

## 7 - The Elm Tree, Scarcliffe, to Whaley - 3.8 miles

1. On leaving the Elm Tree retrace your steps for 25 yards or so and turn left up a track. Immediately on your left is a house called "The Birches". Continue along the track.
2. After 20 yards you reach a stone slab footpath between a lawned area with walls on either side. Continue across a stile straight ahead. Do not take the stile to the right. This leads into a field. Cross over the stile and continue around the edge of the field with a hedge on your right. As the path bears left the hedge is replaced by a wooden fence.
3. The path later turns right over a stone bridge. Cross over the bridge and then the path bears left along the edge of a field with a hedge on your left. 50 yards further the path leaves the field and becomes hedged on both sides and enters into a wood.
4. Cross over a narrow wooden footbridge and continue straight ahead into the wood. The path climbs upwards into the wood and meets a track. Bear right along the track. Where the path forks take the left hand fork, sweeping round to your left. You are now on the Archaeological Way.
5. The path passes a metal gate in front of a clearing on your right and then continues deeper into the wood with pine trees on your right. The path drops down into a denser piece of wood and turns from a track into a path and is waymarked again with the Archaeological Way sign.
6. Passing through a dip, the footpath bears slightly to your left, and is again waymarked Archaeological Way. Stick to the main trail.
7. The path climbs upwards to meet a hedged field on your right, still trees on your left.
8. ¼ mile further on the path swings left, drops down and then swings right. Again continue with the wood on your left and hedge on your right with fields behind the hedge.
9. The path passes to the right hand side of a wooden gate and comes to the main road. Leave the wood and bear right along the road towards the Devonshire Arms.
10. Continue down the road past the pub on your right and the Old School House. Drop left down, just before a road junction sign with a footpath waymarked "The Archaeological Way".
11. At the church turn left taking a footpath before the church keeping the church on your right. At the end of the churchyard cross over a stile continuing over the Archaeological Way towards a road.
12. Cross over a small footbridge and continue up the next field to a stile onto a road. Here turn right and walk down the road. On reaching the sharp right hand bend in the road take a track to your left, continuing along the Archaeological Way.
13. Continue along the lane, ignoring the footpath to Whaley Thorns to your right. You are now heading towards a wood on the Archaeological Way.
14. Enter the wood following the Archaeological Way and after 30 yards the footpath turns 90° left, still signposted the Archaeological Way.
15. On reaching the track crossing your path continue straight ahead, again following a waymarked sign for the Archaeological Way. Where this track bends left take a small path to the right following the waymarked sign for the Archaeological Way.
16. In 50 yards you leave the wood, cross over a field, straight ahead following the Archaeological Way. At the far end of the wood the track bends left on the Archaeological Way, with a pond to your right down through the wood.
17. At the end of the lane bear right, across the stream up to the main road. Turn left and on reaching the pub (Black Horse) turn right at the junction and your checkpoint is in the farmyard immediately after the pub. **This is your seventh checkpoint.**