



Allendale Village Trail

**Designed and compiled by Year 6 pupils
Allendale Primary School 2015**



Allendale Village Trail

Year 6 pupils hope that you will find this Allendale Trail exciting, interesting and enjoyable.



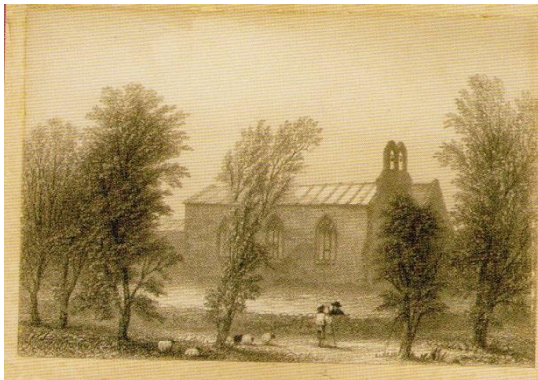
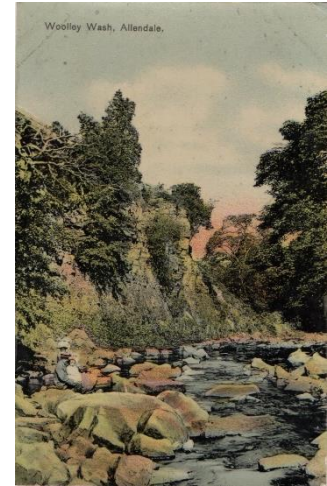
To challenge your observational skills there are some quiz questions at the end of the guide.

We have also included information which you might find useful should you wish to explore beyond the village, have something to eat or do some shopping.



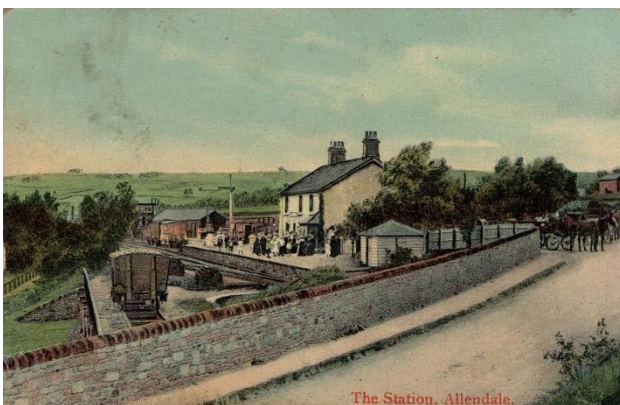
A brief history of Allendale

Allendale is an historic settlement, with a large market place, located on a plateau on the east bank of the River East Allen. The name Allendale means “valley of the white water”, which is combination of Celtic and Anglo-Saxon words. This suggests that Allendale was inhabited by the Anglo Saxons around 1,200 years ago.



During medieval times, Allendale was mentioned in various documents and known as Alwenton. It is said that medieval houses surrounded a large village green and that there was a church called St. Mary's. The church, built in 1174 on the same site as the present church, was a wooden structure.

During the 1700s and the first half of the 19th century lead mining was the major industry. The population of Allendale grew during this period to just over 6,000 people. There are reminders of Allendale's lead mining days from The Chimneys, on the fell top above the village, to the many remnants of mines and mine shafts across the surrounding countryside. The terraced houses on Leadgate and Wentworth Place were built to accommodate the miners. As the price of lead decreased during the 1870s, lead mining went into decline and farming was the new fashion! Farms were small and kept livestock, mainly sheep.

