A Quarry Wander

Starting point: Start at The Cliff Inn, Crich and walk downhill towards Wakebridge. The road is fairly quiet but it pays to keep to the side as you walk down. Along the way you will see an old mile marker for Cromford and a lovely example of an avenue of trees across the road. (Depending on the time of year). This section is all downhill and to your right up and over the bank is Crich Stand and the disused quarry.

Continuing on: Walk down to Wakebridge, ignore the first public footpath sign on the left that goes across to Coddington Farm and keep going, passing some cottages on the right (if you're lucky the goats will be peering over their fence).

Finding the path: As you approach a collection of houses and cottages on the right, there is a squeeze gate in the wall on the left and a footpath sign. In the Autumn this will be hard to spot so take your time, if you go round the bend to the left you have gone too far.

Take the footpath through the squeeze gate and follow the path across the field, (This next section is very wet in the winter). The path meanders and follows the bends of the stream to your left.

Through nature's beauty: You will pass through some tress and to your right is what looks like a Badger Sett. Keep on the path and go over a couple of stiles and through a gate towards the bridge.

As you approach the bridge you will see the water pipe on your left across the stream, this area has a large amount of covered reservoirs and this pipe is part of the system of these reservoirs.

Into the woods: Crossing the bridge, keep to the path and enjoy the next few minutes of this lovely old wooded area with paths off to the left into clearings.

Feel free to explore the clearings and the flora and fauna here, the quarry rock face has lots of hidden faces if you look closely.

Meandering downhill: Staying to the main path, meander downhill to a gate and the road, cross the road and carry on through the large gate opposite and a wide path.

Cromford canal: You are now walking parallel to the Cromford canal and after a few minutes you will see a path to your right, this will take you to the canal towpath if you wish and you can walk to Cromford Mills or the other way to Ambergate.

For this walk, we remain on the wide path and follow it uphill to another gate, go through the gate and cross the road to the footpath diagonally opposite.

Discovering Local Lore: Follow this path around to the right and a large clearing, where it is locally spoken that "Stig of the dump" was filmed.

The path hairpins back to the right, so follow this and after about 100m keep your eyes open for a path off to left sharply uphill with some rudimentary steps in the bank.

The return journey: Go up the steps in the bank and across the back of the allotments and follow the path down the gravel track to Whatstandwell.

You are now on Hindersitch lane so turn left uphill and brace yourself for the last leg of the walk. Take a slow walk uphill and take in the houses, the village green and the gardens.

Admiring the View: As you get to Coddington farm take a few minutes to admire the views across the valley and over to Alderwasley.

Continue uphill until you see The Cliff Inn over to your left and carry on to the end of the road opposite the Crich Tramway Museum and left to The Cliff Inn.