Rural Rambles Round Bungay

Compiled and Produced by Waveney and District Ramblers' Group
Waveney Ramblers    Bungay 0    Rural Rambles Round Bungay

OS Map: X 231, OL 40    Track: **TM 33151 90085**    **GPX for SatNav**    Various Miles    Updated: 2018

RURAL RAMBLES ROUND BUNGAY

This is a walking guide for ramblers covering the Bungay area in the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk. UK.

Key features include the river Waveney and parts of the Angles’ Way and all of the Bigod Way. The walks include woodland, farmland, marsh and heath. Places to park are highlighted and useful pubs and tearooms marked. This update was completed in 2018. Sadly walks using the closed Earsham bridge have not been included.

Downloadable KML and GPX files are included for SatNav owners.
The GPX files can be imported into ViewRanger for iPhone and Droid.
The trails have been shared on Wikiloc.com and can be followed using their iPhone or Android apps.

1 Inner Outney - (0.4 to 8 Miles)
2 Bungay and Falcon Meadow - (3.4 Miles)
3 Outney and Three Ash Farm - (4.9 Miles)
4 Bath Hills and Outney Common - (5 Miles)
5 Ditchingham and Ellingham - (5.5 Miles)
6 Outney Flood - (5.6 Miles)
7 Bungay South East - (5.9 Miles)
8 Ditchingham and Broome - (6 Miles)
9 Loddon to Bungay (Linear) - (9 Miles)
10 Outney and Upgate Street - (9.5 Miles)
11 Bungay and Geldeston - (11.6 Miles)
12 Dragon Buck Swan and Queen - (12.4 Miles)
13 Bungay with Saints Andrew and Margaret - (13.5 Miles)
14 Outney Common and Hedenham - (8 Miles)
15 Halesworth to Bungay (Linear) - 88 Bus Route - (10.6 Miles)

DISCLAIMER: Waveney Ramblers tries to stay on rights of way and keep safe. These maps are a “best effort” to document our routes but there may be errors, especially if paths have not been reinstated or signposted. Local conditions change from day to day and with the weather and seasons. Paths get diverted or closed. A safe walk today could become unsafe tomorrow. So please rely on your own common sense. Use these guides as a starting point and not as Biblical authority. As always the main danger is road traffic. Railway crossings are safe by comparison.

Please support rambling and the countryside.         Join the Ramblers at http://www.ramblers.org.uk/
Disclaimers and Copyrights © 2020         Waveney and District Ramblers Group http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
Sketch maps, not to scale         Crown Copyright http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
OpenStreetMap https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/         https://www.openstreetmap.org/
Corrections Please mail nbauers@btinternet.com or Facebook/Twitter @WaveneyRamblers
OUTNEY COMMON WALKS

Meet at the car park close to the golf club, Outney Common, Bungay.

There are several walks ranging from 0.4 to 8 miles by combining loops.

Some stretches run close to the golf course so look out for flying balls. After sunset, the golfers go home and this opens up many more possibilities. The area is particularly attractive under a waxing or full moon. The “Lows” can flood in wet winters blocking the SW areas and river path. The walks can be combined in various ways. Here are a few possibilities.

1) The Lake - 0.4 miles.
   Walk round the lake and return to the car park.

2) The Inner Circle - 2.2 miles.
   Walk round the golf course staying close to, but not on, the fairways, only once, crossing the path of the path of the golfers.

3) The Middle Circle - 2.5 Miles.
   This follows the perimeter of Outney common excluding the NE cattle meadows.
   South and SW, and follow the course of the Waveney.
   North and NE, follow the boundary between the public areas and the cattle meadows.

4) The River Path - 3.3 Miles.
   Head NE from the car park. Head past the lake.
   Pass the campsite perimeter NW then north. Head north then NE across the meadows.
   Cross one footbridge and head to the river but don’t cross.
   Turn left, NW, and follow the riverside path all the way round the common.
   There are several gates, stiles and bridges with mud or flooding in wet seasons.

All three loops combine to eight miles.

The GPX download includes two more loops combining the routes in different ways.

Bungay has a museum, shops, cafes, pubs and a theatre. The historic areas are interesting.
Meet at the Green Dragon, Broad Street.

This urban walk uses alleys and small lanes where possible, minimising main roads.
Bungay town centre and the churches are worth a visit.
There’s free parking at Outney Common near the golf club and some street parking is also free.
From your car park, head towards the Green Dragon, Broad Street, meeting point.

From the pub, cross Broad Street and head NE into Stone Alley.
At the bottom of the alley, head SE along Nethergate St.
Cross over Bridge St into a narrow alley SE, leading to the historic Borough Well.
The circular route now goes anticlockwise round the loop.
Follow the alley up some steps and cross Trinity St. into Cross St. and the Butter Cross.
Cross over St. Mary's St. and enter the alley in front of the White Swan (closed) and head SW.
The alley turns back into a road. Head south into a narrow footpath leading to Castle Lane.
Head SE along Castle Lane and use an alley to get into Boyscott Lame, still heading SE.
At the main road head south along Upper Olland St until you reach the B1062 road to Flixton.
Cross the B1062, heading SE into St Margaret's Road.
Take the first left, Messenger Close and immediately right, uphill into Mountbatten Road.
There are occasional views over the Waveney Valley from this higher ground.
At the end, bear left onto a footpath skirting the grounds of Bungay High School.
Head north along the footpath, then turn right into Princes Road and immediately left into Queen's Road.
Take the first right into Dukes Road and head for the cemetery.
In the cemetery, keep right and head back up hill into John Child's Way heading east.
Continue east following the meandering residential road, doubling back until you join King's Road.
Head east and Join the A144 Bungay to Halesworth road. Head back towards Bungay (NW).
Turn right into Pilgrims Way. At the end, turn right and go through a park and playground.
Head NE and then north along Garden Close.
Turn left heading west along the Beccles Road.
Turn right towards the maltings and Falcon Meadow.
Cross the river and head west across the grassy, sometimes damp, field.
Turn left into Bridge St and head back towards Bungay, SW.
Turn right into Nethergate Street, NW.
Turn left into the first alley, Brandy Lane.
Turn right into Bridge St heading NW and go back to the Green Dragon.

