

About the route

Riverside paths and an old 'green lane' link these two Trent Vale villages, each a pleasure to visit. Gravel workings are part of the scene but the lakes left behind attract both wildlife and boating enthusiasts. Easy walking on mostly level terrain using byways, field and riverside paths; one short ascent and descent. Can be muddy in places.

Walk Checklist:

Start point/parking

High Street, South Clifton. Alternative start: St Cecilia's Girton Church (limited space).

Distance

Approximately 6 miles (10 kms).

Duration

3 hours + stops.

Stiles and gates

3 gates; 13 stiles.

Refreshments

Public House, South Clifton.

Public Transport

By bus: Service No.66 Newark – Collingham – Harby.

OS Grid Reference

Walk starts at **SK821702**; Girton Church **SK826663** – Map OS Explorer 271 and OS Landranger 121.



The dots show the start points of all our 20 walk routes. Visit our website for more info.



Trent Vale



Trent Vale

Walk Route

South Clifton and Girton Circular



St Cecilia's Church, Girton.

Start Point: High Street, South Clifton. Alternative: St Cecilia's Church, Girton

Route Length: Approximately 6 miles (10 kms)

Route Duration: 3 hours + stops

Route Type: Easy walking on mostly level terrain. Can be muddy in places



Trent Vale



For more information, visit:
www.trentvale.co.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED

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South Clifton and Girton Circular

1 Start. From the High Street, turn left along Trent Lane for 200 metres then take the road on right, Coal Yard Lane (not signed). Walk up this and where it swings right, keep ahead and pass between a double gate and ditch by a house ascending a wide track up Clifton Hill.



In the Domesday Book only the name 'Clifton' appeared which translates as 'the farmstead on or near a cliff.' It was only later in the 12th and 13th centuries that separate identities were given to distinguish South and North Clifton.

Dusty Hare was the world record holder for points scored in first class Rugby Union, with 7191, including 250 for England, and 88 for the Lions. He was not just a kicking machine however, a talented fullback with great skill and pace.



Dusty Hare plaque.

Dusty started his career at Newark, joined Nottingham in 1971, finally moving to Leicester in 1976 playing 394 games until retiring after the 1998 cup final which Leicester lost to Bath.

2 At the top – there are wide panoramic views here – go through a wooden kissing gate then bear half-left downhill on a path to a second kissing gate. Follow the path on

the low embankment along the field edge to cross a stile and concrete bridge over a stream into a field. Again keep to the field edge and cross into a third field via a gap in the hedge and follow this field edge to a wooden footbridge over a stream. Now follow a wide, straight track known as Green Lane (a Restricted Byway) south for 2.5 kms to Girton.



Besthorpe NWT Nature Reserve.

Extensive gravel working over many years has resulted in large sheets of water being created. Some of these have been planted up and given over to nature whilst the largest is now a boating and sailing lake. Many species of wildfowl and waders frequent these new habitats.

3 Near its end, turn left onto a minor road, West Lane, which leads to St Cecilia's Church at Girton. After a rest, retrace your steps back to Green Lane; turn right for 50 metres and take the signposted footpath on the left via a stile.

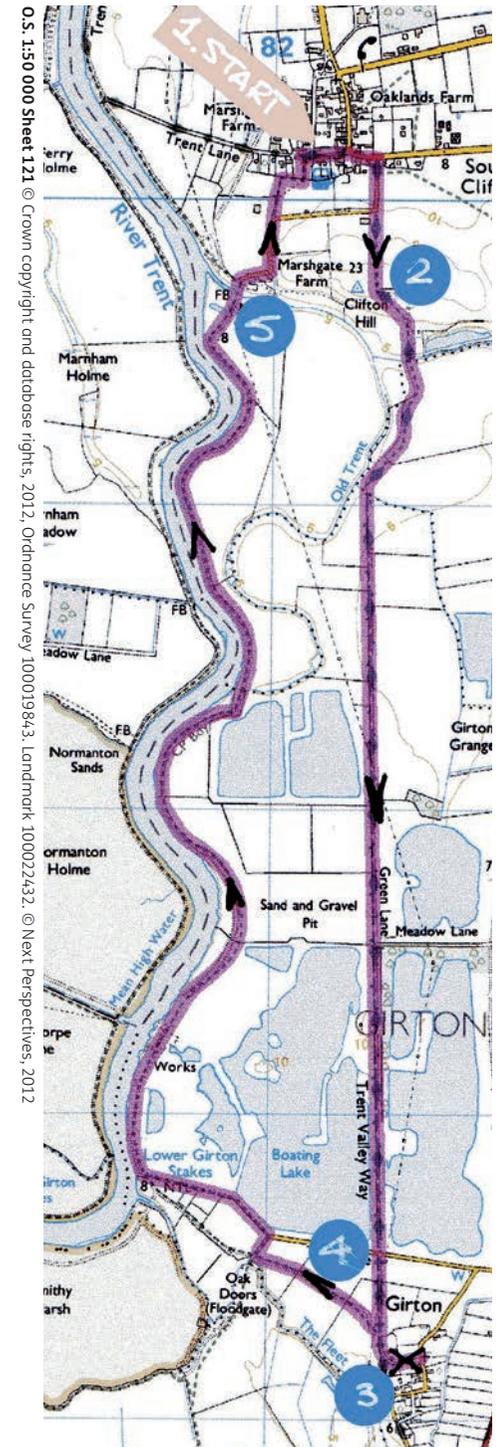
In the Domesday Book, Girton is recorded as 'Gretone' meaning 'the farmstead or village on gravely ground' which seems appropriate considering the extent of such workings in the area. The neat, little Church of St Cecilia was built in 1879 replacing what is thought to have been a 13th century building. Archaeological work at Girton quarry has produced evidence of settlement in the area from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman era, Saxon period and medieval times.

4 The path is on a low embankment which veers left in the field middle to a stile. Continue through two more fields to reach a wide track. Turn right along this to a T-junction of paths and take the signed path on the left which leads to the River Trent, near where the River Fleet joins it. Across the river, Sutton on Trent may be seen. Access the floodbank and turn right and follow the riverside path as it twists and turns for the next 3 kms towards South Clifton.

5 Near the end of the path cross a bridge over the Old Trent and a couple of stiles to reach a minor road – Coal Yard Lane once again. Follow it as it goes first left and where it turns right keep ahead to a footpath. Just past the farm on the left it goes through a gap in the hedge onto sports field. Keep to the edge; round a corner then forward to a gate on the left. Now follow the path between the houses to reach Trent Lane once more and the start point.



Cottage garden, South Clifton.



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