



SilverHelme Activity Centre

The Row, Silverdale, Nr. Carnforth. LA5 0UG.

what3words address: ///mimed.cardinal.unscathed

≈ Camping ≈ Lodges ≈ Activities ≈ Adventure ≈



Information Pack



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SilverHelme Activity Centre

Overview



The **SilverHelme Activity Centre** is one of two centres owned and run by the Lonsdale Scout District. The Centre is set in eighteen acres of natural woodland, comprising mainly of oak, ash, yew, hazel and holly. It is within the *Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty* (AONB), amidst limestone pavements and just a few minutes' walk from Silverdale Train Station

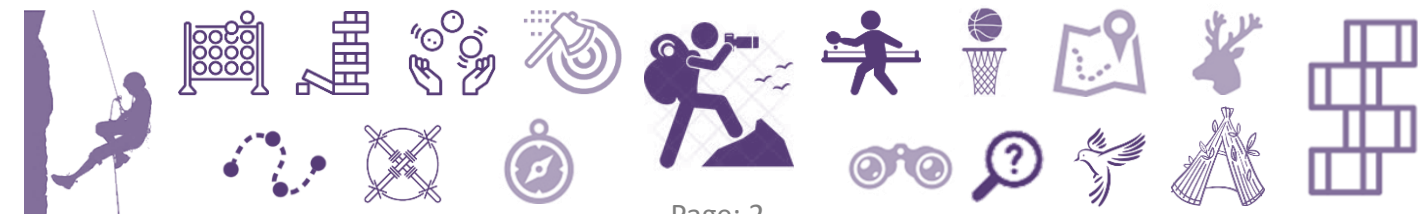
SilverHelme Activity Centre is perfect for both group and “Back to Basics” camping. It also offers the opportunity to develop skills needed for Greenfield and Lightweight Expedition camping with many small & more remote camping areas across the whole site.

There is also a **Lodge**, capable of sleeping thirty people in separate bunk rooms, ideal for groups that want to stay over but not camp.

SilverHelme Activity Centre is also perfect for day and evening events, offering a wide range of activities to inspire everyone. The Centre has a large enclosed wet weather shelter that can be used for a variety of activities.

Being in an **AONB**, SilverHelme offers many other local opportunities for hiking, bird watching and beach activities.

... SilverHelme Activity Centre is an EXTREMELY AFFORDABLE option for Uniformed Groups, with many activities FREE.





SilverHelme Activity Centre

Accommodation Options

Mortimer Lodge Bunk House



This modern centrally heated building is capable of sleeping thirty people in separate bunk rooms. (4 x 6 berth, 1 x 4 berth & 1 x 2 berth rooms).

It has a large room for dining and indoor activities in wet weather.



There is a fully fitted kitchen with gas cooker, hot water, fridge & freezer and all crockery, utensils, pots & pans.



There are also separate indoor male and female toilets with washing facilities and showers. There is also a separate indoor cloakroom and storage facility for muddy footwear by the entrance to the Lodge.



Mortimer Lodge is suitable for all disabled people.

Larger Camping Areas



There are two larger camping areas close to Mortimer Lodge and the toilet block. A third area, the Den Field, is on the other side of the toilet block. There is also a larger open area, Melling Meadow, at the far end of the site.



All these areas are ideal for troop or group camps.

There are fire pits in all these camp areas to allow for backwoods cooking. Oil drum BBQs, with grill racks, are also available for outdoor cooking.

Back to Basics Camping



There are many smaller areas across SilverHelme which offer small, basic camping. This would be ideal for anyone looking to prepare for a greenfield or lightweight expedition. Many of these areas do have fire pits for outdoor cooking.

There are many trees around the site and areas that would support hammocks for an even more basic camping experience. Hammocks are available from the District store if any camping group wants to give it a go.



Toilets



A modern toilet block (built in 2017) has hot and cold water wash basins, disabled facilities, and separate showers. There are also two “washing-up” stations outside with hot & cold water.

The toilet block is located close to the centre of the site, near the two larger camping areas and the Den Field.

It is a short walk from Melling Meadow and the smaller basic camping areas. (Note: there is no path lighting when dark to the more remote parts of the site).





