

Carbrook Ravine Nature Reserve

At the eastern end of Manor Estate, Carbrook Ravine is a reminder of the vast fields and woods that existed in this area before Sheffield's housing estates were built in the 1930's. This 11-hectare nature reserve was once the site of Sheffield's medieval Deer Park where hunters would stalk their prized prey.

Although there are no deer here today there is still plenty of wildlife. Whilst reducing the noise and air pollution from Mosborough Parkway, this reserve provides a welcoming break from bricks and mortar. There are a number of paths in and around the reserve, perfect for anyone dog-walking or exploring the woods and meadows.

Carbrook Ravine and Spring Wood (southern side of the reserve) consist of a variety of different habitats, including grassland, woodland, wetland and even some heathland. They are part of South Sheffield Greenway's 'Living Landscape', the Wildlife Trusts' vision for connecting urban regions with surrounding countryside.

Being close to many schools, this reserve is a great place to motivate young minds to take an active interest in our environment.

Carbrook Ravine is incorporated into the 14-mile Meadowhall Southern Loop of the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT). Starting at Meadowhall, this route runs along the River Don and into Sheffield's centre. The path then heads towards Carbrook Ravine Nature Reserve and follows through to Handsworth and High Hazels Park. The new Europa Link to Sheffield Arena completes this route back to Meadowhall.



As the focus of community participation, the Reserve Advisory Group (RAG) is open to anyone who would like to help with the management of the reserve. If you are interested in getting more involved or would like more information please get in touch.

Above: song thrush
 Drawings by pupils from
 Owlbrook Nursery and Infant School
 Front cover: Penny bun (*Boletus edulis*)
 Back cover: old coppice tree

How to get there

By Bus

Take bus number 52 to Handsworth, and alight at the top of Richmond Road; or take the number 14 via Manor Park and Woodhouse. Phone Travelline on 01709 515151 for full details.

On foot

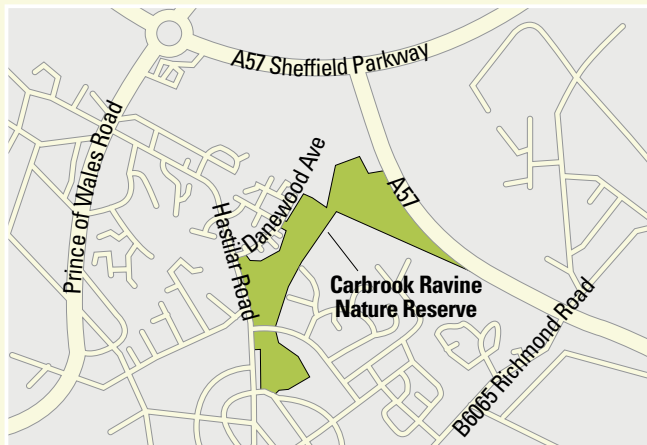
Carbrook Ravine is in easy walking distance of the Manor Estate, and the many other residential areas nearby. It is situated close to the A57, near the Pipworth Schools and the Recreation Ground.

By Car

Carbrook Ravine is situated in the south east of Sheffield. Lots of street parking is available nearby.

Access to the site

You are free to walk around this nature reserve at any time and dog walkers are welcome.



Carbrook Ravine Nature Reserve is managed by The Wildlife Trust for Sheffield & Rotherham.

For more information, please contact us at:

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The Wildlife Trust for Sheffield & Rotherham is part of a national association of 47 local Wildlife Trusts, which work to protect wildlife in town and country.

Sheffield Wildlife Trust is a registered charity, Charity no. 700638
 Company No. 2287928



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Sheffield & Rotherham





Pipistrelle bat



Bluebells



Skylark

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When Sheffield Wildlife Trust first acquired this site in 2002 Carbrook was littered with all sorts of rubbish that had accumulated over the years. Eventually with help from the community it was transformed back into a place where people can admire the scenery and where wildlife has the opportunity to thrive. Since then the site has nearly doubled in size and includes the former site of Stradbroke College.

Woodland Wanders

Without even visiting the site, you can get an idea of what the reserve is like. 'Carr' generally means 'wet' and 'brook' is another word for a stream. Crack willow and sycamore trees dominate the wet woodland, a significant feature of the site. This type of habitat also gives rise to the royal fern, a species which is rarely found in Sheffield. A carpet of dazzling bluebells cover the ground during spring; their presence also suggests that this is an ancient woodland which has been here since 1600AD.

