

Armchair Archaeologists, 31st August 2017

Road directions for Field Visits

1. Newton Rigg to Long Meg

Starting point: Newton Rigg College

Turn left out of college

At T-junction turn left onto B5288 heading into Penrith

As this nears the town, there is a left-right dog-leg taking you over the railway line, then immediately you are at the 'Morrisons' mini roundabout

Turn left, down the hill, towards Penrith town centre.

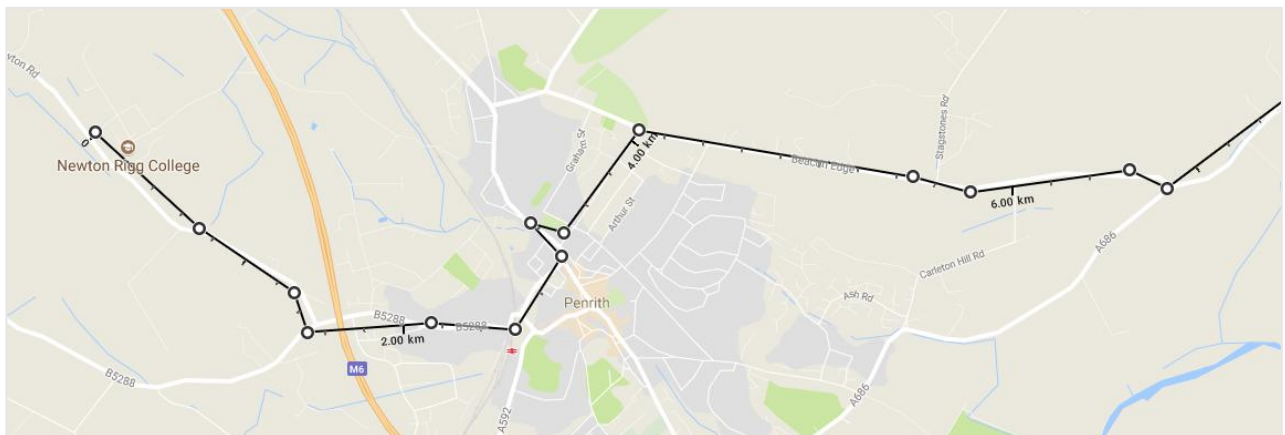
At the bottom of the hill, join the A6 on a one-way system going to the left.

Follow this system round to the right, then turn immediately left into Portland Place, a long straight road trending uphill, which becomes Wordsworth Street

Continue uphill across a road junction to the end of Wordsworth Street

At the T-junction turn right onto Beacon Edge

Continue along Beacon Edge for about 1.75 miles, and if not driving enjoy the panoramic views!
So far is shown on the map below



At the T-junction end of Beacon Edge, turn left onto A686, away from Penrith, heading for Langwathby

This takes you over a single-lane box-girder bridge with traffic lights

****Road work alert**** Normally you turn left though the village green of Langwathby to reach Long Meg via Little Salkeld. However when I reccied this last week, road signs at Little Salkeld said 'road closed here 28-31 August'. If you feel adventurous and rebellious you may want to chance that these have finished. There is no way round if this road is shut. You will have pick across via Winskill or to return to the A686 at Langwathby.

If you are able to drive through Little Salkeld village, follow the right-hand turn at the top of the lane, continuing uphill. You will come to a left-hand turning signed '**Long Meg Druids Circle**'. Drive up this lane, over cattle grids, and arrive at the circle where you can park.

Route to Long Meg avoiding Little Salkeld

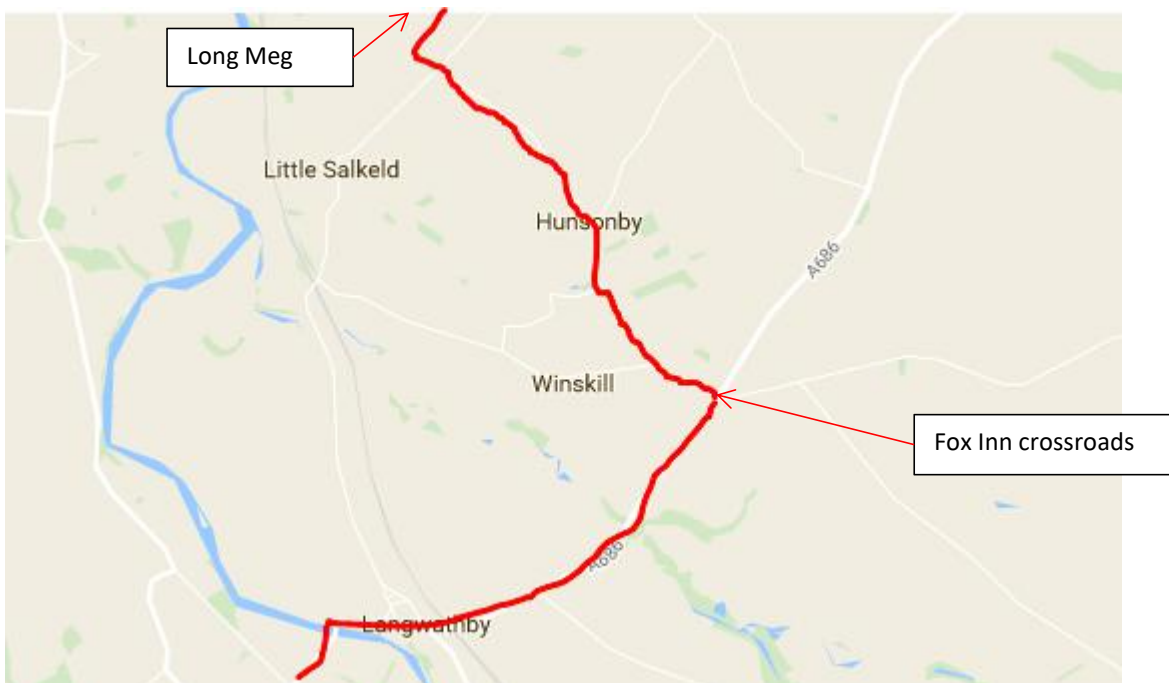
Because of road works at Little Salkeld, at Langwathby do not turn into the village green but continue follow the A686 road as it bends right, continuing ahead for about 1.3 miles, to the junction marked by the **Fox Inn**.

