

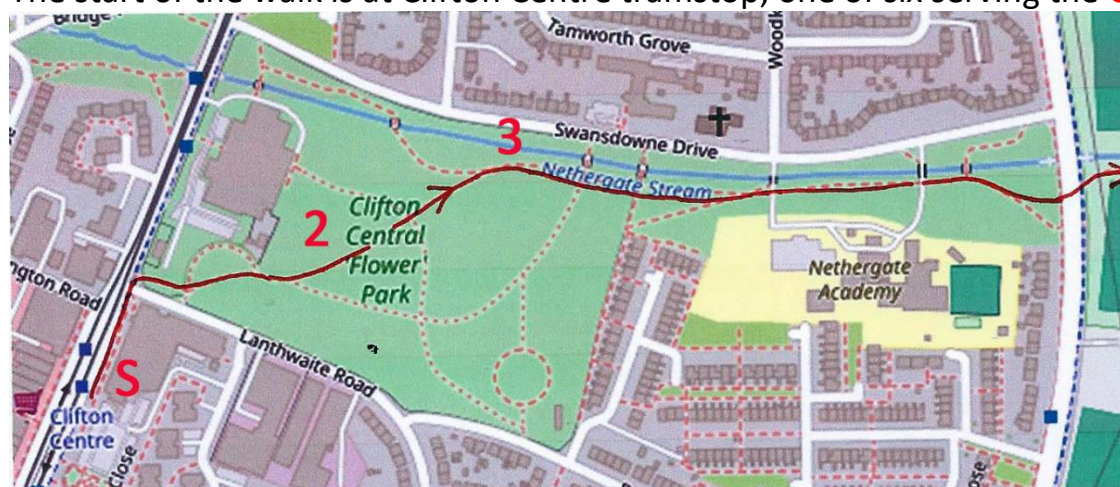
WALK 8: Clifton Estate & Ruddington

Photos and description: 2020-24

Take the Nottingham to Clifton NET service to the Clifton Centre tramstop, the **S**tart of this walk. The walk is about 10½ km (6½ miles) and the description includes directions and a note of interesting sites along the way. For some of these sites, marked with a red number on the maps, there is further information in the **8A: Clifton Estate & Ruddington Appendix**.



The start of the walk is at Clifton Centre tramstop, one of six serving the **Clifton Estate (1)**.



Go north, over Lanthwaite Road and immediately turn right, into the park – **Clifton Central Park (2)**.



Follow the main path diagonally across the park and then bear right, alongside **Nethergate Stream (3)**. Follow the path to Farnborough Road.



The next section of the walk includes a rough and rather overgrown path alongside Fairham Brooke. If you wish to avoid this, turn left and go along Farnborough Road and then left into Clifton Lane.

The main walk goes over Farnborough Road and through the gate into **Clifton Playing Fields (4)**



Go ahead, passing the skatepark on your right, and follow the path left, across a bridge (over Nethergate Stream), and immediately right and go

