

### About this walk

Sheffield is a remarkable city – with more parkland than any other city and a world-wide reputation for its steel industry. This walk allows us to see some of the remains of the early industry and to appreciate how nature recovers.

The trees, flowers, and wild life of these two valleys give pleasure to everyone in every season. They are specially suitable for young children who don't need to go to the cinema, but can find their own "secret garden" along these paths. Look not only for birds and flowers, but also for the fascinating world of insects to be found under stones and on the ground. Please remind small children to leave all flowers for others to enjoy.

### Distances

Total circular walk – 4 miles.  
Fulwood to Ringinglow (linear walk) – 3 miles.  
Fulwood to Whirlow (linear walk) – 6 miles.

### Buses

For the latest public transport travel advice and journey planning information visit [travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://travelsouthyorkshire.com) or contact Traveline 01709 51 51 51.

### Points of interest

- Children's playground.
- Forge Dam.
- Finder cairn with spectacular views

### Ground conditions

Mainly good tracks.  
Gentle ascents. Two stiles.  
Unsuitable for wheelchairs.

### Sheffield Group – Ramblers' Association

We hope you enjoy the walk, one of six walks to be found on free leaflets produced by the Sheffield Group of The Ramblers' Association. All are in different areas around Sheffield with different aspects of the countryside to enjoy.

The Sheffield Group has approx 1000 members all of whom love walking – and enjoy sharing their knowledge with others. Between us we probably know all the rights of way in the area. We have several group walks every week and will make you very welcome.

The Ramblers' Association is a nation-wide charity with over 140,000 members; a member can walk with any group. Its charitable aim is to promote walking and to protect public rights of way not

just for today, but for future generations.

Our footpath network in the UK is arguably our most important heritage – wonderful varied countryside free for all to enjoy. We take pride in protecting it.

### Contacts – Sheffield Group

Terry Howard, Chair – tel. 0114 266 5438  
Neill Schofield, Secretary – tel. 0114 272 4499

[www.sheffield.ramblers.care4free.net](http://www.sheffield.ramblers.care4free.net)

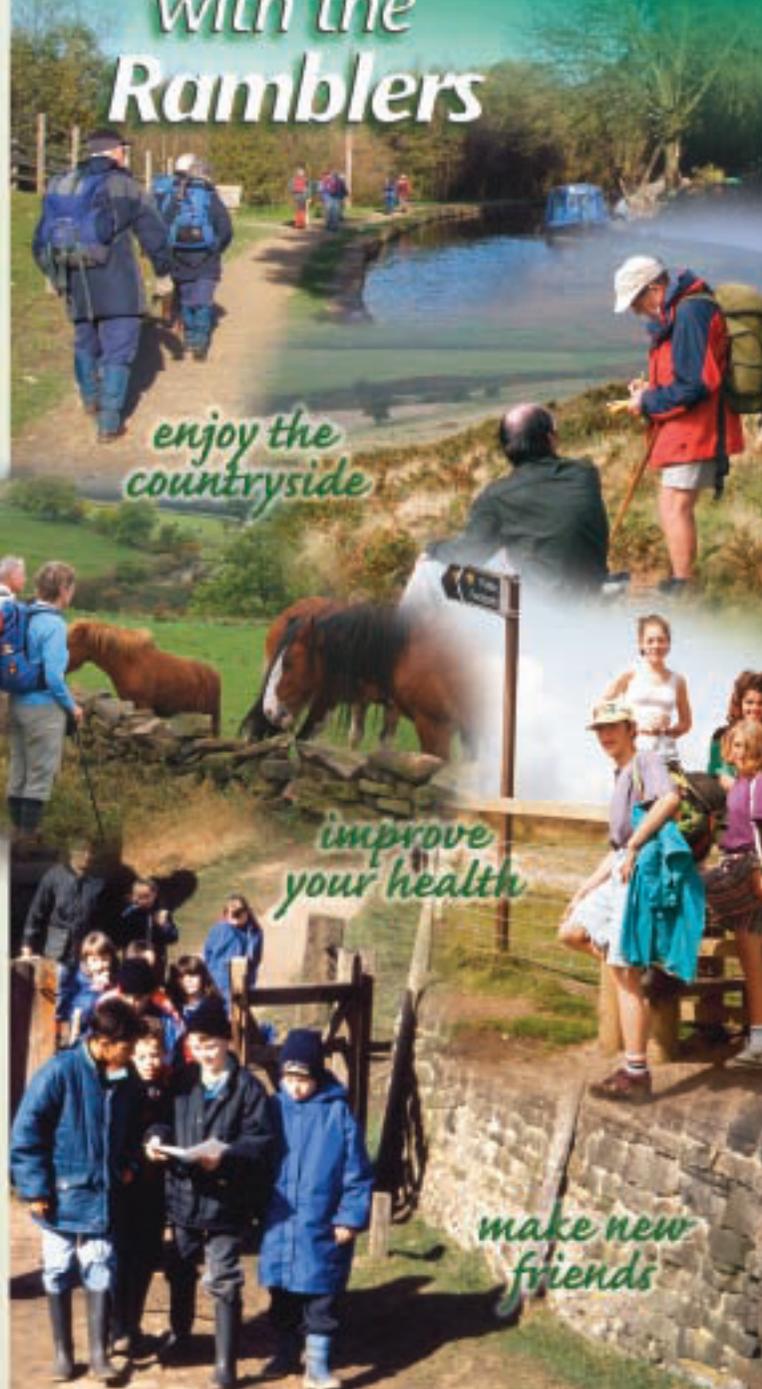
To join – tel. 020 7339 8500 or [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)

