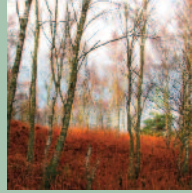


Walk, Ride and Cycle

in and around Denny



easy to use

map and seven suggested locations

something for everyone

Discover the path networks in and around Denny and Dunipace

Denny originated as a settlement near a crossing on the River Carron. In 1601 the parish of Denny was created as previously the settlement had been part of the parish of Falkirk.

Denny and Dunipace were very small villages and it was not until the first half of the 19th century that industrialisation brought rapid growth. The area had corn mills and these employed the majority of the scattered population. Then Flax became an important crop and this



triggered the expansion of linen production. In 1825 Denny and Dunipace, which were previously separated by the River Carron, were linked by a new bridge. This encouraged families into the area to work.

By 1836 Calico printing works employed over 1000 people in the area. Other successful local industries included coal mining, textiles, iron founding and brick making. The arrival of the Caledonian Railway in 1859 further improved communication and markets for these industries.

The most successful ventures in this area have been the paper mills utilising the River Carron to create an industry which remained important until very recently.

Mills at Carrongrove, Stoneywood, Headswood and Vale employed hundreds of men and women and made Denny one of the most important paper making centres in Scotland. Coal,

iron and paper, the three pillars that had supported thousands of families were all gone by 2005 with the closure of the final paper mill, Carrongrove.

The small town centre is now undergoing regeneration with the promise of the 1960s town centre blocks being demolished and a new centre being built.

Finding your way

Take a close look at the map for each route. This should be all you need to find the start point and get on your way. OS Explorer map 349 covers the area.



Signs

Look out for sign posts and interpretation boards giving more information along the way.

It's up to you

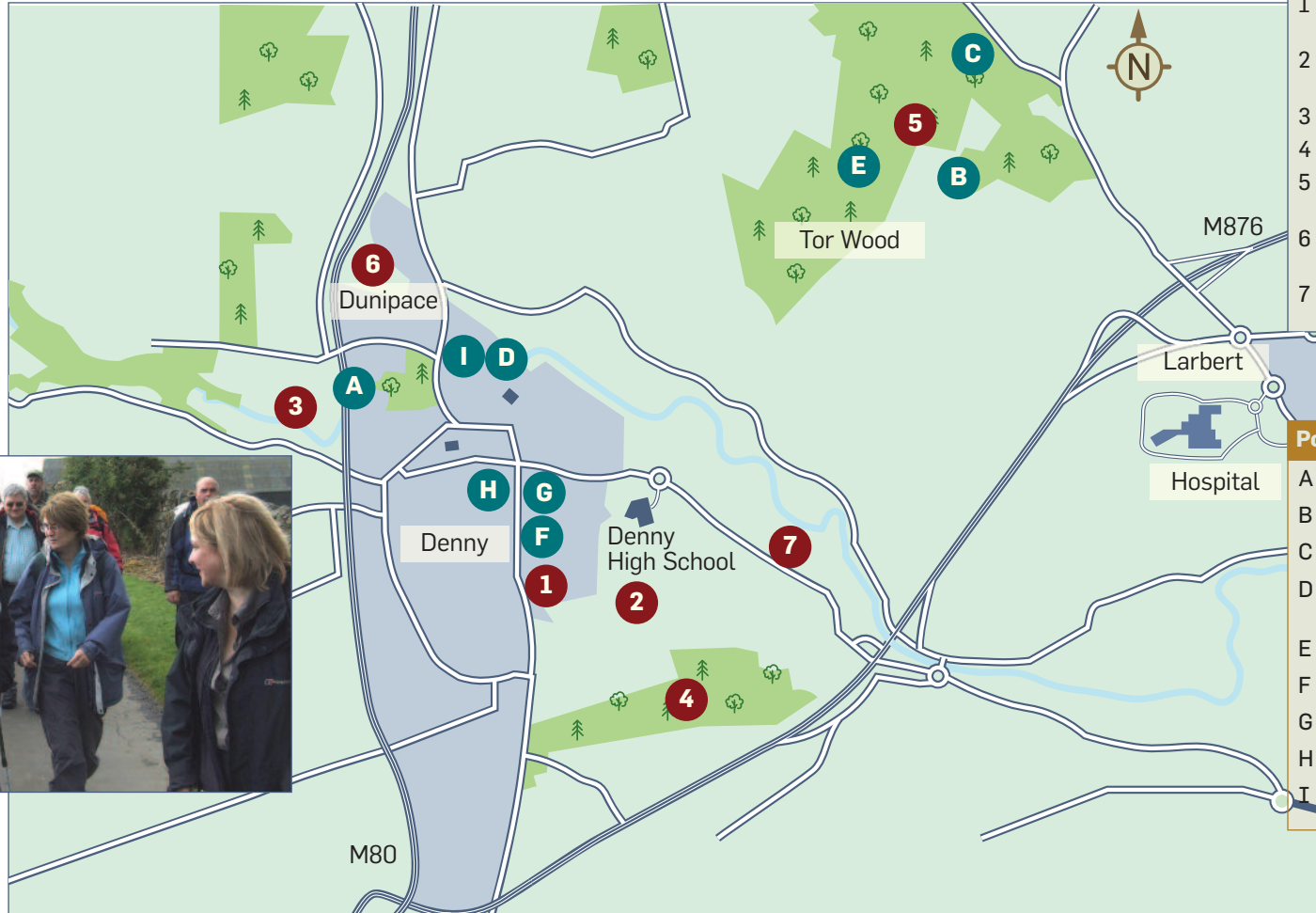
This leaflet gives details of seven walks, with information on green transport options, path surfaces, gradients, parking and facilities. Just choose a route that suits your interest and ability and enjoy the paths in and around Denny.

