

James Herriot Wood



Tree planting is one of the most important things we can do for people, landscape and wildlife.

At Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) we create woodlands of all shapes and sizes where wildlife can thrive.

This walk will take you past James Herriot Wood, near Reeth, which was planted with 1,875 native broadleaf trees in 2021-22.

Thanks to Rosie Page, James Herriot's daughter, we have been able to name the

woodland after the great advocate for the Dales.

She says: "Over the course of many years the name James Herriot has become synonymous with North Yorkshire, and in particular with the Yorkshire Dales.

I would like to think that attaching my father's pen name to this splendid new plantation in Swaledale will help publicise not only the Yorkshire countryside, but also the wonderful work that YDMT do for this very special area."

Do one simple thing for nature – plant a tree

There is one simple thing you can do for nature right now here in the Yorkshire Dales.

A donation of £15 will help us to plant and look after one tree – helping to increase woodland cover, connect wildlife habitats and empower people to stand up for nature. You can even dedicate a tree to someone special in one of our supporter woodlands (like James Herriot Wood).

Help us plant a tree today
www.together-for-trees.org



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James Herriot Wood at Thirns Farm RouteDescription



Start and finish: Reeth, Yorkshire Dales National Park car park
Distance: 5 miles | 8 km
Time: 2.5 - 3 hrs (allow extra for stops)
Accessibility: Mostly good tracks and paths with some gentle climbs and stiles
Facilities: Toilets, pubs, cafes, and other parking available in Reeth
Map: Use this leaflet in conjunction with the Explorer OL30 Yorkshire Dales Northern & Central map

1 From the **Yorkshire Dales National Park car park** in Reeth make your way to **Silver Street**, with **The Buck** pub on the corner. Continue on the pavement past the bakery and fire station until you reach **Reeth Primary School**.

2 Just before the school building you will see a **public footpath sign** and steps up to the right. Take this path.

You'll reach a field and the path cuts across in a diagonal to an **opening in the wall**.

Follow this path through the next field to the **gate in the top corner**, where you'll see the path continues beyond the gate.

Turn left onto the path and you'll come to a small **crossroads**. Go straight on the footpath (avoiding the track that goes towards the farm buildings). The path is enclosed by hedges and a verge.

Continue upwards and the path opens up a little - with lovely views across the valley.

3 The path curves to the left and through a gate onto moorland. Follow the path straight, along the wall edge for a short way, then onto **open moorland**.

The path meets a track, follow this track which will later drop down the hill. **James Herriot Wood** will come into view, edging on to mature woodland in the valley.

4 Continue and you'll come to **Thirns Farm**. You can take a little detour here and turn left to the gate to take a view of the woodland - please do not enter the woodland, as it is private land. Go back up the path to continue the walk.

Keeping the house on your left continue on the track, going up a little.

You'll see a path fork to the right, but stick on the track

5 When you reach another **farm** turn left and follow the path down, following the wall line.

You'll see a **gate and stile** at the bottom. Head over the stile and follow the path to the right, through the gate into the woods.

Follow this path (ignoring the path to the right).

6 Pass the **house** on the left and continue along the path which turns into a track.

When the track meets a road, turn to the left and then left again when you meet another road and head into **Healaugh**.

Follow the road straight through **Healaugh** village.

7 Towards the end of the village, you'll see the **Manor House** on your right and a public footpath sign. Take this path and you'll come to open fields. Follow the path along the wall.

Head through the gate, and turn left. Walk along the **river**.

When you reach a gate the path forks. Go to the right, following the path to the **swing bridge**.

8 Continue on the path passing the swing bridge. When you reach a T junction, turn right towards **Reeth**.

You'll see a sign pointing left to **Reeth**, head up in to the village through the houses.

Turn right and you'll reach the village centre and make your way back to the car park.

James Herriot Wood is named after **Alf Wight OBE**, author of **All Creatures Great and Small**, and better known by his pen name **James Herriot**.

Alf loved the Yorkshire Dales and through his books he shared his experiences of living and working as a vet in North Yorkshire. He had a real affinity and affection for the people, the animals and the landscape of this unique area.

Alf's daughter **Rosie Page** said,

"Dad was enchanted by the Yorkshire Dales. He delighted in the wildness of the scenery, particularly in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. I am certain that he would thoroughly approve of the James Herriot Woodland, of its superb location, and of all that YDMT aims to achieve in the Yorkshire Dales."



