

Step Out at SWFC

The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays



75 – Normandale and Loxley Common – 2.4 miles

This walk starts at Studfield Hill – go up Ben Lane (towards Wadsley Sports Centre), straight on at the traffic lights and then take the first road on the left. Down the hill, there are a couple of bends with a small parking area on the right or park at the side of the road. We walk up to the top of Loxley Common then back down again – some of the footpaths may be muddy but there is some road walking at the end to clean up your boots a bit.

Anticlockwise

From the road, head uphill across the grass. There is a choice, a winding path on the right (which is usually muddy) or a straighter path up the left, both come out on Ben Lane at the same place. Turn right, then cross over and take the track up into the woods. At the top, turn right then sharp left up the footpath which will eventually bring you up to the trig point. The view from here would be exceptional if only somebody would cut down the trees, but instead we'll have to go further up the hill till we get to the bench at the viewpoint.

Turn left here, down the track along the edge of the trees. About half way down take a track which leads off on the right, out of the trees. Once clear of the woods take the path on the left and follow it down to the houses at the top of Loxley, dropping you on to Garland Drive. Immediately turn right on the path between the houses, and bear straight on to emerge on the playing field. Walk diagonally to the bottom right corner and exit onto Archer Gate, observing the nicely carved street sign. Proceed down France Road, cross Chase Road and walk down Occupation Lane. Cross Ben Road (which has changed its name to Rodney Hill) then turn left and walk up to Normandale Avenue. Turn right then first left onto Woodstock Road, then 4th left onto Vale Grove. At the bottom take the ginnel on the left, back to the cars.

Risks

- 2 road crossings, quite a bit of road walking on quiet streets.
- Steepish climb and descent.
- Wet, muddy underfoot (even in summer), leaves, dogs, etc.

