

# Doorstep Walks

## A Closer Look Guide

To use Closer Look guides you should have a copy of the relevant Doorstep Walks, available for download at [www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow)

### **Laughton walk around Roche Abbey**

#### **Doorstep Walk 2 – Just the Words**

Some people may find the small print of the walks leaflets a little tricky to follow, or walk leaders may wish to have a handy, large print version of the walk to insert notes. We thought it would be useful to have a description only version of the walks to enable you to cut and paste, enlarge or remove text as you wish.

1 Start at the bus stop on the A634 (the Blyth Road – Gypsy Lane stop) and follow the road signs for Roche Abbey, which lead down a narrow lane, turns and reaches the main abbey car park.

2 From the main abbey car park follow the path towards the abbey ruins, passing to the left of the visitor centre, after a short distance the path turns right and heads behind the abbey ruins before eventually entering a wood (Kings Wood). Follow the path as it heads slightly uphill until you come to a fork in the route, bear left heading uphill. At the top of the hill the path enters a large field, head right following the edge of the field and keep to the top of the hill.

Pause for a while to look at the views – the spire in the distance belongs to All Saints Church, the walk will pass by the side of it before heading back towards the abbey and passing through the fields directly below you.

3 Carry on along the path, crossing over a field boundary at one point. The path dips downhill, stay on the field edge, and soon the path enters a hedge lined track. The track bears left and soon another open track appears on your right, follow this heading directly for the church in the distance. The path stays on field edges, keep heading for the church and soon you will cross a small field. Immediately after this the path enters a large field, turn left uphill and head through the beer garden of the St Leger Arms.

4 At the road turn right up the High Street, and, at the crossroads, turn left down School Road. After a while you will see the school (Laughton Infant and Primary School), a large red brick building. Follow the narrow path up the steps by the far side of the school, and follow the path around the playing fields.

5 Stay on the path at the edge of fields and eventually you will come to a large stone wall, which runs alongside the path. Cross the stile and keep going forwards, ignoring any side paths. Here you will pass near All Saints Church, look closely and you will see a mound in the foreground, this is all that remains of a Motte and Bailey castle. Keep on the path at the side of the field, passing under some power cables before reaching Rotherham Lane.

6 The route now bears right uphill along the road for about 20 metres before heading left down Brookhouse Lane, take special care on this short section of road. Soon you will see a path on your right heading downhill, follow this past the Travellers Rest and, at the roadside turn right along the road, again take special care along this short section of road.

7 Immediately after passing a small group of houses on your left you will see a path heading alongside the houses, follow this uphill to the edge of the railway embankment. Turn right, passing an outbuilding on your right and you will soon reach Hooton Lane. Carefully cross the road and follow the path opposite, behind houses and into fields. The path follows the side of the railway for some time before a sign points across field and downhill, follow this path.

8 At the side of the brook turn left and follow the beautiful tree lined valley above Colonel's Holt, cross a ditch and enter Kings Wood for the second time on your walk. Follow the path by the side of the brook and then cross the bridge and boardwalk. Stay on the path as it heads slightly uphill and soon you will come to a fork in the route – you have been here before, turn left and follow the path back through the wood and abbey to the start of the walk.