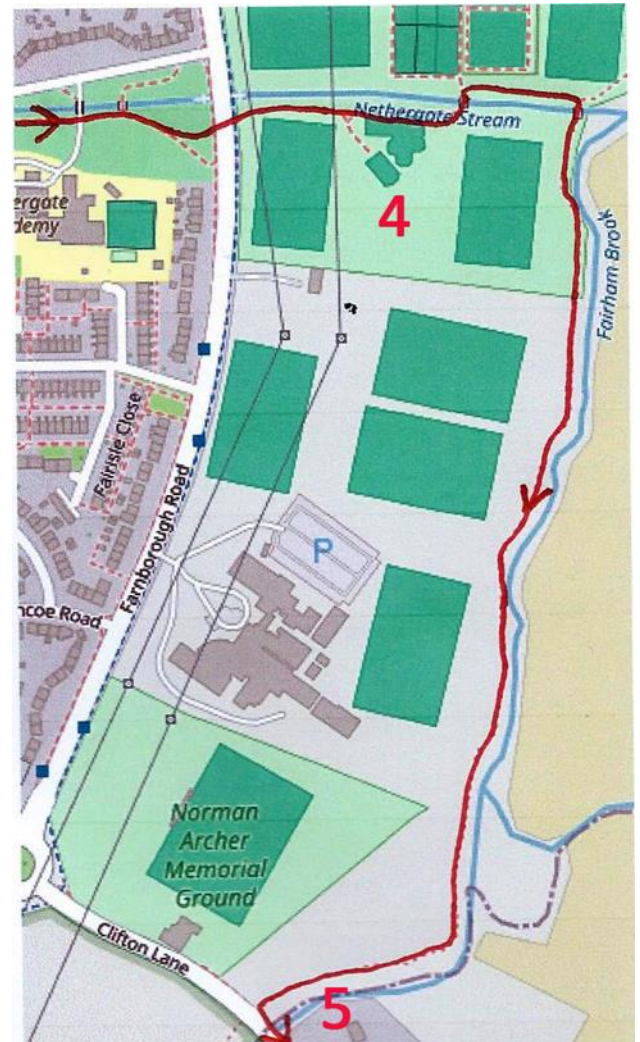


along to the edge of a wide open area – keep right and turn to go over another bridge.



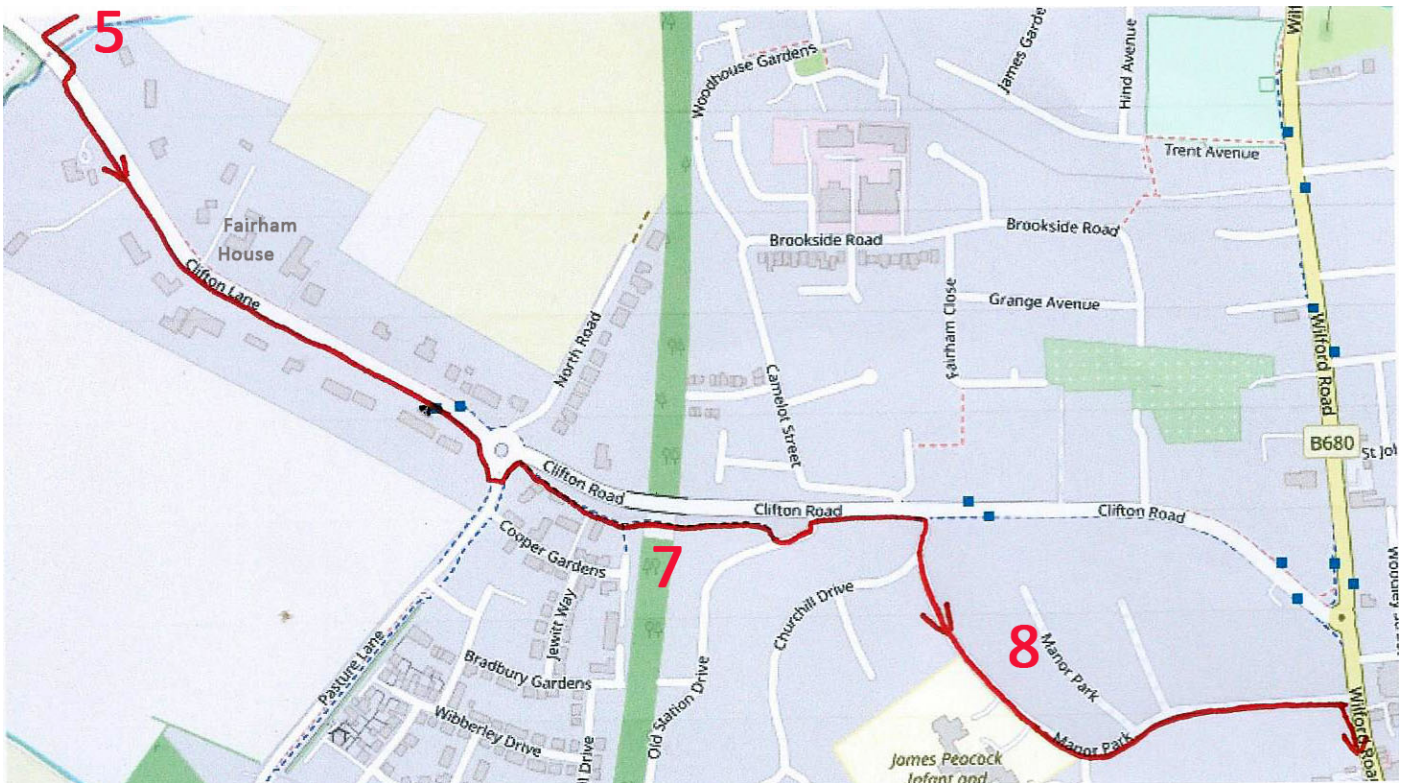
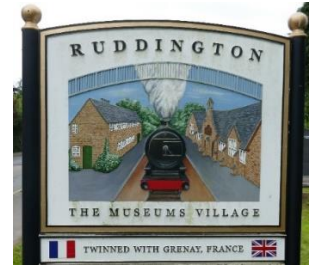
Go along the path, which runs alongside Fairham Brook.