After possible refreshments, head back to your car park.
Bungay has many pubs, tea rooms and cafes. The Artichoke at Broome has a good reputation for food.
Waveney Ramblers    Bungay 2    Bungay and Falcon Meadow    3.4 Miles
Park at Outney Common close to the Golf Club.

Head SW and cross the A143 using the footbridge.
Head SE along Outney Road past attractive almshouses.
Cross Earsham Dam with a right and immediate left turn into Castle Lane and continue SE.
There is an option to use a small footpath uphill with views over the valley, rejoining Castle Lane afterwards.
Turn right and left and use the alley to get into Boyscott Lane. Continue SE.
At Upper Olland Street, head south and continue straight on into Flixton Road still heading south.
Cross the B1062 with care and head SE along St. Margaret's Road.
After 300 yards, bear right uphill along a signed footpath. This can be muddy but there is an option to climb out of the streambed into the field to the left of the path. This is dryer but perhaps a small trespass. This path is well used.
Head south across the fields until you reach tarmac again. Turn left and head NE towards Three Ash Farm.
Cross St. Margaret's Road and continue NE towards Three Ash Farm.
After the farms, there is a left turn with an accordion gate into a meadow.
Head slightly west of north to another accordion gate.
Continue slightly west of north all the way to the perimeter fence of Bungay High School and then into Manor Road.
The path emerges into Southend Road. Follow this north and later NE.
At the A144 turn right and immediately left into Pilgrims's Way.
Follow this to the end and turn right towards a park and children's playground which you cross.
Head NE and then north along Garden Close, emerging onto the Beccles Road. Turn Left towards Bungay.
Take the first right along Staithe Road towards the converted Maltings and Mill.
Cross the river into Falcon Meadow and head west. The map shows the smaller sometimes wetter path.
After Falcon Meadow, emerge into Bridge Street and head SW towards Bungay centre.
Turn right into Nethergate Street and head NW towards the common.
At Broad Street, turn right towards the common and cross the A143 with care.
Walk onto the common, bear left and head SW back to the car park.

A good food pub is the Artichoke at Broome.
Bungay also has many pubs, cafes and tea rooms.
Start at the Outney Common car park next to the Golf Club.

The walk is anti-clockwise round the loop.
Head NE skirting the south side of the pond.
Turn NW following the gravel access road leading to the farm land.
Turn right off the gravel road and head towards the fields that might contain cows or sheep.
You should be walking close to the perimeter of the caravan park.
Go through a rusty kissing gate and follow the track a little east of north.
Cattle in this field are usually calm because they meet lots of walkers.
Heading NE, cross three foot bridges. Some winters this leg is under water.
At the first opportunity turn left towards the Ditchingham Lodge fields and go through a kissing gate.
Head a little west of north across an open field with a tidy driveway across the middle.
The driveway is NOT the route!
Go through another kissing gate on the far side of the drive.
Follow the path up hill, steep by Norfolk standards. This 500 metre leg can be muddy in places.
Turn NW, into the vehicle access road towards the houses behind Ditchingham Lodge.
Follow the road NW, straight on past the houses and back onto a footpath.
The path bends west and then SW before it turns back into the Bath Hills Road.
Follow the road past the quarry with occasional lorries so take care here.
The road bends south and later SE.
Join Hall Road with a little more traffic.
Head towards and cross the A143 - extreme caution here!
Use the access path SE leading to Earsham and the Queen's Head.
Resist the temptation to stop for a pint and tasty sausage roll.
Continue SE from the pub across the village green.
This leads to a 150 metre footpath heading SE between houses.
At the lane, head SE towards Earsham Mill and the Atlantic stores. Walk past the Church.
After the footbridge, turn NW left and head along the path back towards the old A143, Earsham Dam.
At the old A143, Earsham Dam, turn right and head east towards Bungay.
After the "Roaring Arch" bridge and another smaller brick built bridge, turn left into Outney Road.
Head past the attractive Alms Houses and cross the main A143 using the Golf Club foot bridge.
Head east back to the car park.

The Wednesday walkers often visit the Artichoke in Broome after this walk.
There are many other pubs and cafes in Bungay.
Park at Green Lane, Ditchingham next to but not in the Village Hall car park.

