

The Parishes of Barlborough and Spinkhill

The Chaffinch Trail links the two historic villages of Barlborough and Spinkhill in the north of the county of Derbyshire.

The trail begins in the village of Barlborough, formerly known as 'Barleburg' and documented in the Doomsday Book of 1086. The village boasts many fine buildings, which include the Norman Church of St James the Greater, Barlborough Hall, The Old Hall and the Golden Gate Memorial.



Roe Deer

The route through the west of the village, passes along farm tracks and footpaths, over (Cogganer's Tops) and up the (Broncliffe path) to reach Spinkhill.



The lofty village of Spinkhill was first mentioned in a Pipe Roll (a tax list) in 1273, where Michael de Spinkhill is

listed. The name 'Spink' in the Derbyshire dialect is any bird of the finch family, especially the Chaffinch

Kingfisher

(Chaffinch Hill- Spinkhill). The Parish Church of The Immaculate Conception and Mount St Mary's College overlook the village.

After leaving Spinkhill village look out for foxes and upon reaching Quarry Dam listen for the 'laughing' call of the Green Woodpecker. If you are lucky you may see the Kingfisher flying over the Dam water. Southern Marsh Orchids can be seen growing in the meadow at the end of the trail.

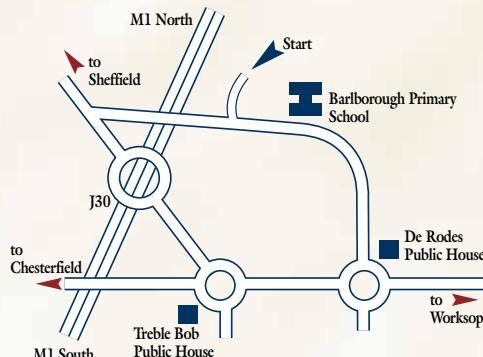


Brown Hare

The route passes several Inns where you can rest a while and partake of refreshment.

Barlborough

Barlborough is situated off Junction 30 of the M1. It is within easy travelling distance of Sheffield, Chesterfield and Worksop.



Please respect ancient sites and buildings and follow the Country Code.

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep your dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take care on countryside roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.

The shorter route covering the village history, is approx. 2K (1.25 miles) and is suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

Public Transport

For full details contact Traveline Public Transport Information on 0870 608 2 608 or www.traveline.org.uk

For more information on Barlborough visit www.barlboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

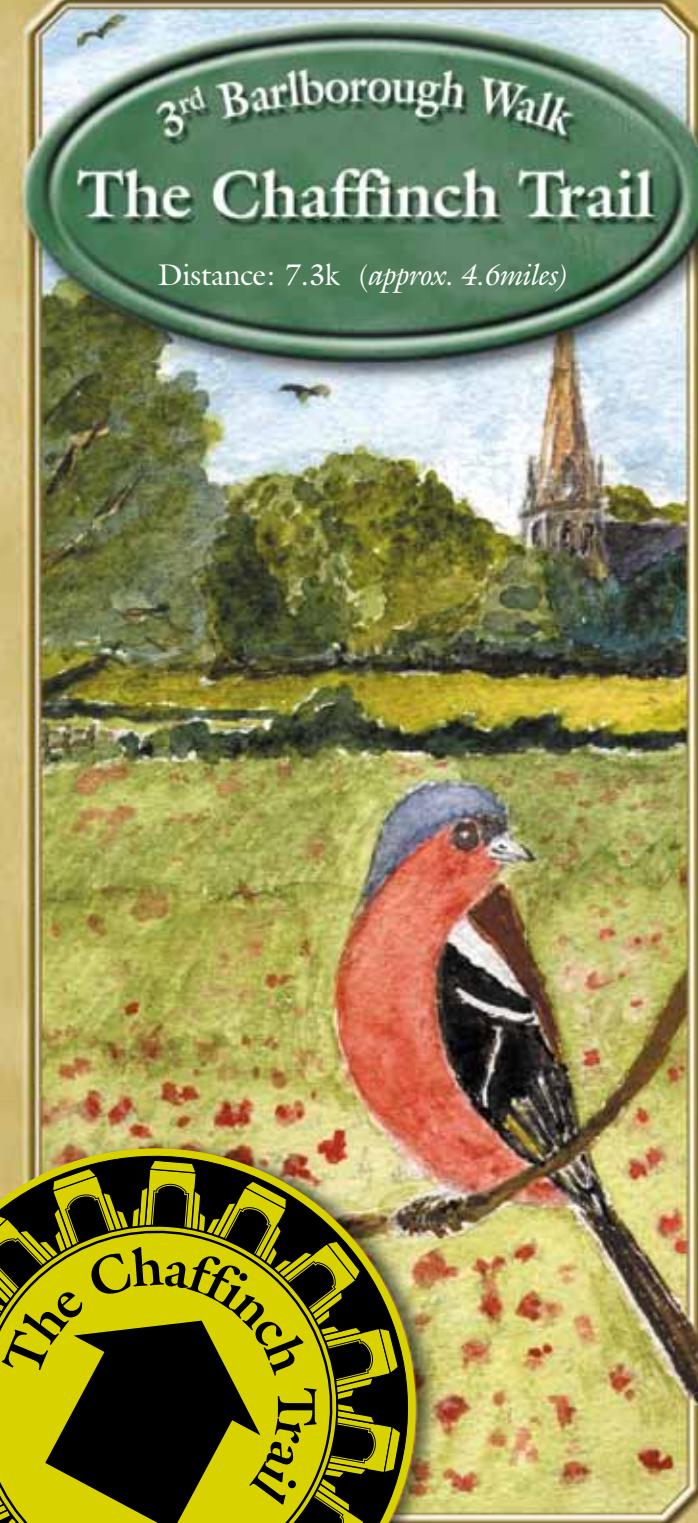
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3rd Barlborough Walk The Chaffinch Trail