At the end of the path is Clifton Lane



Turn left, across Fairham Bridge over **Fairham Brook (5)**, and also leaving Clifton and crossing the border from Nottingham City into Nottinghamshire County (Rushcliffe Borough) to the village of Ruddington.

After a few yards there is a village sign, one of five ordered by the Parish Council in 2017. The signs were designed by local firm WigWag, who moved into Martindale House on Church Street/The Green in 2016 (see later), and are placed on the roads into the village announcing Ruddington as 'The Museum Village'. This is because the village has three museums; the Framework Knitters' Museum, the Village Museum and the GCRN (Great Central Railway – Nottingham). Clearly, the village has a significant history of which it is rightly proud. A brief history of the village is in the Appendix: **Ruddington's past, from C5th to C20st (6)**



Continue along Clifton Lane (originally called Fairham Lane), which is characterised by some impressive properties...

...the first house built along this road was Fairham House, at the top of the hill, hidden behind trees; see (5).



At the roundabout, take the path alongside the left of the building ahead

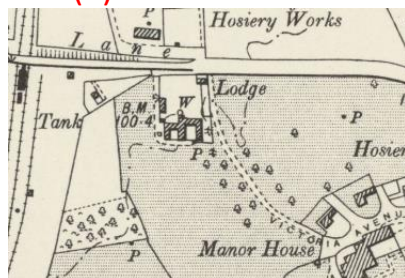


Part way along the path, you cross the alignment of a disused railway – on your left is the bridge carrying Clifton Road over the railway and to your right, completely covered in mature trees and undergrowth, is the location of the old **Ruddington Station (7)**.



The path continues to Old Station Drive – turn left and then right, along Clifton Road.

Immediately after the pelican crossing, turn right into Churchill Drive. On the corner is a house now named Victoria Cottage but originally it was the lodge house for **Manor House (8)**.



Bear left into Manor Park, a private gated road which used to be named Victoria Avenue and was part of the estate of the Manor House.



On the right is



When the road bends left, a driveway ahead leads to 3 properties, including The White House (was Manor House)



Continue along Manor Park road, past on the right, a line of properties with names Gamekeepers Cottage, The Coach House, Butlers and Hunters Cottage – houses which were presumably for staff of the Manor.



On the left are some of the original Edwardian properties...

... and on the right, a Churchill retirement living complex, built in 2022.



Continue to the end of Manor Park and onto Wilford Road and turn right. Just opposite is a building which was a **Baptist Chapel (9)**.



