Waveney Ramblers Lowestoft 8 Mutford Hulver Rushmere

Track: **TM 48839 88238** **GPX for SatNav** 6 Miles Updated: 2018

N.B. The route, in its present state, may be unsuitable without good map reading ability and physical agility.

Start from the footpath 30 to 40m east of Mutford Village Hall. Continue forward bearing slightly right at a fork by the end of Holly Lane on the left, to reach open fields. Go straight ahead, first with a low hedge on the right, and then along a headland path. Cross over a farm track and continue until you reach a farm gate with Rushmere Hall clearly visible straight ahead. Go through the gate and turn right immediately along another track (note this is where you rejoin the route on the way back).

Follow the new track through 2 fields, keeping close to the hedge on the right until you come to a small wood. Take the path through the offset gap in the fence and follow it along the right edge of the wood and then down through hedges on either side to reach a field gate. Go through and follow the bushes and trees at the field edge round to the right, and past a cottage on the other side of the hedge, to enter the old bullock yard at Mutford Hall. Exit the yard at the opposite corner and follow the wide track past the hall, a fine old house, originally built in the late 15th century.

Continue on up the now metalled track round sharp bends to right and then left. Some 140m on from the latter, turn 90Â° left along the signposted path across a large open field; if the direction is unclear, aim for the prominent isolated tree at the far side. On reaching the tree cross the stile nearby, at the right-angled bend in the field boundary. Continue in the same direction along the right hand edge of the field, turning left at the corner. After 50m or so take the grassy track on the right running between hedges. Then, after another 150m, go left down another track between a hedge on the left and a shallow ditch on the right to a field entrance where you turn left alongside the hedge. After no more than 50m pass a dyke on your right and then turn right, to follow it to a footbridge over the Hundred River some 200m away.

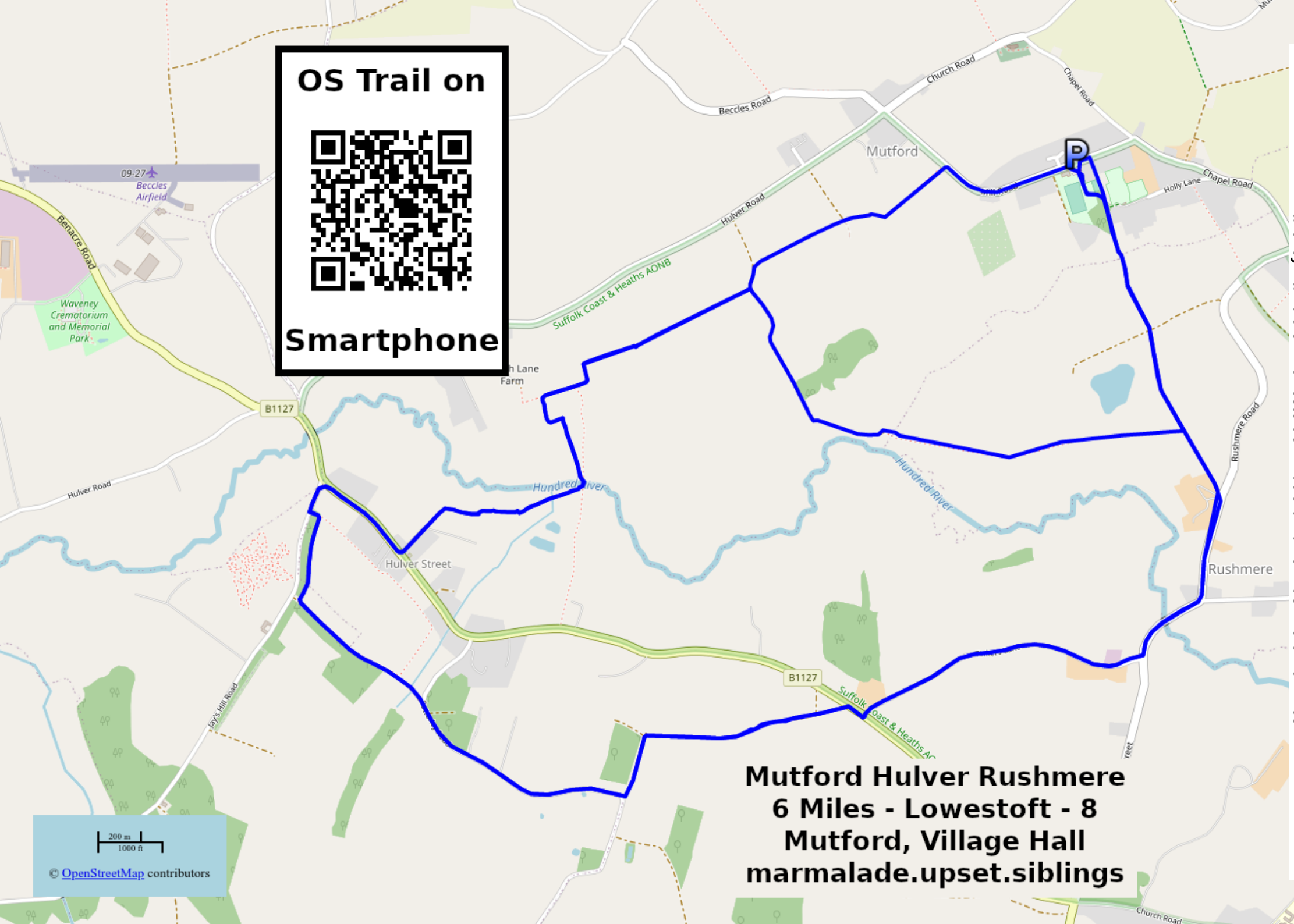
Cross the bridge and turn right, aiming for a prominent oak tree. Go over the footbridge nearby and walk straight across the meadow to the gateway in the left hand corner. Go through, keeping the hedge on your left, until you come to a stile on the left. Turn right after crossing it and follow the hedge to a track, then turn left past the houses to the road.

Turn right down the road and after some 300m turn left onto the minor road signposted to Stoven. Walk uphill for about 350m, looking out for a wide track to the left. The track entrance is flanked by fir trees and there is a sign post, a little way in, with details of permissive paths round a neighbouring field. Take the wide track to the right of the field and continue on to a road. Carry on in the same direction, passing a wood on your left until you come to a right angled bend in the road. Leave the road here by turning left onto the bridleway and follow it to the end of the field. At this point go right down the hedged path between adjacent fields. After a while the path broadens into a track with open fields to the right. Where the track turns sharply left continue straight ahead along a wire fence to the roadside stile opposite Low Pasture Farm. Take care crossing this stile as it drops abruptly onto a busy fast-moving road with a partially hidden bend to the right. Cross over and take Tinkers Lane on the left immediately after passing the farm.

Follow the lane down past the Grange to a T-junction at another fairly busy road. Turn left, re-cross the Hundred River, and left again at the sign for North Lowestoft and Oulton Broad. After about 300m turn left into the entrance to Rushmere Hall (a well-preserved building dated from the late 16th century) and, a few paces on, bypass the hall by the track to the right. Carry on up the hill until you reach the gateway where the outward route diverges and then retrace your steps back to the start.

The map shows an alternative 5.2 mile route, starting out west along Mill Road instead of south on the footpath.

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