SilverHelme Activity Centre

Accommodation Options

Wet Weather Shelter



SilverHelme Activity Centre has a large wet weather shelter that has wrap around doors that mean the shelter can be fully enclosed or open. It is also Wheelchair accessible.



The shelter can be used as a "Mess Tent" and is also ideal for indoor activities when the weather isn't too good.



The shelter is free to use. Currently there are no cooking facilities provided in the shelter.



Mortimer Lodge



The Lodge got brand new mattresses in June 2022



"The Den"

There is a small cabin known as 'The Den' which has basic facilities including a fridge, electric kettle, toaster and a cold water sink. This is an ideal hut for use as a day centre



Larger Camping Areas

Back to Basics Camping



SilverHelme offers almost endless & varied camping options across the whole site. From single tent clearings to fields suitable for group camps.



The modern toilet block has hot water for washing up. *Better than Littledale!*



Toilet Block



The Wet Weather Shelter was used by the BBC when filming "Autumn Watch" in 2014. The BBC paid for the doors that now enclose the shelter.

Wet Weather Shelter



SilverHelme Activity Centre

Free (non-permit) Activities

Nature Inspired



SilverHelme Activity Centre has a wide & varied terrain with many different trees & plants. It also has many limestone areas covered in different mosses & lichens. You can follow the paths or head into to the woodlands to explore.



It is also ideal for learning navigation skills and, of course for Den building.



You will spot many different birds and a variety of animals including deer, squirrels and rabbits.



Physical



SilverHelme Activity Centre is a large but compact site so perfect for Wide Games & Scavenger hunts.

There is a full sized Table Tennis table & equipment in the Wet Weather Shelter.

Basketball equipment is also available from the Warden.



Special Activities



Whilst the focus of SilverHelme is on camping & nature, there are some special activities available that are free and do not require permits or pre-authorisation.



There is a 25-point Orienteering course that has been mapped by the South Ribble Orienteering Club (SROC). There are SIX different challenges to help develop navigation & map reading skills.



For younger visitors there are Squirrel & Beaver Trails that will help develop navigation & observation skills. Nature inspired activity points are also included on these trails.

There are also poles and ropes available to allow Mini-Pioneering and Knots & Lashings activities.

Time-filler Activities



A number of "Giant" games have been kindly donated for use on-site. These are perfect for playing in the Wet Weather Shelter if you need to get out of the rain, or outside when you have periods of down time.



Giant games currently available are Jenga, Connect 4, a Circus Skills kit and a Parachute games kit.

You just need to ask the Warden for the equipment & return when done!





SilverHelme Activity Centre

Permit / Charged Activities

The following activities must be pre-booked and be led by an approved instructor.
You will need to provide evidence of qualification prior to your visit.

Crate Stacking



There is Crate Stacking equipment available on site.

It is often a challenge to stand on top of the stack and to see how high can you build it before it comes crashing down. The activity develops balance and confidence whilst encouraging team working and communication.

Tomahawk Throwing



A number of approved local Leaders have access to Tomahawk Throwing equipment and may be available to run the activity during your visit.

There are areas on SilverHelme where Tomahawk Throwing activities can be safely run.

The Activity Centre management team is always interested to hear suggestions for new activities, whether free or for a reasonable charge.

If you find successful & enjoyable activities during your visit then please also share these.



