

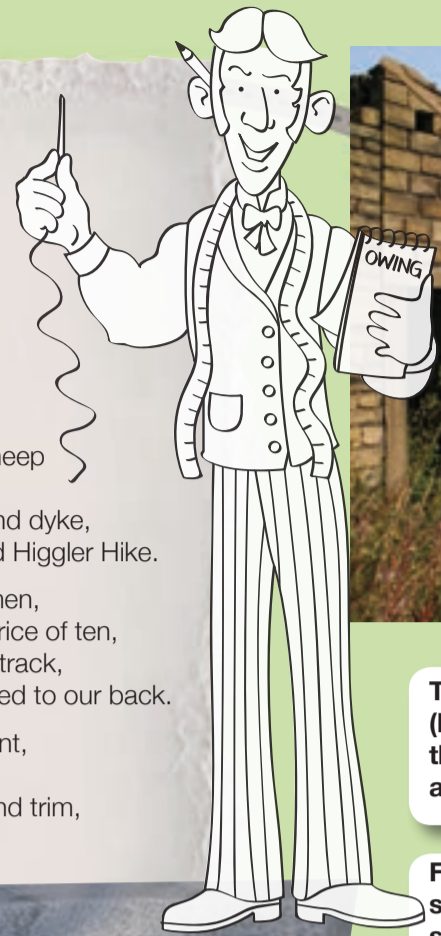
Higgler Hike - led by the Higgler, a Shepley tailor in the 19th century selling suits on credit.

Shepley, or Scipelei,
As in the Domesday Book,
Is quite the handsome town,
If you choose to take a look.

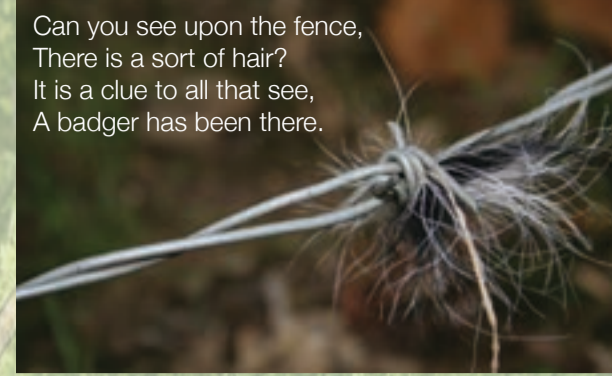
This high up place that stands
windswept,
Translates 'a clearing where sheep
are kept',
To guide you round each hill and dyke,
I'm a shrewd tailor man named Higgler Hike.

Us Higglers we are business men,
We'll make you a suit for the price of ten,
We travel along the Penistone track,
With fine cloth samples strapped to our back.

And we have in our employment,
10 hard working women,
Who sew and stitch and cut and trim,
To work the sheets of linen.



When King George and his wife,
Set to come through Shepley town,
Excitement in the town was rife,
A giant stone was hurried down,
And placed with care just by the road,
On a high piece of ground,
So that then the royal pair,
Would see the stone so big and round.



Can you see upon the fence,
There is a sort of hair?
It is a clue to all that see,
A badger has been there.

The founder of two football teams,
Is buried near to here, it seems,
The Reverend Chambers brought to be,
Both Liverpool Club and Everton FC.



Green Moor Seat that you can see,
Was sculpted by Dave Bradbury,
He used the textile history,
As inspiration for the seat.
The stone is strong, full of class.
It marks the millennium that has passed.

Through the gate at the bottom and past
the mill to the road. Turn left at the road.

This mill was known for making vests,
Some claimed they were the very best.

Veer to the right descending down the
hill with the hedge on your right.

Follow the path down the hill to the stone
squeeze, through a further squeeze and
over the hill following the wall.

Go through the metal
kissing gate and then
follow the road up through
the houses to the road.

Turn left at the road and take the second footpath
sign on the left.

There used to be a Shepley feast,
But sadly now the feast has ceased,
The children of the town would sing,
And through the streets the song would ring,
Then they'd all sit down for tea,
Of white teacake and potted meat.

Cliff House you see upon the right,
Was built for the brewer's rich young son,
Seth Senior in 1829,
Borrowed a Sovereign, just the one,
And though that's just £1 to us,
He built a brewery of success,
'Sovereign Brewery' was its name,
And it brought him fortune, wealth and fame.

The memorial stands at the top,
To ensure the war is not forgot,
Erected in 1919
In memory of the war that's been.

Now our walks come to an end,
I'm off to find the newest trend,
My suits will be the best in town,
And I'll sell them all for miles around.

At the end of the road, turn left
and then immediately right down
Lydgate and follow the road down.

At the crossroads go straight on, keep following the
road onwards where it changes into a bridle way.

Over the railway
bridge, and
down the slope.

At this bridge not long ago,
You'd meet a milkman and his float,
And his horse so big and slow,
That pulled the milk come rain or snow.

Just as the path goes into a wooded area
take the path to the left into the wood, and
follow it keeping to the left path.

Take the wooden stile into a field
and follow the path over another
wooden stile to where the path
takes you over the railway.

Follow the path
upwards over a stone
stile and to the road.

Take the road up the hill to the fancy gate
(Millennium Gate) on the corner and go
through the gate. The houses on the right
are Hall Syke with privies at the back.

Follow the path, immediately over the
stone stile take a left. Go through the
stone squeeze and up the walkway
and over the stone steps and follow
the path up the field.

Not long ago, all houses,
Had their toilets in the garden,
But in favour for an inside loo,
Most have been discarded.
Some of the houses that you see,
To the right across the hill,
Although they may have loos inside,
They have an outdoor privy still.

Go over the stone stile to the unmade
road and take a right. Take the next left
following the footpath sign and straight
across the field to the stone stile.

'Round here they used to 'Beat the Bounds',
A custom where you walked around,
And marked the boundaries of the place,
To claim all land as Shepley space.



Follow the path through the wooded
area keeping to the left. Take the
next stone stile. Turn left down the
bridleway, and follow it all the way to
Marsh Lane.

Here's a place to take in the view,
Sit for a while and look about you.

Deep in the depths of the Round Wood
They say a cradle lies in the mud,
Buried deep, as I am told,
For they say the cradle's made of gold.

Now here's a fact to make you think, a
Bit of Shepley's in Westminster!
Windsor Castle and Buckingham too,
It's a type of stone called 'Sovereign Blue'.

In Shepley this fine stone was found,
And quarried out from under ground,
Amongst the pleasant scenery,
Stood the quarry's big machinery.
The traction engine, for example,
Could, on many people, trample,
When it hauled across the crag,
A boy would lead with a bright red flag.



A 5 mile tailored walk

Shepley Higgler Hike

Kirkburton Parish Walks

Kirkburton Parish Walks

Shepley Higgler Hike

A 5 mile tailored walk

How to get there:

By bus: 83, 83A, 84 from Huddersfield
By train: Shepley Station hourly from Huddersfield
By car: parking at Lea Head, HD8 8EN off A629

Bus and train services are correct as of December 2011.
Please check at www.wymetro.com for timetables.

See: www.kirkburtonparishwalks.co.uk

Supported in partnership by:

Look out for the Higgler Hike Waymarker disc to help guide you around the walk

Walking in the East Peak - www.denbydale-kirkburton.org.uk

Other walks in the series:

- Fitton Frolic
- Hester's Haunt
- PC Dibb Dash
- Jessop's Jaunt
- Lizzie's Lollipop
- Beaumont's Bolt
- Billy Sweep Saunter
- Molly Mangle's Meander
- Wardroper Wander

Area covered by OS Landranger Sheet 110