There are plenty of interesting things to see and do in and around Denny and Dunipace.

Take a walk along some of the local paths and enjoy the great countryside, wildlife, history and views Denny has to offer and it's all right on your doorstep. Some sites have options for further exploration, or you could join together some of the routes and make a day of it.

Where else can I visit?

See overleaf for a full list and details of key places of interest to see and visit while on the routes.



Walks Key	
1	Denny Town Centre Route A: Cherry Tree Walk
2	Denny Town Centre Route B: Denny Town Walk
3	Wildwood walks Carron Glen
4	Chacefield Wood Circular
5	Torwood Castle and Tappoch Broch
6	Rosebank Community Woodland
7	Headswood Woodland

Points of Interest Key	
A	Spanish Chestnut Tree
B	Torwood Castle
C	Tappoch Broch
D	Milton Row Fireplaces Dunipace
E	The Blue Pool
F	Denny Town House
G	The Station Masters House
H	Denny Parish Church
I	Red Hoose Pub

Places of interest to visit

A. Spanish chestnut tree.

Locally known as the Spanish Chestnut Tree, this tree has been verified as "ancient" by the Woodland Trust who note it is in fact a Sweet Chestnut. Its girth is around 7.5m and is thought to be several hundred years old, but the true age can't be known unless the internal yearly rings are counted. It would have been in the grounds of Herbertshire Castle which was owned by the Forbes family until it was destroyed by fire in 1914. It now stands alone in on the edge of a public park close to a modern housing estate



B. Torwood Castle.

The Foresters of Garden were the keepers of the valuable and strategically important Royal Forest of Torwood from the 1400s. Torwood Castle is the last surviving symbol of Forester power. It was built in 1566 for Sir Alexander Forester and its size and construction confirm the status of its lord and the dangerous times in which he and his family lived. A piece of masonry was discovered near the site