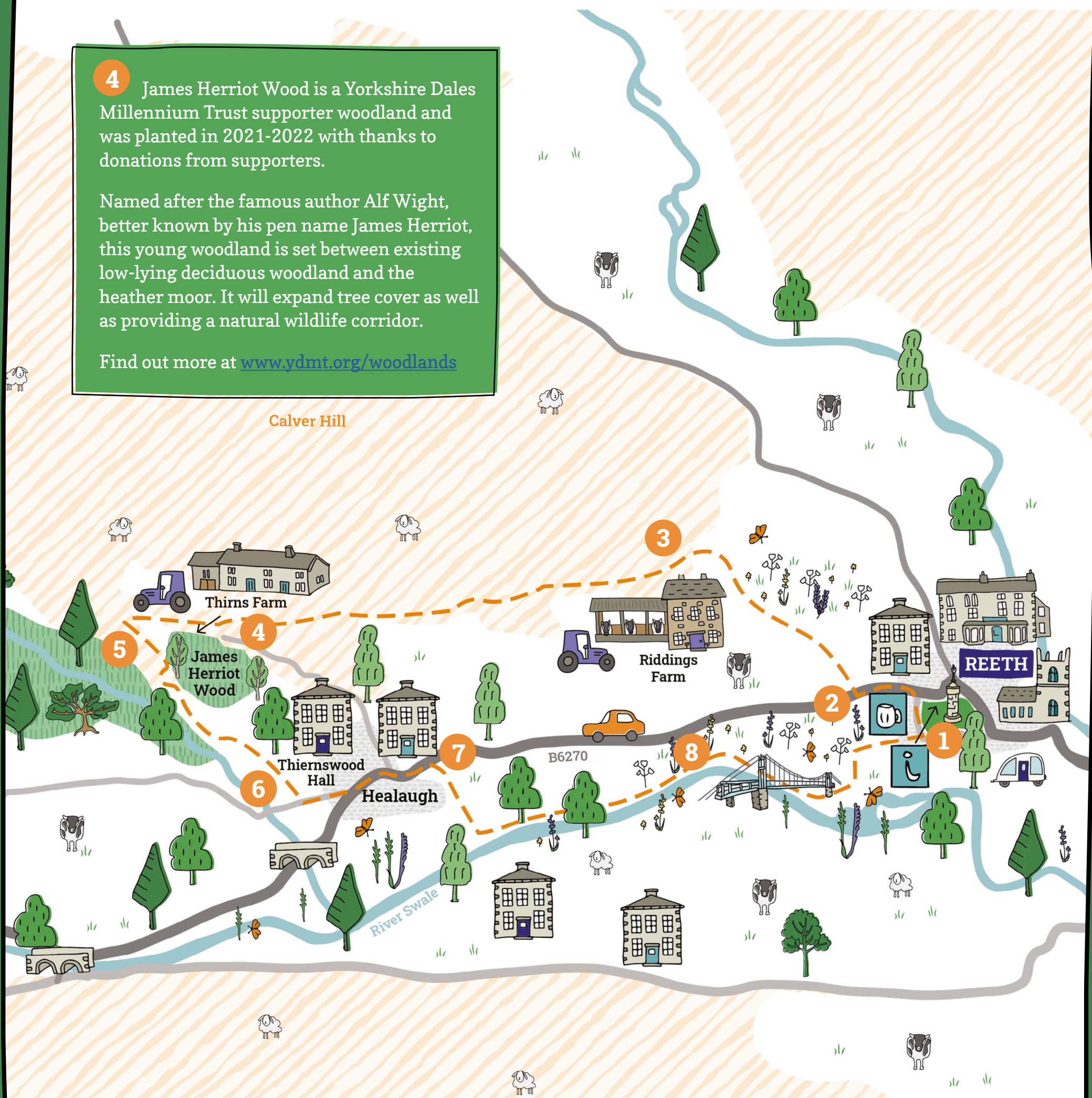
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James Herriot Wood is a Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust supporter woodland and was planted in 2021-2022 with thanks to donations from supporters.

Named after the famous author Alf Wight, better known by his pen name James Herriot, this young woodland is set between existing low-lying deciduous woodland and the heather moor. It will expand tree cover as well as providing a natural wildlife corridor.

Find out more at www.ydmt.org/woodlands



“As we left the barn the sunshine and the sweet warm air met us like a high wave. I turned and looked across the valley to the soaring green heights, smooth, enormous, hazy in the noon heat. Beneath my feet the grassy slopes fell away steeply to where the river glimmered among the trees.”

An excerpt from James Herriot's
All Creatures Great and Small

