Walk 2 - Around Rowantree Cleugh

Approximately 24 km / 15 miles
Duration 5 hours

Start at a free car park, Allenheads Mineyard. NE47 9HD
(OS grid ref NY 859 453)
This walk is available to follow on both the OS maps and Outdooractive apps.

1. **OS Grid Ref NY 859 453** Turn left out of the car park and pass the Heritage Centre and The Hemmel, or pop in for some refreshments before the walk. Follow the road up to a cross-road then go straight over, towards Rookhope, until the apex of a sharp left-hand bend in the road. At the apex of the bend take the footpath that runs to the left of the wall running away from the road. Follow this wall uphill, as it gradually turns to the right, until reaching the road.

2. **OS Grid Ref NY 871 452** At the road, turn left for a short distance until forking right along a track that gradually rises onto the moor. Follow the track, ensuring you stop at the curricks on your left for a glorious view down over Allenheads. Keep to the track as it meanders around the top of the valley, after passing an isolated house keep the wall to your left until it drops away at a corner. Shortly after this, there is a junction in the track, turn right for a short distance until a footpath sign, where the track turns right across the moors.

3. **OS Grid Ref NY 861 475** Turn right to stay on the track gradually venturing further onto the moors. Pass the two shooting huts on your left until reaching a fence, pass through the gate and continue on the track, which soon becomes a small footpath. After crossing the moor other fences and gates are negotiated, continue on the small path and cross the northern end of Rowantree Cleugh. After ascending the far side of the cleugh you join a large track.

4. **OS Grid Ref NY 886 521** At the track turn right to pass along the far side of Rowantree Cleugh, continuing a gradual descent to the isolated farm at Harwood Shield. On reaching the farm turn right to cross over the river and up the slope on the far side. As you approach the top of the rise a track will be seen on your right, take this to cross the moors again. Partway across the moor an isolated farm Halleywell will be seen on your left, do not turn towards the farm, keep on the higher track. Soon you reach the gate in the fence that you passed through earlier.

5. **OS Grid Ref NY 874 494** Go through the gate and then retrace your earlier steps passing the shooting huts until reaching a sharp left turn in the track with a footpath sign pointing down a grassy slope. Here leave the track and descend the grassy slope back into the valley, that latter part just prior to the road goes through old quarry workings. On reaching the B6295 road cross and descend the road that passes behind the houses to your left. At the bottom of the road, you will cross the East Allen River by way of a ford, take care. Turn left along the road until it makes a sharp right-hand bend away from the river, where a footpath that continues by the river will be seen,

6. **OS Grid Ref NY 849 474** Take the footpath that goes alongside the river until reaching the Allenheads to Carrshield Road near a bridge. Turn left at the road, over the bridge and turn right towards Allenheads. To avoid walking along the road, take the first footpath sign to your right over a small footbridge and rise towards a house. Pass the house to reach the track, where a left-hand turn towards Allenheads is required. As the track turns left to join the road, take the small path through the trees with a wall to your right. After a short distance, you will come to yet another access track to the local houses, cross this and take the pathway that leads through the trees. This will bring you back to the centre of the village near the Heritage Centre, refreshments can be taken at either the Allenheads Inn or The Hemmel, depending on which is open at the time.

Please keep dogs on a lead throughout this walk, enjoy the countryside and wildlife as you go, leaving it for others who follow to enjoy as well.

Create memories, take photographs, leave only footprints