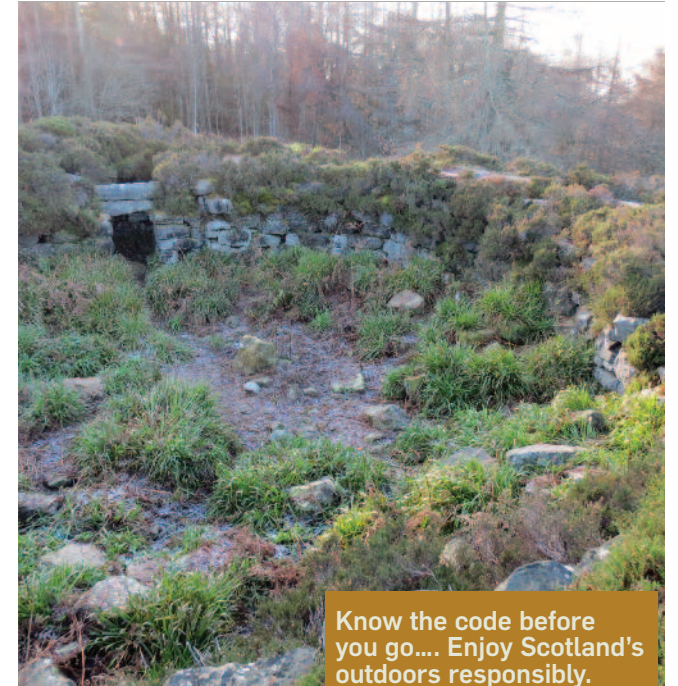


with the date 1566 on it. The now ruined Castle exchanged hands many times until it was finally sold in 1957 to Gordon Millar, a chartered accountant from Glasgow. He spent the next 37 years of his life renovating the ruin with the help of volunteers. The castle

would have had 3 floors and still has a row of large cellars which had been completely buried and had to be dug out. Mr Millar died in 1998 before completing his inspired renovation project and the Castle is now in the care of the charity Torwood Castle Trust.

C. Tappoch Broch

Tappoch Broch is one of the best preserved lowland Brochs to be found in Scotland. The earliest Brochs date back to 500-200BC. Tappoch Broch was excavated in 1864 by Colonel Dundas of Carronhall and it was thought that the mound might be for burials. Instead a stone dwelling of Iron Age date was discovered. The Brochs are formed by two concentric, dry stone walls, producing a hollow-walled tower. Between the walls were galleries and stairways which led to the upper levels. Within the tower there would have been several wooden floors, providing the main living space with the ground floor used as a secure store for cattle or sheep when the broch was under siege.



Know the code before you go.... Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly.

D. Milton Row Fireplaces Dunipace.

The dark rectangles on the wall are the remains of the fireplaces of the lean-to houses built for in-coming workers in the 1830's. The fireplaces are a reminder of a turbulent time in 1832, when an attempt to reduce calico print workers wages

resulted in a general strike. The employers brought in other workers and housed them in lean-to shed-like dwellings along the wall down one side of Milton Row. These workers were called "Nobs" as a term of derision and were under threat from the strikers. The Black Watch were called in to keep the peace.



Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are fully explained in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

- take responsibility for your own actions;
- respect the interests of other people; and
- care for the environment.

Find out more by visiting www.outdooraccess-scotland.com or contact your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.

Places of interest to visit

E. The Blue Pool.

This is a brick lined tank that is probably Victorian in origin. It nestles under the bows of plantation woodland near Torwood Castle. The pool is turquoise in colour and perfectly clear. Its former use is the topic of much debate but it has been suggested that the blue colour comes from the high levels of Aluminium Sulphate found in the fireclay which is common in this area, but what the tank was used for in the past no-one knows.

F. Denny Town House

This building was once the chamber and offices of the Denny and Dunipace Burgh. It now houses one of the departments of Falkirk Council. The stained-glass window in the southwest wall includes a version of the old Burgh Seal.

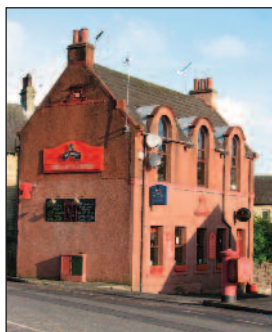


G. The Station Masters House.

This was the main building at Denny Railway station. The railway link to Denny closed in 1967.

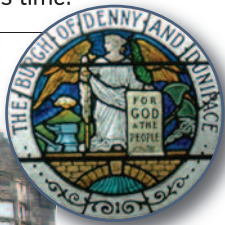
H. Denny Parish Church.

Is sited at Denny Cross, although not the original building, there has been a church on the site for over 400 years. Some old graves and gravestones are visible just behind the perimeter wall.



