Step Out at SWFC The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays

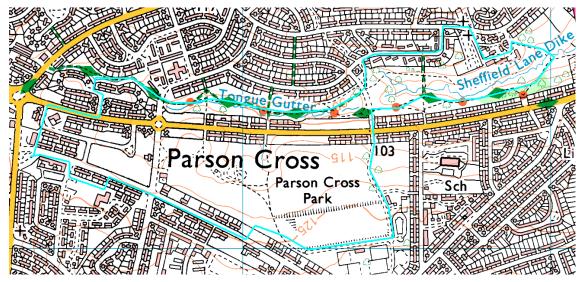


143 – Tongue Gutter (for the snowdrops) – 3.0 miles (Grade 1 unless it's snowy)

It's February, so it must be time for our (nearly) annual visit to find snowdrops. This year, because of the risk of snow we are avoiding walking across the grass and keeping to hard paths – which might lead to a bit of exploring. Parking at the end of Buchanan Road opposite the Learning Zone (same as last year, up Halifax Road past Lidl then right at the next traffic lights on Chaucer Road, third exit at the first roundabout, past Asda, third exit at the second roundabout onto Wordsworth Ave then second left).

Anticlockwise:

From the car park turn right on Buchanan Road and go in front of the shops, then turn right into Lytton Road and left into Gaskell Gardens. At the end of the road, follow the jinnel out to Buchanan Road and turn right. Cross



Adlington Road and carry on to the entrance to Parson Cross Park just past number 110. Once in the park turn right and follow the path to the end, then turn left and drop down to Deerlands Avenue. Cross over (carefully) and go straight down Holgate Crescent before turning right along the TPT. Follow the tarmac path till it turns right and heads out towards the road, then turn left on a gravel path, down the steps and along to the bridge over the dike. Go straight up the path on the other side to Colley Drive then turn left and right on the ginnel behind the houses. Bear left then right to come out beside the Jewish Cemetery on Colley Road.

Turn left then left again on Holgate Road and follow round past the Himalaya Takeaway then turn left down the path and bear right to Holgate Crescent. Cross and carry on along the path, crossing Holgate Avenue, then when the path splits, bear left and cross the stream to come out in Deerlands Close. Turn left then right to Deerlands Avenue, then right and either turn left across the grass before the car wash, or turn left after the car wash into Buchanan Crescent.

Head across the back of the Learning Zone and return to the car park.

Risks:

- A couple of busy roads, be specially careful crossing near roundabouts. Watch out for bikes.
- There shouldn't be much mud but watch out for it. Dog dirt is likely.
- Most of the route is tarmac or hard packed gravel, but there are a couple of places which may be muddy.
- Snow is forecast, but probably won't cover the snowdrops. May be slippery though!