Head SE along Green Lane, houses right, trees left.
Bear right SW and emerge onto the old Yarmouth Road and continue SW and soon south.
Cross the A143 and turn left east. Use the cycle track parallel with the road.
Don’t cross the bridge towards the church.
Follow the cycle track for 1.6 miles. It slowly bends NE.
After a water works, a wide wooden bridge and power lines, the cycle track ends.
Turn left, NW, and cross the A143 using the traffic island half way across.
Head NW and soon west along the Old Yarmouth Road.
At a triangle, take the first right, NW, along a concrete drive (Hall Road), flint wall right.
At the bend to the right, continue NW towards barns and silos.
Keep the barns and silos to your left and use the inconspicuous bridleway, NW.
After the last barn, the path bends left, SW.
At the t-junction turn right, NW, gently uphill towards woodland.
After the wood, head north along the tarmac.
At the first junction, cross the road and head NW across an open field towards the church.
Enter the churchyard and head west. Leave by the west gate.
Here there is quite a large car park which might be useful with the agreement of Red House Farm Ltd.
Head south away from the church.
At the tarmac, turn left east.
After the second electricity pole, turn right, south, through a kissing gate into woodland.
Follow the track south and SE through three more kissing gates.
Back at the tarmac, turn left, NE towards Ivy House Farm.
Turn right, SE, along Willow Lane, large barns both sides.
Turn right, SW, onto the Old Yarmouth Road and cross the little stream.
After the Artichoke pub, turn right, NW, into Sun Road.
At the bus stop turn left passing the Village Hall to your left.
There is another useful car park here by agreement with the Village Hall.
Head west, fence right into the heathland.
Drop down and head west between two lakes.
Head SW across open grassy common land. Keep the lakes in view to the left.
The open grassy area narrows. Under power lines, head up the slope and head west, briefly SW and then west again.
The back of the Village Hall should now be in view.
Head west back to the car park.

The Artichoke pub a mile away has a good reputation for its food and beer.
Meet at the Outney Common car park near the golf club, Bungay. Use this route in wet conditions when parts of Outney Common get flooded.

From the car park, head SW towards the clubhouse and footbridge over the A143. Use the footbridge to cross the A143 and head SE along Outney Road past attractive almshouses. At Earsham St, turn left and head east towards the town centre.

At the Castle Pub, turn right through the pub car park and head south and then SE past the ruined castle. Close to the town centre, turn left towards the butter cross.

Follow Bridge St which changes to Ditchingham Dam still heading NE. At the converted maltings, avoid the road bridge and use the safer but non-obvious footbridge.

At the Chicken Roundabout, sadly no longer with chickens, cross over and head north for only 20 yards. Turn left and head west towards Outney Common.

Before the footbridges, turn right and head NW, through a kissing gate. Cross the meadow and drive leading to Ditchingham Lodge. The road is NOT the route, After a second kissing gate, head NW, uphill on a woodland path. There are good views over Outney Common.

Follow the path NW with a brief kink north until it joins a tarmac road.

Follow the road SW, downhill past a couple of houses. Continue SW onto a dirt track which soon turns into a path. After a nature reserve, the path joins the Bath Hills road past the quarry with occasional gravel trucks. Take care.

Follow Bath Hills Road SW and later south.

150 yards before Hall Road, turn left and head east along a footpath. At Marsh Lane, turn right and first left towards Marsh Farm. At the farm bear right and head SE across a meadow. Cross the stile and A143, taking extra care. Head south along Kingsway then NE along The Street which changes its name to Earsham Dam.

Cross three bridges. The second is called Roaring Arch Bridge. Turn left into Outney Road.

Head NW along Outney road, past the almshouses, over the footbridge and back to the car park.

There are many pubs, cafes and tea houses in Bungay. The Waveney Wednesday walkers often visit the Artichoke in Broome.
Meet at the Outney Common, Bungay car park near the golf club.
Head SW and cross the A143 using the footbridge.
Head SE along Outney Road, past the attractive alm houses and turn left at the end to reach Earsham Street.
Head east along Earsham street until you reach the Castle Inn. Turn right and go south through their car park.
In the car park, keep left and head uphill along a footpath. Then head SE past the castle ruins.
At the end of the path, turn right and head south along Castle Orchard. This leads to another footpath heading south.
The footpath emerges into Castle Lane. Head SE and use the alley to head SE into Boyscott Lane.
Continue SE along Boyscott Lane until it joins Upper Olland Street.
Turn right and head south all the way to the B1062 Flixton Road.
Cross the B1062 heading SE and take the first left into Messenger Close and the first right into Mountbatten Road.
Follow Mountbatten Road south until the end. The road bends east.
At the end turn right into an apparent dead end.
Look for the alley on the left which leads to the perimeter of Bungay High School.
At the perimeter fence, turn right and head south along the footpath. Go through an accordion stile into a meadow.
Head south across the meadow to a second accordion stile.
There were calm cows, calves and a bull who ignored the walkers.
After the accordion stile turn left and immediately right. Head a little west of south past the farm buildings.
After the pond, look for a galvanised gate heading left into a meadow.
Head SE across the meadow to a stile. There are some dips in the terrain, sometimes wet.
After the stile, head south and soon SE. When you reach the field walkers mostly head the wrong way because the path has never been reinstated in recent years.
Your target is a footbridge which can be seen if the crops are not too high. Don't aim for the hedge beyond the dip.
The footbridge is mid way between the hedge and the right field edge on a bearing of 160 degrees.
Cross the bridge and turn left heading east. Ignore the right turn towards Shoe Devil Lane and go straight on.
The path kinks right and left again. Head NE all the way to the A144, Bungay to Halesworth road.
Cross over with care and head a little east of north with the hedge on your right.
This path is in serious disrepair but it's easy to follow the meadow perimeter instead.
The path turns mostly NW and heads all the way back to the outskirts of Bungay.
The official track leads through a meadow often with cattle. There is a "Bull in Field" sign.
Most walkers follow a well used alternative parallel and avoiding the cattle.
Head down into Meadow Road still going NW. Go left into Joyce Road which bends north.
You will emerge with a clear view of the Co-Op store with a cafe and toilets.
Turn right and head NE, then left into Kent's Lane heading NW.
At the end, turn left and head west along Beccles road.
Head right and north towards the converted Maltings, Mill and Staithe.
Cross the Waveney at the wier and go left into Falcon Meadow, heading west, then NW.
Emerge into Ditchingham Dam and turn left towards the town centre going SW.
Turn right into Nethergate Street (or divert via the delights of Bungay) and head NW.
At the end, turn right towards Outney Common heading NW.
Cross the main A143 with care and head onto the common.
Turn left and head SW, past the pond and back to the car park.
The Wednesday walkers often visit the Artichoke at Broome after their walks in this area.
Bungay has many pubs, cafes, restaurants and take-aways.

