

“Trig-Bagging” from Low Raisgill

A short guide to our nearest and dearest OS triangulation pillars.

Horsehead Moor 605m Grid Ref SD 88712 77968. Just out the back of the house and up the hill. Glorious views in all directions.

Have a look for the OS benchmark on one of the gate pillars at Horsehead Gate Grid Ref SD 88910 77634. These were almost always used along roads and the OS benchmark map <https://parallel.co.uk/os-benchmark-archive/#14.77/54.21009/-2.16769> does not show a benchmark up there – a recycled gate post?



Yockenthwaite Moor 643m Grid Ref SD 90917 81078. The next closest to us but quite a challenge. After walking through Yockenthwaite Farm, it is mainly trackless and at the top flat and featureless. Choose a day with good visibility and take your compass!

Firth Fell 607m Grid Ref SD 92591 74819. On the path between Buckden and Litton and with a tarn to its north west. This is on the same ridge as Horsehead Moor and the next two are on the same ridge – save climbing up and down for each one.

Hawswick Moor 434m Grid Ref SD 96324 71057. Off the main paths between Kettlewell and Hawswick. Accessed via a faint ridge path along Old Cote Moor linking the two nearby paths that cross between Wharfedale and Littondale here.

Cosh Outside 599m Grid Ref SD 83666 77999. At the western end of the ridge to the south of us and on the watershed between Ribblesdale and Littondale. There are no paths and best accessed from Beckermonds. A very short extension to the neatly built old cairn on an adjacent knoll at Grid Ref SD 83375 77958 is recommended.

Buckden Pike 702m Grid Ref SD 96088 78778. You will meet a lot more other walkers here than at any of the points listed above. While walking up here you might like to think about the record, set by Colin Donnelly in 1988, for the fell race from Buckden village to The Pike and back – just under 31 minutes!

For the following it may be best to take the car some of the way unless you want a long walk:

Great Whernside 704m Grid Ref SE 00212 73886. The highest of the Wharfedale peaks. Another popular destination for walkers and fell runners.

Dodd Fell 668m Grid Ref SD 84084 84566. There are no paths here and navigation can be difficult. You will need some dry socks and boots when you are finished.

Low Greenfield Lings 501m Grid Ref SD 83837 80876. Not so easy to get to, this is one that we did not know was there until we searched a map of trig points.

2021 marks the 85th anniversary of the first installation in Britain of a Triangulation Pillar which formed the basis of the OS maps.

Rob Woodall took 14 years to bag all 6,190 existing trigs in Britain.