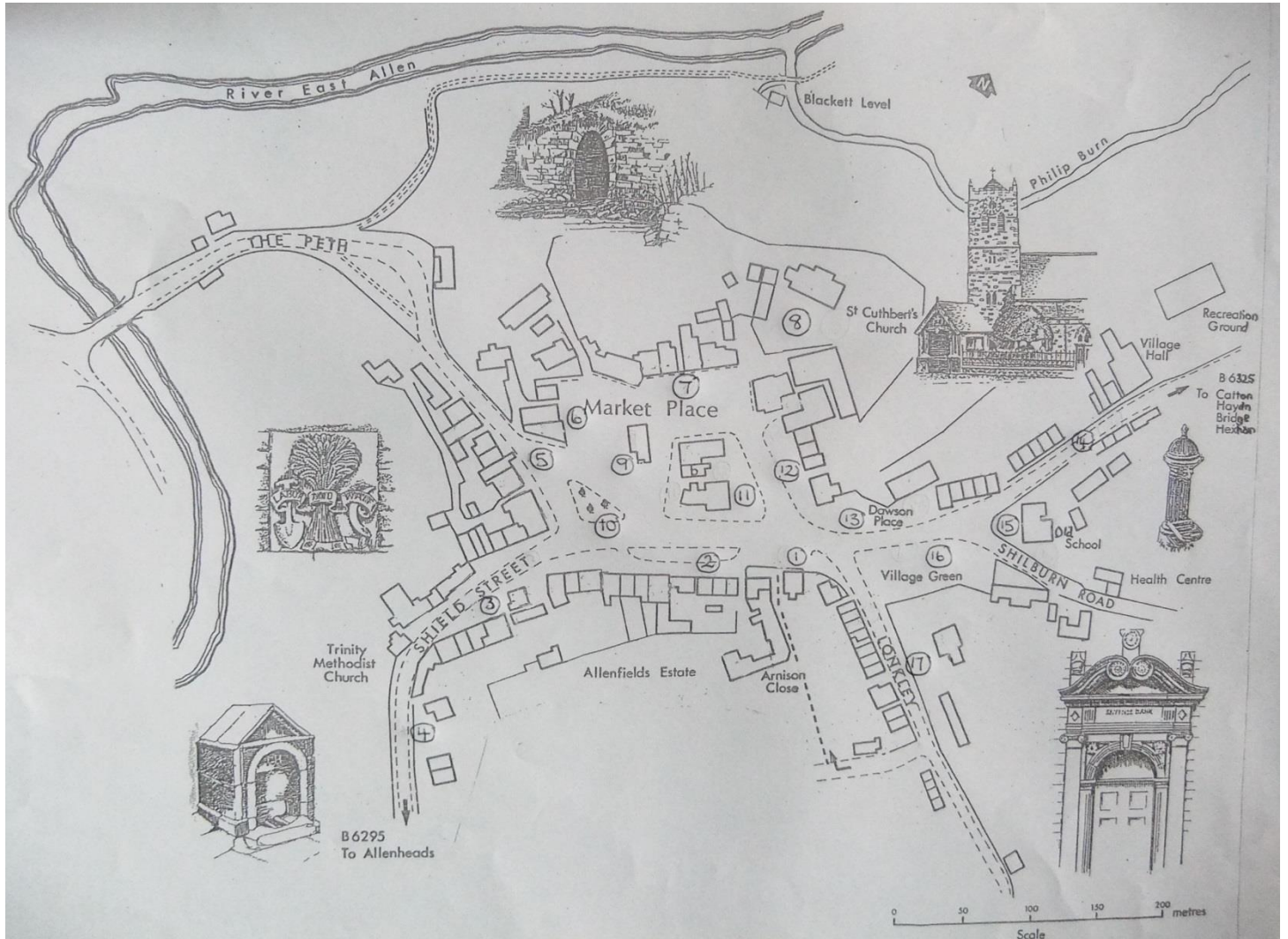


In 1860, a railway line was built linking Allendale to Hexham and the route to Newcastle. In fact, the railway line never actually got to the centre of Allendale as the investors ran out of money and it finished in Catton. The construction of the railway and the building of better roads meant that Allendale began to get tourists. To raise money to keep the roads in good condition, anyone using them had to pay a toll. There are still three toll or gate houses on roads leading

into and out of the village, although you are no longer expected to pay a toll!