Turn left in front of the Fox Inn for Hunsonby.

Keep on the right-hand fork (millstone by farm gate on right) heading for Hunsonby

Drive through the pretty village of Hunsonby keeping on the main lane. Shortly (c. 150m) the other side of the village there is a fork. Keep left - this is marked as the main lane. It goes through a working farm as you turn left, then continues straight on. Single track, well surfaced, passing places.

After just under a mile, you reach a crossroads at the brow of a hill. The lane to Long Meg is straight ahead of you. Follow the lane across cattle grids and park at Long Meg Stone Circle.



2. Long Meg to Mayburgh Henge

Starting from Long Meg

Follow the track back to the small crossroads

Head straight across for Hunsonby - downhill just under a mile, then bearing right through the village and back to the A686

Turn right onto the A686 at the Fox Inn, heading back towards Langwathby and Penrith

After about 6 miles along the A686 you come to the Kemplay Bank Roundabout

Here you will follow the signs painted on the left hand lane for A6 south. Avoid getting siphoned onto the A66.

You will also see the signs for Shap and a camp site (see picture)

This is the road to Eamont Bridge

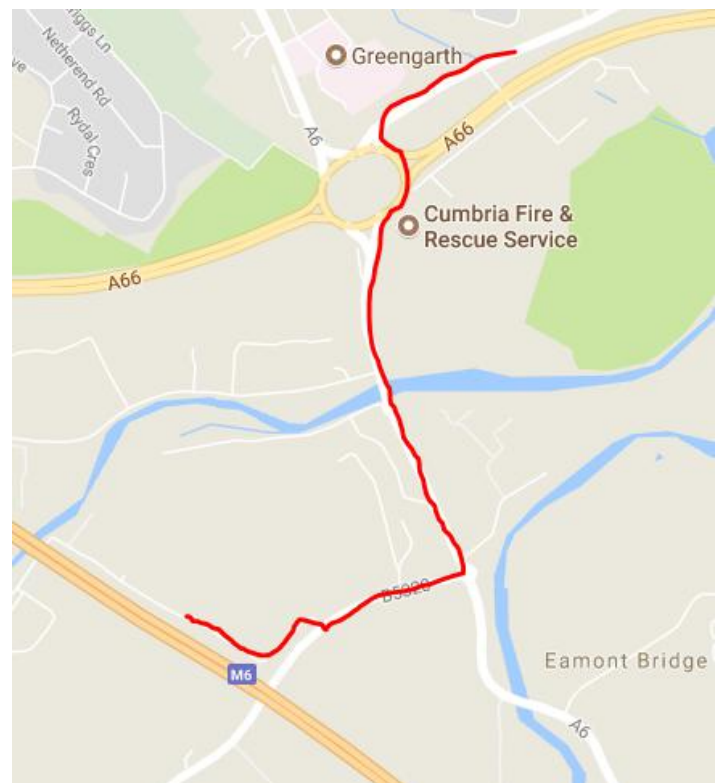


At the village of Eamont Bridge, there are traffic lights at the bridge. About 350 metres ahead there is a roundabout with 'The Crown', a Georgian coaching inn, on the right. Turn right, signed for Mayburgh Henge.

Look out for the first road turning on the right, marked with a bus shelter.

Turn right into the lane and go ahead.

The lane does a right-hand turn and there is parking on the lane near the stile that leads to the Henge.



