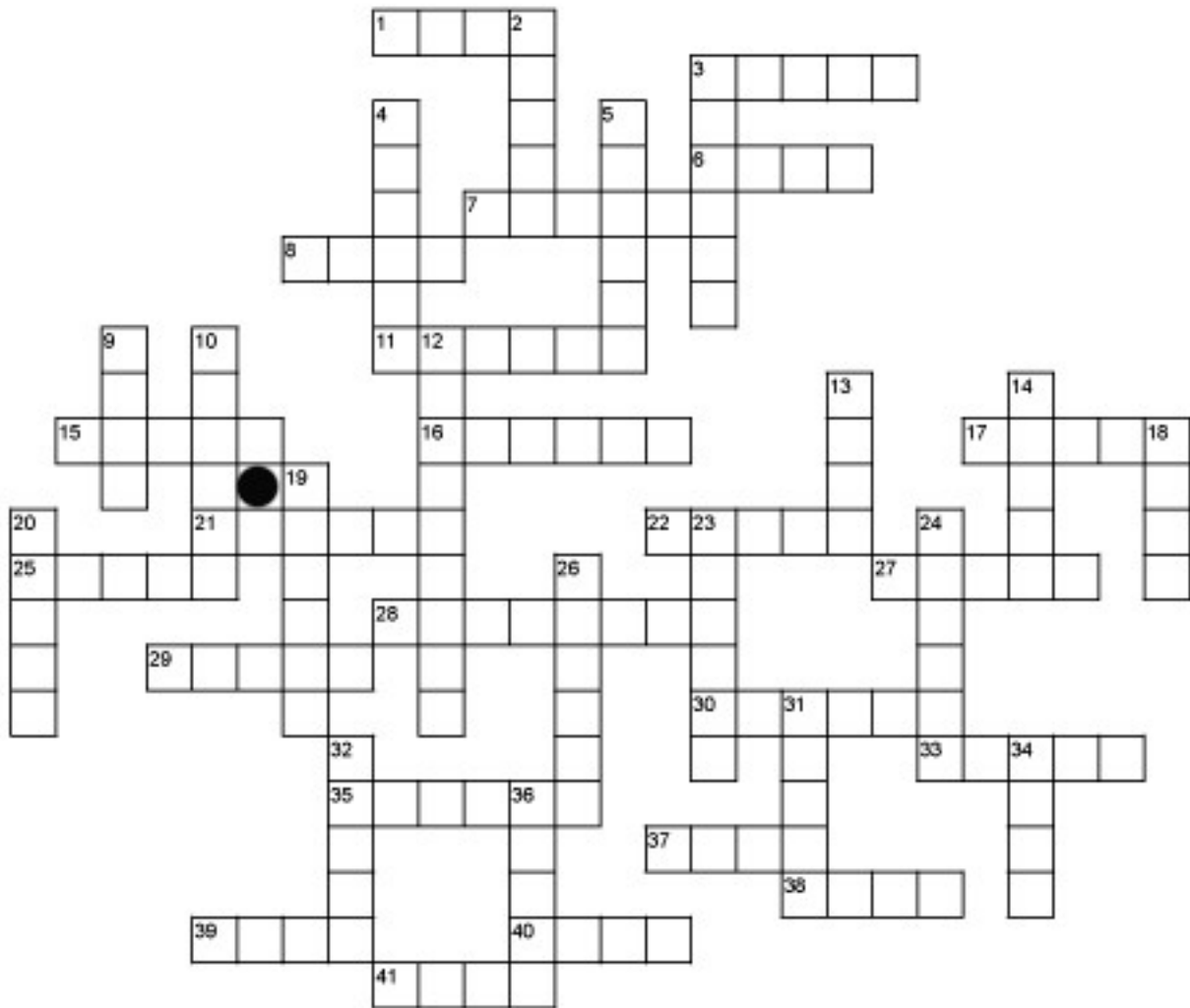


Loxley Common Geocross V39 Revision A 7 Feb 2021

No contact geocaching and crossword

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To solve this crossword puzzle you need to visit the 14 locations of the main feature in the following photographs.

