

Step Out at SWFC

The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays



Walk 154 – Walder’s Low, Stocksbridge – 2.5 miles

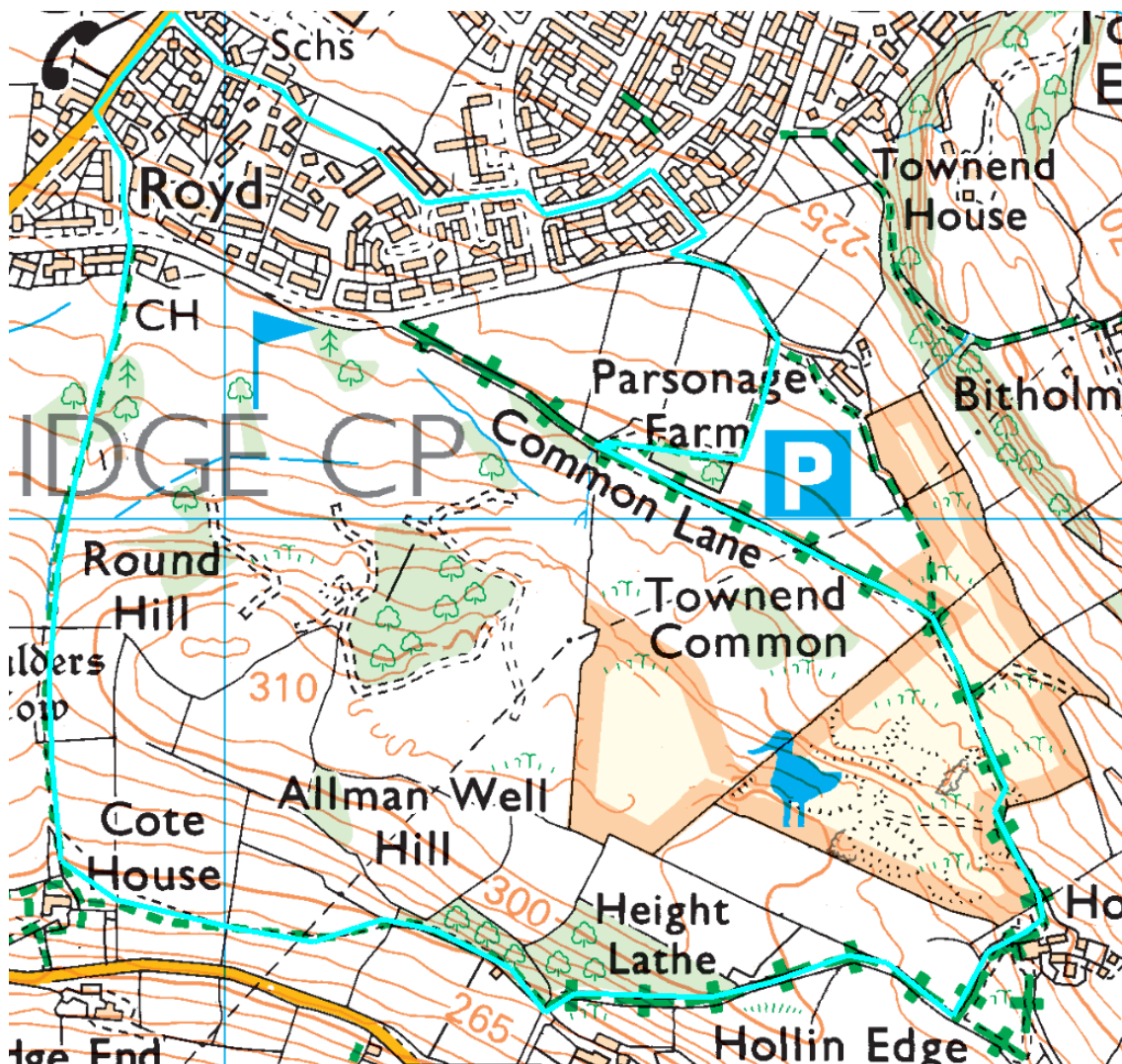
A high-level walk with some excellent views both North and South. Some parts will be a bit wet and muddy, but should not be too bad. There are some rough tracks and some grass so rated 2 (wear your boots or walking sandals!) A couple of stiles, no steps.

We start from the car park on Common Lane, Bolsterstone – head towards Deepcar, turn left at the traffic lights then left again on Carr Road, after 500 yards turn left onto Helliwell Lane. At the end of Helliwell Lane turn right onto Townend Lane then first left onto Common Lane; the car park is quarter of a mile on the left.

Clockwise:

From the car park, head up to the road and turn left, follow round to Hollin Edge Farm. (The woods on the left hide a series of old quarries and waste heaps which have some extremely steep slopes – we can have a detour through them if you want!)

At Hollin Edge bear right onto the public byway and through a metal gate (At this point, in July 1966, the BBC parked transmitter vans in order to relay the signal from World Cup football games played at



Hillsborough. The signal was transmitted to the Emley Moor mast, near Huddersfield.); drop down a very rough, steep track to Bank House and Bank Cottage at the top of Bank Lane, then take the signed footpath on your right. Follow this track, keeping left. Pass through the metal gate into a field and bear left, heading slightly downhill towards Cote House. At the far side of the field, ignore the stiles and turn right, following the line of a broken wall. Cross into the next field, ascend diagonally to the top corner, through the metal gate and over a stone stile. Walder’s Low is visible on the left.

Walder’s Low is a mound of Earth and stone, believed to be on the site of a Late Neolithic or early Bronze Age burial chamber for an Anglo-Saxon chief (over 5000 years old).



Cross over the stone stile onto the golf course, continue downhill and through a ginnel which is 100 m to the left of the clubhouse. Emerge onto Royd Lane, cross over and walk down The Royd to Carr Road. Turn right then right again into Coultas Avenue, straight on through the ginnel into Pen Nook Glade and again straight on across the field into Pen Nook Gardens. Follow left to Helliwell Lane, right and left into St Mary Crescent then right into St Mary Road and out to Townend Lane. Turn right then left on the track to Parsonage Farm (Parsonage Farm was established over 700 years ago. It was originally thatched and was owned by the local church).

Just before the farm, take the path on the right and keep right back to the car park. Look out for two wooden carved kingfishers on your left!

(Some of this information is taken from the Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome 'Wantley Dragon circular' walk which includes most of this route and a short (but steep) detour to see the Dragon. https://stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2_19_Dragon.pdf)

Risks:

- Three quiet road crossings, a couple of streets to walk along.
- Rough underfoot on the tracks and some mud but generally fine. Wet grass may be slippery.
- Three stiles, no steps
- If you go through the Common, expect steep climbs, mud and brambles.