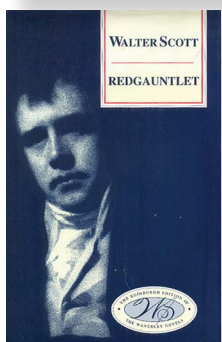
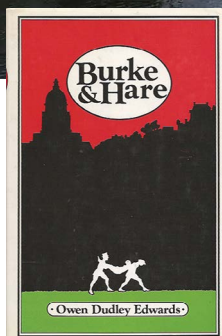




The remains of the weir at the tidal limit at Annan.



some handholds have been set into the bank. At higher level it may be better to take out on the right bank. Although the water is deep on the right there is some rock or tipped concrete directly below the last of the powerlines, able to be stood on when taking out. At this higher level the portage to paddleable water is shorter than on the left bank. Alternatively, a track up through the woods leads to a good parking area on a minor road. A chimney to the east is part of Annandale Distillery, closed in 1918 and reopened in 2014.

The next bridge carries the A75 over before Newbie Mill. Footbridges above and below the A75 were swept away in 2021 floods. Beyond a camping and caravan site the river is crossed by the B721 over Annan Bridge. There is a pull in on each side of the road where parking is allowed but each is marked with a no loading sign. As there are no buildings here the restriction must be aimed at river users, showing they are expected here. The three arched bridge of 1827 by Robert Stevenson is neatly ornamented in Locharbriggs freestone, the workmen celebrating its completion by drinking a gallon of whisky.

The remains of a weir below the bridge served Provost Oats' mill and are at the tidal limit.

The site of the Annan Hill Roman camp on the Anava Fluvius has become the market town of Annan in Victorian red stone, the capital of Annandale and Eskdale. The 3rd Earl of Moray and Sir Archibald Douglas attacked Edward Baliol in Annan Castle in 1332 and drove him out of Scotland. The town was attacked repeatedly by the English and burnt in Edward VI's reign, destroying the trade with the Isle of Man and Ireland so that many

of the residents moved to the safety of Dumfries. The brewery, in use in 1785, became a cotton factory.

Poet and divine Thomas Blacklock was born here in 1721. Writer Thomas Carlyle was a pupil in the original academy in 1803-10, then a maths master, both positions he hated.

Hare's Landing follows the Burke & Hare trial, which saw Burke hanged and Hare set free after turning king's evidence, heading to Portpatrick to get back to Ireland but being attacked by a mob of 8,000 in Dumfries so he turned and made for Carlisle via Annan. The Historic Resources Centre is the place to learn more. There is an Annual Lower Annandale Walking Festival and an Annual Riding of the Marches. The town featured in *Redgauntlet*.

The tide is outgoing from HW Dover +0120 and ingoing from HW Dover -0240, the river suffering heavy silting.

The Gretna to Kilmarnock railway crosses at the start of the harbour area, which was developed in the 18th century by blocking the channel down the side of an island. It was used for emigration to North America in the 18th century and there were steamship services to Liverpool in the 19th century. Young's seafoods are one of the local businesses by the harbour and there are plans to develop a marina here.

There are works at Newbie but the east side of the river has meadows that flood, attracting dunlins, curlews, sandpipers, curlew sandpipers, sanderlings, redshanks, kittiwakes, ducks, terns and birdwatchers.

Barnkirk Point is 800m from the border with England in the River Eden estuary. The proximity with England was not a disadvantage to all. Smuggling was convenient as Bowness-on-Solway was only 3km away. The remains of the former railway viaduct are visible upstream, dismantled in 1935 when the primary users were Scots drinkers walking across on Sundays to benefit from the English licensing laws.

It is possible to drive to Waterfoot for loading but not to Barnkirk Point.

FACT FILE

Distance

From Shillahill to the River Eden is 26km.

Transport

Lochmaben, Lockerbie, Dalton, Hoddum, Brydekirk and Annan have bus services.

Campsites

There are campsites 1km away at Lochmaben, 5km away at Cleughbrae, 300m away at Hoddum Mains, 2km away at Ecclefechan, 1km away at Brydekirk and 100m away at Annan.

OS 1:50,000 Sheets

78 Nithsdale & Annandale

85 Carlisle & Solway Firth

Admiralty Charts

1346 Solway Firth & Approaches (1:100,000)

Tidal Constants

Annan Waterfoot: HW Dover +0110

LW Dover +0300

Sea Area

Irish Sea

Lifeboats

Inshore lifeboat: Sillioth

All weather lifeboat: Workington

Connection

Solway Firth - See *Coastal Scotland* p6



Looking from Barnkirk Point towards Waterfoot and Annan.