A short way along Wilford Road turn right into the private car park of the Hermitage Centre



This Grade II Listed building is from C16, remodelled 1708, late C18, and late C19 alterations and extensions. It used to be the manor house and is now church rooms, preschool and flats. Cross diagonally and go through to the church.



St Peter's Church is Grade II Listed. The first recorded evidence of any church serving Ruddington is in Domesday Book 1086. It is probable that this is a reference to the St Peter's Church at Flawforth which, until its demolition in the 1770s, was the mother church for local villages including Ruddington. **St Peters Church, Flawforth & Ruddington (10)**

Go around the church, out onto Church Street and turn left. Part way along, on the right (Nos 17 and 19, to the left of the photo), is another Grade II Listed building; formally Manor Farmhouse, designed by and built for Sir Thomas Parkyns in the early C18th.



On the left is a war memorial and an old telephone kiosk – **Ruddington War Memorial (11)**.



Continue to the junction with High Street. Opposite, to the left is The Red Lion, one of 7 pubs in Ruddington!



Turn Right along High Street; on the right is a row of shops, the buildings probably built in the Edwardian period from 1901 to 1910.



On the opposite side, between 11 and 13 High Street, is an alley



signed to....

This is in a building which is a former framework knitters' workshop and is Grade II Listed. This is one of a number of former framework knitters' workshops, which provide a definite theme within the village.



At the junction of High Street with Kirk Lane is the Frame Breakers pub. Historically called The Bricklayers Arms, it was refurbished, renamed and relaunched by new owners, The Nottingham Brewery, in November 2015 as the Frame Breakers – in tribute to Ruddington's framework knitting and Luddite heritage – see (17).



From the southern end of High Street, cross diagonally over the green to its centre where there is an interesting arrangement of numbers inlaid in the paving – a **Human Sundial (12)**.



Continue across the green and along to Asher Lane. On the corner is an old school building; what was **Ruddington Free School (13)**.



Looking down Asher Lane on the right side there is a white building which used to be a framework knitter's cottage – **Rose Cottage (14)**.



Further along Asher Lane, but a bit too far for this walk, is **Rushfield Country Park & Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre (15)** – both well worth a visit.

This walk goes north, alongside The Green, passing Distillery Street – looking along this street you will see a white building, sticking out into the road. This is now residential but used to be a distillery – hence the street name.

Intriguingly, it used beetroot as its raw material for distillation – see **The Distillery (16)**.

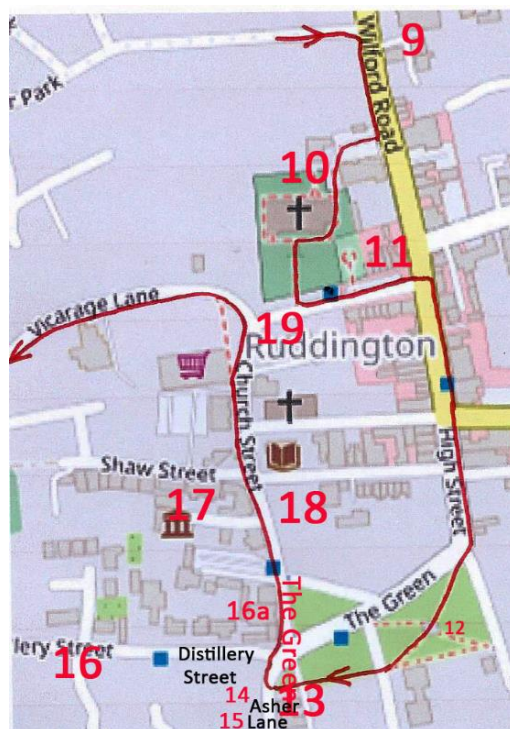


Continue north, along The Green. The second building on the left used to be a **Wesleyan Chapel (16a)**.



Next door is Martindale House, occupied by WigWag, the digital communications company that designed the Ruddington village signs erected on all the roads entering the village.

