Sheet 1: Draughton – Holywell Bridge – Lumb Gill – Draughton

This walk includes a short stretch of road walking along the A59 between Skibeden and Holywell Railway Bridge. Only use this route if you are confident that you can do so safely.

Head north down the village and turn left immediately after Draughton Hall to a farm gate (there is a stile over the wall to the right). Once past the gate follow the sheep shelter wall then bear slightly to the right (NNW) down to a stone slab bridge over the small stream. Continue along the field, keeping the field wall to your left. Go over the wall stile and walk across the pasture, keeping the disused railway bridge across the valley to your right-hand side, to a further wall stile. Use this with care as it may be very muddy after rain, especially on the far side. Then cross the field diagonally (NNW) heading for a group of trees that should be slightly to your left. There is a stile here, leading on to the A59 Skipton – Harrogate Road (1M, GR 026 532).

Turn right along the road, taking great care, downhill to Holywell Railway Bridge. Note that there is no verge on the bridge itself. Once over the bridge turn right immediately and cross a stone wall stile. From the stile, head due east over fields and two more wall stiles to reach Thorn Haws Laithe (GR 039 533), then use the gates to reach the A59 again.

Cross the road with care, then turn left along the wide verge as far as the top of the hill and the junction with the lane leading to Halton East. Turn onto the lane and after five metres find a waymarked stile on your right. Once over this stile, follow the narrow grassy path through pleasant woodland, more or less parallel with the main road, keeping Lumb Gill beck to your left, until you reach a wooden stile at the foot of the hill leading on to the main road again at its junction with the lane back to Draughton (GR 043 533). Re-cross the main road, then walk back along the lane past Draughton Bottom and up the hill until you arrive back at your starting point.