3. Mayburgh Henge to Brougham Castle

Start point: Mayburgh Henge

Return along the lane, rejoin the main road heading left back towards the roundabout at Eamont Bridge / The Crown Inn

At the roundabout turn right towards Shap

As you pass the 'romantick' mock-gothic gatehouse, look out for a turning on the left marked with a brown sign for Brougham Castle (B6262)

This road will skirt round Brougham Hall - we will return here after Brougham Castle

Continue straight ahead.

Brougham Castle is marked to the left at a small crossroads

Note: the nearby bridge is not in use - especially important if using satnav



4. Brougham Hall to Penrith

Return to the A6 and turn towards Eamont Bridge

Follow the road north to the Kemplay roundabout

Go straight ahead keeping on the A6 for 'town centre'

You will go past hospital on right and secondary school on left

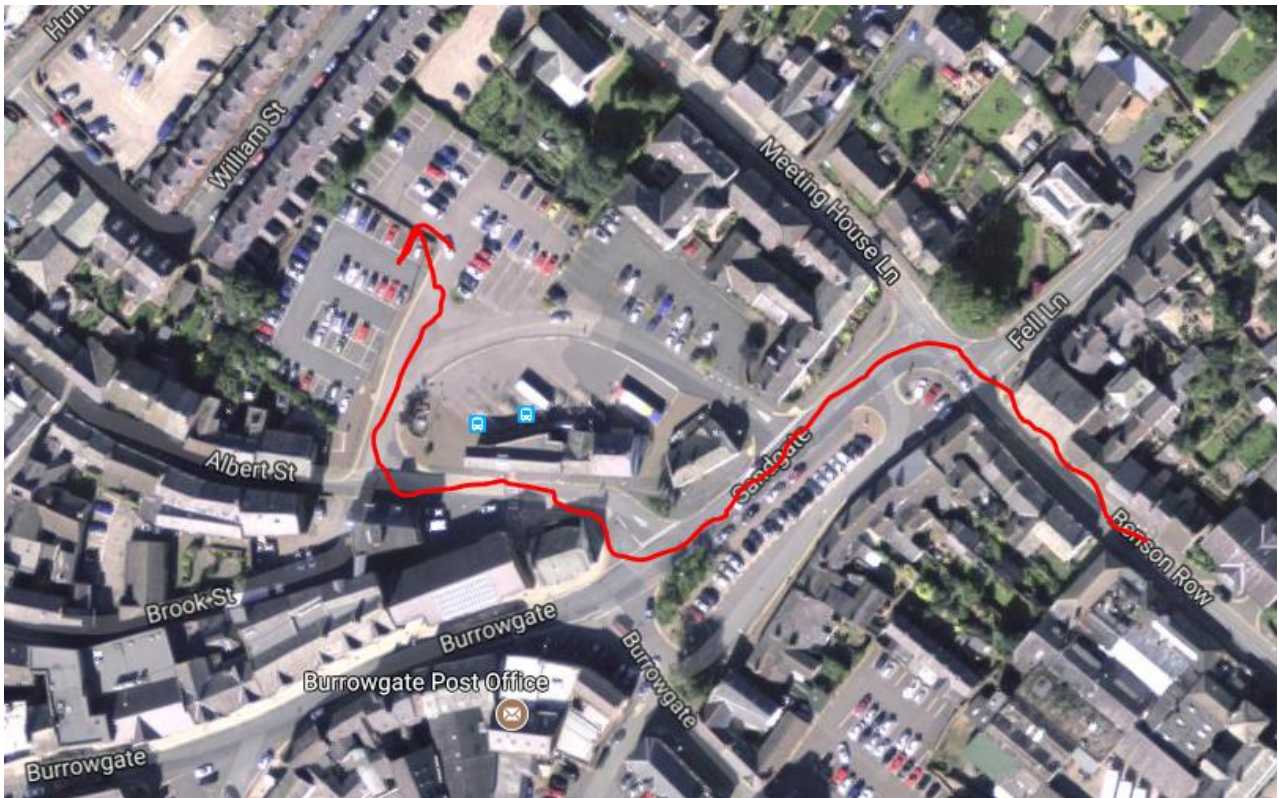
We will aim to park on Sandgate Car Park. If you have blue-badge parking you may be able to choose a space nearer the centre, Cornmarket.

Penrith has a one-way system so the route to Sandgate car park will seem unnecessarily long.

The A6 into Penrith becomes Victoria Street. As you see Bargain Booze on the left ahead, turn right onto Old London Road which merges into Friargate.

Turn left onto Benson Row at the end of Friargate (passengers look out for the remains of a Tower House or Pele Tower built into the backs of the buildings to the left!)

At the end of Benson row is a wide crossroads. Turn downhill to the left. You will see some parking spaces but there are more in the Sandgate car park. The entrance to this is the second turning - Albert Street - on the right, and the site is shared with the bus station.



If feeling frail by this point, there are buses from the bus station up the steep hill to the castle park / railway station.

The walk back is quick and easy, being down hill all the way!

Bus X5 to Keswick 25 mins past hour

Bus 508 to Windermere 4 mins past hour