Please support rambling and the countryside.
Join the Ramblers at http://www.ramblers.org.uk/
Disclaimers and Copyrights © 2020 Waveney and District Ramblers Group http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
Sketch maps, not to scale Crown Copyright http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
OpenStreetMap https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/ https://www.openstreetmap.org/
Corrections Please mail nbauers@btinternet.com or Facebook/Twitter @WaveneyRamblers
Park and meet at Green Lane, Ditchingham. Please avoid the busy village hall next door though.

Head SE and behind the village hall, use the first entrance to Ditchingham and Broome common. Head NE. After 700 yards, turn SE and head between two lakes. The unattractive concentration camp fencing keeps otters out of the fishing lake.

At Broome village hall, turn right and head SE to the Old Yarmouth Road. Head NE along Old Yarmouth Road past the Artichoke pub which could be good for lunch after the walk. After 800 yards along Old Yarmouth Road, turn left and head NW along Willow Lane with Broome Beck on your left. Go left along Lodden Road for 50 yards and turn right onto a footpath heading NW for 600 yards. When you reach Rectory Road, turn left and head west towards Allhallows Convent. After 900 yards, before the convent, turn left onto a footpath by the footbridge over the, usually dry, ford. This path heads south for 450 yards before bending west. Cross straight over Thwaite Road and continue west. There is a right, left kink in the path bringing you to the south perimeter of Allhallows Convent. At Baker's Lane, head NW up to Belsey Bridge Road.

Turn left and head west along Belsey Bridge Road for 200 yards. Go through St. Mary's, Ditchingham church yard. In the church there is a window commemorating the author, Henry Rider Haggard. After the church head south along Church Lane. This joins the busy B1332 where there is a 130 yard dangerous leg with no pavement. You could bypass most of this by ignoring the “Do Not Enter” sign and walking on the safe side of the hedge. Turn right and head south back into safety along Free Lane which soon bends west and later south again. Before Free Lane heads downhill, turn left and head east along a woodland path, sometimes muddy. There are fine views out Overney Common and the Waveney Valley. The path bends slightly south and briefly heads due south before turning SW. After a steep drop, by Suffolk standards, after the kissing gate, cross the meadow and driveway to Ditchingham Lodge. This driveway is NOT the path. Head for the second kissing gate, then turn east. The path soon turns into a vehicular track leading the the Chicken Roundabout, sadly no longer with chickens. Follow the Old Yarmouth Rd. (A143) east for 400 yards. This short leg is not too pleasant but leads to a leafy path. There are two alternatives to this main road leg, neither particularly better. (South of the A143, the converted Maltings and Pirnhow Street might be worth a look. The narrow bridge can be avoided as a non-obvious pedestrian bridge goes under the corner of the Maltings.) Take the first left off the A143 along the Old Yarmouth Road and head north for 150 yards. Turn left onto a leafy lane leading back to Broome common and head NE for 80 yards. Turn left into Green Lane and head NW back to the car park. The Artichoke pub has a good reputation for their lunches.
Waveney Ramblers    Bungay 8    Ditchingham and Broome    6 Miles
This is a linear walk. Use public transport to get to Loddon. The walk starts from the Swan.

From the Swan, head south along the High Street. Turn right, west, into Kitten's Lane. Turn left, SW, along the road beside Hobart High School, right. Follow this road as it changes into a foot and cycle path. Follow Affric Close, SW. Head SW across grass to the A146.

Cross this busy road and continue SW on the footpath opposite, woodland left. The path bends left, south and later SE, then east into Stubbs Green Lane. Turn right, SW, farm left. Go through the gate and cross the common, diagonally SW. Continue SW along Pound Lane.

At a left bend, bear right off the lane and head SW across two open fields, barns left. After the fields, bear right, west, hedge left. Follow the track left, SW and soon west again. At Ingloss Lane, turn left, south on tarmac and aim for the water tower. Turn right, west, water tower right. Head through trees then along a field perimeter, hedge left. The path bends left and right again and continues west, hedge left for another 100 metres. Bear left onto a woodland path, west. The path bends left, SW. Head to St. Mary's Church, Thwaite. After the church, turn left, south along Bungay Road. This is quite a long tarmac leg but there is minimal traffic if you miss the rush hour and school run. Ignore the Rectory and Belsey Bridge Roads and continue south for another 450 metres. At a farm entrance and signed paths, turn right, roughly west, trees right. There is quite a good view of the convent roof line.

Continue SW. The path kinks right and left, hedge right. Cross a short stretch of open field, then bear right into Baker's Lane for about 70 metres. Turn left, south, into Draper's Lane. At the Norwich Road, B1332, turn right, NW for 380 metres. There is a narrow footpath for pedestrians so this leg is not too dangerous. Cross the B1332 and turn left, SW, into Free Lane. The lane soon bends right, west and later, left, south. At the last house, turn left, east, along the ridge path with fine views over the Waveney and Common. This is part of the well known Bath Hills route. Follow this path as it bends briefly south, then SE. The path drops down to a gate. Head SE across an open pasture to the gate opposite. Cross the lane which is not a right of way. Head through the second gate into woodland. Turn right, SW and cross the Waveney over two footbridges. The map shows a track NW up to the tip of the island. Wild swimmers use this spot. Head SW and later south across Outney common. The grazing cattle usually ignore the many walkers. Cross a third footbridge. After a gate, bear left round the camp site and emerge at the A143 roundabout.

