

DOORSTEP WALK

Short, Easy to follow and local

Enjoy a short walk in the countryside around Ravenfield.

- This is approximately 1 and a half miles and is an easy walk almost entirely off the public road.
- Although it is suitable for younger children there are some steep sections, a few steps and a short stretch of quiet road.
- It will take about 1 hour but longer if you wish to sit and watch the wildlife in Ravenfield Park.
- You do not need to read a map.
- You do not need fancy equipment.

Just follow the Green Doorstep waymark

Starting at St James Church the views towards Ravenfield Park are stunning. The area around the ponds is a haven for wildlife and whatever time of year you visit you will find something of interest.

The parks habitats and conditions provide homes for many plants and animals that are rare in Rotherham such as the green tiger beetle and green grasshopper, along with several species of butterfly. You will see and hear dozens of different birds, everything from water birds like herons to woodland and grassland birds.

For more details, downloads of alternative route descriptions and themed guides check out our web-page on www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow

Responsible Walking

This walk uses just a few of our many rights of way to access and enjoy the countryside. A right of way is not owned by the council, it is a right to pass over private land. When you go out please remember that almost all the land you cross is in private ownership, and someone's livelihood will depend on the crops and livestock there. Our countryside is not just a beautiful place, but a working environment, please play your part by keeping it tidy for the people who walk and work there tomorrow.

Take a responsible attitude into the countryside, leave only footprints and take only photographs.

Follow the Country Code, happy walking!

How do I get there?

Ravenfield is served by a regular bus service from Rotherham. For up-to-date information call the Travel South Yorkshire on **01709 515151** or visit www.travelsouthyorkshire.com for timetables. The walk starts at St James Church.

Something to think about

Ravenfield Park is owned by Pheonix Sports and Social club and access is permissive. If you are interested in information regarding the angling club or becoming a member please ring 01709 363788.

Public Paths in Rotherham are clearly shown on the OS Explorer Maps Nos. 278 and 279. Why not pick up a copy at your local bookshop and devise your own walks.

Any enquiries please ring **01709 336003** or email streetpride@rotherham.gov.uk

Remember to keep a track of where you are in the description, occasionally waymarks get vandalised and we may not have had time to replace them.

DOORSTEP WALK Number 12

An easy way to explore the beautiful, local countryside on your 'doorstep'.

The Harry Rodgers' Trail at Ravenfield



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DOORSTEP WALK Number 12

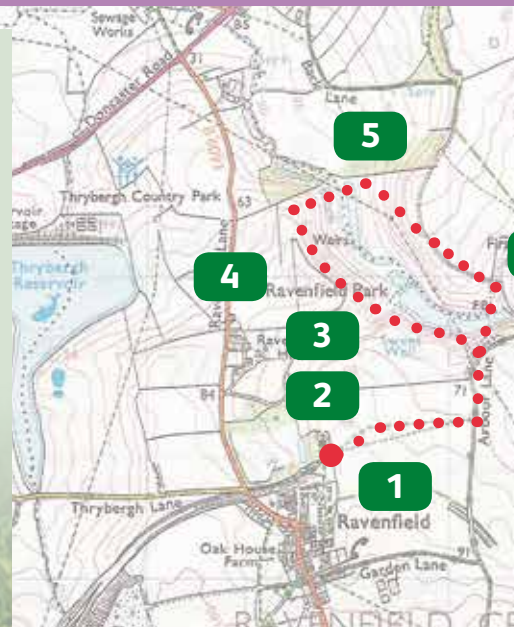
The Harry Rodgers' Trail at Ravenfield (1.5 Miles)

Harry Rodgers

This doorstep walk has been created in memory of Harry Rodgers.

Harry moved to Ravenfield in 1954 and throughout his lifetime he was committed to improving the village and its amenities. As an active member of the Parish Council he worked tirelessly on village projects.

He was the first Chairman of Rotherham Metro Ramblers and his love of the outdoors regularly saw him walking all the footpaths in Ravenfield. We hope this trail goes some way towards continuing Harry's dedication to both the village and walking.



St James Church

Ravenfield is an ancient "Domesday" Village, but whilst old enough to have forgotten origins, the church does not have such a long history.

St James register of Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals show first entry dates in 1563 but historians are sure that an earlier book was lost. Those which have survived are kept in the Sheffield City Library Archives.

- 1** Start outside St James Church and climb over the timber stile on the right hand side. This will take you along the side of a small field with another stile at the end of it. From here the path is clearly defined on the ground across the field and views from here are spectacular towards Ravenfield Park and Firsby.
- 2** At the end of this path you meet with Arbour Lane Turn left, taking care on this short stretch of road as it is quite narrow at this point.
- 3** Turn left again into the small car park and continue for a short distance until you reach a wooden kissing gate. Turn left here and follow the waymarked track down towards the woods.
- 4** The path takes you along the side of the ponds and then continues along the wooded hillside. Eventually you will come to the most northern point of the ponds. Follow the path along the field edge at the top of the pond until you come to a fork in the path, take the right hand path.
- 5** The route then continues back down the easterly side of the ponds along an attractive birch tree lined path.
- 6** Turn right over the small footbridge and back along the track and back up to Arbour Lane, returning back along the path across the field to St James Church.

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Ravenfield park

Ravenfield Park lies within South Yorkshire Forest and is found nestling in a steep sided valley close to Ravenfield Village. During the second world war the park was used by the army for training purposes and later a prisoner of war camp. Much damage was caused by explosives at this time and further neglect hastened what would have been its total demise if it hadn't been bought in 1972. Its new owners, Pheonix Sports and Social club and Parkgate Recreational Services opened it as an angling facility for their members and today the angling club is open to the general public.



Follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people