

The cluster of buildings at Farwath were built for the railway, but the settlement is much older. "Farwath" is mentioned in a deed of the 1490's. 'Wath' is the local name for a ford. For many years it has been home to the Eddon family, the last besom makers in the district. The brooms are made from heather with a handle of ash and bound together with ash lappings.

5. Otherwise take the right fork on a track with the beck on your left. Pass through a gate continuing along the track, which can be very muddy, to a second gate which opens into a pasture. After a third gate continue on the track for about 200 yards to a stone post. Here double back to the right on a roughly defined track going diagonally uphill. Make for a gap in the gorse. Shortly after entering the gorse take the steep track to the left. This soon does a hairpin bend eventually reaching the top of the hill. Turn left along Lockton Brow.

*The track from Farwath is called Sleights Road. Is it part of a former route between Pickering and Saltergate to Sleights?*

6. Walk along the Brow for about ¼ mile to reach a gate. There are good views into the valley.

*On the right is the boundary wall to Lockton's Westfield. There were once rabbit 'tipes', traps for catching live rabbits, in this wall and there are still many rabbits in this area.*

7. The path continues through young woodland. At a memorial seat climb the steps immediately behind into an enclosed path.

*The seat was given in memory of James Michael Horrox, son of the Lockton rector, killed in a flying accident in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World*

*War. On the right of the enclosed path is the Old Rectory, built in the mid 1920's for the Rector of Lockton and Levisham, but sold in about 1980 as a private house.*

8. Continue over a stile and walk down Lockton village street. There are no active farms now at this end of the village though the houses have large gardens and many buildings. Opposite the village shop and tearoom is the old pinfold where stray animals were impounded. Continue past the Church and Youth Hostel, once the village school. You are soon back at your starting point.

Maps and profiles researched and drawn by Mary Wellburn. Text by Ruth Strong.

