**Autumn Handicap 2017 – Course Description**

**Saturday 27th November**

**START** (and **FINISH**) at the green gates on the first left hand bend going up Altar Lane.

Go up Altar Lane, past the electrical pylon and turn right through wall stile at the fingerpost “Marley 1.6km”. Go through the field keeping the wall on the right to metal gate (gap at right hand side) immediately after the metal gate take the right hand track (sign “Public Footpath”). Follow the track for 300m and when it bends right downhill, go straight ahead on to grassy path (do not follow the track downhill). Follow the path, after 250m go through gap in a wall and continue on, after 100m pass a wooden seat on the left. Keep going with the wall on the left and steep bank falling away to the right. Eventually, join a track and follow going downhill to wooden gate (gap on right hand side). Drop down about 20m and continue forward to join another track and follow to a metal gate (gap on right hand side). Continue 150m on grassy track to wooden step stile. Immediately after the stile turn left across up the track and climb the steep track (start of Marley Hill). Continue up the winding track, through a metal gate, until reaching a kissing gate in a wall, continue up the steep path to the wall corner.

At the wall corner turn sharp left and keep the wall on the right, after 250m turn right and take the step stile in the wall and head straight up the field aiming between the two big pylons (go to the left of the fenced compound and then to the right of the smaller fenced compound) and then look out for fingerpost and stiles leading on to Altar Lane.

Go straight across Altar Lane and through the metal kissing gate and continue straight ahead taking the right hand track and after 50m pick up a wall on the left. Follow the path keeping the wall on the left for 600m. At a wooden gate in the left wall turn right to leave the obvious path and head out across the heathery moor on faint path at first, but then becoming rocky and winding across the moor which eventually meets a Bridleway adjacent to the estate boundary wall (Keighley Road is over the wall).

Turn left and follow the Bridleway, (watch out for mountain bikers and horse riders) keeping the wall on the right down to the estate road entrance near the lodge house. Go slightly left and across the estate road and take the path bearing right away from the road (yellow triangle on tree at the start of the path) and follow for 250m to a fingerpost (*ignore the fingerpost direction*) and turn right down the track, dropping down to Cuckoo Nest. At the new house on the right (recently completed) turn left through wooden kissing gate and up the path for 50m and then turn right at fingerpost “Low Park”. Follow this path for 150m and at another fingerpost “Low Park” leave the path and branch right through woodland. Follow path (not obvious in places) to metal gate leading in to open field. Go ahead through the fields over two further wooden step stiles in fences and at the end of the fields go over two more wooden step stiles close together leading on to the estate road (near the car park). Turn right down the estate road for 30m and then turn left at fingerpost “Bridleway – Aire Calder Link” on to path. After 20m take the left hand branch path and follow for 200m to wall corner on the left. Continue forward and slightly up hill on vague path for 50m to meet obvious path at picnic table. Continue forward on path with picnic table on the right, follow the path bearing left, past ‘cobra’ wood carving on the right and continue on path a further 50m. Look out for indistinct path off to the right downhill and follow to small stream crossing and low stone wall. Go over the low wall and immediately bear left on faint path and after 100m look up to the right and aim for gap in high wall leading on to Altar Lane. Turn immediately right down Altar Lane to the **FINISH**.

* **In the race take your mobile phone and if in difficulties ring 07527 696996**
* **Register at the Brown Cow from 1pm, entry £2 on the day.**
* **First off at around 2pm**
* **Pie and peas afterwards in the Brown Cow (limited servings, first come first served!!). Cost tba**

**…………..and A L W A Y S**

* **Beware of traffic at the estate road crossings**
* **Be courteous to other users of the paths, tracks and bridleways**
* **Watch out for mountain bikers and horse riders.**

**……………and S T A Y S A F E**

**BINGLEY HARRIERS & AC October 2017 DTW**