

The Calder Valley Round – 16 miles & 4000 feet

Start: Public car park, adjacent to Russell Dean showroom and the White Lion pub (now closed), Mytholmroyd. (GR 014 261) 3 miles south-east of Hebden Bridge on A646. Use OS Map OL 21 - South Pennines. Compass recommended. Rail station also located at Mytholmroyd.

Completions: Follow the route exactly as described below, record your times at each control, post your overall time and club on the FRA Forum. Personal registrations only please - do not register other runners!

FRA Forum: log on to www.fellrunner.org.uk - go to forums - recce – 2011 calder valley round. You do not have to be a member but you do have to register to post your time. There is also a direct link from the CVR webpage.

Target Times: Elite Class – sub 2-45 A Class – sub 3-15 Standard Class – over 3-15

Mytholmroyd to Rochdale Canal

TL/TR – turn left/right L/R – left/right SP – signpost m - metres

From the car park TL in front of the White Lion pub (closed) then TL to the canal. TL again to follow the canal to bridge number 12 and cross to reach Redacre Barn. TL then shortly fork R steeply uphill to reach and enter a metal gate. Continue uphill to a marker, then stile at Hill House Farm. Continue on up track, TL at top. At bend continue forward (west, ignoring stile up on R) and continue to reach the second signpost on L. Here TL and descend past SP on R down through gate to soon reach a tarmac lane. TR passing houses and in 700 m cross road. Continue up track to find and enter metal gate set well back on L. Descend through metal gates, cross road and then cross bridge. TL then fork R on track uphill, pass Hurst Royd, go down road to TR before garages. Ascend on obvious path over stiles to gate and enclosed track which bears right to **Old Town Mill Control (998 284)**

TL down the road, cross junction and shortly pass a chapel on the R. Continue, bear L of a cottage with battlements, through gate and shortly find the entrance to a narrow walled path on the L. At the end continue along the wall side to enter a small gate to pass between cottages. TL down tarmac track to road and TR. 50m before the give way sign find a path on the L and descend to the road. Cross (care!) to SP and descend on a flagged path (care when wet!). Shortly bear R down to bridge over stream (Pecket Clough). Continue on track eventually winding down through woods to emerge at the road. TR to pass a toilet block and continue straight on along the tarmac track (initially) for 2 km to reach **Gibson Mill Control (973 298)**

Bear L to cross the stone bridge and TL up the track for 250m to a bend. Here leave the track on a narrow path (ignore steps on R) and ascend the valley side to reach an open area with trees. Forward, initially descending slightly then shortly pass a National Trust sign on R. Ascend steeply to reach a wall then take a high path by a fence to reach a stile. Climb and follow wall to emerge at a walled track. Do not TR up the track but continue straight on with a wall to the right. In 40 m bear R at marker to stay with the fence and in a further 150 m TR at tall marker post in the fence. Cross the field to enter a stile by a gate and follow a walled track up to the road at Stackhouse.

Cross the road (care!) to a wide grass verge and TL and take next R turn down a walled track. At the bottom find stile on L and follow path to emerge at a tarmac lane. TR and descend steeply, continue straight on when the track becomes rough. Follow the bends down to cross the bridge in the valley bottom. TL and ascend to a track junction. Turn sharp R and ascend on a good track for 1 km to junction with the Pennine Way (SP). Here TL up a narrow walled path through stiles then shortly TR (off the Pennine Way) to pass in front of some cottages. In 50 m find the opening to a narrow fenced path (just after metal gates) and follow it round the perimeter of a cottage garden to go through a stile. Continue ascending diagonally through stiles, crossing a walled track, to reach the road at Blackshaw Head.

Cross the road (care!) and follow the track opposite (Calderdale Way SP) between some cottages. Find a wooden stile to the right of a corrugated barn and follow the Calderdale Way to eventually emerge at broad green track. In further 50 m take a path on the left (SP) just before an old farmhouse. Follow wall on L to next SP and bear R descending to cross a footbridge. TL to pass ruin - **Staups Mill Control (962 269)**.

Ascend the path a short way to take a stile on the L (Calderdale Way link path). Descend on narrow path then on tracks keeping stream below on the left. Eventually pass a pond on the left and descend to cross a bridge. TR and continue down with stream now on R to reach a mill with a tall chimney. Here TR over a footbridge and follow the path by the wall to enter a small gateway to a house. Continue ahead and shortly TL down tarmac lane. Shortly TR following the fence to cross a railway footbridge. Cross the road (CARE!) and TL down Burnt Acres Lane, cross the river bridge then the canal bridge.

A Half Calder Valley Round - TL along the canal for 4 miles to return to Mytholmroyd via Hebden Bridge.

Rochdale Canal to Mytholmroyd

TL/TR – turn left/right L/R – left/right SP – signpost m - metres

Ascend and fork L to pass house. Immediately after the stone terracing on the R turn sharp R to ascend a green track and shortly pass through a small gate. Continue up as far as a left hand bend and leave the track through a stile following path close to the wall on the L to reach stile in fence on R. Descend a short way to cross a wall and now continue with the wall on the L, gradually turning towards Stoodley Pike (if clear!) to meet a track at a bend. TR down the track to another bend and leave the main track.

Ahead to cross stream, enter gate and ascend track to continue along a lane. Pass Stoodley Grange flats and immediately TL up the track. At the top, where the track turns R, bear off up a track to reach a stile by a gate. Ascend to **Stoodley Pike Control (974 243)**

From the monument go due east (Pennine Way) for 300 m to climb a stile over a wall (pass spring on R by the path 100 m before the wall). Go straight on with the wall on the left (ignore stile) then bear L to enter a walled lane (Dick's Lane) and follow it to the end at a ruin. Go straight on (bearing 45 degrees) to the middle power line post near a boundary stone. Follow a faint path and after a further two boundary stones leave the path on a bearing of 145 degrees on a vague path across the open moor to find two markers posts at the edge of Broadhead Valley. Descend on steep path towards wood and climb a stout wooden stile. Follow the obvious path through woods and in 400m turn sharp R down steep wooden steps. Continue through the wood to emerge at track by a Nature Reserve Board. Continue ahead across the cattle grid and down track to a SP at **Track Junction Control (004 248)**.

TL uphill on concrete track and eventually bear L behind a cottage. Shortly leave track to go ahead through gate with access marker. Climb up winding track, ignore stile on R to reach ladder stile. Climb and forward to another stile. TR to descend on narrow, steep path down Daisy Bank. Half way down at tall marker post with gas marker (GR 005 257) TL over stile. Ahead to wall gap with white gas marker, then continue to second white gas marker, then bear half right to small gate on to tarmac track. TL uphill, TR through gate just before cottages – **Park Cottages Control (003 257)**.

Descend through fields to stile, continue down drive to take path to R of garage. Follow across railway bridge to reach tarmac track. TR cross road then drive and ahead to tall fence. TR to enter narrow cobbled path leading over river bridge to main road. Cross (CARE!) TR, and in 40 m TL up cobbled track to canal. TR on towpath back to the **White Lion**.

Control Points - Record Times Here

White Lion-start-.....
Old Town Mill-.....
Gibson Mill-.....
Staups Mill-.....
Stoodley Pike-.....
Track Junction-.....
Park – Cottage-.....
White Lion-finish-.....
Overall Time-.....

Got Lost !! If you feel this route description could be improved email your suggested amendments to info@gofar.org.uk