

Written Description for the Round Rotherham 2009

Directions: L left R right ½L, ½R half left, half right X cross X Rds cross roads SA straight ahead	Codes: BR bridge FP footpath FB footbridge RWY railway CP car park RD road	<i>recent changes are in italics</i>
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L bank: refers to left bank of river or stream as viewed, not necessarily as it flows

Leave Event Centre (**Grid Ref SE 455 003**), follow College road to roundabout, cross it to Manvers roundabout. Take 3rd exit Barnsley A6023 (to right of MANVERS sign) on FP/cycle track. Pass 4 roundabouts. Continue on FP to fork. ½ L, then R, up slope to Blue Bridge. Cross BR, L, then ½ R across grass to lakeside path. At end of lake, ½ L (do not cross bridge) to path junction. L along main (level) hard-surfaced FP, signed TPT. Keep on this hard-surfaced FP, under bridges, and follow it R across a BR to a RD. Cross RD, under metal arch, after 200 m ½ L, signed Elsecar, on narrow path, cross RD (under another arch). Surfaced path, parallel to dual carriageway, to access RD to Retail Park. Cross Rd, R of Morrisons, down slope, following surfaced path, ½ R after clear area, eventually joining canal towpath. Follow canal 1 km to yard in **Elsecar**. Follow fence on L by RWY to stile, L on track, over level crossing. ½ R on track uphill, sweep R to top of field, take path into woods. Path (rutted) sweeps R down and L up. At end of wood, take track (½R) (NOT field path ½L). Follow track to RD. Turn L, follow RD to cross roads (**Wentworth**). SA. ½ R then 600 m along surfaced track. ½L (concrete track @ 4-way junction by house). Cross track. Downhill path between fences/hedges, L following stream then R & L at gated BR, R uphill to track, L & R to RD, L through **Thorpe Hesley** to X Rds. R then L down fenced steps at first RD corner into housing estate, to RD at bottom of hill. R then L down fenced path. Cross stream, ½L through hedge, take R path to gap/stile on R. Straight uphill to crest of ridge. L, follow ridge 1 km to RD, R through **Scholes** to 90° R bend in rd where take FP ½L for 20 m, then R uphill across open land 500 m to Keppels Column (landscape feature). Cross stile behind column (NOT corner of field) to RD in housing estate, turn R, L at main RD, first RD R (golf signs). Continue 100 m, turn L (RD junction) 100 m to RD bend. R at gates in security fence, follow path/surfaced path between fences and hedge, SA down, CP at park RD **GRANGE Checkpoint (1) Grid Reference SK 391939 (open 07:30 to 10:40)**

Follow fence round football pitches, L at corner. At end of low wooden pole fence, R along edge of rough ground to small path. Contour across slope (take care) to larger path, then L steep downhill, cross path, ½R path, cross stream at BR. R uphill to RD. Cross to track, uphill 200 m, with fences on R - ignore gates even if open, R at gap with handrails in hedge just after fencing. In field follow chain link fence on R to RD. Hilltop. SA on fenced path at L of new houses. SA and slightly R alongside fence to pylon at bottom of hill.

Discussions are in hand with RMBC about a ROW. We expect to have to use the fall-back.

Original: Cross stile by pylon, drop to RD, cross to track, past steel gates if they are open for 30 m, R down small path to R of wooden gateposts, cross rough land /stile to RD. If you see new house at end of track, you have gone too far. If gates are closed, go right on RD for 20 metres and take grass path across field to lower RD.

Fall-back: Continue on path past pylon until it turns right (about 10 metres), drop down steep bank to RD, cross and take grass path across field to lower RD. Turn L and follow RD.

Turn L for 200 m to bus shelters. Turn R after TDE before Roebuck - path in small gap between security fences, R in front of next security fence, parallel to railway, to another small gap to FB over RWY, down steps and R along R bank of river for 1 km. Pass locks, L, cross BR. FP to RD, Tinsley. Cross RD, turn R then L after bus stop to service RD then follow main RD (Bawtry Rd) past Pike and Heron and schools. After 1 km turn R (Park House Lane, the RD after the school). At end, just before DHL CP, turn L on fenced path for 30 m, turn R still between (damaged) fences to field, follow fence on L to stile and RD, turn R, go under BR, turn R down Wood Lane (name board was missing). L at end, at new roundabout (The Car People on L, airport on R), follow RD to roundabout after bus shelter. Turn L, then cross border to R of fence alongside Hotel. Follow fences at side of (overgrown) field to corner adjacent to main RD, down steps and follow fence below main RD and R after bridge. Then L on obscure at end of security fence on path across rough land, fork R twice, emerge onto open land then L alongside hedge to FP to L of wooden fence in front of houses. Follow FP, cross RD, FP between fences. Follow RD to Catcliffe.