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## LOCKTON and FARWATH

*Circular walk from Lockton Cemetery*

*DISTANCE - Approx 3½ miles*

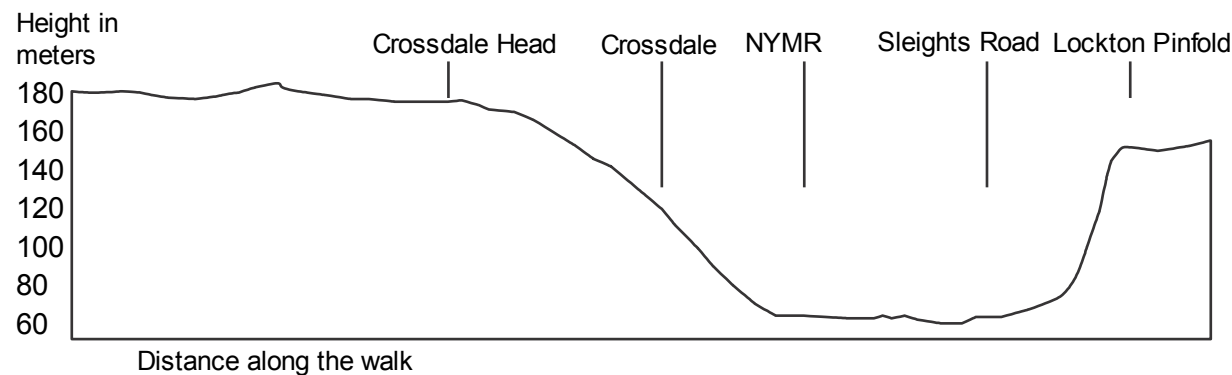
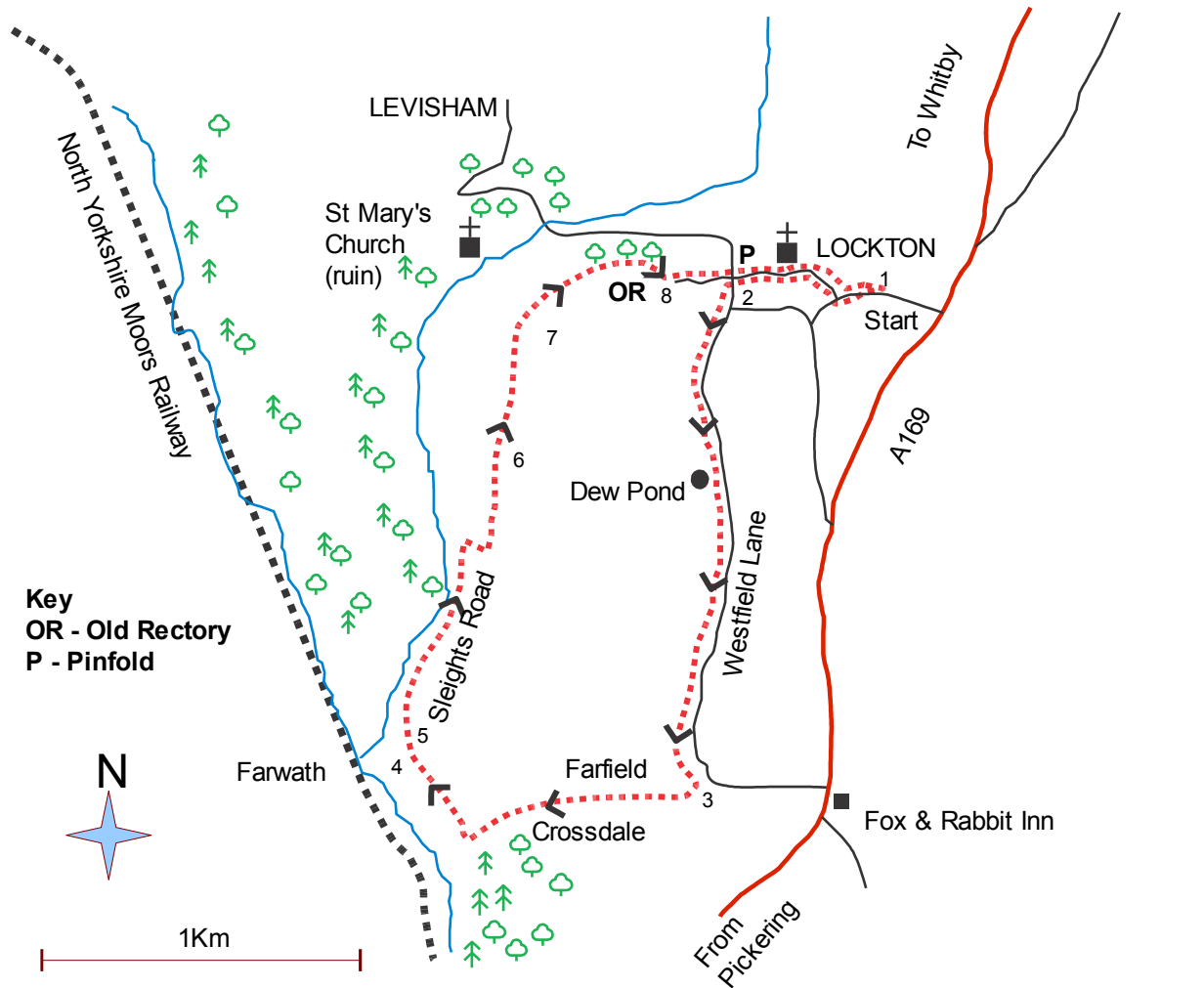
*START - Lockton Cemetery at east end of village. Grid Reference 847889*

*PARKING - on the verge opposite the cemetery.*

### *Notes on the Walk*

1. From the Cemetery walk towards the village continuing down the village street with the 13<sup>th</sup> century St Giles Church on your right. A little lower down on the left is a small enclosure containing an old well.

*Inside the Church is some fine Jacobean woodwork, notably the pulpit, believed to date from 1688. Can you find the Mass Dial built into the exterior south wall of the chancel? The well is believed to be about*



150 yards deep, the nearest spring-line being in the valley. One wonders why the name of one of the donors is chiselled out - did he fail to pay his share?

- At a cross roads (shop and tea room) turn left up Hudgin Lane, then bear right up West Field Lane.

Market Dyke Road is the old name for Westfield Lane. It marks the boundary between Lockton's vast medieval East and West Fields. Originally farmed on the open field strip system they were enclosed and divided up amongst Lockton property owners in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century under Lockton's parliamentary Enclosure Act. Farfield Farm, at the far end of the lane, is named after a third open field, Farfield. The farmhouse was built by Nicholas Robinson when the open fields were enclosed and the farm remained in the Robinson family for a hundred years.

- In about a mile, after passing Farfield Farm, the lane turns sharp left. Here turn right through a farm gate. As the way opens up, with a steep valley on your right, walk diagonally downhill to a gate at the bottom. Continue steeply downhill on a well defined track along the left hand side of the valley into the valley. Here the track turns right and continues by a gate towards Farwath and a fork in the track.

- Here you can turn left towards the railway cottages at Farwath.