

# Ancient Woodlands in Rochdale

the area whether on foot or cycle. Some of the site can be accessed by wheelchair users. A cycleway from Rochdale town centre connects Healey Dell with the South Pennine Moors.

There is a waymarked nature trail around the site. Leaflets are available from Rochdale MBC Countryside Services.

Access: Signposted from the A671 Rochdale- Bacup Road, and from B6377 Shawclough Road, turn onto Dell Road opposite Healey Hotel Public House. Car parking at Broadley Wood Lodge, off Station Road and at Healey Dell Ranger Centre.

## Cheesden & Naden Brook

Protected from over grazing by their steep sides, these valleys have regenerated into fine examples of deciduous woodland with a range of habitats and wildlife. The woodland is dominated by Sessile Oak with Hazel, Rowan and Hawthorn in the understorey.

There are also remnants of industrial archaeology in the valleys; a total of 15 water mills once made this area a busy industrial area as mills were built to take advantage of the fast flowing water in the brook.

The woodlands have a rich ground flora, with carpets of Bluebells in the spring, plus Ling Heather and Bilberry with Golden Saxifrage and Giant Horsetail in the damper areas. A number of woodland bird species can also be spotted within the woodlands including Nuthatch and Greater Spotted Woodpecker.

There are a number of informal paths through the site.

Access: via Bury New Road, Simpson Clough or A627 opposite Owd Betts.

For more information about either of these sites, accessibility, events and the countryside in Rochdale, contact Rochdale MBC Countryside Services on 01706 350459. email: healeydell@rochdale.gov.uk www.rochdale.gov.uk/leisure\_and\_culture/countryside/countryside\_-\_visitor\_centres.aspx



Photo by David Winnard

For more information on Pennine Edge Forest, please contact Rochdale RMBC Strategic Planning 01706 924234

Email: PEF@rochdale.gov.uk

www.rochdale.gov.uk/leisure\_and\_culture/countryside/forest\_and\_woodland\_management.aspx

This leaflet has been produced by the Pennine Edge Forest association with Rochdale Field Naturalists' Society and is dedicated to the memory of Peter Hill.

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