

Step Out at SWFC

The Wednesday Walk on Thursdays



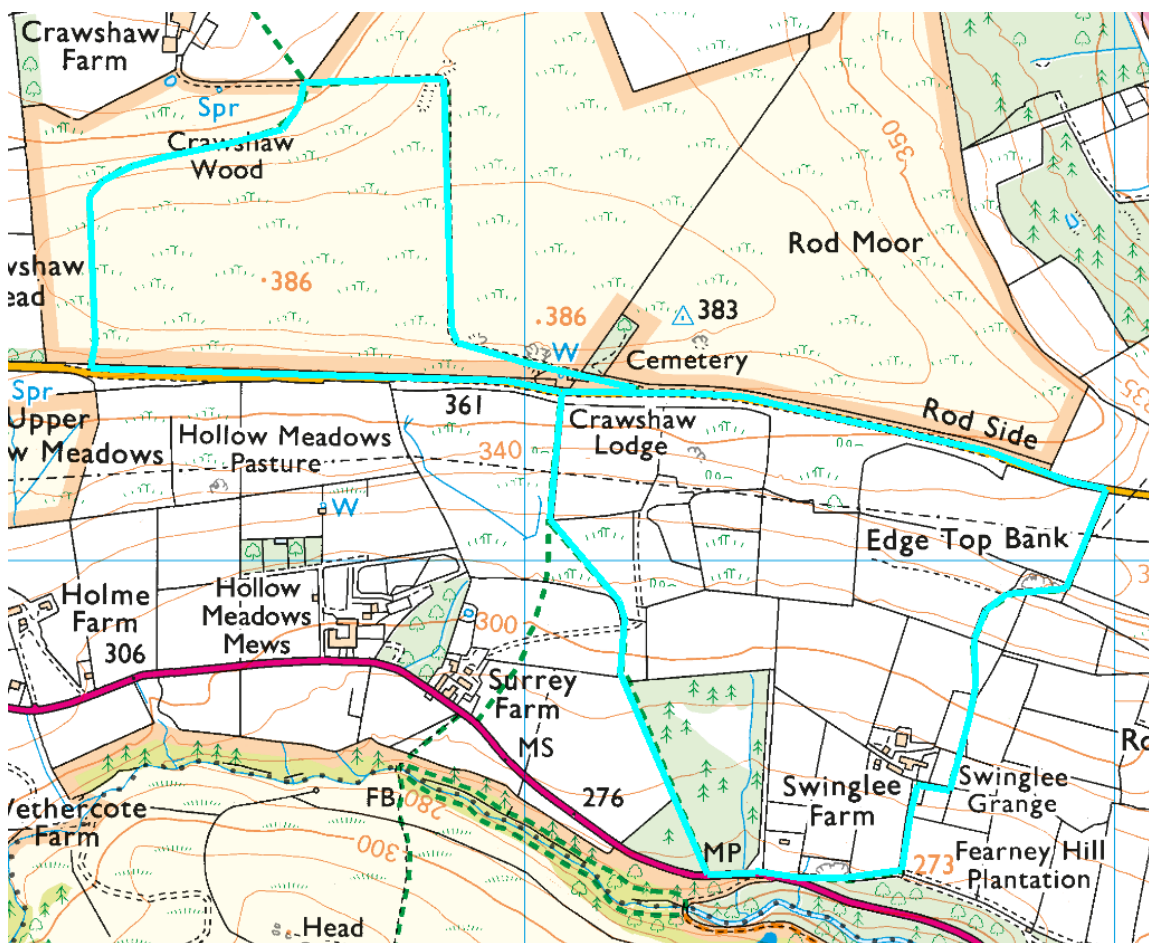
158 – Rod Moor – up to 3.4 miles

A short steep walk this week, less than 2 miles, but there is an extra loop if you feel up to it which takes you to the top of Rod Moor so you can admire the views to the North. A (probably) muddy walk down to Manchester Road then a long climb up good tracks (and some grass) and a bit of road walking at the top. That gets you back to the car, but if you are up for it there is a gentle loop round Rod Moor through the heather. The walk is rated 3, mainly for it's length and number of stiles. Wear mudproof footwear!

A bit of a drive to get to the start – we park at the side of Rod Side - up Stannington road, bear right at the Co-Op and then turn left at the park, pass the library and bear right up Uppergate Road. Drive the full length of Riggs High Road, Short Lane and Long Lane and on to Rod Side (that's all one road). Up the hill, there are a spinney of trees on the right and a large stone house, then a bit further on there is a largish layby on the left where we are parking.

Anticlockwise

From the lay-by, head back towards Crawshaw Lodge, the path down the hillside is just opposite the Lodge, over a stile and beside a wall. Where the wall turns left, head towards the left hand end of the wall in front, then follow the path through the woods and out to Manchester Road. Turn left along the pavement, past the bus stop then bear left up a tarmac track which leads up to Swinglee Farm. Just before entering the farmyard, turn right along a footpath then follow the path as it turns left up to a stile in the top corner of the field. Follow uphill, over 2 more stiles then bear right to join the track which leads up to Rod Side.



Turn left and follow for about half a mile, back to Crawshaw Lodge.



Now it's time to decide how tired you are.

The long route: Having got this close to the top of Rod Moor, you might as well have a look over the other side, so bear right between the gate posts, up Platts Lane and follow up to the top of the hill, round the right hand bend, then down and round a left hand bend. As the track nears the corner of the wall there is a finger post pointing over the wall – ignore this, but take the other footpath on the left which winds through the heather and bends left to drop down to the wall. Cross the stile and turn right to drop down to the road, then turn left to return to the cars. (Please note, the path across the top may be hard to find and the heather is quite scratchy, so you might want to look over the top then return down Platts Lane)

Risks

- Traffic on the A57 is fast moving, stick to the pavement.
- Several stiles.
- Steep climbs and descents, rough paths, may be muddy or slippery in places.
- Ticks, mosquitos and other biting things.

