

Greetland & West Vale: Event Details

Parking: Park in the car park behind the Brow Bridge café near the crossroads in West Vale. Nearest Post Code HX4 8AJ. Free for 1 hour (but get a ticket from the machine), 40p for 2 hours, 80p for 3 hours. Free on Sundays. At the weekends there is also ample free parking in Calder Street across the road past the primary school.

[Streetmap](#)

[Google Maps](#)

WhatThreeWords: ///upper.planet.probe

MapRun: This event uses the MapRun smartphone app. The maps and access codes will be on the EPOC website. If you are unfamiliar with how this works, please read the Getting Started with MapRun section on the MapRun page of the EPOC website.

Map: The map is an Open Orienteering map based on OpenStreetMap. The area is a mixture of different types of urban and residential development, recreation grounds, small areas of woodland and farmland.

Courses:

Blue: 1:7500 5.7km 18 controls

Green: 1:7500 4.4km 13 controls

Short Green: 1:5000 3.2km 13 controls

Yellow: 1:5000 2.4km 11 controls

Please note:

The Black Brook must only be crossed via a bridge.

The cricket ground towards the end of some courses must not be crossed – use the path at the edge.

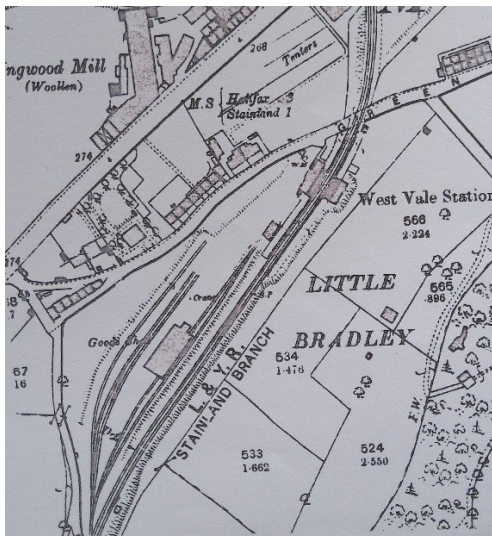
No wall should be crossed unless a path goes through it.

If you are a newcomer to orienteering, please familiarise yourself with the colours used. White is woodland, bright yellow is open grassland that you can cross; dull ochre yellow is farm fields that are out of bounds except where a path runs through, and olive green represents private land (gardens etc). You can only go through ochre and olive green areas on roads or footpaths.

Risk Assessment: There are 3 main roads through the mapped area, take extra care when crossing, but please be aware of traffic wherever you are. Some of the ginnels are steep and cobbled and require extra care in wet weather. Please respect other members of the public at all times and give people space. This is an official British Orienteering activity. Neither the event organiser/planner nor East Pennine Orienteering Club can be held responsible for any accidents. You take part at your own risk. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

History: Most local people will be familiar with Clay House (1650, Grade II listed) near the start, but hidden away in Greetland and unfamiliar to many folk who have lived here for years, is Sunny Bank (also Grade II listed) and believed to be the oldest building in Calderdale, dating back to 1290. The Blue and Green courses will pass by its half-timbered frontage.

The magnificent 13 arched railway viaduct that dominates West Vale was on the short (1.6m) Stainland branch line, which opened in 1875. Passenger numbers were never very significant, but there was a lot of goods traffic, and there were sidings at both West Vale and Holywell Green stations. West Vale station was just beyond the southern end of the viaduct (after a level crossing in Green Lane). It closed for passengers in 1929, and for goods in 1959 and has now totally vanished under a housing estate (apart from the eastern boundary wall).



The large house at the southern end of the viaduct has the initials HHW over the front door. This was the residence of Henry Waller. He was a wealthy textile manufacturer and rugby enthusiast and he chaired the meeting at the George Hotel in Huddersfield in 1895 at which 20 northern rugby clubs broke away from the Rugby Union to form what became the Rugby League, of which he was the first president.

Finally, if you had bought a terraced house in Queen Street, West Vale, 30 years ago, what odds do you think you could have got at that time from a bookmaker as to the chances of the Tour de France coming past your front door? But it did in 2014. Expect the unexpected!

Enjoy your run!