Today many Allendonians are still involved in farming and it remains a centre for tourists particularly for those visitors who enjoy walking.

Allendale Village Trail: Map



Follow the Village Trail from Site Number 1: Isaac's Well, to Site Number 17: Lonkley Terrace.

Details for each site are set out in sequence in this guide.

1. *Isaac's Well*

Isaac's Well is the start of our trail. It was carved in 1849 from a single piece of sandstone. Isaac Holden was the founder of the well. He was a very charitable man who was an itinerant tea salesman who sold his wares over a wide area. He sold his portrait for 6d (2.5p), to raise money for a hearse for use in the community.

The well was constructed for humans and animals to drink from, when the only mode of transport was horse.



2. *Arnison Terrace*



Arnison Terrace forms the south side of the Market Place. It was named after Doctor Arnison who lived in the 1850s and did lots of good work for the village.

It is a row of stone built cottages. Number 6 used to be a bakery until the 1970s and Number 4 used to be a cobbler's; his name was Jacob Milburn. There was a linen draper who sold out of the front and out of the back they sold pie and peas or fish and chips.

In front of Arnison Terrace there is a late 19th century cast iron water pump which was installed to provide clean drinking water for the houses in this part of the village.

The present day house called Olde Oaks used to be a pub called the Rose and Crown.

The Hotspur and Selah House are 215 years old. Selah house got its name when a surgeon from Selah in Cumberland came to live there.



3. *Shield Street*

Shield Street was named after Joseph Shield a weaver and flax dresser who lived in a house which is still on the street called Southways. He wove sacking used for making bags to carry the lead ore. The Hairdressers (Dale Salon) was a green grocers in 1802, a butchers from 1919 to 1930. It then became a joiners, undertakers and decorators.

Further along the street is a building which was constructed in 1863 as the Co-operative butchers shop. It is made of sand stone and has a slate roof. It is now a craft shop called "Crafty all sorts".

Opposite the craft shop is a pretty cottage, Nancy's Cottage. It was a cobbler's shop until the 1960s.

There is an attractive sandstone water fountain in the centre of the street. Isaac Holden was also responsible for constructing this, in 1839, to provide clean drinking water.



The Pharmacy formerly called the Drug Store was built in 1875. The fitments inside the shop were made by a local craftsman of the time, Peter Hetherington. There is living accommodation above the shop with a staircase at each end of the building which suggests that there were originally two houses.

Cross Keys House is situated on the corner. It was owned by a man called Peter Hetherington. He was an undertaker, cabinet maker, wood carver, painter and paper hanger. If you look carefully at the building, it is easy to spot what was his workshop.

The Trinity Methodist chapel was constructed in 1760. The second building, which replaced the first, was built in 1839. Its final alterations were made in 1875. It is made out of sandstone and has a slate roof.

4. *Wentworth Place*

Wentworth Place is a row of sandstone terraced houses built for miners to live in. They were built in the mid nineteenth-century. It was named after Lord Allendale's family name. Opposite these houses there is a cast iron pump, which was used to provide water for this area. There is a Gate House built on south east side. When the new road to Allenheads, was constructed in 1830, you had to pay a toll at the Toll House/Gate House. This money went towards maintaining the road.



5. *Heatherlea and Peth Head*

The Heatherlea stands on the west side of the Market Place. It was originally a two storey building, built by Stephenson and Bell, on land previously owned by Leeds and Scottish Country bank. Cumberland Union Bank had a corner Branch Bank and Matthew Stephenson was an agent and general dealer here.

The building was converted into the Heatherlea Hotel in 1903. It was a very popular family hotel until 1999 when it was converted into apartments. Walking towards Peth Head there is the Allendale Inn which in 1834 was called the Fox and Lamb. The Hare and Hounds, another C18 inn, is now a house. They were two of the many public houses that existed in the village during the lead mining days.



