

Step Out at SWFC

The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays



134 – Exploring Kelham – 2.9 miles (Grade 2)

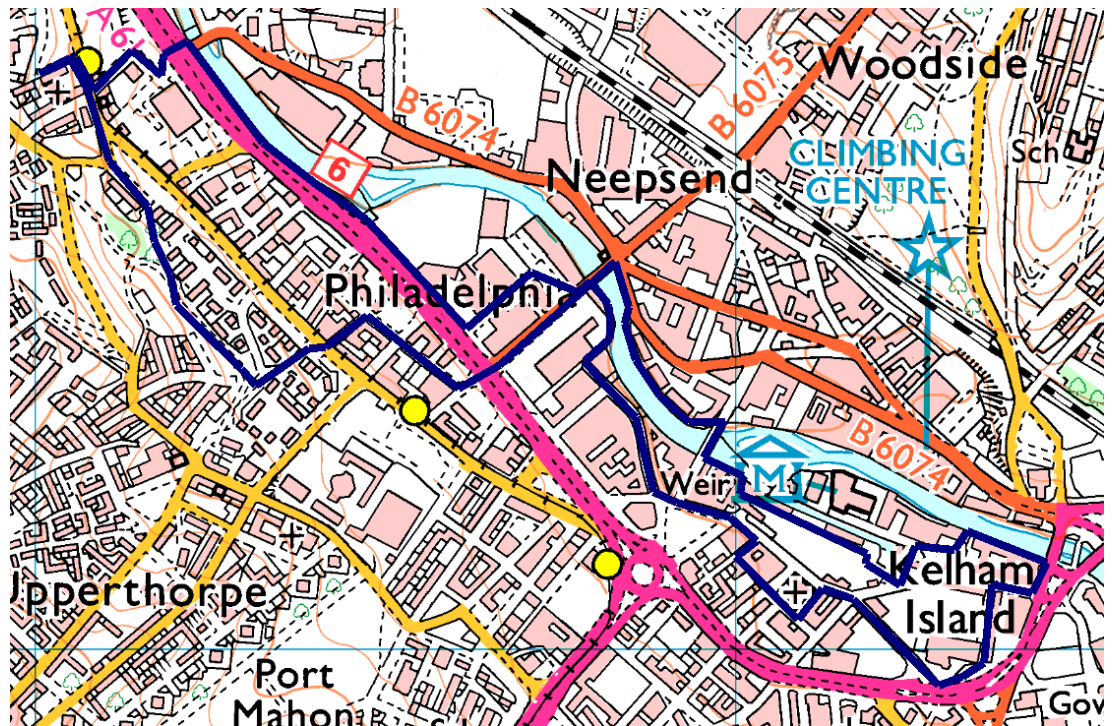
This walk is grade 2 because it travels along and crosses some very busy roads, not all of which have crossings. It is uphill for 100 yards at the end, downhill for about half a mile at the start, and flat for the rest, and it is 99% tarmac, so boots are NOT needed!

The route is one of a set looking at the Great Flood of 1864, so it follows as close to the Don as we can get, between Hillfoot Bridge and Borough Bridge, and is a figure of eight. More views of industrial heritage than of distant vistas, but watch out for kingfishers and moorhens.

Park on Primrose Hill (turn right off Langsett Road, just after Primrose View tram stop).

Figure of 8

Walk down to Langsett Road and turn right, following along to Whitehouse Lane. Bear right and cross into Portland Court and go straight on, bearing left on the footpath to come out on Philadelphia Gardens. Turn left and cross over, going down Philadelphia Grove to come out on Infirmary Road. Cross and go down Portland Street then right into Cross Bedford Street. At the



end, turn left into Bedford Street and use the crossing to cross the dual carriageway and go along Rutland Road.

Cross the bridge and turn right onto Neepsend Lane, then go through [Naomi's Corner](#) and follow the Upper Don Trail around to Ball Bridge, over the bridge and left through to Little Kelham. Keep going till you come out on Alma Street, turn left and find the flood level lines on the Fat Cat, then bear left past the scissors and through Kelham Island to the river side. Follow the river to Borough Bridge, and if the traffic is not too bad, nip across and have a look at the Bridgehouses Footbridge, *'Sheffield's first iron bridge, built in 1795, refurbished in 1841, destroyed by the Great Flood in 1864 and rebuilt the following year, then renovated finally in 1921. Largely ignored since then, this footbridge provided a shortcut to Bridgehouses station in the 1840's'*. (See www.principle5.coop/.../Bridgehouses.pdf)

Crossing back over, turn left then right into Alma Street then left onto Cotton Street. Hopefully in future it might be possible to walk through the new build on the right, but for now, walk the length of Cotton Street and turn right (across the grass if it's dry) round Safestore and right again into Russell Street. At the



end, turn left on Bowling Green Street (or on Ebenezer Place) and right on South Parade, then straight through the houses to Dun Fields. Turn right and then left onto Green Lane, then second right onto Cornish Street. At the very end of Cornish Street, turn right on Waterloo Walk and out to Rutland Road. Turn left and then right into Rutland Way, turning left to come out on Penistone Rd. Turn right and follow the pavement along beside the river – being careful as this section is well used by cyclists, so watch out for them. Despite being trapped between a dual carriageway and the backs of warehouses, this is the best place to spot kingfishers!

At Hillfoot Bridge, we need to cross both Neepsend Road and Penistone Road. Fortunately there are pelican crossings; unfortunately, there are 4 of them, so it will take a while to get across. Once across, we get to the uphill part of the walk – go straight ahead, up the steps to your left or up the slope a bit further to your right, both bring you out on Wood Street. Turn right onto Lime treet, follow round over Langsett Road, then right and left back to the cars.

Risks

- Many major road crossings, some with lights – all very busy roads, take extreme care.
- Almost the entire route is joint pedestrian and cycle path. Cyclists are supposed to stick to the red surfaced path, and sometimes get very annoyed at pedestrians who stray off the footpath, so watch out for bikes.
- No stiles and no steps if you chose to go up the slope...
- No mud, an optional bit of grass so boots not needed unless it's snowing.

ROBIN HOOD:

everyone is familiar with the story of Robin Hood or Robin of Loxley as he is often called. He was reputedly born at Haggis Croft now the site of Normandale House (approx. 100 yards from the start of the Loxley section of this walk) and later said to have lived in the woods near to the current location of the Robin Hood Inn.

ROBIN HOOD INN – LITTLE MATLOCK:

was built in 1804- by Thomas Halliday who was known for building several other substantial properties in the area, The inn was designed with the purpose of attracting the gentry of Sheffield and beyond by creating water gardens and woodland walks etc. in the area which reminded him so much of Matlock in Derbyshire that he named it Little Matlock.