*Thanks to RA member June Robinson who, having travelled all over the world looking at flowers, still enjoys the flowers in her local area.*

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# Walking with the Ramblers



enjoy the countryside

improve your health

make new friends

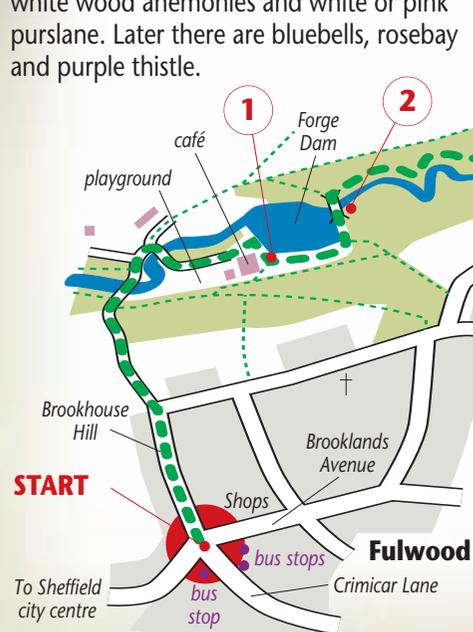
## Mayfield and Porter Valleys

Take the bus from the Interchange to Crimicar Lane/Brooklands Avenue (Fulwood Shops).

**START** — Cross road to Brookhouse Hill, walk down hill continuing down the lane to bottom, over river turn R, pass children's playground, public toilets and Forge Dam Café.

**1** — Forge Dam: The dam is one in a series along the river; water produced the power needed for Sheffield's cutlery industry in the 19th century. At the dam you may see a heron and you will definitely see many friendly mallards who will accept offerings of food (no bread). There are also coots (white beak) and moorhens (red beak). Alongside the dam, by the path, yellow celandines grow in February and the leaves, then flowers, of wild strawberry can be seen.

**2** — Follow the path beside the dam and over small bridge. Spring flowers grow at the side of the path all the way up the valley. Walking up stream look for white wood anemones and white or pink purslane. Later there are bluebells, rosebay and purple thistle.



In April blackthorn (sloe) shrub and holly bush brighten the path sides and in May the mayblossom is in bloom (so you can then "cast a clout" – take off your jacket). In August the berries are on the holly. The trees are magnificent – beech, larch and oak – all with different barks (look for insects), shapes and leaves.

**3** — Cross the busy road beside Carr Bridge and continue along FP, over small bridge, along field fence eventually reaching a stony lane.

**4** — Cross to the stile, then over a bridge and continue upstream. On the R is a waterfall. Cross the river again via a small bridge and on the L see a packhorse bridge which reminds us how material was moved at one time in this valley. An ash tree was recently dug out to reveal this bridge. The stone work has been re-done.



**5** — Continue to stile and cross another stony track (or rest a while on the seat). You are now in the upper section of the valley which is steeper and more narrow. Continue on path, crossing two bridges. At a third (signed Sheffield Round Walk) continue straight ahead soon reaching the road.

**6** — Turn R to view finder cairn with magnificent views over Sheffield and as far as Lincoln Cathedral on a clear day.

**EITHER** return to junction of path and retrace steps down valley to Fulwood **OR** return to junction, continue on road to Ringinglow passing Mayfield herd of Peruvian alpacas. (infrequent buses at Ringinglow) **OR** follow the green Sheffield Round Walk arrows via Ringinglow to Whirlow (one boggy field in this section).

**Key** FP = footpath BW = bridleway L = left R = right