



WALK 7

Buttercross



3.5 miles – Full walk, 2 hours, Easy to Moderate

Start – Cheddleton Station

Steep, muddy and uneven in places. Stout footwear is essential

- 1 Turn right out of the station and cross over the road to the small gate next to the wall, once through the gate take the stone steps with wooden handrail on your right and pass through the small gate by the signpost.
- 2 Proceed up the field keeping the fence on your left until you reach a metal pedestrian gate next to the farm, pass through the gate, cross the concrete track and climb stone steps in the wall. Then pass through a wooden gate into a field keep the stone wall with the farmhouse and outbuildings immediately on your left.
- 3 Continue with the farm on the left to the road, pass through the stile by the signpost onto Basford Lane. Cross over the road and go through the metal pedestrian gate. (Signposted Buttercross/Fernyhill)
- 4 Continue alongside the hedge keeping the hedge on your right, to a stile. Cross the stile and continue aiming for the large holly tree with the Buttercross behind it. Pass through the squeeze stile to the Buttercross.
- 5 The Cheddleton Buttercross or 'Challinor Cross' is at the junction of footpaths.

The monument bears the inscription 'this ancient cross was restored in 1926 William R Challinor', It is shown on the 1879 OS map and the topographical Dictionary of England 1848. Path 26 is thought to be the route taken by the Duke of Cumberland's army as it marched from Stone towards Leek in 1745. This is the route that you now follow, unless you wish to retrace your steps.



**Continues
on next page**



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There are two options to return to the station.

1. Retrace your steps. OR 2. Footpath 26.

- 6** Return through the squeeze stile turn right with the hedge on your right and continue down the path crossing one stile. Continue downhill heading for a sleeper bridge and a gate onto Basford Lane at the bottom of the field. In summer you may need to keep to the higher but rougher ground to your left.
- 7** Cross over the sleeper bridge, the stream is the Whirly Crew which you will see again at the end of this walk as it comes under the road just before the Station. Go through the small gate onto the road. Please take care on this road as there is no pavement, and you come out on a blind bend.
- 8** Turn right and follow the road up the hill to a junction where you turn left onto Cheddleton Heath Road.
- 9** Proceed along the road for 150m and look for the finger post on your left. Turn left down the unmade track and take the stile on your left.
- 10** Turn right to follow the path keeping the fence on your right hand side, pass through a small gate adjacent to the bungalow, walk straight ahead to the brow of the hill then head for the telegraph pole on right hand side of farm buildings.
- 11** Continue down the field to meet a track. At lambing time the metal gate at this point will be closed and tied up.
- 12** Where the track bends left continue downhill aiming for the right of the large oak tree to join Station Road by the entrance to Ernvale House care home opposite the caravan park, turn left onto the road to return to the station, crossing over the Whirly Crew stream that flows through the pig yard and under the road and railway to join the River Churnet.



We hope you have enjoyed this walk. Perhaps you would like to try one of the other railway rambles from this and the other Churnet Valley Railway Stations. Pick up a leaflet at any station or one of the leaflet stands in the Churnet Valley villages.