A short way further along is the White Horse Inn & Kitchen, on the corner of Chapel Street, at the end of which is the **Framework Knitters' Museum (17)**.



Returning out of Chapel Street, on the opposite side of Church Street you may notice iron railing fences with brick pillars fronting two houses, named The Smithy and Blacksmith Yard. Attached to the iron railings are the shapes of an anvil and tools— this used to be the site of **The Blacksmith's (18)**.



As you continue along Church Street, on the left is the Old Bakehouse Tearoom, the former Horspool's Bakery Shop. The wrought iron gates in the centre were made by the blacksmith. The bakery was at the rear; now replaced with housing.



Further along Church Street, on the right, is the fourth Methodist chapel building in the village – this one, built by the Primitive Methodists in 1873, is still very much in use today.



An old photo of the Primitive Chapel.

Also on the right, where Church Street bends to the right, are the Grade II Listed **St Peter's Rooms (19)**, home of the Parish Council and the Village Museum.



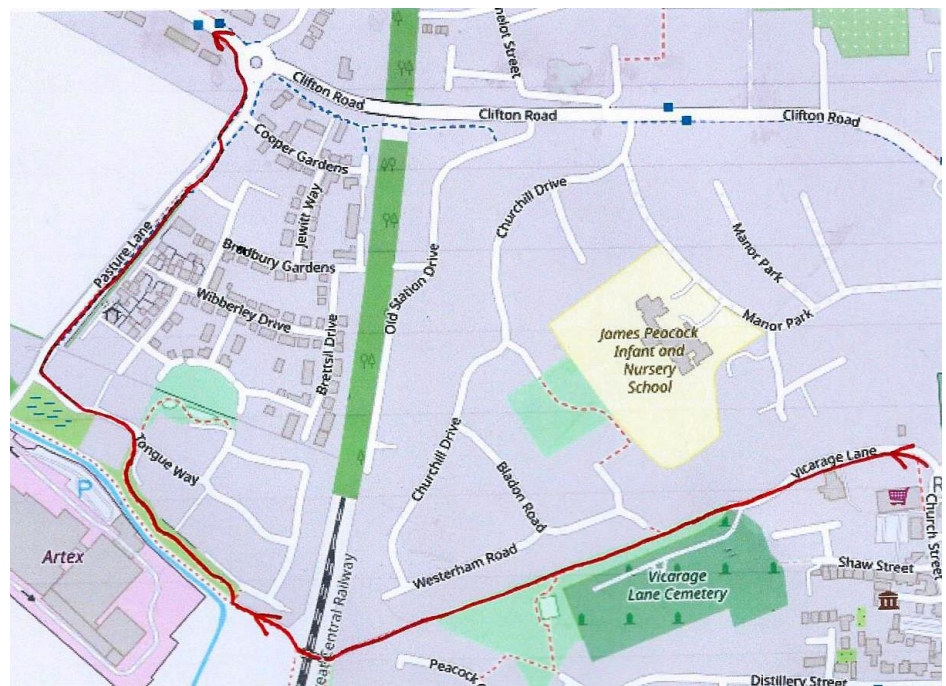
Turn left along Vicarage Lane.
The first building on the right is Widows Cottages – a set of alms-houses dating from 1850.



A little further along, on the left is the old vicarage, now St Peter's Rest Home.....and then, on the right, is Lane House which used to be the lodge at the southern entrance to the Manor.



Continue along Vicarage Lane, past the entrance to the cemetery, and at the end of the lane, take the path on the left.



Go along the path, keeping to the right, past a play area, along a narrow section and up the steps over the railway.



The railway is the Great Central Railway - Nottingham (GCRN) and, looking to the left from the bridge, is the line into the Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre (see **15**).

At the bottom of the bridge steps turn right and follow the path to a gap on the right into the housing estate.

Then follow the path to the left....



.... And then left along Tongue Way and then right, along Pasture Lane to the roundabout and go left, up Clifton Lane.



