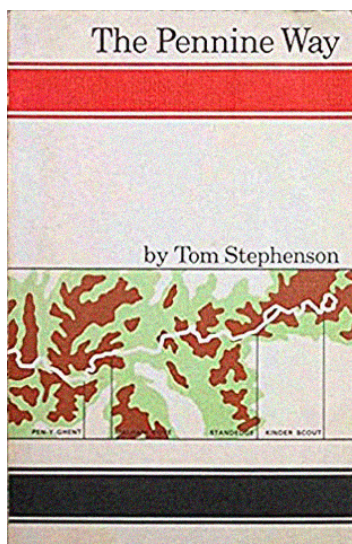


# Nº 4: Two Toms

## Section 3: Colne to Earby



**Distance:** 11 miles **Allow:** 5 - 6 hours

**Level:** Strenuous - mainly field paths, tracks with stiles and lanes. Some short steep climbs and moorland paths

**Start:** Colne Library (Public Transport - Bus connections to East Lancashire and Yorkshire at Colne Interchange. Trains to stations on the Accrington-Blackburn line at Colne station)

**Finish:** Earby youth hostel (Public Transport - Earby bus station, Victoria Road and the A56 Skipton/Colne Road provide services to Colne, Nelson, Burnley, Clitheroe, Whalley and Skipton)

**Map:** Explorer OL21 South Pennines

Please respect the Countryside Code and be aware how quickly the weather can change in the Pennines. Field path sections may be boggy after wet weather so walking boots are essential!

## A linear walk from Whalley to Colne and the Pennine Way.

### Celebrating two campaigners for access to the countryside - Tom Stephenson, the creator of the Pennine Way and Thomas A. Leonard, pioneer of cheap outdoor holidays for the working class.

### The walk is in three sections. It can be completed as one long challenge walk or in shorter sections with public transport connections.

1 From the library continue straight on along the left-hand side of Market Street. Go straight ahead by the Commercial Inn along Keighley Road. Tom Leonard resided at several addresses on Keighley Road. Follow it for ¾ mile to the big roundabout. Keep to the left-hand side of the roundabout crossing it with care to go along the lane signed for Lothersdale (Skipton Old Road). At the end of the terraced row take the first footpath on the left through a gate.

2 Follow the left side of the field through a new housing development then straight ahead along a hedge bank to a kissing gate and road (Castle Road). Join the path directly opposite at the entrance to Lower Clough House. Follow the drive only as far as the first footpath on the right in a hedge, waymarked as 'Winewall Circular Walk'. Cross stiles and the fenced path becomes a path along a left field edge leading across

rough pasture. Do not bear right to houses but turn left across a little wooden bridge. Go straight ahead along a waymarked path heading for conifers. Cross a stone bridge and through a gate to reach the conifers in a field corner.

3 Go straight ahead over the hill, crossing fields to follow a stream side to houses. A gate between garden hedges leads right then left to a track at Little Moss Farm. Turn right along the track to reach Cockhill Lane. Turn left following the lane gradually uphill until Noyna End Farm is reached on the left.

4 At the bend in the road leave it on the right through a gate to join a farm track. Follow this to a waymarker post and turn right here, dropping downhill to cross a footbridge over a stream. Turn right to a gate. Do not go through this but turn left uphill with the wall on the right. Cross a ladder stile then straight ahead up the spur of Great Edge to cross another stile. Keep the wall on the left to reach a third ladder stile and gate on the left. Cross this aiming slightly right across the field towards a coppice. Cross a stile in a fence keeping the trees on the left. Cross another stile and field to join a track at a gateway in the opposite field corner.

5 Follow the track straight ahead and it bends right to pass Harwes Farm on the left. At the entrance to the farm, leave the track via a stile on the left. Follow the left wall side through gated fields aiming straight uphill over Plked Edge. When the wall bears left continue straight ahead over the top of the hill to enjoy great Pennine views. Drop down to a gate/stile at the back of the Black Lane Ends pub. Unless visiting the pub do not enter the car park. Instead turn left into the next field and follow the wall side downhill to a stile in a fence in a boggy pasture. Cross this bearing right across a field to join Skipton Old Road.

6 Turn left along the road and follow it around the bend to the first road junction on the right. The trail now enters North Yorkshire. Turn right down Hawshaw Road for ¼ mile then first left down Centre Road. Follow this downhill to reach a t-junction. Turn right and take the first footpath on the right signed for 'The Fold'. The track leads straight ahead for 1 mile, passing ponds at Raygill Farm to join a drive leading to a road.

