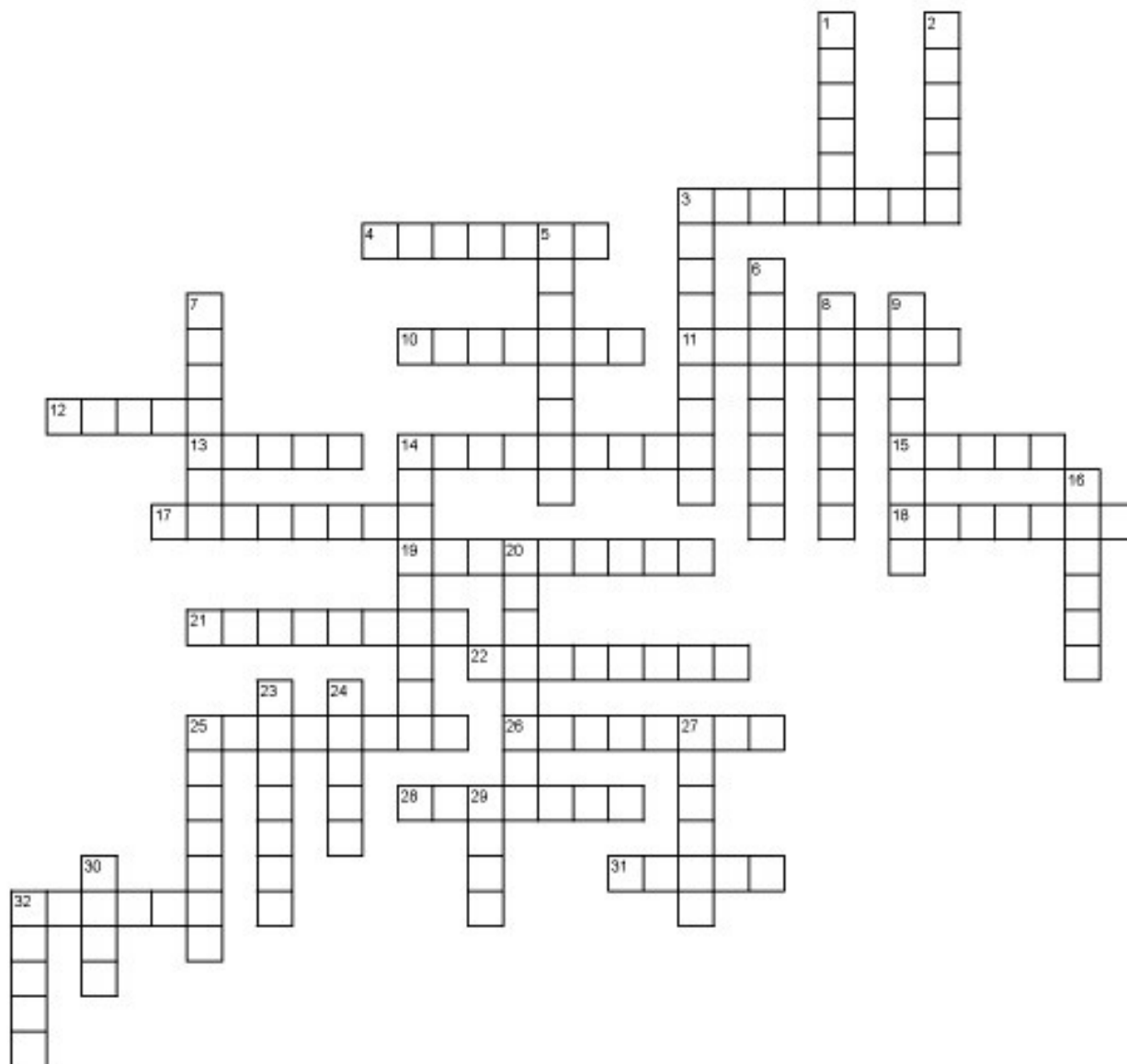


Bleaklow Geocross V54

22 August 2021

No contact geocaching and crossword

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To solve this crossword puzzle you need to visit the 12 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