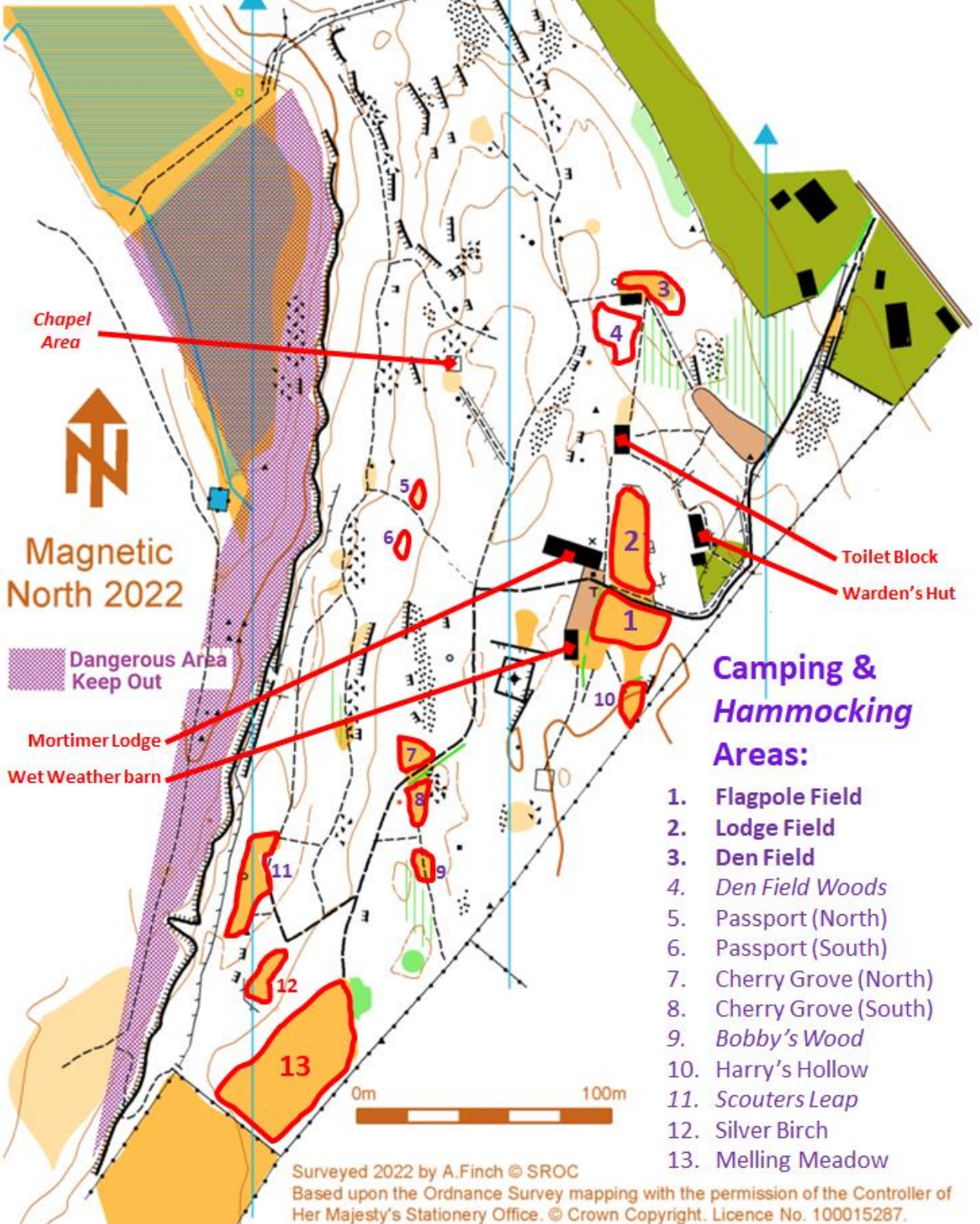
SilverHelme Activity Centre Site Overview

= Camping = Lodges = Activities = Adventure =

SilverHelme

Scale: 1:2000

Contours: 5m



Chapel Area



Magnetic North 2022

Dangerous Area Keep Out

Mortimer Lodge

Wet Weather barn

Toilet Block
Warden's Hut

Camping & Hammocking Areas:

1. Flagpole Field
2. Lodge Field
3. Den Field
4. Den Field Woods
5. Passport (North)
6. Passport (South)
7. Cherry Grove (North)
8. Cherry Grove (South)
9. Bobby's Wood
10. Harry's Hollow
11. Scouters Leap
12. Silver Birch
13. Melling Meadow

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SilverHelme Activity Centre

Local Area Activities

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The SilverHelme Activity Centre is located within the Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and close to Morecambe Bay. There are many activity opportunities within walking distance of the site.