Head SE into Bungay where there are many pubs, cafes, shops and other amenities.
Meet and depart from the car park on Outney Common close to the golf club. On the map, the blue track is the walk. The green tracks are shorter versions and one is diversion via the Queen's Head for refreshments.

From the car park, head NE, parallel to the access road. Kink left and right to get close to the pond. Head NE, pond left. In late June there are fine water lilies here. Near the dog poo bin, bear left, north. Take the first right, north, skirting the caravan park. Head north across the grazing meadow. The cattle usually ignore the frequent walkers. Cross the footbridge. Go through a kissing gate and head NE towards a second kissing gate. Go through and cross the Waveney over two foot bridges. Head east into the woodland for about 30 metres. Take the left branch north.

Go north through a kissing gate and cross the drive which is not the right of way. Go through a second kissing gate and head NW, uphill into woodland. When the trees drop their leaves, there are fine views over the common and Waveney. Follow the woodland path NW. When the path bends north, there is a left hand turn. If it's dry, stay on the woodland path. In muddy conditions, it's possible to use the parallel field perimeter track which drier. At the first house, turn right, north, into Free Lane. This bends right. Take the first field entrance, left, north, and follow the field perimeter up to Pound Lane.

Head left, west, along Pound Lane. At Mouse Cottage, turn left, south, into Green Lane. This soon bends right, SW. At Earsham Road, turn left, SW, onto the tarmac. Take the first right, NW, into Whitehouse Lane. This is a concrete road, closed to normal traffic. Head west for over a mile. At a Y junction continue west. At the next junction, bend SW before reaching a T junction. For a shorter walk, turn left and head SE back to Earsham. Our blue route heads right, NW. The concrete bends west and finishes. Continue west along the field perimeter, hedge left, towards buildings. Join a gravel road which soon turns to tarmac. Continue west.

Turn left, south, into Denton Road. For a slightly shorter route take the first left towards Bungay and Earsham. Our blue route continues south towards Denton. When the tarmac bends right, turn left onto the footpath, over a stile and then right, SE, along the field perimeter, fence right. Cross three fields, hedge right. Kink right and left, still SE, and cross the final field, hedge left. Pass a barn and join a tarmac lane still heading SE. At the end, join Middle Lane. Turn left, NE. Middle Lane slowly bends right, SE. Follow it to the end. Cross over Pheasants' Walk into Five Acre Lane, east, closed to vehicular traffic. Just before the A143, look for and use the underpass. The footpath continues on the south side for a useful distance.

To divert via the Queen's Head, use the main road NE, into Earsham. After the pub, either re-join the blue route or head along Earsham Dam back to Bungay. This is shorter but less pleasant. Our blue route follows the Old Harleston Road towards Church Road and the church. Head SE past the church and the Atlantic Stores. At the first bridge over the Waveney, shed a tear for the closed Angles' Way and wonder if it will ever re-open. Cross the second footbridge over the river and turn left, NE, and soon north. Here you can see where rebellious walkers have set up their own unofficial diversion to the open access land nearby, rejoining the Angles' Way. At the Roaring Arch Bridge, turn right, east, into Bungay. Take the first left into Outney Road, NW. Cross the footbridge over the A143 and return to the car park.

This route has quite a lot of metalled traffic free road so it's a good wet weather walk. If Outney Common is flooded, use the "Outney Flood" walk guide for an alternative start to this route. Bungay has many pubs and cafes for refreshments before or after the walk.
This circular route is 11.6 miles. The Waveney group tends to take picnics. Other walkers who like a pub or three will pass the Locks Inn at Geldeston. Add 0.6 miles if you include the Artichoke at Broom. Add 0.7 miles if you include the Wherry at Geldeston. There are several pubs and cafes in Bungay at the start or finish of the walk.

Meet at the car park near the golf club. Head east and walk south of the pond. Turn north and skirt the perimeter of the Outney caravan park bearing right before reaching a rusty kissing gate. Head NE across the meadow with cattle that ignore the many walkers. Cross three foot bridges into Norfolk. Head SE and then east towards the main road "Chicken Roundabout" sadly no longer with chickens.

Close to the roundabout head north along the B1332 towards Norwich and immediately turn right into Loddon Road. At the crossroads before the Ditchingham minimarket turn right into Station Road and head SE to the main A143. Head East along the A143 for 200 metres and bear left onto the cycle and footpath, disused railway. At the end of the disused railway path you could go left to include the Artichoke pub or right, over the A143. Cross the main road and head NE, soon rejoining the disused railway, foot and cycle path for 3/4 miles. Bear right into Station Road heading east and then south. After 250 yards, the road bends east again. Cross over Church and Station Road staying north of the old track bed and cross the field diagonally heading NE. The path splits. Take the branch heading east. This leads into Mill Lane. Turn first right into Braces Lane and head south crossing the old railway line. At the tee junction turn left into Geldeston road and head east for just under a mile. Turn right and head south towards the signposted Geldeston Locks Inn -or- go straight on to include the Wherry. The track to the Locks Inn bends east and then south again.

At the pub, pause or go straight on crossing the Waveney back into Suffolk. Cross the meadows heading a little west of south turning right at the tee junction to go past the pumping station. When Locks Lane bends SW, turn right and head west for 300 yards. Cross the stile into a meadow. Cross the meadow heading SW towards another stile which you don't cross.

