**MOORS THE MERRIER 21**

**Please note that this route description is NOT an alternative to reading the map. It is purely a basic description of the route and you will need to read a map on the day.**

**LEG 1**: Leave the Golf club by heading to the left of the club house until you reach the gate. Go over the stile and turn right onto the Calderdale Way. Go through the gate and head to wall corner. From the wall corner, head north to Sheep Stones Trig Point (014 278). Follow the good path north until you reach the first Air Shaft (013 293). Head west along a good path, passing the second air shaft until you reach the junction of paths on the edge of the moor. Again, head north until you reach the Trig Point on High Brown Knoll (00964 30375). from the trig point, head north west until the A6033 road is reach and **CHECK POINT 1 (998 310).** 3.4miles/5.4km

**LEG 2:** From the check point, take the path that leads you to Haworth Old Road and follow the road north to the first footpath on your left. Descend the path, taking care on the steps that will be slippy after wet weather. Head across Lumb bridge and admire the waterfall. Also take a moment to read the plaque which commemorates the Ted Hughes poem 'Six Young Men'. Continue to follow the path around the waterfall and keep right, steeply uphill towards the Calder/Aire Link footpath near Shakleton Knoll. Follow this path westwards towards the hamlet of Walshaw. From here, head north on a good track over Wadsworth Moor. When you reach the shooting box (971 332) follow the good track, keeping left when it splits and passing a brick building on your right until you reach the dam of Walshaw Dean Middle Res. Pick up the Pennine way and follow it until you reach **CHECKPOINT 2 on Widdop Road (947 323).** 8.4miles/13.5km in total

**LEG 3:** Leave the checkpoint and head southwest along Widdop road until the Pennine Way sign. Follow the path as it heads down to Graining Water and crosses the bridge (948 315). Head south initially following the Pennine Way and then the Pennine Bridleway which leads you onto Edge Lane. Follow the lane for just over a kilometre until you reach **CHECKPOINT 3 (959 290)**. 11.2miles/18K in total.

**LEG 4:** Head downhill towards Land Farm (954 288) and then follow the path uphill, again following the Pennine Bridleway, until the crossroads. Continue straight on. The path soon descends and crosses a stream at 951 283 and then continues uphill, reaching houses at 949 280. Go into the houses forecourt and pick up the path just to the right of the house on your left and follow this to cross Higher Back Lane and then eventually Badger Lane (946 275). Head straight on through fields to the small old stone bridge (947 271) and follow the path south west, following the nearly erected yellow tip posts. Hop, skip and jump the stream (945 270) to get you onto the main path that heads directly east to the road (959 269). This path at first is really rough. I would advise keeping to the left of the wall, following a faint trod that eventually brings you back on the correct path via a stile. Turn left at the road towards Hippins Bridge. Turn right at the bridge and head towards the path that leads down Jumble Hole clough and brings you out on the main A646 road (969 262). Turn left just before the main road, following the track alongside the road to a small car park at the traffic lights. **CHECKPOINT 4 (971 264).** 15.0miles/24.1km in total.

**LEG 5:** Leave the checkpoint and cross the road at the lights, following the Pennine Bridleway until the path junction at 976 264. Follow the faint path (headed Cruttenstall) as it zig zags through the woods until you reach the wall stile near Foster Stones (975 262). Head towards the ruin farm of Cruttenstall and go through the gate just beyond the farm. Head south, following a good path towards Higham (972 251) and pick up the path heading east to re-join the Pennine Way.

At Swillington (981 247) take the footpath stile on the right. The path is very indistinct and can be rather ‘muddy’ but keep climbing until you reach Dicks Lane (986 247). Cross Erringden Moor, aiming for the wall corner at 995 254 and follow the path eastward before entering the woods at the top of Daisy Bank (002 255). Head down the hill until you reach the road. Turn right at the road and follow it round, going under the railway until you once again meet the main A646 road in Mytholmroyd.

Cross the busy main road at the crossing and turn left. Follow the main road until you reach Westfield Terrace. Turn off the main road here, crossing over the canal. When the road turns to the left, it becomes a track with a good track going off to the right, uphill. Take this track and follow it to the kissing gate. Through the gate and head up the steep field aiming for Hill House Farm (011 266). Follow the track as it swings round to the left. Go over the stile in front of you when you meet the tarmac road (012 269) and keep heading up the hill until you reach Heights Road (011 271). Turn left on the road. Pick up the footpath on the right of the road that cuts the corner and leads you into the Golf Club. Follow the tarmac road uphill to the clubhouse and then you'll be finished!! 21 miles/33.8km in total.

CHECKPOINTS:

* CP1 – A6033 Oxenhope Road (998 310)
  + Simple refreshments & water.
* CP2 – Widdop Road (947 323)
  + Hot drinks and refreshments.
* CP3 – Edge Lane (959 290)
  + Simple refreshments & water.
* CP4 – Burnley Road (971 264)
  + Hot drinks and refreshments………maybe a whisky?

Route Highlights…….

* Lumb Falls
* Widdop Moor
* Stoodley Pike
* Golf clubhouse……..at the end!