2. THE WOOLPATCH WALK

INDEX TO POINTS OF INTEREST (POI)

POI 1 A crinkle-crankle wall, also known as a crinkum-crankum, serpentine, ribbon or wavy wall, is an unusual type of garden wall. The crinkle-crankle wall economises on bricks, despite its sinuous configuration, because it can be made just one brick thin. If a wall this thin were to be made in a straight line, without buttresses, it would easily topple over. The alternate convex and concave curves in the wall provide stability and help it to resist lateral forces. Suffolk has more of these types of walls than anywhere else in England.

POI 2 Long Melford Cricket Club was originally founded in 1855 and reformed in 1954.

POI 3 Long Melford Football Club was first recorded in 1868 when they won a match against Ipswich Rangers 5–1 on the Church Green. Their most famous player, William Cobbold, played for the club in their early years, and was later capped for England.

POI 4 Lyston Mill is a Grade II listed building. The current building dates from around 1794, but there has been a mill on this site for centuries, originally owned by the Abbot of St Edmundsbury.

POI 5 Site of Roman Villa. In 1958, the remains of a Roman floor of black and white tesserae and tile were found here.

COUNTRY CODE

- Take a map, follow the signs, be safe and take water.
- Leave no trace. Take your litter home.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Respect livestock, keep dogs on leads.
- Always keep dogs under close control and clean up after them.
- Be considerate to other people (smiles are free).
- Be visible. When walking on a road, single file.

SPONSORED BY

The Woolpatch
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The Woolpatch, a shop that sells yarn, fabric and haberdashery items. They run weekly Classes and Workshops and you'll be able to see what's going on and sign up for any of these on their website. Most importantly, it's all about having a go.

The Woolpatch
Hall Street
Long Melford
Suffolk CO10 9JR
thewoolpatch.com

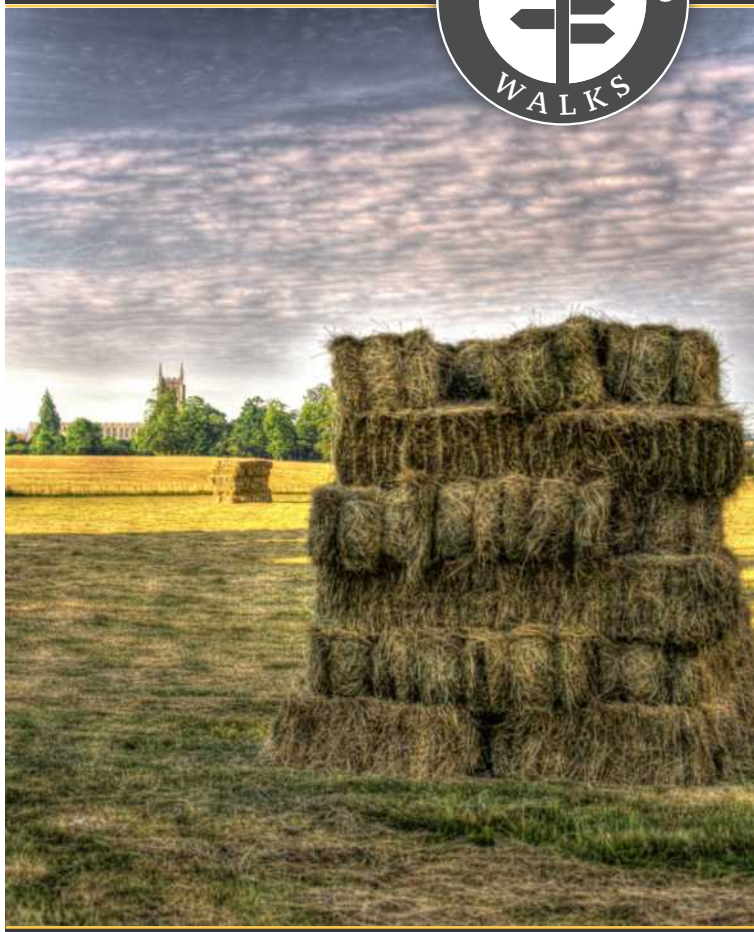
These circular routes have been designed and created by village residents for your enjoyment. Produced by the Long Melford Parish Council/ Neighbourhood Plan Committee, with the aid of a Locality Budget donation from Suffolk County Council, local sponsorship and fundraising.

Leaflet designed and printed by Indigo Ross
Front cover photography credit: Steve Thomson
Wildlife illustrations credit: Freepik.com

Originally printed 2020, revised 2024.

2. THE WOOLPATCH WALK

LONG MELFORD WALKS



DISTANCE 1.5 MILES (shorter accessible path 0.5 miles)
APPROX TIME 30-45 MINUTES
DIFFICULTY EASY
START POINT THE WOOLPATCH, Hall Street (TL 862 455)

2. THE WOOLPATCH WALK

Facing The Woolpatch, turn right along Hall Street, passing the Cock & Bell public house. Turn left into Cock & Bell Lane. As you walk down the lane, you will pass a crinkle-crankle wall on your right (POI 1).

At the end of the lane, turn left past the allotments on the right. As you approach the railings, stop a while to look across Chad Brook on your right, where you may spot a kingfisher or even an otter.