Now head due south towards the B1062 Bungay to Beccles road. Follow the main road west for 600 yards. At the signed footpath, turn SE off the main road heading uphill for 3/4 miles. The field perimeter path wiggles a bit. Turn right and head west towards Castle Road. The track bends left and right again before joining the tarmac lane. Follow Castle Road heading west for half a mile. Turn right into a tunnel of trees and head north. After the tunnel of trees, you could add a diversion to the Tally Ho Tea Rooms by heading north for 0.4 miles. After the tunnel of trees, cross over Rectory Lane and head NW uphill again. Continue NW joining and immediately leaving Vicarage Lane. There are fine views over the Waveney Valley. Head NW down hill and join the B1062, heading west for a few yards. Cross into Wainford Road taking care as this has some traffic and is narrow. Head north towards the mill. At the mill, cross back into Norfolk and continue NW for less than half a mile. Look for the footpath on the left. There is a signpost and a stile. Cross the meadow, west and on the diagonal to another stile or gate if it's open. Cross into the next meadow and head SW, keeping left close to the hedge. Cross into the next meadow and head NW, keeping right close to the hedge. Cross into the next meadow and head SW. Head towards the sports ground perimeter. In the next meadow, head west still skirting the sports ground. In the last meadow, head west, on the diagonal to the gate leading into Ditchingham Dam. Head south to Bungay and turn right, NW, into Nethergate Street. Or go straight for the Bungay attractions! After Nethergate Street, Turn right, NW, towards the roundabout. Cross over and head back onto Outney Common. Bear left back to the car park near the golf club.
Park at Outney Common, close to the Bungay Golf Club. This is a good winter weekend walk because there are quiet tarmac roads and less mud than usual. With four pubs on the route, it's also a good summer route with cool pints in pub gardens! From the car park, head NE and pass south of the pond. At the gated entrance to the common, head towards Bungay and carefully cross the A143 at the roundabout. Take the first left into Nethergate Street and after 50 metres head SE, still along Nethergate Street. Turn right and head SW up Stone Alley towards the Green Dragon, the first of four pubs. At the pub, continue SW along Popson Street. Turn left into Chaucer Street and head SE. At Earsham Street, turn right, then left into the Castle Inn car park. In the car park, keep left and head south uphill towards the ruins of Bigod Castle. Head SE past the castle ruins. After the footpath, turn right, SW and soon south. The road bends left but head straight on, south, onto a footpath which joins Castle Lane. Use one of the alleys linking Castle Lane with Boycott Lane and head south all the way to the B1062. Cross the B1062 with care and head SE along St Margaret's Road.

After 300 metres turn right onto a woodland path and head uphill, SW. This path is also a stream bed. Before it gets really wet, there is an option the climb out of the sunken path and use the parallel field perimeter. Head south all the way to the tarmac lane. Turn right and head SW. When the road turns south, head west through a wooded tunnel onto a farm access road. At the time of writing the footpath sign had been vandalised and the path to the west had not been reinstated. From the vandalised signpost, head west using the reinstated path or if there is no better alternative, head 130 metres south then 700 metres west when a concrete road should be visible. Head onto this and continue west. After 700 metres along the concrete road, head north through wooden gates into the garden of a sizable house. This is not signed as a footpath but it is the right of way. Head north and later NW leaving the garden through a similar wooden gate with video security. The dogs were not aggressive. Follow the lane west and then NW. This joins The Street (B1062).

Head SW to the Buck Inn and the Aircraft Museum. Take care as HGVs are routed here avoiding the Bungay weight limit. After the Buck, head SW and leave the main road at the bend heading SE along Church Road. Count six or seven houses on the right then turn right up steps into the narrow unsigned footpath and head SW. Secateurs might be needed here. There are lake views to the right. The path emerges onto a more open field. Head SW passing stables on your left. Continue SW, then south into woodland. Follow the woodland path which meanders south and SW round fallen trees. When the path emerges onto a field, head south passing farm buildings on your right. After the farm, continue SW, diagonally across a field or two. The path is rarely used and might not be obvious. Aim for the metal walkers' gates. The path emerges at Park Road. Turn right and head west. At some very obvious farm buildings turn right and head north. The track bends right and left continuing slightly west of north. At the quarry, turn left, signed for pedestrians. Head west with another attractive lake (ex quarry) on your right. Before the house use the signed footpath to head NW to join the B1062. Turn left and follow this busy road with care for 450 metres.