Again, there are two alternatives (you will be advised on the day We expect the bridge to be opened):

R at main RD, (short cut in front of houses), then L on FP over earthbank at RD junction. Follow track/ path above river, following power line to brick red path, L across large grey-green bridge over river, initially R then straight up to cross FB over RWY

If bridge is not open: L at main RD (and for recce runs after checking above), R at mini roundabout, follow RD to L bend, past track (to Wilf Jay's), R at FP sign, through gate up bank, follow path to fence, turn L. Follow fence, R at corner, then L to cross FB over RWY.

Straight ahead to up RD to gateway to sports ground at end of high fence on right

TREETON checkpoint (2) Grid Ref. SK 431875 (Open 8:40 to 12:00)

*From sports ground, go through gate, R, R at FP signs (TPT and ROW) alongside upper boundary fence of sports ground. Keep straight on until path starts to go downhill, then go ½R through stone squeeze (obstruction to stop motor cycles) / under a telephone wire to footpath leading to bend in track. SA to concrete BR, follow lakeside path to terraced houses. 100 m SA to main RD, cross dual carriageway, turn R for 150 m - over BR. After joinery works, L on Public Footpath (Trans-Pennine Trail) between fences. Take cycle track alongside fence and under viaduct. Continue parallel to RWY, under (new) RD BR, R to RD and double back over BR. 100 m after RWY, R back along track to RWY (or down steep bank to track) to continue on opposite side of RWY to **Rother Valley Park**. At fence corner, ½L up flood bank, follow L bank of river to RD. SA along RD, follow park access RD to main RD. Cross RD, turn R (downhill). L along tarmac track just before stream (bridge).*

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Follow track to canal, merge to towpath, uphill (**Norwood**). Follow canal bank. Continue 200 m after gate "Fishing Strictly Private", ½L then ½ R over rough land to stile. Follow R edge of field to motorway embankment, R on track, L under BR, R parallel to motorway. At fence corner, take track ½L over hill to stile at summit, continue down to **Woodall** village. SA through village, L at FP (hidden) after Todd's cottage, before barn, across field aiming for church, 800 m to stile, ½R, 4 stiles in line, R across field to playground and stile to village hall, off car park, **HARTHILL checkpoint (3) Grid Reference SK 492806 (Open 9:45 to 14:00)**.

Go onto RD, L, after pub take FP (snicket) to main RD, L then R up FP up steps AFTER wide drive. Follow FP, cross lane up access track to stile(½R). Follow path in line of hedges (3 stiles), aim for L side of woods. SA to second wood, ½R in front of wood to lane. Turn L then R on signed FP at stile, cross 3 fields to lane, cross lane, SA 2 km over fields aiming for path to R of farm in valley. Follow path past farm, along earthbanks, to RD (**Top Hall Farm**). Turn R, then ½L over stile (opposite RD junction) go diagonally across field to gap in hedge on R. Follow hedge at back of airfield, go through farm to lane, turn L (downhill), L at 1st junction, R at 2nd junction signed Turnerwood. Go SA at 1st bend on field path to lane, R to canal BR at **Turnerwood**. Follow L bank of small stream to stile, cross RWY, turn R, follow path on L bank of ditch to farm complex. *Go round back of farm (to L) and at track turn L up track towards woods, down, cross BR and follow waymarked track through golf course to main RD.* Cross (L and R) to track, past executive houses, L up lane (signed), down to cross-roads (Butchers Arms, **Woodsetts**), SA for 100 m, turn R to **WOODSETT Checkpoint (4) G. R. SK 554837 (Opens 10:45; Competitors arriving after 16:00 may be asked to retire)**

