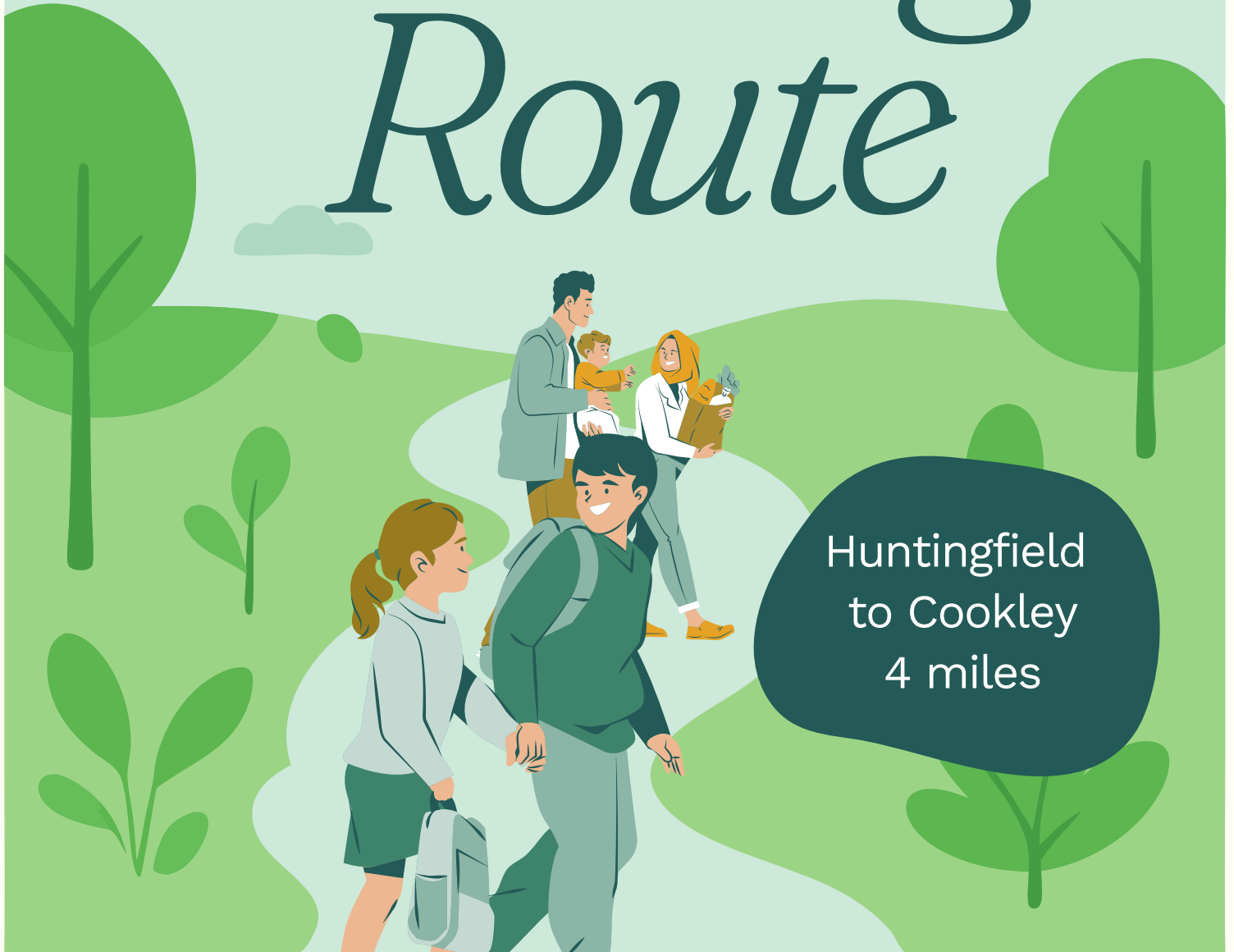


Blyth Valley Churches

Walking *Route*



Parking within sight of the Huntingfield Arms at [///filed.verdict.wonderful](http://filed.verdict.wonderful)

Set out walking down hill away from the pub, with The Hub to your right, turn left past the entrance to Laundry Lane cross the bridge over the Byth and turn right through the gate up the drive to Huntingfield Hall. Turn right at the ha-ha and walk up the field edge keeping Queens Oak to your right. There are often sheep grazing here. On the brow of the hill the walk passes through a plantation where butterflies and deer may be seen. Continue straight ahead as you join a concrete farm track down into Cookley.

Having crossed the, possibly dry, stream on the raised footbridge to the right of the cattle grid, turn right and then left just after the telephone box through the otherwise private garden up to St Michaels Church. On returning to Cookley Street turn right to re-trace your steps, this time continuing past Willow Brook Cottage on your right, turning left over a footbridge as the road would otherwise bear right.

Turn right following the footpath along the field edge ditch across two fields before accessing then crossing Barell's Hill across a gated footbridge at Crutch Hall. The initially narrow path opens out and follows the field ditch, straight ahead, then bearing right, and left along a tree line. Cross the bridge and turn left at the next field boundary.

Press on over the bridge and through the hedge at Towranna Farm and turn right keeping the hedge then -tree line to your right. Look out for dragonflies over the old retting pond. Turn left at the field corner where your path forms a T-junction with another down towards Manor Farm. Walk through this private garden keeping to their tracks, then crossing the property with the pond on your right bearing right to cross a stile. Keep left then cross the tongue of lawn crossing another stile. Walk the length of the long hay meadow along the fence line to your right, with the tree house to the left. Keep right along the next field until you come out further down Barell's Hill.

Turn right and follow the road before turning left onto The Street and left again across the churchyard to visit St Mary's Church, noting William and Mildred Holland's memorials to your left. If you've a pound coin with you, pop it in the meter and the ceiling she painted will be flooded with light. There is a toilet here. On leaving the church and walking round the churchyard to see The Old Rectory, return to The Street opposite the old School and turn left towards. As the garden of number two peters out, turn left across a bridge leaving the road, turning right onto a path through woodland. Do take a moment to enjoy the birdsong, the colours of the leaves, the reflections on the water, the fungi and the contortions and bark texture of the various tree species. Follow this path for about half-a-mile until you emerge onto Bridge Street once again. Turning right you will shortly see the pub we began with a couple of hours ago.

Written by Revd Dominic Doble (2025)

