

# The Otterburn Ranges

## Controlled ACCESS AREA

### ⑤ The Bastle Circuit

(brown route on map)

A 25km circular cycle route to the heart of the Training Area starting near the bastles of the Grasslees valley.

Warning: there are some long climbs!

(25km / 16 miles)

**Start:** Billsmoorfoot car park (Grid ref NY943968) on B6341 and enter Training Area.

Head N for 7km past The Raw, High Shaw and Craig. Turn left onto the Burma Road. Head W for 4.5km.

Take left to descend 2km past Dudlees Farm. At fork keep left for 6km to take left at Leighton Hill.

A steep descent and ascent takes you 2km to High Carrick. Continue NE for 2km back to the bastles and down 1.5km back to the car park.

### Wood and Iron

The Grasslees Valley once rang to the sound of the iron furnaces that brought wealth to this area. Maybe it is because of this wealth that the farmhouses here are strong and defensible.

On this route you can see remains of these 'bastles' at High Shaw, Craig and Ironhouse. The Raw is one of the best examples standing.

Stop in passing to see how its thick, strong walls protected the family inside. Ponies and blood-stock like bulls and rams were kept secure in the byre below and the family lived on the upper floor reached by ladder.

### Murder!

In 1791 seamstress Margaret Crozier was murdered by William Winter at The Raw. He was arrested, tried and executed and his body condemned to hang in chains near Harwood Forest within sight of the scene of his crime.

