

# 'Murder Mystery' Walk

Wellholme Park 30 mins, 1 mile - part secluded  
(stout shoes / boots - possibly muddy)

<i>Location</i>	<i>Feature</i>
<i>Start - café</i>	Bradford Road entrance (near Bates Garage) Satnav: HD6 4AA
<i>directions</i>	<i>Go down through skateboard park over bridge and angle right through field and on to Oak Hill Road - at Clifton Common turn left and follow wall until green area on left opposite sandwich hut.</i>

## Sandwich Hut

*Capital punishment background:  
By 1800 there were over 200 offences that attracted capital punishment - including*

- Being in the company of gypsies for one month*
- Sacrilege*
- Strong evidence of malice in children 7-14 years.*

*Last female hung*

*Ruth Ellis July 1955 (shot her racing driver lover). Executioner, Albert Pierrepoint*

*Last males hung*

*Peter Anthony Allen and Gwynne Owen Evans August 1964 (householder murdered during robbery).*

*Executioners, Robert Stewart and Harry Allen*

*(his grand-daughter is TV actress Fiona Allen, Julia Stone in Coronation Street, she married Michael Parkinson's son).*

In 1942 a murder took place inside the hut...

Two ladies were passing the shop and heard a moaning and saw blood oozing under the door. The police were summoned and broke the door down to find the owner, 57 year old Mrs Barlow, covered in blood. She died having been hit at least 15 times, with an air pistol; her skull shattered.

Police placed a guard on the hut, put up road-blocks and searched a wide area.

Three days later the murderer was found inside a cardboard box under the counter of the hut!

Edward James Collins, found guilty of murder at Leeds Assizes, detained at Majesty's pleasure, served 15 years.

Sentence was two days before his 18 birthday and so, he was just too young to hang.

(BB 2006)

Clifton Road Station	Original site of Brighthouse rail station - behind sandwich hut - right against Clifton bridge
Gravity railway	Just before steps on right, part of gravity railway - gap between field wall end and garden wall - full trucks descending pulled up empty trucks - took coal to Brighthouse gas works
<i>directions</i>	<i>Go up steps opposite side to the hut and left again onto top of embankment</i>
Clifton - Wyke branch line	<p>built 1881 (only 3.5 miles long however took 6 years to build)</p> <p>in early 1900s became main line to London (Marylebone) took 5 hours - line used to transport coal from Wyke pits much in demand during WW1 - stations then closed except Clifton ... Sir George Armytage of Clifton was Chairman of Lancs and Yorks railway! - Clifton stn closed 1931 - Last train 1952 -</p> <p>Clifton bridge demolished 1974 by Ogdens - they arranged road closure for weekend, but took 3 weeks</p>
<i>directions</i>	<i>follow central dirt path along until just before Thornhills Road rail viaduct</i>
(next) Viaduct at Wyke Lion (formerly Red Lion) Leeds Road	Built as result of opposition of landowners to a more direct route - 1940 developed a 'kink', trains then had a 5 mph speed restriction - London trains re-routed to avoid delay - line use declined - 1960 arches removed for safety.
<i>directions</i>	<i>Descend steps on right then left down road to car park, onto footpath in park across grass and bridge, up through skateboard park, pass children's play area</i>
End café	