11 ACROSS could be flowers

25 ACROSS home on wheels

27 DOWN not present

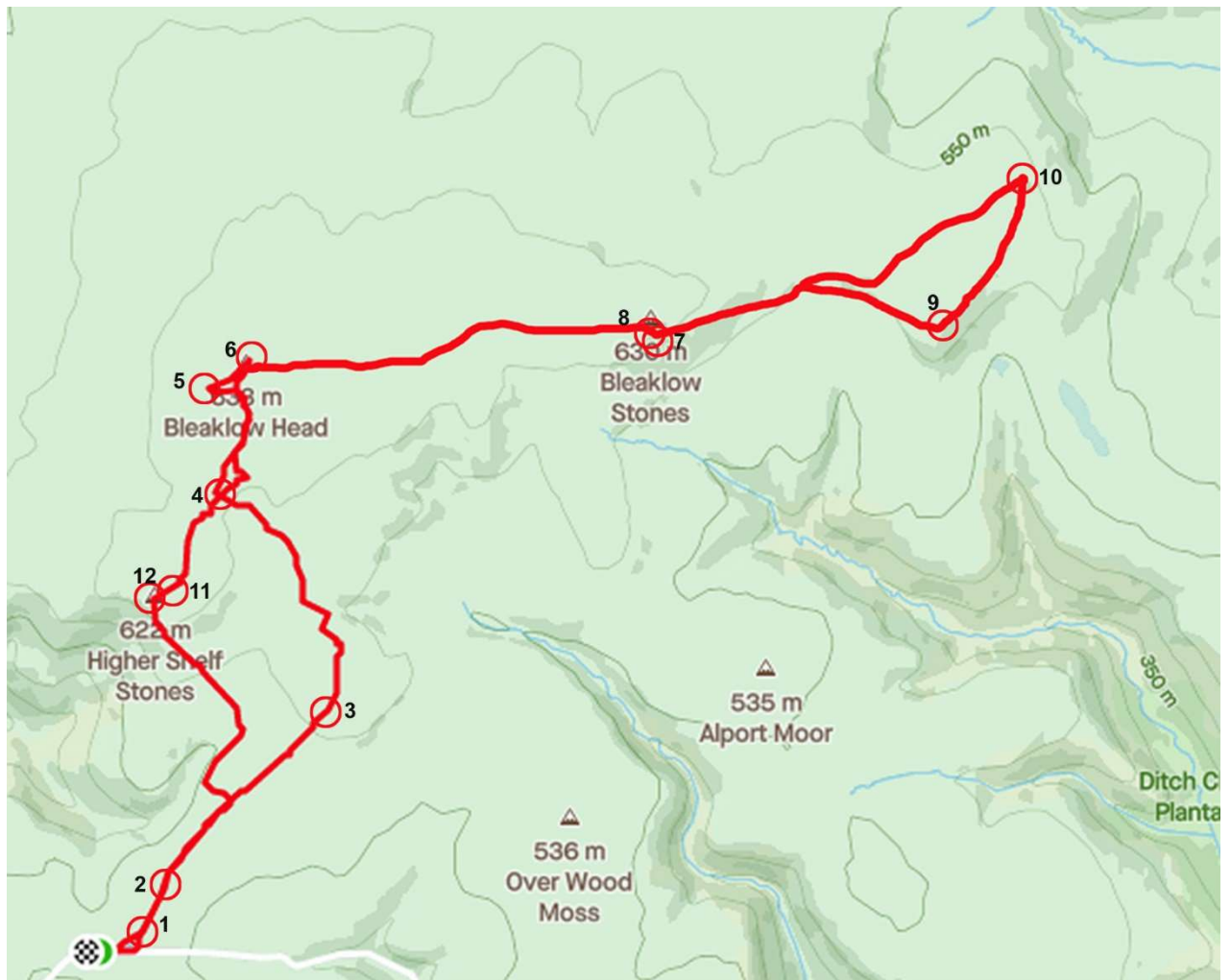
The GPS on mobile phones can be imprecise. This can mean that multiple devices very close to each other might show different 3 word addresses, not because the 3 word addresses of your actual location is different but because the devices each think they are in slightly different places. Each location 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 08833 93004	gifted		
2	SK 08978 93323	natively		
3	SK 09851 94244	tamed		
4	SK 09230 95353	exulted		
5	SK 09183 95911	evoke		
6	SK 09412 96068	caravans		
7	SK 11536 96314	graphic		
8	SK 11519 96331	unwound		
9	SK 13084 96225	escapades		
10	SK 13419 96681	bloomers		
11	SK 09063 94874	badge		
12	SK 08893 94767	blanking		

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 from Snake Pass A57.

Location 1 OS ref SK 08833 93004

Snake Pass Pennine Way gate

Contains “gifted”



The Snake Pass A57 was opened 200 years ago. It is not reliable though. Typically it is closed an average of 70 days each year due to severe weather and landslips.

The Pennine Way long distance footpath crosses at Snake Summit. It was opened in April 1965. This 260 mile footpath starts from Edale and finishes at Kirk Yetholm in Scotland. Most walkers will complete it in 10 days but the running record is 2 days 10 hours.

The once boggy path has been much improved over the years. The route from Snake Pass to Bleaklow Head is well marked and not steep, but the short section that meanders up Hern Clough is rocky and muddy, and can be snow-filled in winter.

