

Step Out at SWFC

The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays



139 – Tankersley - 2.5 miles (Grade 2)

A new year, a new walk. Much of this walk is footpaths alongside the roads. When I walked it last month, it was frozen, so the footpaths were not muddy but the roads were very slippery, but just now I think we will be sticking to the roads. You still need boots for the off-road bits though! A couple of stiles, no steps, no steep climbs or descents, but this walk is rated 2 because there are some very busy roads to cross.

Park on Wentworth Way, Wentworth Industrial Park, Barnsley S75 3BA – straight out on the A61, past McDonalds, then next left. Go to the end, turn round and park at the side of the road near the end.

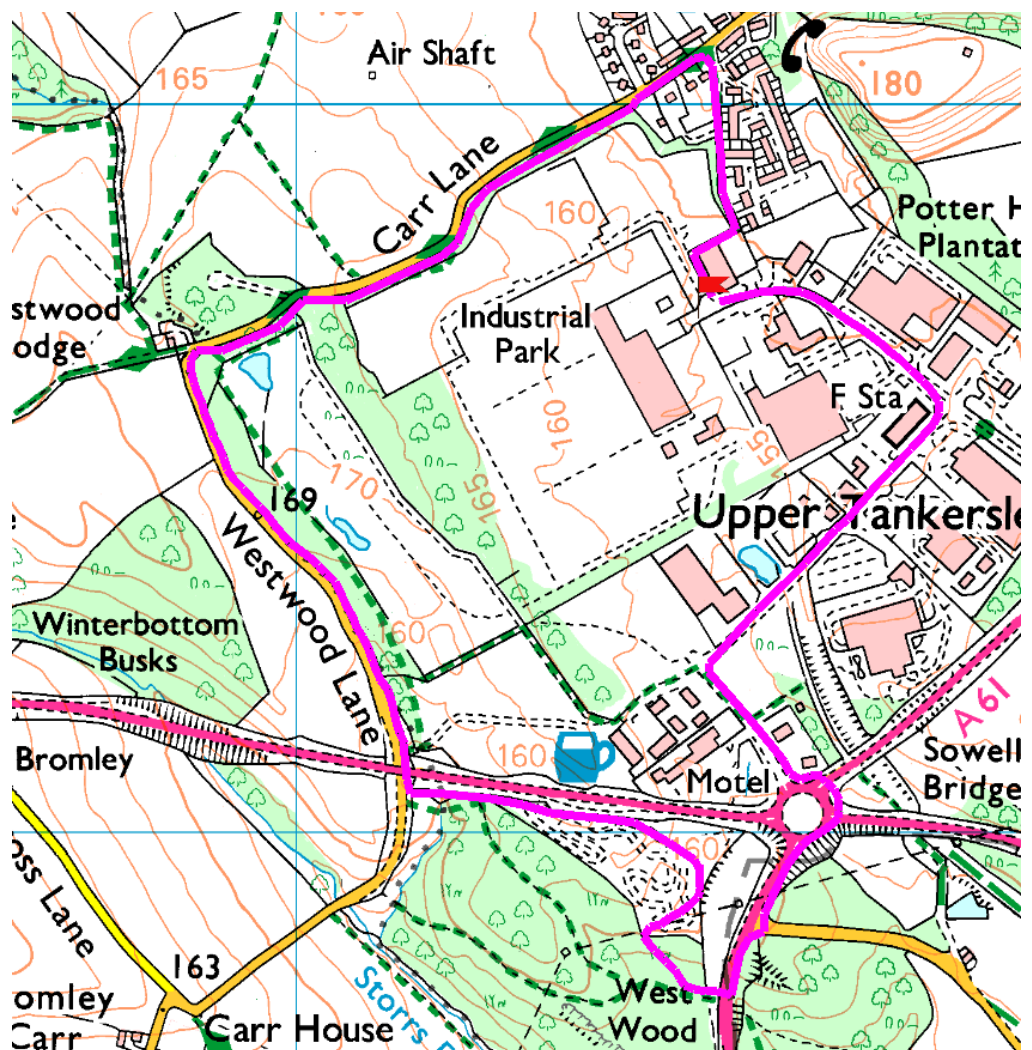
Anticlockwise

Just past Warwick Ward, on the right take the footpath which goes round behind the factory, and eventually comes out on Colliery Yard – a reminder of the original industry of this area. At the end of Colliery Yard turn left on Stone Leigh and left again on Carr Lane.

At the end of the houses, inspect the footpath which goes through the trees on the left. If it looks dry (or frozen), use it – otherwise stay on the road. Where the road bends sharp left and becomes Westwood Lane, you again have to choose between footpath and road, but as you approach the A616 bridge, the footpath rejoins the road in the shadow of the bridge.

Immediately after the bridge turn left through the gates and follow the track up, staying parallel with the A616, past the 'diner' and keeping left along the track. Where the track drops down then climbs up the side of the banking, follow the footpath round the top and stick to it as it winds round and down the hill through the woods. Avoid the obviously wet places and join the footpath where it climbs up to the road, coming out on the side of the A61.

Here we find the disadvantage of being in Barnsley – we need to cross over to Sheffield to find a safe way of getting back to the cars, so cross the A61 with EXTREME care – the traffic tends to ignore the 50



speed limit, so watch out for idiots. (At this point, the boundary runs up the road, see if you can spot it!) Once across, turn left on the pavement and follow it up to the roundabout, using the pelican crossings to get across to McDonalds then walk past Shell, turn right at the end and follow along to the fire station, then left and back onto Wentworth Way to find the cars.

Risks

- Three very busy roads to cross, two have pelicans but the other needs care. The 'dry' route goes along a road with no pavements but it is fairly quiet, so take care if going this way. Watch out for cars, bikes, etc.
- A few stiles if you follow the footpaths but none on the road walk. Most paths are good, but some will be wet. Rough ground, so wear boots.