Distance: 7.3k (approx. 4.6miles)



1 Barlborough Primary School

The school built by the Rodes Family of Barlborough Hall was opened in 1870. Situated in the centre of the village it has been responsible for over a century for the education of the village children and the surrounding area. Mr Hodgson was the first headteacher. In the year 2000 under the headship of Graham Hadley two new classrooms were built to accommodate the extra children moving into the village.

2 Westfield Lodge

This lodge was formerly the home of Captain Stanier, the Managing Director of Renishaw Iron Works. The grounds now accommodate the Springfields Nurseries and Garden Centre. To the rear and slightly to the west stood Westfield Pit nicknamed the 'Bread and Herring' Colliery (1830-1878).

3 Cottam No 2 Colliery

(under the dual carriageway)

Mr R. Bunting, a worker at this colliery became the first President of the Derbyshire Miners Federation in 1880. Within a year he was sacked from Cottam and later Shireoaks for addressing public meetings on behalf of the Federation. He could not find employment and was granted "Victim Pay" and was to use his enforced leisure to extend and improve the union organisation.

4 Clog and Knocker

The disused railway known locally as 'The Clog & Knocker' ran from Beighton to the North down to Langwith Junction to the South, this was a branch line of the Lancashire, Derbyshire & East Coast Railway (1895). This branch was built mainly for the collection of coal from pits along its length together with other goods, which were taken to Langwith Junction for distribution around the Country.

5 Ruins of Beightonfields Smallholdings

Here is the site of a derelict smallholding, which was once used to house local working families.

6 Beightonfields Priory

The Priory was built in 1398 with further additions in the 17th and 19th Centuries. It was founded by the Earl of Surrey, as an infirmary for sick monks from Welbeck Abbey under licence to Richard I, whose sole requirement was that they should pray for the King and Queen. Henry VIII dissolved the Priory in 1536. The building still stands today as a private dwelling. For many years it was the home of the Bowden family, who had owned a colliery to the rear of the Priory. It worked from 1659 to around 1800.

To the south east of the Priory was the old Cottam No.1 Colliery (1799-1866). This and Cottam No.2 were linked by a tramway that took coal to Appleby's Renishaw Iron Foundry.

7 Renishaw Iron Works

Iron founding was possibly carried out from this site from the 11th Century onward. The Jesuit Community at Mount St Mary's carried out iron founding for hundreds of years. By the mid 19th Century the foundry was one of the largest in Britain. The foundry provided work for many local people, but was finally closed in 1999. The site is now being developed for housing and at the same time a section of the Chesterfield Canal is being restored.

8 Park Farm (Formerly Low Farm)

Mr Ludlam a former farmer was said to have had a dog that would not work and its kennel was an old beer barrel. It was too idle to bark or stop cattle from straying. If the dog was outside when it started to rain it was too idle to go into its kennel. This was the origin of the old saying "As idle as Ludlam's dog".