Location 2 OS ref SK 08978 93323

Doctors Gate Old Woman – path junction

Contains “natively”



The Romans built a fairly direct road to link between their forts at Glossop and Brough. The route was followed by a late medieval pack-horse trail but it was a difficult and dangerous crossing of wild moorland. Doctor Talbot was the vicar of Glossop between 1494 – 1535. He financed improvements to the highest and boggiest part of the path, straightened it out and it became known as ‘Doctors Gate’. The old edge stones can be seen here. The OS map names this junction as ‘Old Woman’. There was an Old Woman guide stone which served as a path marker on Bamford Moor, now sadly vandalised by gamekeepers in the 1920s. If there was an Old Woman Stone here it is long gone.

Location 3 OS ref SK 09851 94244

Start of flagstones at north of Trench Path

Contains “tamed”



The first kilometre follows a trench path, a man-made hollow-way which eventually climbs out onto the moorland where stone signs guide the Pennine Way route.

There are a second set of signs which appeared in 2020 in response to a record number of Mountain Rescues being needed to lost visitors to the aircraft wreck. This was probably due to social-media spreading the word about the B29 bomber which crashed on Higher Shelf Stones in 1948. These new signs are labelled ‘Wreck Site’ and have been placed to improve the safety of thousand of tourists who are lured to the wreck of a B29 Superfortress.

Many get lost and the terrain on either side of the Pennine Way is tough. These tourists are mostly inexperienced in hill-walking, so Mountain Rescues are sadly too frequent.

There is now a bus stop at the summit of the Snake Pass. A bleak place to stand waiting for a bus. There are no bus shelters. Yet.

Location 4 OS ref SK 09230 95353

Hern Stones - east

Contains "exulted"



There are many groups of wind-eroded stones on Bleaklow. Hern Stones is a landmark which can help to guide walkers down Hern Clough.

The rock here is Kinderscout Gritstone laid down in the Carboniferous Period 350,000,000 years ago. It is up to 170 metres thick and interspersed with layers of fine particle shales and mudstones. These softer layers have weathered out resulting in a 'stack of pancakes' appearance. Typically they are more heavily sculpted than the harder Millstone Gritstone of Stanage Edge.

Compare the vertical faces of Millstone Gritstone edges like Stanage and Froggatt with the collapsing jumble of Kinderscout Gritstone at Hern, Grinah and Barrow Stones.

Location 5 OS ref SK 01983 95911

Wain Stones – The Kiss

Contains “evole”



Wain Stones probably means ‘Wagon Stones’ This pair are well known as The Kiss.

The line of bedding is clearly visible, tilting south and east. The rear rock has shifted and lies un-naturally with puckered lips reaching up for a kiss which isn’t going to happen for a long time.

Location 6 OS ref SK 09412 96068

Bleaklow Head

Contains “caravans”



This pole and a massive cairn is a welcome sight especially in winter.

From here the Pennine Way continues north then turns west down Wildboar Grain to Torside Clough.

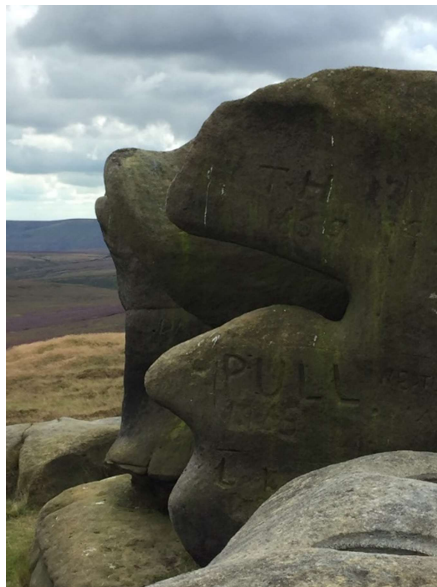
Bleaklow Head is the highest point on the Bleaklow Moors at 633 metres. A turn east leads to Bleaklow Hill which is slightly lower at 630 metres. Neither of these high points merits a trig point.

Interestingly the high points on both Bleaklow and Kinder Moors is 633 metres. How can 350 million years of wind and water erosion be so accurate to create matching high points 10 kilometres apart?

Location 7 OS ref SK 11536 96314

Bleaklow Stones footprint

Contains “graphic”



Crossing the Bleaklow summit plateau in an easterly direction can be disorientating as the route goes up and down peaty groughs, following ancient marker stakes which come and go. Getting a clear line of sight is difficult. Bleaklow Stones are a welcome sight.

In the 1930 Sheffield Clarion Ramblers Handbook pages 105-106, GHB Ward explains how to find the footprints carved here by two 19th century gamekeepers.