At the junction with Farnborough Road, back in Clifton Estate and with The Fairham pub on the opposite corner (photo taken during EURO 2024 – hence the England flags), turn left and then right, up Dunkery Road, left along Stirling Grove and then right, along Granton Avenue.



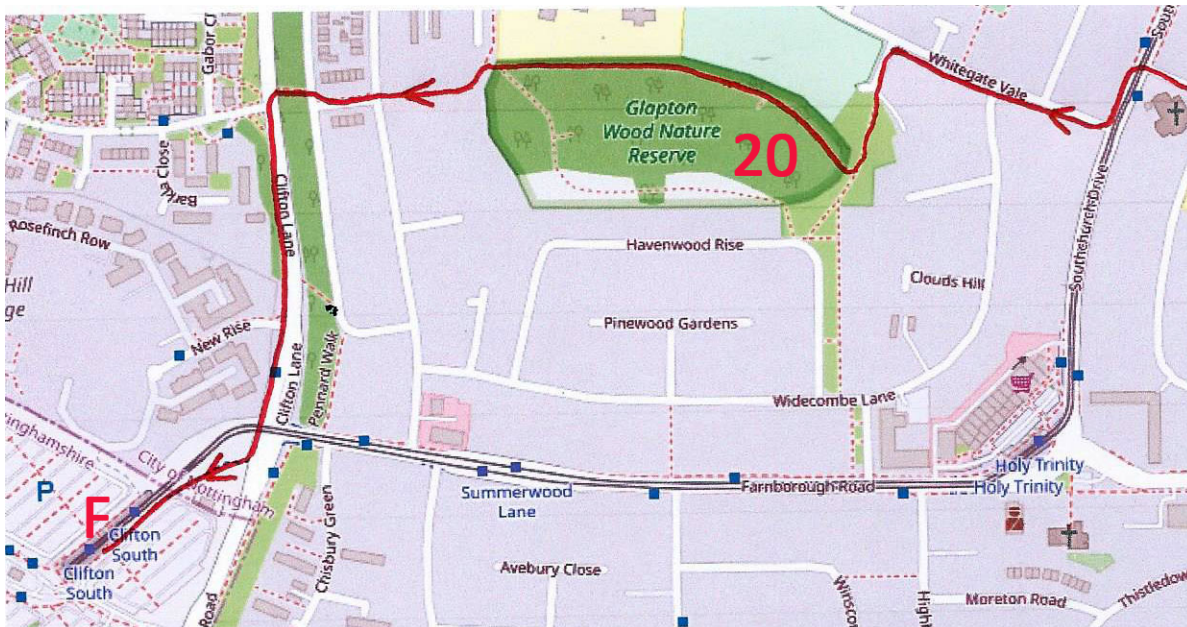
At Dungannon Road turn left and follow the road round to the right (with shops on the left and a green on the right) and continue along Dungannon Road, past The Milford Academy, to the junction with Southchurch Drive.



On the corner is the Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church, a large angular church, built by Reynolds & Scott in the mid-1960s to serve the new housing estate. The tapering concrete campanile is a local landmark.



Turn left on Southchurch Drive and then right, into Whitegate Vale.



About 180m along Whitegate Vale, on the right, is a close of newer bungalows – Old School Close; by its name, the site of an old school, now moved to a newer site on Middlefell Way (north of Glapton Wood) – Whitegate Primary & Nursery School.



A little further along Whitegate Vale, turn left into Fordham Green, with **Glapton Wood (20)** on the hill ahead.



Take the path across the green...



...turn right at the trees...



...enter the wood beside the information sign...



...and continue through the wood



Yes, you really are still in the middle of Clifton Estate!

At the end of the wood, bear left...



...then join the path going right...



...and continue ahead, through to Clifton Lane.



Cross Clifton Lane and go left.

Cross over the tram tracks...



...then take the path to the right...



...along to the Clifton South tramstop, the **F**inish of this walk.