Turn left off the B1062 via the lay-by, heading SW, signposted to Homersfield. In the village, turn right and head NW to the Black Swan, closed in the afternoon. After the pub, head NW and at the Busy A143 turn right, head NE and cross the busy road with care. Head NE along Low Road, roughly parallel with and north of the A143. At Denton Road, turn right and head back towards the A143. Follow the cycle path and cross the main road joining the old road, converted for cycles and light local traffic. Follow the Old Harleston Road all the way to Earsham. At the first houses in Earsham, take the left hand busier road and head NE towards the Queens Head. After the pub, continue NE towards Bungay along The Street and later the Earsham Dam. On entering Bungay, turn left onto Outney Road and head NW. Cross the A143 using the footbridge. Head NE back to the car park near the Golf Club.
Meet at Outney Common car park near the Bungay golf club. Head NE. Bear left and north to skirt the pond, right. Follow the pond as it bends right until you are heading SE along one an access track to the common. Go through the kissing gate. Cross the roundabout into Broad Street, SE. Go left into Nethergeate Street, NE and soon SE. Follow it to the end. Turn left, NE, into Bridge Street. Cross the Waveney and turn right, SE into Falcon Lane and Meadow. At the weir, cross the river, south. Pass the mill and converted maltings. Turn left into Beccles road and head south and soon east. Turn right, south into Garden Close. Bear right, west, then left, south, across the children's play area. Head SW then left, SE, along Pilgrim's Way. At the A144, turn left, SE. Bear left, east, into Hillside Road East. Cross a stream then, before the Co-Op, take the footpath right, SE and soon NE. Turn right, SE, and right into Meadow Close, SE, past a children's play area. At the end continue SE through the gated meadow. An alternative cattle-free path runs parallel to the left. Continue SE, hedge right through a gap, ditch right to the end of the field. Follow the footpath left, NE. If it's overgrown, consider following the field perimeter, footpath right. At the tarmac, turn left, roughly north. At the letter box, turn right, east, towards Mettingham and Beccles. Turn right, SE, to St Andrew and Ringsfield. Pass the Minster ruins. The road bends left, east. When the tarmac bends right, turn off and continue east along the track. When the track bends left, north, continue east along the reinstated path, no hedges. Cross a sleeper bridge. Turn right, south, to a finger post. Turn left, SE, and converge with the power lines at the far side of the field. Head east after the hedge gap. Join a farm lane, east, soon SE. Close to Clarke's Lane, turn right, south, through a gate into the field and keep right, ditch right. Cross a stile, right, west, over a sleeper bridge then left, south, into a field, hedge left. Skirt a pond, hedge left. Turn right, west, to a sleeper bridge. Cross and head due south to the power pole, finger post and gap opposite. Cross a footbridge and a tarmac lane. Continue south towards the church, hedge left. St Andrew's Church is about 5 miles into the walk and makes a useful spot for a break.

Head south. Merge with School Road, SE. Go past the village hall. Cross Great Common Lane and head SW across the open grassland. Sleeper bridge. Kissing gate. Head south to the far left corner of the field. Cattle grid. Cross Top Road and continue south through a scruffy farmyard, hedge left. Sleeper bridge. Gap. Sleeper bridge. Make a right left kink and head south, hedge left. Left over a sleeper bridge, continue hedge right a little east of south. At the tarmac, turn right, SW, over a brick bridge and through the gate. Head SW, farm buildings both sides. When the tarmac veers right, bear left onto a woodland track roughly west. Cross the A144 and continue west. Open field, follow the power lines. At the power line T-junction, head west to the finger post. Hedge gap. Continue slightly south of west. Broken accordion gate. Cross the open field, soon hedge right. Hedge gap. Continue hedge right. Hedge gap. Continue hedge right. Cross the open field slightly south of west and head for the hedge gap. Continue fence right. At a gravel crossroads, turn left, SE, and head past houses through gardens. Go through the hedge gap and head SE over the open field, parallel with the power lines. At the bottom of the field, turn right, SW, hedge left. Cross Brook Lane, tarmac and head west through an accordion gate. Cross several meadows, roughly west via a seven bar metal gate. Ignore turnings right and left. Gap. Gap. Keep right, hedge right. Accordian gate. Woodland path west. Sleeper bridge. Turn right, NW, fence left, hedge right. Head NW, hedge, left. Kink left and right, NW, hedge right. At the corner turn left, west, hedge right. After 80 metres (not through the farmyard), turn right, north, hedge right, fence left along a narrow path. At the tarmac go left, west 80 metres. Turn right over a sleeper bridge, ridge right and head NW. Gap. Continue NW. Head for the large fallen tree trunk. Turn left, west, hedge right. Kink right and left onto a gravel farm track and head west. This track bends north, north, west, west past a farm in ruins and finally NW. At a Y-junction, bear right, north along the track which soon becomes tarmac. The lane bends right, NE, past farm buildings. At a hedge gap, turn left, over a sleeper bridge, due north over the open field, no hedges and later hedge left. Sleeper bridge, north, no hedges. Cross a private drive. Head north into a sunken path/stream bed. If it's overgrown or wet, kink right and left and use the field perimeter instead. Head north. As the field bends right, look for a gap in the hedge, left, and go down the slope to re-join the sunken path, right, NE. At the tarmac head north. Cross the B1162 into Flixton Road, NW, then north. Turn left, west, into Boyscott Lane and follow it round to the right, NW. At the Y-junction, bear left, NW. Go through either of two alleys into Castle Lane, NW. Go right and left into Outney Road. Cross the footbridge back to the common car park.
Waveney Ramblers    Bungay 13    Bungay with Saints Andrew and Margaret    13.5 Miles
Meet at the Outney Common car park near Bungay golf club. Head NE towards the pond, left.

Turn left, NW, onto the gated access track. Bear right, NW, caravan park right.

Go through the gate and head roughly north across the meadows on the obvious track.

The cattle are calm because so many walkers use this path.

Cross a footbridge and go through the gate. Head NE towards another gate.

Go through another gate and cross two footbridges. This area is used by wild swimmers.

The NW end of the island is worth a small diversion. If it's quiet and you stay still, you might spot a kingfisher.

Head into the woodland and soon turn left, NW. Go through a gate and cross the meadow and drive.

The drive is not a right of way. Go through the opposite gate and head uphill onto the ridge-top path.

There are fine views over the common, especially in winter. Sections of this path get muddy in winter.

Later, there's a parallel field edge path. Continue on this path until Free Lane, tarmac.

Turn right, north onto Free lane. The road soon bends right, east. Ignore a footpath, left.

At the B1332, turn right, SE, towards Bungay. Turn first left, north, into Draper's Lane.

Merge into Baker's Lane, NW. Cross Belsey Bridge road and head roughly north on the footpath.

Drop into the dip and cross the footbridge. Continue roughly north out of the valley, hedge left.