These include:

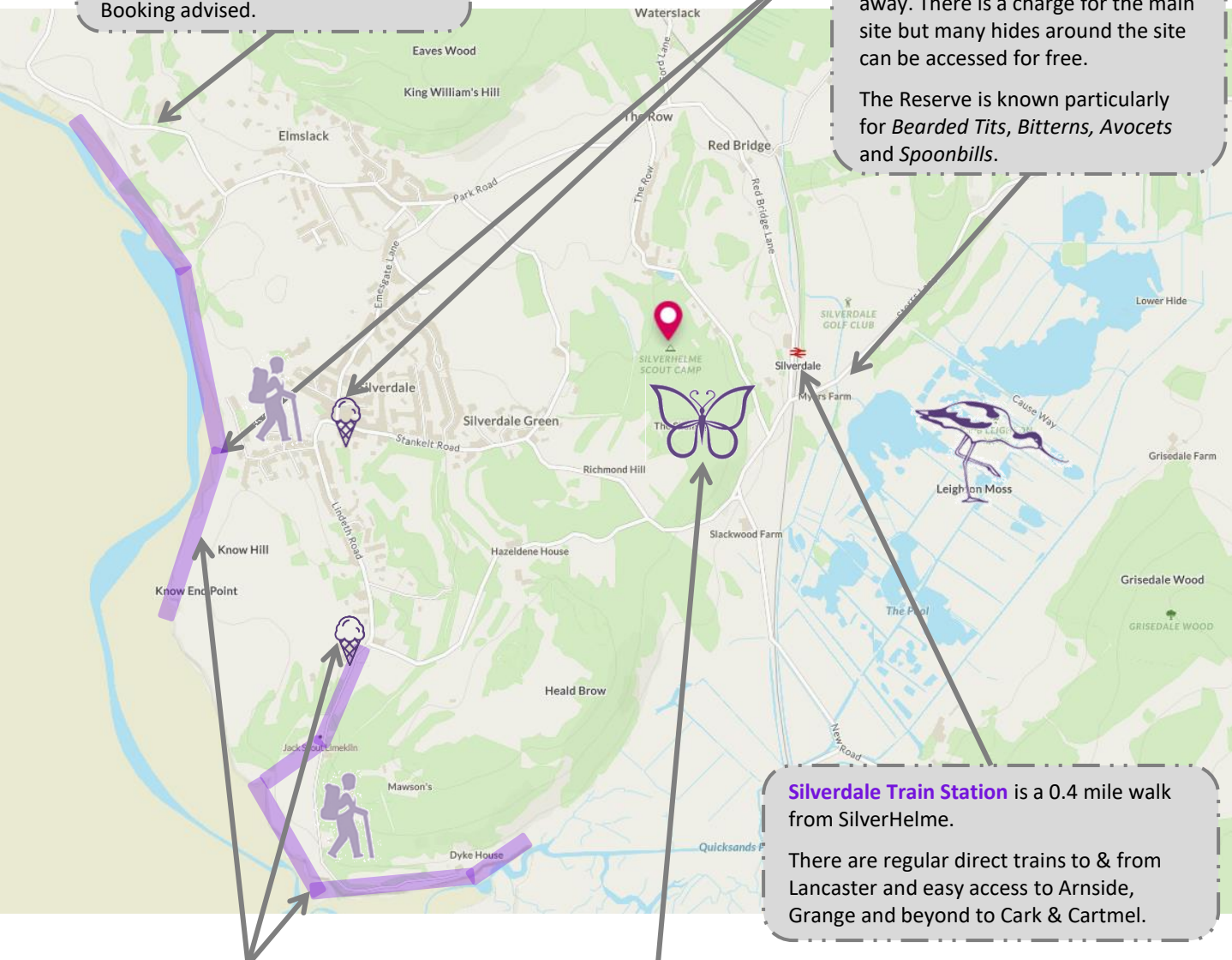
Holgate's Caravan Park is a 1.5 mile walk away. This gives you access to a swimming pool, bowling alley and children's play area (for a cost). Booking advised.

Morecambe Bay is a short 1.5 mile walk from SilverHelme, passing through the picturesque village of Silverdale.

Silverdale has a range of local shops including a local Co-Op store,

RSPB Leighton Moss is just 0.6 miles away. There is a charge for the main site but many hides around the site can be accessed for free.

The Reserve is known particularly for *Bearded Tits*, *Bitterns*, *Avocets* and *Spoonbills*.



