Waveney Ramblers Halesworth 3 Cratfield and Linstead Magna

Track: **TM 31359 74847** **GPX for SatNav** 7 Miles Updated:

Park in the lay-by at St Mary's Church, Cratfield. Walk down the road and take footpath on right through a metal gate. Go ahead through two fields of pasture, keeping close to the hedge on the right. Pass through a metal gate and turn left along a field-edge path (hedge left). When you reach the second signed footpath on your left, go over a footbridge into a thicket. After about 80 yards reach a metal gate and a road. Turn left and then right along Tongs Lane, which soon becomes a fine, enclosed green lane, part of an old Roman road.

Follow this track for about a mile to reach Silverley's Green. At the road turn left. After 100 yards take the path on the right at the side of double wooden gates. Keep to the left through some scrubland and emerge into an arable field. Cross this diagonally left to reach a hedge. Go over the footbridge and out onto Chippenhall Green. Bear left (pond left, road right) and cross the green. Pass Elm Lodge (right) and join the readjust before a cattle grid. Cross this and continue on road to T-junction.

Turn right along Swan Green, pass Grove Farm and a bungalow on your left. Take the path (Jones' Lane) at the side of the bungalow. After about 300 yards, where the wide track ends, bear right between hedgeÂ-rows. When the hedge ends, take the path ahead on the left-hand side of the field. After about 60 yards keep ahead and follow the path of a curving field (ditch right). Keep on this to reach Tong's Lane and your outward route and return to the T-junction.

Turn left along a winding lane, pass the village hall (right) and turn left at the T-junction in Cratfield. Just past Holly Tree Farm Barns (left), take the signed path on your right. Cross stile and keep ahead (hedge right) through a small meadow. You are now in the first field of seven that you will pass through at Linstead Farm. This is a traditional farm, full of small fields that give us a good idea of what field patterns would have been like in Suffolk, before the days of widespread hedge removal.

Keep ahead through all the fields, some arable, some pasture, on the well-signed and well-maintained paths. You might well see barn owls in a field left to rough grass. At the end of the seventh field cross a footbridge and emerge into a large arable field, a stark contrast to what you have just passed through at Linstead Farm.
Keep ahead, pass to the right of a large pond and head in a northerly direction with no obvious signposting. Using Magna Farm to your right as a guide, cross a wide grassy track and aim for a telegraph pole ahead. Keep ahead and soon after passing the farm buildings way over to your right, turn right and head towards the farm. You will probably have to use tramlines here if the field is cropped.

As you near farm buildings, bear right to reach the farm drive. Turn right and follow this then turn left at a T-junction of tracks. Take the field-edge path on the right (pond left). After about 100 yards turn right across an arable field. Here you should notice a slight mound at the edge of the field. This is all that remains of St Peter's Church at Linstead Magna, a ruin in the 1920s. If you look closely you will see flint and brick remains, still there after decades of ploughing over the site.

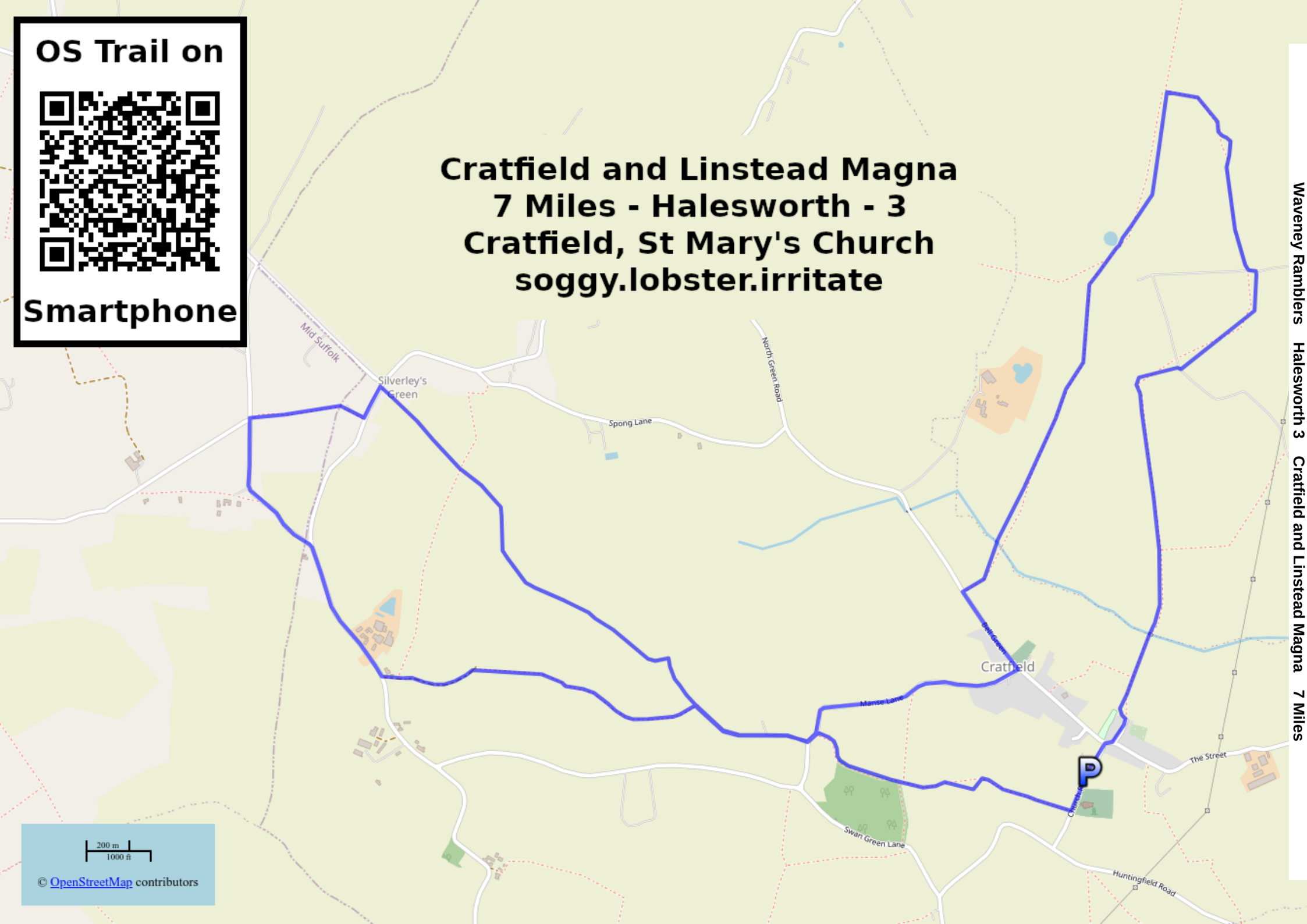
Keep ahead, cross over a farm drive onto a grassy track, with the hedge on your left. When the hedge ends turn left along a wide, grassy track, with hedge on your left. At the end of the third field you reach a cross-road of paths. Keep ahead, taking the path to the left of the hedge. Ahead of you, up the hill, is Cratfield. Cross the bridge in the field corner and keep ahead on the field-edge path (ditch right). At a bungalow, bear left then right along a track between houses to reach the road. Turn right then immediately left into Church Road and back to the start.

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OS Trail on

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Cratfield and Linstead Magna
7 Miles - Halesworth - 3
Cratfield, St Mary's Church
soggy.lobster.irritate



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