'three rock fantastics on the south side of the summit...near the Anvil Stone...one rock fantastic has the jaws of a mammoth and upon it is carved FH 1859..behind it is carved WT... on the flat stone beside and to the right of the jaw stone may be seen the two well-chiselled feet... two heavy boots... the boot marks are marked JP and WP in good lettering'

The photos shows one footprint labelled WP but no sign of the second footprint of JP.

Location 8 OS ref SK 11519 96331

Bleaklow Anvil Stone

Contains “unwound”



A well known landmark at Bleaklow Stones, named the Anvil Stone by GHB Ward.

Classic wind erosion. Particles of sand have been picked up into the air, and blasted into this rock for millions of years. The zone of maximum erosion is just 1500mm above ground.

Location 9 OS ref SK 13084 96225

Grinah Stones

Contains “escapades”



Three more ‘rock fantastics’ near the high point of Grinah Stones.

This is about as far away from a road as you can reach in the Dark Peak. Be prepared to feel lonely.

Grinah Stones is a jumble of gritstone, and is most impressive when viewed from below, where the rocks have tumbled down the moorland edge for millions of years. Rock climbers use this place for bouldering but the tradition is that no ‘routes’ are recorded.

It is a good example of the weathering of the softer layers of shales and mudstones, causing massive slips of the overlying Kinderscout Gritstone in a southerly direction.

These are the same landslips which close the Snake Pass every few years.

Location 10 OS ref SK 13419 96681

Barrow Stones

Contains “bloomers”



Three more ‘rock fantastics’ at Barrow Stones, just above the fence and stile.

The group of Bleaklow, Grinah & Barrow Stones is the best concentration of spectacular wind and rain eroded gritstone in the Peak District. Rock basins are abundant, where pebbles in water have been swirled around by strong winds to create symmetric bowls.

A special characteristic of these Bleaklow stones is that many are ‘standing sentinels’ in a bed of peaty sand.

Location 11 OS ref SK 09063 94874

Superfortress Wreck

Contains "badge"



On 3 November 1948 this B29 Superfortress bomber 'Over-Exposed' was on a routine daytime flight to deliver \$17,400 of wages to an American air-force base near Warrington. The B29 was the type of plane used to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in World War Two.

This plane had 'state of the art' technology and the pilot was flying by instruments and descending through low cloud. He misjudged the starting point of the descent and flew into the summit of Higher Shelf Stones (621 metres) at a speed in excess of 200mph. All 13 people on board were killed. The plane broke up and debris was scattered over a large area.

If he had held his height for another 30 seconds he would have crossed the summit safely.

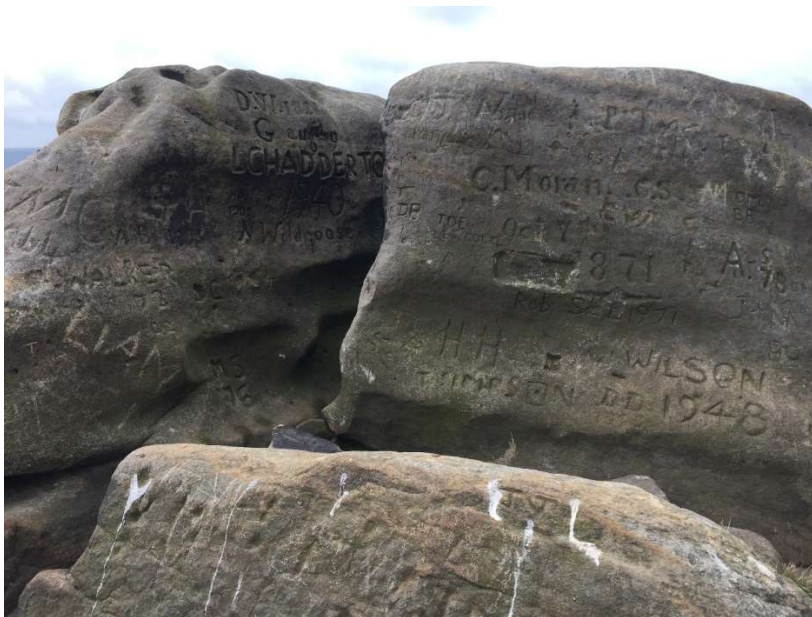
American Military Police secured the wreck site and the money was recovered.

After more than 70 years the engines and parts of the fuselage are easily seen today. Hundred of visitors can be seen on clear days. Many more people visit the wreck site than walk the Pennine Way.

Location 12 OS ref SK 08893 94767

Higher Shelf Stones - graffiti

Contains "blanking"



Higher Shelf Stones is the third highest summit in the Peak District at 621 metres. It has the most distinctive 'summit', unlike Bleaklow and Kinder which are high points on a moorland plateau.

Visitors since the 18th century have carved graffiti on the summit rocks.. A lot is from 1940s wartime, but goes back to 1732.