Go diagonally across playing field to stile, L along RD to end of village, L on track opposite shops. R after 400 m in front of hedge, SA 1 km across fields. After causeway between ponds turn L opposite house, cross fields to stile near Wallingwells house. Turn R along track, ½ R. After 600 m, just before tarmac RD/housing estate/first lamppost, take hidden path through shrubs to L then R of field (at edge of housing estate – **Carlton-in-Lindrick**) to RD. Turn L, 200 m, turn acute R on FP. After 600 m ½ L, turn R across parkland to BR by swimming pool and park RD by **Langold Lake** . Turn R, then L across dam, follow park RD to park gate. Turn L, after 20 m turn R on FP at back of parking area. Follow FP through woods to stile. Turn L along track past fields, through wood to lane. Cross to (initially) wide track, downhill to **FIRBECK Checkpoint (5) in hall Grid Reference SK 564885 (open 11:30 to 17:30)**

Turn L along RD. After 100 m, turn R (opposite RD) along signed FP/track. Follow zig-zag track. After L corner in earthwall, go SA (ignore FP sign) along hedge. After 400 m, turn R at gate, go L of house to track, turn L. At lane, go sharp R down then up to main RD. Turn L, after 20 m at gateway go over stile and turn R aiming for stile just R of ruin (**Roche Abbey**). Follow path/track to R of stream for 1.5 km. Go ½R uphill to pylon, turn L then L under RWY (small BR). Continue along path/track (crossing lane) to playing field. ½L to stile, cross fields (more stiles) then R into Maltby churchyard, out at lytch gate, go uphill, turn R at T junction, cross RD then L up broad steps, cross main RD (**Maltby**), go up side RD (B-road) past schools. Follow round to L, then SA on minor RD where B-road bends R. 600 m to **MALTBY checkpoint (6)** (on L of RD at grassy area) **Grid Reference SK 519924 (Opens 12:00; Competitors arriving after 19:00 may be asked to retire)**

Continue along RD, SA at crossroads to track. L in front of gate, follow wall round, first down 50 m, turn R, 100 m, ½R up walled track. Follow track 1.5 km to RD at farm. Turn R follow RD 150 m then L to Micklebring. Follow RD through village to 4-way junction. Turn ½R, (L of small village green) to FP (signed) after barn after last house on L (Follow White disk "Heron Way" signs to Hooton Roberts) Take path on L of field to stile at L corner (below M18 motorway). Take path alongside fence (below M18) past 3 stiles to surfaced track. Turn R, under motorway, then L on track parallel to M18. After 150 m, R at broken stile, cross field (indistinct path if any) to track bridge (between posts) over stream and R round end of bushes. Defined FP across field to gap in hedge (aim for white "Heron Way" disk), cross railway cutting on bridge. Cross stile to left of gate after bridge. Follow track between small trees. Cross track. Cross small field, to L end of hedge at opening. Don't go through opening but take track to L of hedge to left of opening, to R of a field. Follow track above reservoir (on left) bare L on path to L of fenced area to hamlet. Beware of stone blocks at end of path/track. Turn R. You are now on the old route at Firsby Hall Farm. Follow track between buildings first L and then R down over stream. Turn L on signed FP (hidden sign) across field (uphill) to escarpment, ½ R to woods, immediately turn L down FP (½ L, following L edge of wood). Becomes track, then lane. At main RD (**Hooton Roberts**) go SA down lane, ½ R. Lane becomes track. Follow to L turn in field, to gate, go down field to **OLD DENABY checkpoint (7)** at RD **Grid Reference SK 479987 (Open 12:45 to 21:30)**

Go R along RD, bends R, turn L at telephone box (Ferry Boat Lane). Cross RWY, river to canal. L, then ½ R on path UNDER BR. Follow towpath 500 m, ½ L at earthbank to Mexborough station CP. take small BR under RWY, bends R on FP. Follow R bank of river. Leave river along fenced FP, SA at RD. On BR, after RWY, turn L down steps to **Swinton**. SA along RD, bends R, turn ½L through pub CP to canal towpath. Follow towpath under BR, then R up field to RD to L of BR over RWY. (Do not attempt old route, following fence by RWY) *Cross to stile, follow path half right across field to a line of bushes. Go to the right of the bushes, then sharp left behind them to a gap leading to a path and stile; join cycle track.* Follow illuminated cycle track to Dearne Valley College and where path emerges to college grounds (and road) take RD to L to Sports Centre and **FINISH (8) Grid Ref SE 455 003. The Event Centre will be locked for the night at 23:00.**

Congratulations! You've worked through that. Now you only have to do it!