There are lots of interesting & varied coastal walk opportunities close to SilverHelme.

You can also call at *Gibraltar Farm* for one of their excellent home made ice creams.

Myers Allotments is right next door to SilverHelme. It is the first Butterfly Conservation reserve in Lancashire.

The Reserve is known particularly for the *High Brown Fritillary*, one of Britain's most threatened & rare butterflies.

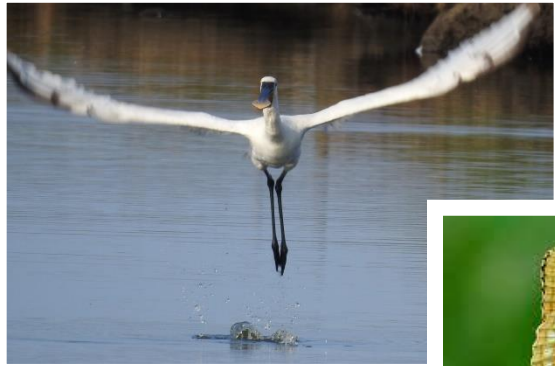
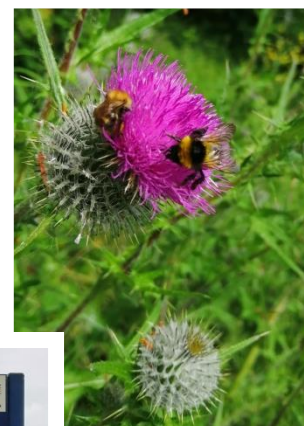
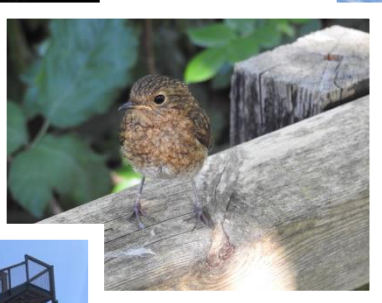
Silverdale Train Station is a 0.4 mile walk from SilverHelme.

There are regular direct trains to & from Lancaster and easy access to Arnside, Grange and beyond to Ark & Cartmel.



SilverHelme Activity Centre Local Area Activities

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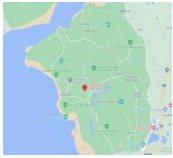




SilverHelme Activity Centre

Other Useful Information

Location



SilverHelme Activity Centre (OS Ref: SD 4735 7526) is situated near to Silverdale village.

The full address is: **The Row, Silverdale, Nr. Carnforth. LA5 0UG.** (Please note that the post code entered in a satnav is not accurate in locating the site entrance).

The what3words address is: **///mimed.cardinal.unscathed**

The closest train station is **Silverdale (SVR)**. It is just 0.4 miles from the site.

On-site facilities



There is poor mobile phone reception on-site but the site does have high speed WiFi. The Router name is **Silverhelm** and the Password is **scouting1907**



There is no longer a Tuck Shop on-site but you can buy woggles & badges from the Warden's Hut.

There is an Emergency Defibrillator, located near the entrance of Mortimer Lodge.



Risk Assessment Considerations



On the western border of the site there are **steep cliffs** that could pose a danger if anyone gets too close unsupervised. All groups should be made aware of the out of bounds locations as soon as they arrive on-site.

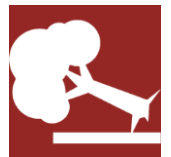
Throughout the site there is a lot of **Limestone pavement terrain**, much of this is covered in moss. This can cause a risk of slips, trips and falls.

The site is heavily wooded and, during recent storms, many **trees have fallen down**. Care should be taken when climbing on and amongst fallen trees.

Many areas across the site have fire pits and there are also oil drum BBQs, with grill racks, available for use. **Do not have fires in any other location** and ensure fires are extinguished when not being supervised.

If you are camping away from the main areas around Mortimer Lodge then you should be aware that there is currently **no lighting on the paths**. Groups should be reminded to bring torches.

Groups should ensure they bring their own first aid supplies.



Nearest A&E is at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Ashton Road, Lancaster LA1 4RP
Tel: 01524 65944