I. The Red Hoose Pub

Heading north out of Denny into Dunipace, you can find The Red Hoose Pub, formerly known as the Lairox Inn (Lair of the Ox) Visible on the gable wall is a functioning sundial. The stone dates from the early 18th century. It's believed there has been an Inn on this site since William Wallace's time.



View of Carron Valley with Meikle Bin in the distance

1 & 2. Denny Town Centre

Route A: Cherry tree walk

Route B: Denny Town walk



Route A Access Information

Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes, etc, call Traveline on 08712002233 or visit traveline.org.uk

Parking: Davies Row (Behind old Town centre), Town House Street (Next to sports centre), Herbertshire Street. (Behind Co-op)

Distance: 1.5 miles (2.5km)

Alternative paths available

Path information: surfaced pavements. A flat easy walk through the quieter parts of the town.

Facilities: Toilets, shops, cafes and parking available in Denny Town Centre.

Route A: Cherry Tree Walk Finding your way

- 1 Start your walk at Denny Town House on Glasgow Road. Beside the Town House is a Cherry tree lined avenue which is at its best mid to late April or in autumn.
- 2 Once through the Cherry tree walk take the path to the left of the sports centre keeping the Nursery school also on your left. Follow the path until you come to a junction.
- 3 Take a left turn and head towards Broad Street and the new

- pedestrian crossing. Cross over the road and take the path to the left of Machan Engineering Works. This is a signposted route to Winchester Avenue.
- 4 Follow this long straight path that will eventually take you out at the Green Bridge over the River Carron. From here you can take a right hand turn on the path before the bridge and follow the riverside path along Winchester Avenue coming out again at Broad Street where you entered and trace your steps back to Denny Town House.



Route B Access Information

Bus, Parking, Facilities & Path Information: As opposite

Distance: 1.5 miles (2.5km)

Route B: Denny Town Walk Finding your way

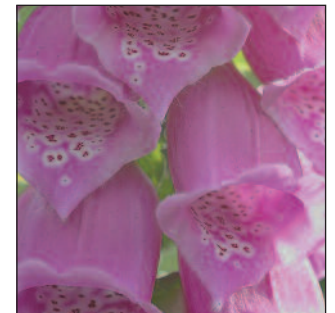
Alternatively you can turn left at the Green Bridge and head upstream towards Stirling Street in Dunipace. The footpath exits across from The Royal Oak pub. (Crossing Green Bridge takes you on a long narrow path that exits at Rosebank

Community Woodland in Dunipace.) See walk 6.

- 2 Once you reach Stirling Street, facing The Royal Oak, turn left. You will come to the junction on the main road, turn left again and follow the footpath back into Denny Town Centre.
- 3 Follow Stirling Street pavements through the shopping precinct and over the road at Denny Cross with Denny Parish Church dominating the cross on your right.

Keep to the pavement and return to Denny Town House.

Key	
	Starting point
	Route A
	Route B
	Parking
	Bridge



3. Wildwood walks Carron Glen



Access Information

Grade: A medium walk.

Distance: 2.5 miles (4.2km).

Terrain: Countryside paths are not surfaced - (just rough ground) so boots are advised. A few stiles to cross and some woodland steps. Return by quiet country road.

Gradient: Some steeper sections up and down to the River Carron.

General: Parking in Herbertshire Castle Park. Options to extend walk and explore Carron Glen further (see point three).

Facilities: Toilets, shops, cafes and parking available in Denny Town Centre.

Carron Glen is owned and managed by Scottish Wildlife Trust Tel 0131 312 7765.

Two things make these walks special: the river and the woodland. After an industrial past the River Carron is becoming cleaner again. Trout and Salmon, can be seen jumping in its fast flowing waters. Carron Glen is a very old wood and is home to a great variety of wild plants and animals. Scottish Wildlife Trust now manage the wood as their 100th nature reserve!

Route A: From Dunipace Finding your way

- 1 Start from Herbertshire Castle Park in Dunipace head upstream on the north side of the River Carron. After passing the footbridge (do not cross it), walk uphill for 100 metres and turn left off the tarmac path (just before reaching the houses of Chestnut Crescent) onto a path

that leads under the motorway to the countryside beyond.

