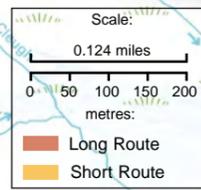
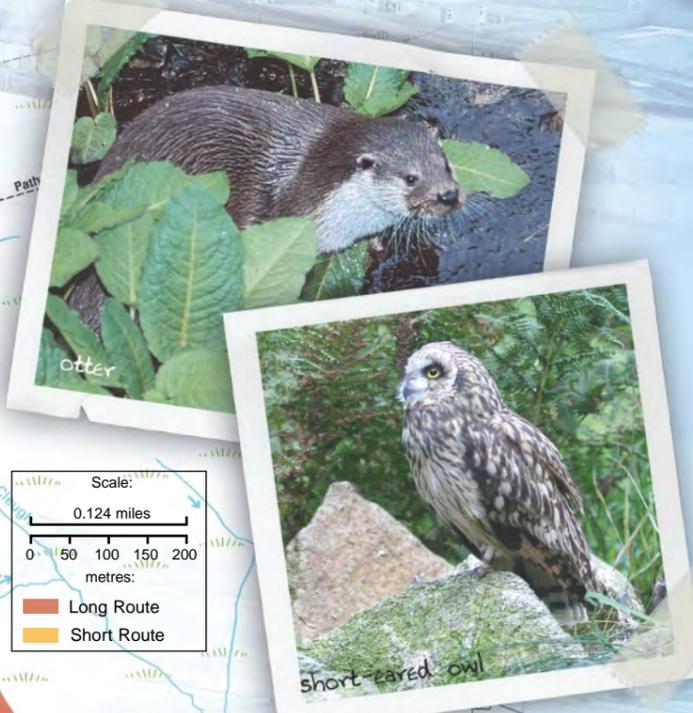


# In and Around the former lead mining village of Rookhope

Flued to its chimney up the hill,  
That smokes no answer any more  
But points, a landmark on Bolt's Law  
The finger of all questions. There in  
ROOKHOPE I was aware....  
New Year Letter (1941) W.H. Auden



curlew



Areas of old heather are burnt so  
new young shoots will grow.  
The mosaic of young and old  
heather, grass and bracken provide  
food and shelter for red grouse



common lizard

Stone walls provide shelter  
and warm bedding spots  
for lizards and homes  
for stoats and weasels.

dipper



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mountain pansy



Redburn Common is  
mostly mat grass which  
makes the hillside  
look white.

Look on rocks and under  
the heather for different  
types of lichen.

In summer the grass is  
sprinkled with yellow  
flowered tormentil and  
white heath bedstraw used  
for sheep pasture.  
Look for red grouse, curlew  
and short-eared owls.

Fields used as pasture  
for sheep and cattle. Some are  
cut once a year for hay and silage.  
They support upland wading  
birds in the spring, such as lapwing and  
redshank. Also look out for grey partridge,  
thrushes, ring ouzels, kestrels and in the  
winter fieldfares.

The river bank here is being managed  
to protect water voles and encourage  
otters. Willows reduce bank erosion.  
Birds include heron, moorhen, dippers,  
wagtails and oystercatchers, plus  
summer visitors such as warblers  
and sand martins.

In earlier years, Lintzgarth Common was  
drained to improve grazing. Now part is  
being actively managed for wading birds.  
Ditches are being blocked and new shallow  
pools created to restore the wet upland  
pasture. Note the big tussocks of grass and  
rushes. Black grouse use this area, but they  
also need woodland for shelter and winter  
feed, so small areas in the cleughs (small  
valleys) are being planted with native  
trees such as rowan, birch and alder.

Follow the Mineral Valleys Walk signs



water vole