Peth Head Cottage is Grade 2 listed. It is a late 18th century or early 19th century house built of rubble sandstone with a stone slate roof and is one of the oldest buildings in the village. Peth Head House is another Grade 2 listed house, built in 1813 of dressed sandstone and of a rather grand design. Dorothy Forster is reputed to have been born here.

6. *The Forge & The Dale Hotel*



In 1740 the Forge was called the Smithy as it was a blacksmith's workplace. The Smithy had the land owner's initials above the door. It was built out of sandstone. After it was a blacksmith's, it became a car dealership and garage. The definition of the word Forge is: *where metal is heated and shaped*, but this Forge is now an art gallery.

The Dale Hotel was originally 2 cottages. In 1875 it was built higher and converted into the Temperance Hotel (temperance means no alcohol). Mary Jane and Isabella Forster retired from the Dale Hotel in 1920. The Dale was then taken over by Connie Thompson and Mrs. Margaret Simpson.

In 2014 work began to re-modernise the Dale to become a hotel once again.

7. *North Side of the Market Place*

The Kings Head, along with the Hare and Hounds, is said to be one of the oldest inns in the village, as they both date from the 18th century. The pub had stabling around the back for 12 horses. These stables were only destroyed in the 1980s.

Next door is the Golden Lion. It must have once been smaller because the top was added in 1839 by Abraham Dawson, a Newcastle solicitor.

Victoria House, to the left of the Kings Head, is built on the site of The Three Tuns Inn (an old hostelry). After it was an inn, it became a shop in 1863 run by D. Edgar. It was here, in 1848, that the first Allendale Floral and Horticultural Show was held. The Show was run in the garden at the rear of the shop.



8. *St. Cuthbert's Church*



The first church was a wooden structure built in 1174 and was originally dedicated to St. Mary. It is made from sandstone. The church was rebuilt in the 14th century and again in 1807. Finally in 1873 it had further refurbishments at a cost of £1,800. It was then that they raised the height of the tower and the roof of the nave.

During this period the church was dedicated to St Cuthbert. The heavy double oak doors at the entrance of the church on the south side of the tower carry a brass tablet inscribed: 1938 these doors are the generous gift of Mrs R. Chambers and Mrs J.W. Brough. There is a sundial on the south wall near the main church entrance. It shows a latitude of 54' 50, part of the claim that Allendale is the centre of Britain.

The Lych Gate belongs to the people of Allendale. It was erected by the British Legion in 1920 as a memorial to those who had died in the First and Second World Wars. Their names are listed on the boards next to the gate. The 22 men who died in the First World War were aged between 19 to 37 years. There are 2 names listed for World War II.



Next to the Lych Gate is the Church Hall which was built in 1879. It used to house a Sunday School and between 1940 and 1960 it was a cinema.

9. *Allen House and the Hearse House*

Allen House was originally a row of market stalls called the shambles. Many of them were butchers and there was even an abattoir. Later, in the 1870s, the shambles was knocked down and a guest house was built to provide holiday accommodation for the many tourists coming to Allendale now that the railway had been built.

The Hearse House or shelter, encroaching on the village square, was where the village's horse-drawn hearse was kept until the early 1900s. It is now used as a bus shelter.



10. *The Bull Ring*



The Bull Ring was a fenced area in the market place. It was built to contain lost animals and enclose those going for sale at market. This was obviously during the period when Allendale held a weekly Friday market.

The trees in the Bull Ring and market place were planted in 1897 to commemorate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee

The Bull Ring has been used as a traffic island since 1927.

11. *Lloyds Bank and the Tea Rooms*

These historic buildings are in the centre of the market place. In the early 1900's, the original building on the Lloyds Bank site was John W. Glenwright's joiner's shop. This building was destroyed by fire. It was re-built in 1909 and sold to Lloyds Bank.