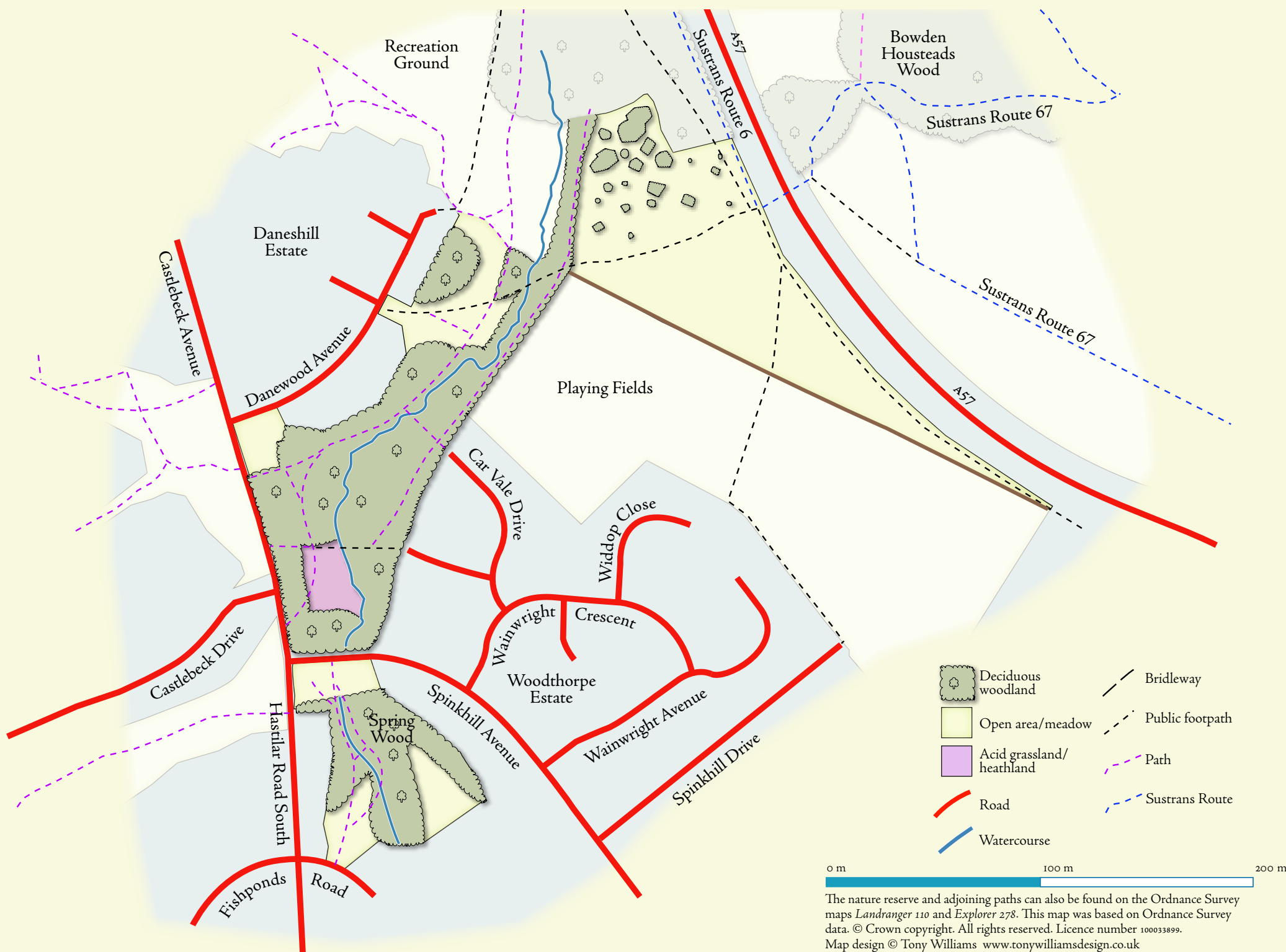
Where the soil is not so wet, semi-natural deciduous woodland can be found including oak, ash and birch. There are old coppiced oak and hazel trees. Coppicing is a traditional technique in woodland management. Coppicing is when a tree is felled and the stump is left. Multiple stems grow from the stump, thereby increasing the yield of wood from the tree.

Fascinating Fungi

During autumn, fungi such as the well-known fly agaric can add an air of fairytale mystique to the reserve. Penny bun and the common brown roll-rim are other types of toadstool likely to be found whilst walking here. Fungi are extremely important to the woodland as they decompose leaves and dead wood, returning them to the soil in part of the nutrient cycle. This ground matter provides a home and food source for a range of insect and mammal species.

Beautiful birds

With such a diverse collection of habitats, as many as 26 varieties of birds have been spotted here. The grassland plays hosts to such birds as meadow pipit and skylark, whilst song thrushes and sparrowhawks are also likely to be seen.



0 m 100 m 200 m
The nature reserve and adjoining paths can also be found on the Ordnance Survey maps *Landranger 110* and *Explorer 278*. This map was based on Ordnance Survey data. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100033899. Map design © Tony Williams www.tonywilliamsdesign.co.uk