Head north towards a large barn. The path crosses open fields.

The path had not been reinstated so there was some guesswork here.

Near the barn, turn left, west, along a wide access track, woodland right.

Kink left and right through farm buildings, still on the wide track. Head west.

At a left bend, turn right off the wide track and go through a gate.

Cross the field slightly north of west on a smaller track towards another gate.

Go through and continue, woodland left. Head west on a wide track through two more gates.

Keep right and cross the meadow, NW. Aim for the right hand gate in the NW corner of the field.

Go through and head NW. Very soon, bear left off the track to the next gate.

Go through and head west across the open field aiming for the church.

Just before the road, turn left through a gate into the churchyard. Visit Saint Peter's Church, Hedenham.

After the church, head south along Church Road. At the B1332, kink left and right to cross over into Earsham Road.

This road is somewhat busy. It's possible to avoid a stretch by turning right, close to the pond.

The right of way goes through people's gardens and stays close to the pond.

After the pond, continue south, then bear right onto the Willow Farm access road.

Rejoin Earsham Road and head south. Ignore Sexton Road, right.

After a wide right bend with a copse, left, turn left, SE, copse left.

Follow the line of oaks, SE, then cross the open field, SE, aiming for a house.

Aim for the corner of the property, cross a sleeper bridge and zigzag through stacks of wooden pallets and a buried car.

Turn left, east, onto Pound Lane, tarmac, between more stacks of pallets. Ignore Fenn Lane, left.

After a long straight stretch, at a house, the road bends left. Before this house, turn right, south, hedge and house left.

Cross the field, then turn right, west, along Free Lane, tarmac, houses left. Free Lane bends left, south.

At the last house, turn left, east, along the ridge-top path, Bigod Way.

Drop down and cross the meadow and drive which is not a right of way. Head into the woodland and turn right, SW.

Cross three footbridges and go through two gates to cross the grazing.

After the final gate, head SE past the caravan park.

Cross the gated access track and near the dog poo bin, turn right towards the pond.

Head SW past the pond and back to the car park.
Catch the 88 bus from Bungay to Halesworth (not Sundays). There is a bus stop opposite the Green Dragon in Broad Street. Get off the bus opposite the car park in the centre of Halesworth. There are toilets close to the bus stop.

Head NW along the main road to the roundabout. Turn first left, SW, into Bridge Street. Turn first right, west, into Rectory Street. Continue west into school lane. The road ends. Cross the meadow still heading west. Any cattle are usually calm because lots of walkers use this route. Leave the meadow through a gate and turn right, NW, along a tree lined track. At Mill Road, tarmac, turn left, NW. Follow Mill Road all the way to Wissett. At The Street, turn left, NW, and head past the Plough Inn. Head past the church and turn right, north, into Gray's Lane. Note the spring on the left of the tree-lined road.

Turn left, NW, onto a signposted path. Follow this passing holiday cottages, a farm and stables. Continue NW after the farm for another 440 metres. Turn right, north, hedge left or through the trees if it’s passable. Continue north. There are a couple of left right kinks to cross ditches or follow the field perimeters. Cross a footbridge and turn left, SW, onto The Street. There is an interesting “witch's” cottage on the right. At large farm buildings, turn right, north. At a crossroads in the paths, turn right, east, towards woodland. This path bends left, NE. At the far field corner, turn left under the hedge (might be a squeeze), then head north, hedge left. Kink left and right and continue north, hedge right. The path bends left, NW. At tarmac, turn left, west. After the house, turn right, NW, hedge right. The path kinks left and right twice. At the north corner, go through the hedge and continue north across open land. Aim for the farm buildings.

Turn right, NW, onto the farm road and head past buildings, NE. At the right bend, turn left off the road. Head NE across the open field to the hedge. Turn left, NW, hedge right. Turn right, NE, hedge left. Kink left and right through the gap and continue NE, hedge right. The perimeter path bends left, north, NW and finally west. Turn right, north, and cross a stream. Head NE across a track, through a hedge and up into a field. This may be overgrown and hard to find. In the field, head NW, hedge left. At the hedge corner, head across the open field, NW. Go through a hedge gap then turn left, SW, hedge right. Turn right, NW, passing a house on the right and aim for the church. Turn right, NE, at the church and head to Low Street. Turn right, east, along Low Street.

Turn left, NW, into Shoe Devil Lane. Follow this as it dwindles into a footpath, north and NW. At a ditch, turn left, west for a few metres. Turn right and cross a footbridge. Head west of north across the open field. This path is rarely reinstated. Continue NW on a woodland path. Look for a left turn over a stile into a meadow. Cross the meadow, NW and leave through the gate. Turn right towards Manor Farm. After the last buildings, turn left and right through a gate into a meadow. Head roughly north across the field. Leave through another gate and continue north, hedge right. Emerge into Manor Road, school right. Cross Princes Road and continue north along Manor Road.

Cross the B1062 and head north along the footpath. Head north along Southend Road passing the converted windmill. Turn left, NW into Laburnum Road. Turn left, then right along the B1435 and head north into the centre of Bungay where there are shops, pubs, cafes, churches, Bigod Castle, the Borough Well and other sites of historical interest. Return to your start point.

Please support rambling and the countryside. Join the Ramblers at http://www.ramblers.org.uk/
Disclaimers and Copyrights © 2020 Waveney and District Ramblers Group http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
Sketch maps, not to scale Crown Copyright http://waveneyramblers.org.uk/
OpenStreetMap https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/ https://www.openstreetmap.org/
Corrections Please mail nbauers@btinternet.com or Facebook/Twitter @WaveneyRamblers