7 Turn right along the road past houses only as far as the first signed path on the left which begins at steps in a wall. Join this path and walk diagonally right steeply uphill across the field to the top right field corner. Cross the stream by Knott Barn and join White Hill Lane. Turn right along this for nearly ½ mile until the lane is crossed by the Pennine Way. Join Tom Stephenson's Pennine Way here, turning left up the farm drive. Keep following the PW and the path leads on to the moor and turns sharp left as a paved path leading to the trig point at Pinhaw Beacon. There is a good view in all directions from here, including northwards to the Yorkshire Dales and Malham Cove.

8 From the beacon walk downhill to the road. At the road junction follow the lane directly opposite downhill for ½ mile. At the PW signpost leave the lane on the left then at the next gate leave the PW as well. Take the track forking left across boggy Hare Hill. This going drops gradually downhill to become Gaylands Lane. Just before the village is reached look out on the left for a footpath signed for the Youth Hostel. Turn left here, cross a stream and turn right to emerge at Glen Cottage, the former YHA hostel. Turn right down Mill Brow Road then Red Lion Street to reach the village centre.



# Walking with Radicals

## Nº 4: Two Toms

### The Pennine Way

Tom Stephenson's idea for a long distance walking trail along the backbone of England was inspired by his teenage wanderings on Pendle Hill. As a journalist, he set out his vision in an article he wrote for the Daily Herald in 1935 entitled 'Wanted: A Long Green Trail'. He proposed 'a Pennine Way - from the Peak to the Cheviots', something akin to the Appalachian Trail in North America. The East Lancashire Pennines were always part of the original proposed route of the Pennine Way, with Tom Stephenson planning to take the route over Bouldsworth Hill.

As secretary of the Ramblers Association Tom led a deputation of MPs to walk a Hadrian's Wall section of his proposed Pennine Way at Whitsuntide 1948. The group of MPs included new Blackburn MP, Barbara Castle. In 1938 at a conference of open-air organisations, presided over by T.A. Leonard, President of the Ramblers Association, the Pennine Way Association was formed to support Tom's proposals.

Although his Pennine Way plan was set out in 1935, Tom spent the next thirty years involved in consultation and negotiation to overcome the vested interests of landowners and government bureaucracy. The Pennine Way, officially opened in 1965 at a ceremony held at Malham Tarn and Tom was there, aged 72, still working as secretary of the Ramblers Association.

Tom wrote the official guidebook to the Pennine Way, published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office in 1969. The 268 mile route from Edale in Derbyshire to Kirk Yetholm in the Scottish Borders was an immediate success and Blackburn's Alfred Wainwright produced his own popular guide, 'Pennine Way Companion' and paid tribute to Tom Stephenson in the book's introduction.

# Section 3:

## Colne to Earby



THIS YOUTH HOSTEL IS ONE OF MANY, BOTH IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD, WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED, MAY SPEND THE NIGHT. THE BUILDINGS ARE DIVERSE IN CHARACTER BUT THEY HAVE A COMMON PURPOSE: TO HELP ALL, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE OF LIMITED MEANS, TO A GREATER KNOWLEDGE, LOVE AND CARE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE. Y. H. A. NATIONAL OFFICE,

*"Officially, Whitehall created the Pennine Way. But those who walk it should remember that it is one man who inspired, in his mind and by his patience and effort, the freedom they enjoy. Mr. Stephenson has served the cause of walkers well throughout a long life, but his name will most be revered for his imaginative conception of a continuous way for travellers on foot across half of England". A. Wainwright, Pennine Way Companion, 1968.*

Walking with Radicals is presented by Pendle Radicals, and created to complement the Radicals Trail. Find out more at the web address below, where you can also download the full series of walks for mobile phone or to print.

Pendle Radicals is a Mid Pennine Arts project. Part of the Pendle Hill programme, it is supported by National Lottery players through the Heritage Fund. The Radicals Trail is part funded by the Rural Development Programme for England, through LEADER funding from Lancashire County Council.

1 Tom Leonard's first residence in Colne was 128 Keighley Road and by 1893 he was resided with his family at 99 Keighley Road. He left Colne in December 1894 but returned to the town as a visiting speaker in 1896 and stayed at 168 Keighley Road.

8 Earby Hostel provides a fitting end to the walk as it was opened in 1958 by the Youth Hostels Association (YHA), an organisation inspired by Tom Leonard's vision of cheap outdoor holidays for all. Leonard was involved in finding the first premises for the YHA including Pennant

Hall in the Conwy Valley and he was first vice-president of the YHA formed in 1930. Earby Youth Hostel is the former Glen Cottage, home of Katherine Bruce Glasier (1867-1950), a founder member of the Independent Labour Party. The hostel's post-war popularity was largely due to hikers staying there who were completing the challenge of the nearby Pennine Way.