The Tea Rooms used to be a public house called The Green and was owned by Francis Shield. It then became a shop and post office which was opened by William Fairlamb in 1870.

The present Post Office was originally a joiner's shop then it became baker's shop. Its top floor was added in the 20th century.



12. The East side of the Market Place

The present Co-op store was re-built in 1990 on the site of the former Co-op drapery and green grocery shop which was erected in 1936. Originally the site had been occupied by West View, an old house and shop.

The Allendale Industrial and Provident Society was formed in 1875, and was housed as a grocery shop near the Dale Hotel. The first manager was J.J Allison in 1886.



The Savings Bank was built at a cost of £1000, in 1875. Dr William Arnison was the founding treasurer when he first took savings, in 1838, in a private house.



This building has a fine, pedimented doorway. It ceased to be a bank in 1986 and is now the Gift Shop. It stands on land formerly occupied by Tallow Chandlers, William Crawhall & Company.

As candles were the only lighting in the lead mines, the miners had to provide their own candles. There was therefore a big demand for candles.

13. *Dawson Place*

The library is housed in the former Primitive Methodist Chapel which was built in 1878. The architect was Thomas Ritson of Thornley Gate.



The building to the right is Dawson Place which was also a chapel in the early 19th century. Allendale was an important centre for Methodism which was popular among the lead miners at that time. In the 1820s, the Primitive Methodists met in the Heckler's shop along Leadgate. Heckling was part of the process of linen manufacture.



Between the Gift Shop and the Library is a hut which is only important because it houses the "tar barls". Allendale is famous for its New Year celebrations when the men of the village, dressed in costume and known as guisers, carry lighted tar barrels in procession around the village. On the stroke of midnight the barls are thrown onto a bonfire in the Market Place and the villagers burn out the

old year and bring in the new.

Vester Peart was the only woman to carry a tar barl, she also made lots of the costumes for the guisers. The honour of being one of the guisers is something that has been passed down through the generations of village residents.

No-one really knows the origin of this tradition; but it could have been started by the lead miners and has definitely been in existence for 170 years.

14. *Leadgate*

Leadgate leads eastwards out of the village and is a row of terraced houses. They originally had iron railings in front of the houses which were taken down during the Second World War to support the war effort.

Leadgate used to be a main road for transporting lead and that is where it got its name.

The cottages were erected in 1845 as homes for miners, one family per room, one up and one down, so there must have been considerable overcrowding. On the opposite side of the road was a gatehouse, the hecklers house (mentioned earlier) and a blacksmith's.

There also used to be a joinery and undertakers business. This was owned by Mr Joe Bell, who was also a part-time fireman.

The Village Hall, at the end of Leadgate, was built as a Temperance Hall and during the Second World War the bottom part of the Hall was used as a rifle range.



15. *The Board School*

Allendale Board School was opened in April 1880 and was extended in 1887. The first headmaster was called Emerson Peart. The School took pupils from the age of 5 to 15 years old until 1963 when the Secondary School was built.

There was another school nearby that was built in 1851. It was called the "Beaumont" school but was replaced by Allendale Board School. The first school in Allendale was built 1704 at Brides Hill, Thornleygate.



16. *The Village Green*

Around the village green there used to be decorative chains. They were removed during the Second World War to support the war effort.



On the first edition ordinance survey map of 1860, it suggests that the village green may once have been much larger, extending in front of the Gift Shop and towards Issac's Well, with medieval houses built around it. The green once had three small hills. Linen was dried there and they were known as the Web Hills.

The John Joseph Glendinning Memorial is situated on the green. It commemorates his death in the South African, Boer War. He was the only person from Allendale to die in that war. The memorial was unveiled by Mrs Walton of The Riding on January 1st 1903. The fountain replaced an old iron one. There were drinking cups and below was a trough for cattle for drink.