9 Spinkhill Church

The Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception designed by Joseph Aloysius Hansom was completed in 1846. It was refurbished in the 1960's and a new altar was dedicated in 1989.

10 Spinkhill Primary School

The Village School at Spinkhill was founded in 1810, by the Society of Jesus in a house in the grounds of the College. It accommodated thirty poor children. The Headmistress was a French Lady, known to the villagers as Miss Smith who was said to have fled the French Revolution. Dr Henderson, Bishop of Nottingham laid the foundation stone of the new Village School in 1852. The present school now accommodates the original building.

11 Spinkhill

The Angel Inn is the only pub in Spinkhill. The Bootmakers has closed and is now a Presbytery.

12 Mount St Mary's College

There has been a Jesuit presence in Spinkhill since 1580 when the Manor sheltered the first Jesuit Fathers working in England during the Reformation. In its present form Mount St Mary's Catholic College was opened on 17th September 1842 under the administration of the Jesuit Order. The first pupil was John Young.

13 Park Hall

The Pole Family who lived at Park Hall were prominent in the history and church politics in the 16th Century. A date of 1610 appears over one of the porticos. The house has seen many changes and was latterly converted from a country club into a private residence.

14 Parkhall Farm

With its close proximity to Park Hall the farm has commanding views over the valley and woodland.

15 Quarry Dam

Quarry Dam is an idyllic spot with High Wood noted for bluebells on its boundary and adjacent to the Fox and Magpie Mine mentioned in the 1st Barlborough Walk Leaflet.

16 California Lane

The cottages on California Lane are the last remaining of a much larger estate including the Long Row, where many of the original village families lived.

Sally Sargeson's shop stood on the corner of the lane (opposite the Royal Oak).

Walk Directions

- The walk starts at the Barlborough Village Hall car park. From the car park turning right into High Street, then later Sheffield Road left into Westfield Lane (fifty metres past M1 bridge).
- Follow Westfield Lane, crossing the dual carriageway onto a farm track. Walk from the farm track across two fields, through a hedge, crossing the third field using the waymarker arrow as a guide.
- Turn right at the junction of the two footpaths, in fifty metres turning left into the wood, after ten metres bear right, following path through the wood to the road. Cross over the stile on the opposite side of the road, across the meadow and over the second stile and following the stream. Turn right at the waymarker, bearing left in ten metres. Follow footpath then track to Sheffield Road, cross over the road and walk the footpath, then farm track into Spinkhill (a short diversion to the left will take you to the church).
- Turn right walking along College Road over Station Road (a short diversion left on Station Road to view the College) into Parkhall Lane; follow this farm track through Parkhall Farm to Quarry Dam. From the Dam take the well-marked footpath then farm track, turning left at the bottom of the hill.
- The path passes over a field, through a stretch of scrubland skirting a field to the M1. Walk under the M1 bridge then in ten metres turn right onto the footpath following the fence, over a second stile following path past the Laurels Farm into Ruthyn Avenue, turn right then left into California Lane. At the junction of the Lane and High Street turn left. Follow High Street back to the start at the Village Hall car park.



