Waveney Ramblers Halesworth 12 Wenhaston and Mells

OS Map: X 231 Track: **TM 42576 75446 GPX for SatNav** 5.5 Miles Updated:

Park at Wenhaston village hall or in the road nearby. Leave the car park by a small wooden gate into The Street. Cross road into Church Lane and pass St Peter's Church. Visit the church to see its famous Doom painting of Judgement Day. The 16th-century painting is full of fascinating detail and mostly at eye level.

At the end of the lane take the path ahead between hedge and fence. When the paddock ends bear right along a field-edge path (hedge right) then, when the path forks, turn right and pass a cottage to reach a lane. Cross over onto a good field-edge path and continue for half-a-mile to a lane. Cross and continue your direction for quarter-of-a-mile along a field edge. When the path ends, turn right into a meadow and keep left along this and cross stile in left-hand corner (pond left). Go diagonally right across the next meadow, aiming for a clump of trees. Pass to the right of these into another meadow and keep ahead with hedge on right. Go through a large metal gate, pass a path (off right) and follow the hedge around the field edge to reach an awkward stile in the comer near a copse.

Cross stile and keep ahead through wood and go over footbridge into a large field.' Turn right along the field edge (good views of Holton windmill and church in the distance to your right).

When you meet a cross-hedge, turn right over sleeper bridge and take the field-edge path (hedge left) towards a caravan site. Go through a wicket-gate and keep ahead to pass at the left-hand side of the first caravan. Continue to a track, cross and go over a concrete footbridge. Clamber up a slope, through a wooden gate and onto the edge of a golf course.

Keep ahead along the left-hand side of the course (hedge left) and follow the path to reach a lane. Turn left and immediately right along a lane signed Holton. Pass St Margaret's chapel ruins (Mells) on your right, amongst farm building, and go downhill passing lyy House (left). Cross the bridge over the river Blyth and take the footpath on the right. Pass Holton River Gauging Station and cross stile into meadow.

For the next 1.5 miles you walk through a series of meadows, crossing several stiles, all the time keeping to the right-hand boundary fence that follows the river for much of its course. At the end of this section you reach Blyford Bridge and a road.

Climb the stile here, turn left and pick up the riverside path again, on the opposite side of the bridge. Continue through meadows and go through a kissing gate. Continue along the river bank amidst reeds. Cross a metal/concrete bridge on your right over the river. Go through a metal gate into a meadow. This field can often be boggy. Keep ahead and cross a gated bridge into another meadow. With reeds on your left, continue in the same direction and cross a footbridge into a third meadow. Keep ahead and, before the end of the field, turn left into a narrow meadow. Go diagonally right across this to a large metal gate and small one.

Go through the large gate onto a track, pass a pair of cottages and Low Farm on your right and keep on the track until you reach some modern houses at Blower's Common. Turn right along the road, pass St Michael's Way (left) and return to your starting point with the church ahead of you.

This walk may be linked to walk number 1.