- 2 Leave the noise of the traffic behind and follow the riverside path along the fence line upstream towards Carron Glen woodland.
- 3 The woodland path leads uphill, away from the river, to a kissing gate. This is the halfway point which is the beginning of Carron Glen Nature Reserve, S.S.S.I.
- 4 There is an interpretation board with a map of Carron Glen nature reserve. From here you can continue up towards Fankerton and further into the nature reserve.
- 5 Alternatively to return to Dunipace, walk along a path through woodland, through another kissing gate out onto a quiet country road. Turn right, downhill, back towards Dunipace over the motorway.
- 6 Once over the motorway turn right into Chestnut Crescent then right again into Herbertshire Castle Park to retrace your steps to the start.



Route B: From Fankerton Finding your way

Alternatively you could start your walk at Fankerton. There is a small car park that is able to hold four cars. From here you could take a short stroll down into

the Glen and over the new footbridge. There is a small circular path on the flat area next to the river beside the bridge. If you are feeling more adventurous you could follow the rough path up into the glen until the path becomes muddy

and peters out. Return back to Fankerton by the same route.

Note. Carron Glen is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Please respect this habitat and do not damage or pick wildflowers.

4. Chacefield Wood circular



Access Information

Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes, etc call Traveline on 08712002233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk

Parking: Car park at Denny Sports Centre.

Distance: 3.5miles (5.6km).

Path information: Farm tracks, may be muddy in places, surfaced path through woodland. Tarmac.

Facilities: Parking and toilets at Denny sports centre. Please remember you are walking through working farmland and forestry.

Chacefield Wood is owned and managed by Callendar Estate. Tel: 01324 624236

Finding your way.

Start: Denny Sports Centre.

- 1 Start from the car park at Denny Sports Centre on Town House Street. Take the path to the right of the Sports centre and follow this all the way towards the grass playing fields behind the school. Carry on straight past the new school, keeping the two playing fields on your right.
- 2 Near the end of the playing fields there is a signposted path that branches off to the right

into a small wood. Follow this path and cross over a small wooden bridge continue until you come to a self closing gate onto a farm track.

- 3 Take a right at the gate and follow the farm track for 100m until a track appears ahead uphill on your left. Take this track and follow it as it heads up towards the woodland on the brow of the farmland. There are various self closing gates on this track and the path may be muddy and wet in places. It is also fairly steep near the woodlands.
- 4 Once you reach the end of this track you have reached Chacefield wood. There is a bench at the entrance to the woodland where you can recover from your uphill walk and enjoy the view over Denny. Follow the main rough stone surfaced path around and through the woodland. (You can branch off either left or right onto smaller paths which loop around back onto the central path). There are some grassy paths which you can also explore but these are not signposted.
- 5 Once at the end of the central path you are nearing the motorway. Take the path down the field edge with the motorway on your right. Once at the bottom of this path follow the disused railway path past Leslie Park Farm until you come to the main farm road leading to Cuthelton Farm and Mydub Farm.
- 6 Follow the farm road to your left. This track takes you through Cuthelton Farm. Take care when entering the farm and be aware that it is a working farm. There is a field gate in the farm which you pass through.
- 7 100 metres past the gate you will see a self closing wooden gate on your right which is signposted Herbertshire playing fields. Take this



- 6 Follow the farm road to your left. This track takes you through Cuthelton Farm. Take care when entering the farm and be aware that it is a working farm. There is a field gate in the farm which you pass through.

Please be sure to close the gate after yourself.

- 7 100 metres past the gate you will see a self closing wooden gate on your right which is signposted Herbertshire playing fields. Take this

path and cross over the wooden bridge back to Herbertshire playing fields. From here follow the surfaced path behind Denny High School back to Denny Sports Centre.

5. Torwood Castle and Tappoch Broch



Access Information

Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes, etc call Traveline on 08712002233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk

Parking: Available on Glen Road. See map.

Distance: 2.5 miles (3km)

Path information: Rough farm track and natural woodland tracks that may be muddy in places.

Facilities: Toilets, shops, cafes and parking available in Denny Town Centre.