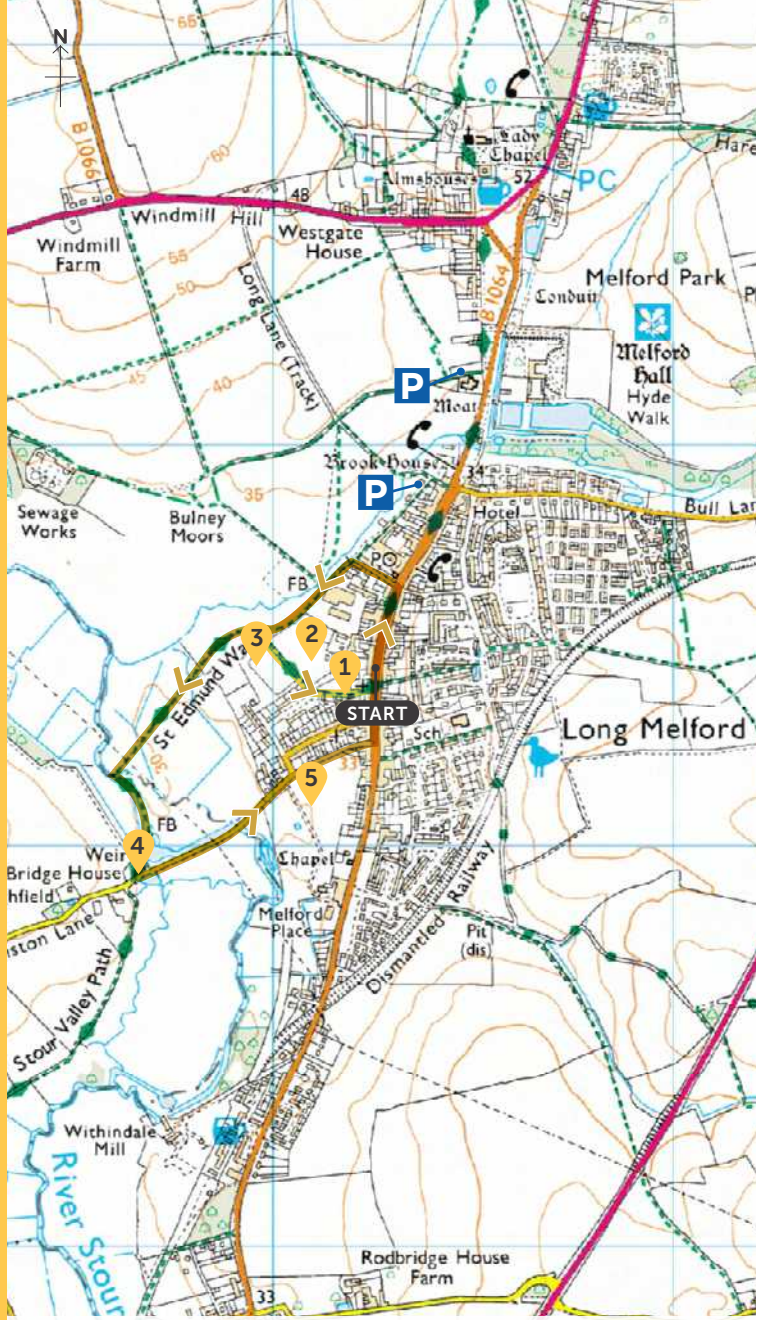
Pass though the gap in the railings and walk along the footpath, keeping the new houses to your left. Along the footpath to your left you pass Long Melford Cricket Ground (POI 2).

{Option here, where the path divides, for a shorter walk of less than 1 mile: take the left branch and where the path forms a T-junction turn left to pass through the cricket ground. As you leave the cricket ground walk straight ahead through the fence-lined alleyway. You pass another crinkle-crankle wall bordering the old United Reformed Church building on your left. Turn left at the end of the path into Hall Street and return to the starting point.}

To continue on the longer walk, take the right branch onto the Stour Valley Path/St Edmund Way, noting Long Melford Football Club (POI 3) on your left. Continue along the path and before passing through the old iron kissing gate, turn back to view the Holy Trinity Church tower.

Here, if undergrowth allows, 50 yards off to your right you may see the old railway bridge crossing the River Stour where the line made its way to Glemsford.

Returning to the kissing gate, pass through it and notice to your left the concrete remains of an old plate layer's hut from the time when the railway line was here. *Be aware there is a sign on the fence, 'Bull in Field'. Cattle once grazed on this meadow.*



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For further exploration of the local area, please use © Ordnance Survey map Explorer 196.

From the kissing gate, continue straight ahead along the footpath across two fields towards the power lines in the distance above the tree line. You pass under the power lines with a wooden pylon to your left. The path bears right and you arrive at a waymarker beside the river. Here you can admire the views. Turn left and carefully cross a low concrete barrier and follow the path beside the river leading to Liston Mill Two Weirs. Cross both bridges above the weirs [Note: The path is very narrow and comes close to the river bank.] After the second weir you arrive briefly in Essex. Pass through a kissing gate onto Liston Lane, designated a Quiet Lane. On your right you will see Lyston Mill (now a private residence) (POI 4).

Turn left onto Liston Lane, following the right-hand bank of the river (home to many a gliding swan; you may even be lucky enough to see a nesting pair in the reeds). You will shortly cross the Liston Bridge back into Suffolk. Note the raised walkway on the right in case the road is flooded. Heading down Liston Lane you will pass over the old railway crossing. The house immediately to your left was the crossing keeper's cottage.

Where the road bears left continue straight along Liston Lane. Notice the undulations in the field on your right. This is the site of the remains of a Roman villa (POI 5). To your left you will see the roofline and bell tower of St Catherine's Church and pass St Catherine's Hall, site of the old church school. At the end of Liston Lane, turn left onto Hall Street and make your way back to the starting point, observing the many historical buildings along the way.