17. *Lonkley Terrace*

Lonkley Terrace heads south-east out of the Market Place. It used to be the main access to the town from the south. Here is another row of stone built cottages many larger than those to be found elsewhere in the village. They include the former Manse and a very grand house set in its own grounds which was the Rectory. At the foot of Lonkley bank are the Almshouses, built in 1887 by Charles Arnison of Stanhope to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. They were converted into four apartments in recent years to provide housing for people in need of accommodation. Near the Almshouses is Lonkley Lodge built as a meeting house for the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. In 1833 the building became a non-denominational school. It is now a house.



Things to do and places to visit

- For those who enjoy a challenge, you can have a long distance walk following the 36 miles of 'Isaac's Tea Trail'.
- More leisurely walks in search of evidence of Allendale lead mining past include - following the riverside passing the Blakett Level and the former Smelt Mill and a stroll up to the Chimneys.
- Have fun in the village park and recreation ground.
- Try a round of golf at Allendale Golf Club or hire a bicycle from The Market Place
- Catch a cricket match at the Riding Haughs or watch a tennis session at Allen Mill
- Hire the Sports Hall to enjoy a range of activities from badminton to volleyball
- Visit the Library and then enjoy an ice cream cone from the Gift Shop

Places to eat

- The Kings Head - A relaxing place to have supper or a champion pint. You can also play bingo every Sunday evening.
- The Golden Lion - A great place to enjoy a meal and have a drink. With a band playing some Saturday nights, it's a brilliant place to be.
- The Allendale Inn - tasty meals are served in a cosy environment. That's not all though! Listen to music or play darts or pool.
- The Forge - Apart from their amazing art gallery, you can also enjoy a coffee or tea in their café with a homemade scones or glorious ice cream!
- The Tea Rooms - good home cooked food in a café environment, perfect for lunch.
- The Mill Tandoori - whether you like spicy food or not, this is a first class place to enjoy an Indian meal; to dine in or takeaway.

Shopping Opportunities

- The Co-op sells just about everything that you could possibly require and at amazing prices.
- The Gift Shop is a real treasure trove and also sells delicious ice cream.
- The Market Place has the Post Office and newsagents, and displays a range of attractive gift items.
- The Pharmacy is well stocked with everything that you would expect from your local chemist.
- The Dale Salon is the best hair dressers in town!
- Crafty Allsorts is a shop that sells unusual items and the money raised goes to supporting adults with learning disabilities.
- The Butcher's is an outlet for locally sourced meat with local specialities such as "black pudding" and "pease pudding".
- The Tea Rooms produce is all homemade on the premises. They make lovely cakes, scones and pastries.
- The Forge is a co-operative organisation for local artists where they sell their works of art. It regularly holds exhibitions.

- “Your Place” is a beauty salon which provides everything from massages to facials.
- For those who enjoy reading, Allendale Library is open at specific times during the week. It also offers the opportunity for access to computers.
- There are weekly Church services at St Cuthbert’s, the Trinity Methodist Chapel and at the Quaker Meeting House.
- Allendale has a Health Centre on Shilburn Road.

Quiz Questions

1. What are the initials on the water fountain in Shield Street?
2. What is the “motto” carved in stone which is on the wall of the former Cooperative butcher’s in Shield Street?
3. What unusual features are on the wall above the door at Cross Keys in Shield Street?
4. Where did the man come from who laid the plaque on the Trinity Methodist Chapel?
5. What is the logo that is displayed on the wall of the Forge?
6. What is the shape of the top of the church tower?
7. What was the Lloyds bank before it was a bank?
8. What was the church hall before it was a cinema?
9. What was the library before it was library?
10. Who laid the foundation stone at the Village, formally Temperance, Hall?
11. Where during the Boer War in South Africa did John Joseph Glendinning die?
12. What were the house names on Lonkley Terrace that suggested a link to the clergy having lived there?