

Circular Walk – Repton Shrubs – Repton Common

Distance approx. 5.5 miles

Note -Some footpath signs are missing.

From The Cross walk along High Street on the left hand pavement. Cross the entrance to Pinfold Lane into Main Street. After approximately 300 mtrs take the footpath (signed) between a house and a bungalow. Over the stile and the way leads to an area where Repton Mill once stood. Go straight ahead after crossing Repton Brook and reach what is possibly the only relic of the Mill, a low stone wall. Continue to walk parallel to the Brook, through fields and Sledge Wood to reach Robin's Cross Lane. Before the wood was planted by volunteers to celebrate the Millennium, this was the favourite spot for sledging when the conditions were favourable, so it is aptly named. There was once a thriving basket and hurdle making industry based on the osier beds in this area. On this part of the route the flowers, trees and birds which like damp places can be found, the 'King Cups' are especially fine, whilst the undulating rounded hillocks passed on the left were shaped by glaciation.

Cross over the road, and before continuing walk downhill to Lawn Bridge and see the lake and cascades.

Return, walking by the side of the stone wall into Red Lane, passing the locked gate, which was the entrance to a large house named Repton Park which was owned by the Harpur -Crewe family. The house was demolished in July 1893 following a violent quarrel Between Sir Vauncey Harpur-Crewe and his relative, John Edmund Crewe who was the occupant at the time.



Repton Park - Drawing by Tony Fisher - Local artist

Continue up the steep lane between rocky outcrops of Bunter sandstone on pebble beds until you reach Loscoe Farm on the left and the entrance to Repton Park Farm on the right. The way is straight ahead down the gravel track which is a bridle way, passing fields and Repton Shrubs and so up to a farm road to turn left.

During the Spring bluebells stitchwort and dandelions abound on this section

The road to Fairview Farm is aptly named, the good surface allowing the walker to enjoy the distant views, a reward for the climb up to this point. On reaching the farm drive turn left down a track, another bridle way. Views of Foremark Reservoir are afforded to the right, whilst lower down the colours of the mixed woodland masking the water at this point are delightful in the Spring.

The track passes Brookdale Farm and then Brookdale Barn, the latter now a house. Approx 100m past the buildings the way is shown by a wooden footpath sign on the left, a bridge crosses the stream to a stile. The way is diagonally uphill, fortunately now quite well walked. Two fields and stiles are crossed exiting onto another farm road on a corner close to a clump of trees.

The route is right here to follow the hedge along the ridge with views over Derby and Willington Power station.

A stile into Robin's Cross Lane is reached, the road is crossed and the footpath (signed) opposite is taken. The path is well walked with a good view of Repton Church steeple. So to a second field and stile, cross this and walk by the hedge side to Ridgeway Farmhouse ahead following the track in front of the farm house and out into Mount Pleasant and the pub of the same name.

Turn left and walk down Pinfold Lane over Repton Brook passing the United Reformed Church. On reaching the Square turn right back along the High Street to The Cross.

The views along the route make the effort taken well worthwhile. Whilst hedgerow birds abound and in the fields skylarks are numerous, summer visitors in the form of swallows and house martins make for interest throughout the route.

Jenny Thompson

It is important when out walking to respect the countryside code..

Respect other people

Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors

Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways is clear

Leave gates and property as you find them

Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

Follow advice and local signs



Protect the natural environment

Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home

Don't have BBQs or fires

Keep dogs under effective control

Dog poo - bag it and bin it