You will need the what3words app (W3W) on your GPS device. Using your GPS device held over the main feature you then get the what3words address. You will probably have to move around to find the W3W square containing the 'word' provided.

Save all the words and eventually fit the words to the crossword grid.

There are just three crossword clues. Find these words first, then fit all the other words to the grid. There may be more than one solution.

Clues

- 10 DOWN begins with Q
- 12 DOWN person in better condition
- 38 ACROSS small USA coin

The GPS on mobile phones can be imprecise. This can mean that multiple devices very close to each other might show different 3 word addresses, not because the 3 word addresses of your actual location is different but because the devices each think they are in slightly different places. Each location is a grid square 3x3 metres.

In order to help you ensure that you obtain the correct three word (W3W) address, the first word in the W3W is provided as a clue. You may need to walk around the main feature into different 3 x 3 metre grid squares to find the correct W3W address.

E.g. Let's assume that you are at a location given by the W3W address thick.verge.commented and you are told the first word of the W3W address is the word "thick". You now know you have found the right one.

Location	OS grid reference	W3W		
		First word	Second word	Third word
1	SK 30729 89881	paused		
2	SK 30803 89897	dime		
3	SK 30829 89895	healthier		
4	SK 30852 89903	atom		
5	SK 31054 90000	dining		
6	SK 31181 90038	client		
7	SK 31517 90145	noises		
8	SK 30617 90949	split		
9	SK 30656 90910	advice		
10	SK 30969 90692	shadow		
11	SK 31083 90590	public		
12	SK 31222 90531	meal		
13	SK 31010 90745	serve		
14	SK 30997 90817	cheeks		

Each of the locations can be found on the route below. The locations are listed in order and sufficient background is included to help you triangulate your position to identify the location.

Start on Rodney Hill.



Location 1 OS ref SK 30729 89881

Water troughs Loxley Road

Contains “paused”



Near the foot of Rodney Hill. Horse drinking troughs on the main road between Sheffield and Bradfield.

Location 2 OS ref SK 30803 89897

Gate walltop grindstone

Contains "dime"



Loxley has many of these small grinding stones built into walls or just stacked up in gardens. Made from gritstone quarried on Loxley Edge and used in the many small mills on the River Loxley, probably for making cutlery.

Location 3 OS ref SK 30829 89895

Rodney Hill NHS heartstone

Contains “healthier”



Mysteriously placed overnight on the triangular village green on Rodney Hill. This is in support of the NHS workers during the Covid 19 pandemic of 2020.

Loxley doesn't really have a heart. It is a residential village which blends into Sheffield and has no traditional village centre with shops. It has two pubs and a Post Office/General Store/Off-Licence, all on the main Loxley Road. You wouldn't go thirsty there, but surprisingly none of the pubs are named after Robin Hood.

Location 4 OS ref SK 30852 89903

Loxley Village Green stone

Contains "atom"



Old carved stone near the top of the green. Possibly a horse mounting block or the base for the village cross.

There are a number of drilled holes on the upper face which might have held metal spikes.

This village green is a popular location on the edge of Loxley Village where there are a number of benches overlooking the main road and cemetery.

Location 5 OS ref SK 31054 90000

Bus shelter mural

Contains “dining”



Loxley Primary School opened in 1911.

This mural painted inside a bus shelter shows the green countryside which the village overlooks.

Aiming High Together is a reference to archery and a connection to the outlaw Robin Hood, also known as Robin of Locksley. Robin Hood is on the school's coat-of-arms.

Location 6 OS ref SK 31181 90038

Normandale House – right gate pillar

Contains “client”



Normandale House stands at the top of Rodney Hill. The land on which it stands was known as Little Haggas Croft.

One version of the legend of Robin Hood names this pasture (croft) as having the foundation of a house where Robin Hood was born in 1160. This might be the site on which Normandale House was later built.

It is worth noting that 1160 is just 94 years after the Norman Invasion of 1066, when King William the Conqueror seized all the land and gave it to his barons. In doing so he took common land rights away from the local population. The barons were allowed to charge taxes. Neither of which were popular with the English people. A young man born in Loxley in 1160 saw a better future for himself as a champion of the common people. Robin Hood's simple strategy was to rob from the rich and give to the poor. No wonder the Sherrif of Nottingham is always portrayed as a villain.

