaeological Society for an archaeological tour of Castle Hill. We will explain the known development and use of the monument from the mesolithic through to modern times. We will explore and explain the earthworks, look at the findings from previous and recent excavations and show locations and explain uses of earlier buildings on the hill. There will be some uneven ground.

SUNDAY 4 MAY AT 10.30AM

Exploring Greenhead Park

Meet: The main gates, Trinity Street/Park Avenue Corner

Join David Griffiths, who wrote the story of Greenhead Park, ‘Secured For The Town’, for a stroll around the Park. David will explain how it came to be established, opening in 1884, and how it has evolved and developed since then. He will point out the main historical features, including some that can easily be missed. This walk has been organised in association with Friends of Greenhead Park.

SUNDAY 18 MAY AT 2.30PM

Huddersfield Caribbean Heritage Trail

Meet: St. George’s Square (Harold Wilson Statue)

Join Natalie Pinnock-Hamilton and Heather Norris Nicholson for a walk that explores key places associated with the rise and cultural contributions of Huddersfield’s African Caribbean community. Come and share migration histories, memories and achievements that stretch over seventy years from 1948, when members of the Windrush Generation arrived in the UK.

THURSDAY 29 MAY AT 7.00PM

Exploring Marsden – The Growth of a Village

Meet: Outside by the conservatory, Marsden Mechanics’ Institution, Peel Street, HD7 6BW

Join Roger Logue for a guided tour around the centre of the village. From the carboniferous period to present day Marsden via Roman roads, packhorse and turnpike routes, mills, child labour, Luddites, poets and much more. This walk has been organised in association with Marsden History Group.

SUNDAY 8 JUNE AT 2.30PM

Kilner Bank: Huddersfield Riverside Nature Park

Meet: Adjacent to Ducklings Childcare, 145–147 Wakefield Rd, Moldgreen, HD5 9AN by the HRNP information board (opposite Lidl)

Join Jeff Keenlyside and EPIKS’ (Environmental Projects in Kirklees) colleagues to explore this area of urban woodland and stretch of the River Colne. Learn about the wildlife of the area and ambitious plans to improve the woodlands and river to make them more attractive to wildlife and people. Although we will always be on marked footpaths, there are some slopes and steps to negotiate to reach the best viewpoints.

THURSDAY 19 JUNE AT 7.00PM

Huddersfield Textile Walk

Meet: On Quay Street by Turnbridge Mills, HD1 6QT

The label ‘Made in Huddersfield’ became a global brand synonymous with quality woollen and worsted textile production. Join Carol Hardy and Julie Mahoney for a walk exploring some major locations associated with the textile manufacturing industry. Beginning at Quay Street, alongside a mill built in 1846 and still operating today. A stroll along the canal towpath highlights buildings and locations woven into the textile heritage of Huddersfield. The talk includes innovators who built businesses alongside the rapid growth of the textile trade. Our walk finishes at the top of Queen Street South, HD1 3EA.

THURSDAY 3 JULY AT 7.00PM

The University of Huddersfield Campus Trail

Meet: University of Huddersfield, Reception, Queensgate, HD1 3DH

As Huddersfield celebrates 200 years of technical education, visit the University of Huddersfield’s campus to explore its unique contribution to that story. Join the University of Huddersfield’s Public Engagement Officer Dave Smith on an evening walk examining the development of the built environment on campus and hear the stories behind some of the unique historical and modern structures used by students today.

SUNDAY 13 JULY AT 2.30PM

Sites from Slaithwaite’s Radical Past

Meet: New Street Car Park, Slaithwaite, HD7 5AB (opposite Health Centre)

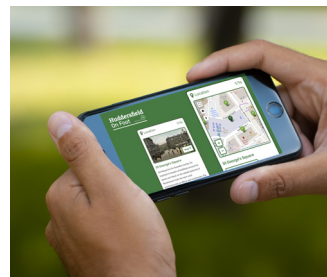
The walk, led by Cyril Pearce, will take approx. two hours and parts of it may be challenging for those with mobility issues. The tides of English radicalism in the 18th and 19th centuries have swirled through Slaithwaite and in local memories they’ve left more than Victor Grayson and the 1907 by-election. The struggle between landlords with a particular world view and local people who did not share it, began much earlier than that and its marks remain in surviving local buildings, many named for ‘Slaithwaite’ but some of them across the border in Linthwaite.

SUNDAY 27 JULY AT 2.30PM

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Huddersfield on Foot

Explore the town either using your smartphone or home computer by going to <https://huddersfield.onfoot.guide>

Contact us or join our mailing list by going to:
info@discoverhuddersfield.uk

Or visit:
www.discoverhuddersfield.uk