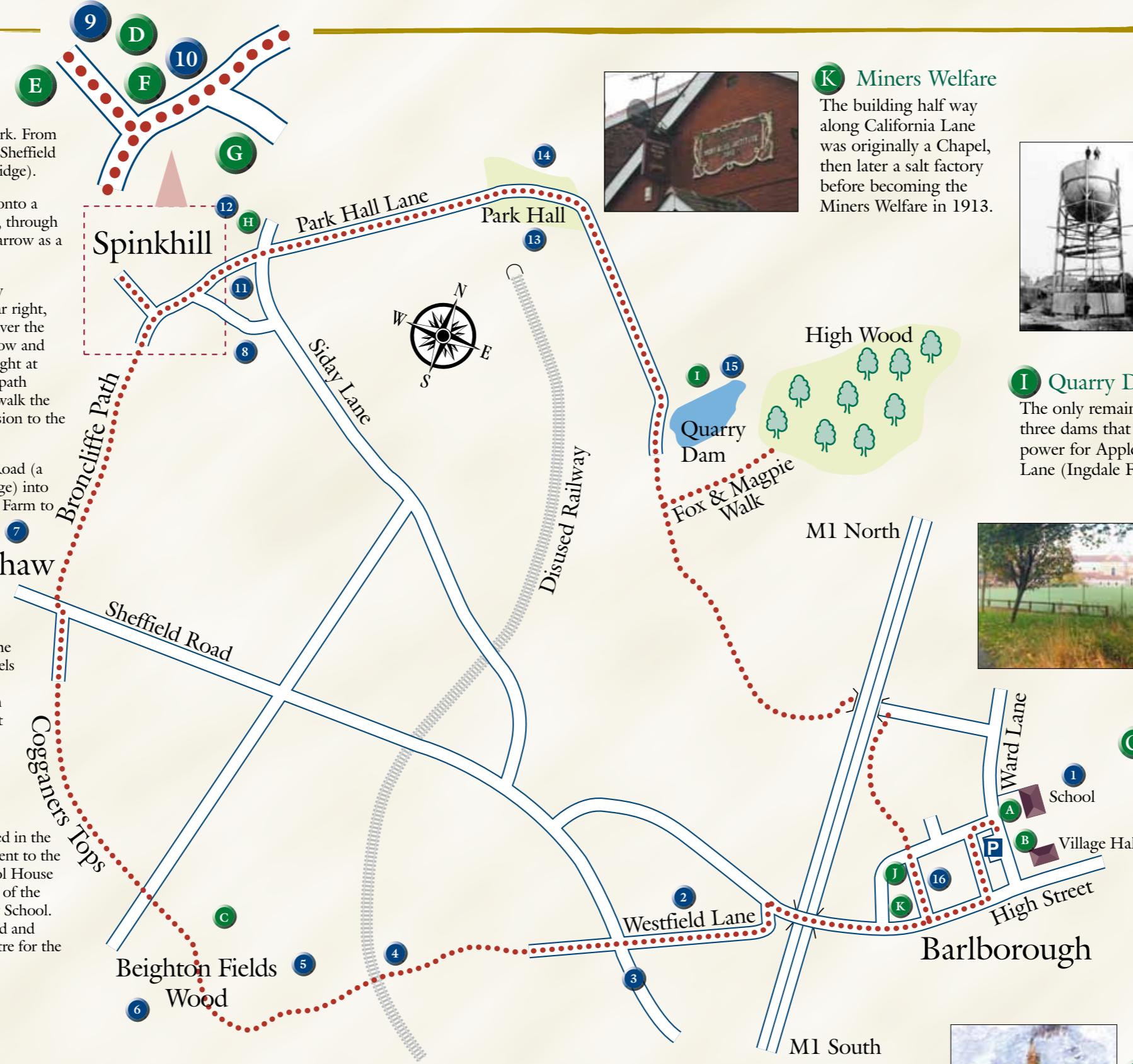
A Resource Centre

The Resource Centre is situated in the corner of the schoolyard adjacent to the car park. It was the Old School House and traditionally the residence of the Head of Barlborough Primary School. It has recently been refurbished and now serves as a Resource Centre for the community.



B Barlborough Village Hall

This new Community Centre was built in 1993 and opened by Sir Reresby Sitwell of Renishaw Hall, together with Mr Dennis Skinner, Member of Parliament for Bolsover.



C Beightonfields Plantation

A short beautiful woodland walk.



D Spinkhill Church

On the outskirts of Spinkhill turn left walking fifty metres along Spinkhill Lane to the Church.



E Round House

The car park opposite the Church was the site of this old mill. The sails blew off in 1870. It was a private dwelling up to the 1970's.



Distance: 7.3k approx. (4.6 miles)



K Miners Welfare

The building half way along California Lane was originally a Chapel, then later a salt factory before becoming the Miners Welfare in 1913.



J Old Water Tower

The water tower (now dismantled) nicknamed "The Eggcup", was erected in 1911 by Hodsons Engineers of Loughborough on the west side of California Lane, to supply water to the surrounding area from Manton Colliery. It was dismantled in 1981 by Mick Hill.



I Quarry Dam

The only remaining dam of the three dams that were built to supply power for Appleby Mill off Siday Lane (Ingdale Farm site).



H Mount St Mary's College

The College stands fifty metres along Station Road.



G Clock in the Wall



F Spinkhill Primary School

The Village School was built in 1852.