Location 7 OS ref SK 31517 90145

Sheffield Boundary Stone

Contains “noises”



Loxley is outside of the city of Sheffield. It is within the extensive rural Parish of Bradfield, and in fact is the most densely populated parts of Bradfield parish. Bradfield is thought to be the largest parish in England covering 56 square miles.

Location 8 OS ref SK 30617 90949

Loxley Common sign

Contains "split"



King William gave Locksley Chase to his Norman barons as hunting grounds.

The land was quarried for stone, clay and coal on a small scale for hundreds of years. This moved up to an industrial scale in the late 1800s when there was a high demand for gannister clay, used for fire resistant refractory bricks which were needed to line Sheffield's steel furnaces. The gannister mines made a huge impact on the landscape. These are deeper open-cast workings forming small valleys, making it easier to extract the gannister.

There are also area of pit workings with collapsed remnants of shallow coal bellpit mines.

By the 1930's there were three large refractory brick manufacturers in the Loxley Valley, supplying 95% of Britains needs for furnace lining bricks. The gannister workings were abandoned when the industry collapsed in the 1980s due to a lack of demand.

The common is now used for walking and wildlife.

Location 9 OS ref SK 30656 90910

Green bench - east

Contains "advice"



Loxley Common has a number of memorial benches around the car parks. The views are spectacular. This is one of a pair donated for people to 'ENJOY'

Location 10 OS ref SK 30969 90692

Loxley trig point

Contains "shadow"



Located above the quarried Loxley Edge.

Location 11 OS ref SK 31083 90590

Cave House

Contains "public"



Cave House was a 'fire house', an all-stone construction of walls, floors and roof and supposedly fire-proof. It was built over a natural cave in 1740, just below Loxley Edge. It was demolished by explosives in 1920 and a lot of walling stone was carted away. A fire house is hard to destroy!

It was sited above a well used path, from which wide gently graded cart tracks rise to pass over the edge. There isn't much house to see. There are remains of carved walling stone, and low drystone walls by the track. The cave was marked by a small cairn but is largely filled in. Nearby are quarried boulders covered with large graffiti murals. A stone walled garden with a stone pigsty base is still visible above the edge.

The house 'guards' an entrance to the gannister workings and may have been a watchmans cottage. Having a reputation of being fire-proof would have been a warning to would-be thieves.

A local 'Ghost Story' is told about Cave House. In 1812 Cave House was occupied by a gamekeeper and woodsman Lomas Revill and his wife. She was murdered on New Years Eve and mysterious large footprints were found in the snow leading away from the house to a cave. Lomas Revill didn't return home that night and said he spent the night in a cabin in the woods. Mary Revills body was found on New Years Day by a visiting neighbour. Lomas Revill went slowly mad and his hair was white at the age of 42. He hung himself from a rafter in the house a few years later.

Location 12 OS ref SK 31222 90531

Gannister workings

Contains “meal”



A maze of valleys carved to extract the gannister clay. Now filled with trees but until the 1980s gannister mining was a thriving business in Loxley.

Gannister is the grey clay deposit usually found under coal measures. It was once the mud in the bottom of swamps, into which roots of the prehistoric ferns and swamp forest grew. As the forest trees collapsed into the swamp, they laid down layers of what would later be compressed into coal.

The gannister clay beds are usually quite shallow, whereas coal measures are much deeper. A coal miner knew that when he reached the gannister there would be no more coal to be won. Some of the gannister mines were tunnelled. These appear to have been open-cast workings.

Now a playground for mountain bikers.

Location 13 OS ref SK 31010 90745

Bench seat

Contains "serve"



Stone bench, big enough for ten people. Might have been a place for casual workers to turn up and wait for a days paid work.

Location 14 OS ref SK 30997 90817

Gate post

Contains "cheeks"



Single gate post, probably placed here to be used as a seat. It has a carved north arrow on the top face which roughly points north.

Is the arrow connected to the Robin Hood legend?