Route A: Finding your way

- 1 From Glen Road in Torwood follow the Right of Way sign up a rough track called Castle Loan for around 600m until you come to Torwood Castle.
- 2 Before the entrance to the castle grounds, turn right and make your way through the wooden kissing gate.
- 3 Follow this track until you see a metal self closing gate leading to a narrow path along the field edge on your left. This path leads down to Denovan Road and into Denny.
- 4 Almost directly opposite the metal self closing gate is a narrow woodland path that leads up a gentle slope through Pine

woodland to Tappoch Broch. This path is not signposted but takes a semi circular route through the pine woodland and exits back at the beginning of Castle Loan.

- 5 Follow the narrow track through the woodlands. The lower reaches may be very muddy but once the path climbs into the pine woodland it is usually dry. On reaching the highest point of the woodland keep your eyes open for a stone structure on your left hand side. In summer the Broch is difficult to see as it is usually covered in Bracken. It is much easier to spot when the vegetation has died back. If you start heading downhill again without seeing the Broch then you have gone too far.



- 6 Once you have explored the stone walls and remaining staircase of the Broch head downhill underneath the canopy of conifers until you reach a small wooden boardwalk bridge that crosses a ditch. Once across the boardwalk, you will be on Castle Loan. Only a few hundred yards from your start point on Glen Road.

Route B

This route is around 4 miles (6.4km) from Glen Road, Torwood to Larbert.

A longer route back to Larbert is to follow the narrow country path that leads down the side of Pamphellgoat wood. You can access this path by turning right at the castle. Go through the wooden kissing gate and follow the

track until you come to a metal gate on your left. Follow the path south until you come to another gate. From here the route is well signposted. Turn left and follow the track back towards Larbert. The track exits behind Forth Valley Royal Hospital on Old Denny Road near North Broomage Roundabout.



6. Rosebank Community Woodland

This is lovely young woodland ideal for an evening stroll or walking your dog or just a quiet wander during the day. The community woodland has short circular walks and good path surfaces. Look out for Cherry tree blossom in the spring and later on cherries themselves. On dusky evenings there are often bats swooping around the mature trees near the Avon Burn that borders the west side of the woodland, and listen for the Tawny Owls calling to each other.

Finding your way

- 1 There are several entrances to Rosebank Community Woodland. These can be found at Meadow Court, Rulley View and Stirling Street.

Key

-  Starting points
-  Main path



Access Information

Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes, etc call Traveline on 08712002233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk

Parking: No designated parking

Distance: 0.5miles (1km)

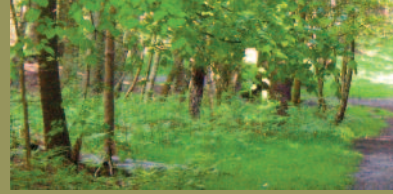
Path information: Mostly surfaced with areas through woodland that can get muddy.

Facilities: Toilets, shops, cafes and parking available in Denny Town Centre.



Autumn Birch Woodland

Walk, Ride and Cycle in and around Denny



Getting There

Access the Green Travel map at www.falkirk.gov.uk or call 01324 504950.

By Foot: If you live nearby.

By Cycle: Sustrans National Cycle Network routes 76 and 754 pass nearby. Cycle route information available from www.sustrans.org.uk or call 0845 113 0065.

By Rail: There are no direct rail links to Denny. Nearest train stations are at Camelon, Larbert, Falkirk or Stirling.

By Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes etc, call the Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk.

By Car: Denny is in the heart of Central Scotland, to the West of Falkirk and south of Stirling. It is well connected to both local A roads and the nearby motorways M80 and M876.

Suggested Walks

Walking is easy. You don't need any special equipment and whatever your age or level of fitness your health will benefit from this natural, gentle form of exercise.

Many of the paths in this guide can be linked up to give a range of circular walks of varying length. It's simply up to you to choose the routes that suit you. There is as much variety of surface conditions underfoot as there is scenery.

So get your boots on and explore Denny's countryside at your own pace.

Thank you to all organisations, landowners and local communities for their cooperation and support.

This booklet has been produced by Falkirk Council. For further information please contact Falkirk Council's Outdoor Access Team. Tel. 01324 504950.



Falkirk Council
Development Services