

Introduction

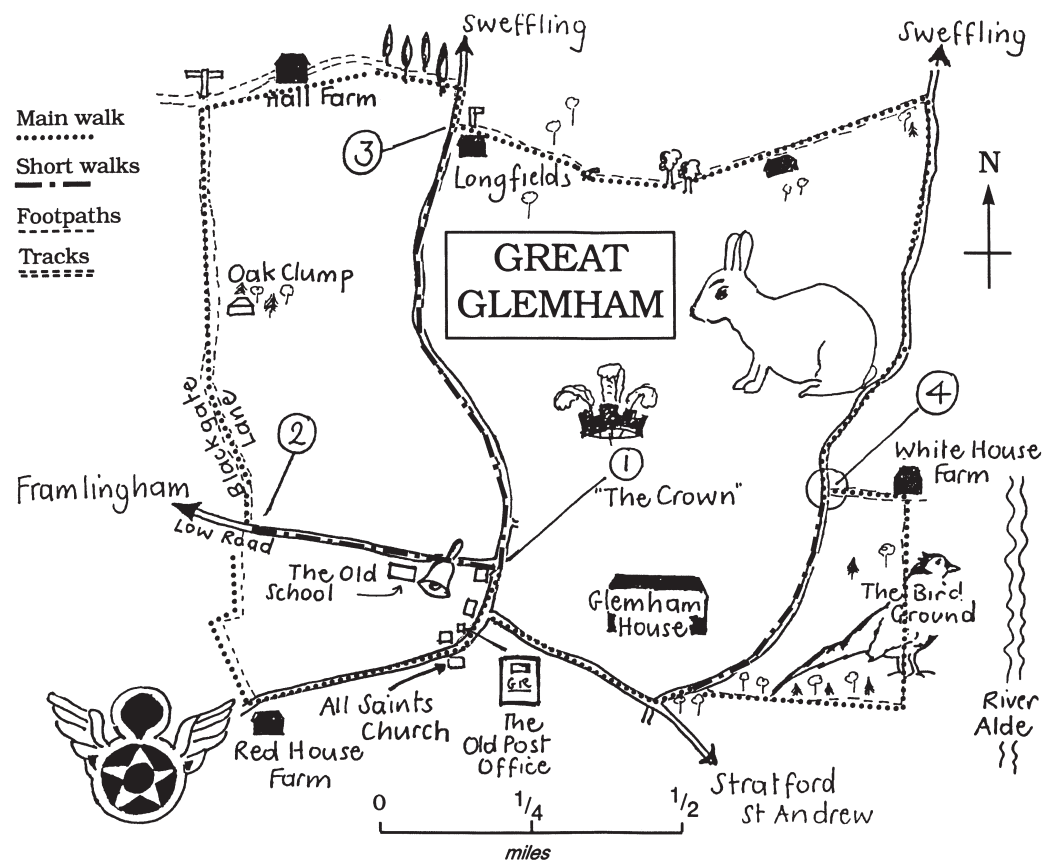
In living memory the village and parish of Great Glemham has undergone considerable change. Many incomers have come from beyond Suffolk to make their homes here. Farm buildings, barns, stables and cottages have been renovated converted and extended and some new homes have been built. Whilst it no longer has its own shops or school, Great Glemham is a thriving community and the countryside remains unspoiled. The tracks and hedgerows are a haven for plants as well as many birds, mammals and insects. Finches are common and barn owls are frequently seen. Cowslips are abundant by the sides of the tracks. We hope you will enjoy your walk.

The Walk

Leaving **(1)** The Crown, the welcoming village pub, walk up the village street. In this conservation area you can see a listed telephone box, a letter box marking the old village stores and Post Office, and the Old Forge Cottages lie in the shadow of the tower of All Saints Church, with its one handed clock a reminder of days when hours, not minutes, marked the passage of time.

Carry on along the road, past the Old Bullock Sheds, to reach Red House Farm on your left. (Continue on this road to reach the 390th Bomb Group Memorial Air Museum on Parham Airfield.) Take the signposted footpath opposite Red House Farm, it follows the edge of the fields down to Low Road. Turn right along Low Road. **(2)** From here it is a short walk past the old village school to The Crown.

To extend the walk, pick up the footpath signposted to the left, it soon becomes a wider track with high mixed hedgerows on either



side. You are following the course of Blackgate Lane. Pass a pond and barn at Oak Clump, reach a footpath sign, and turn right to Hall Farm. Go through the farmyard, past the pond and down the farm drive. The poplars here were planted for the matchstick trade. On reaching the road turn right towards the village. From here it is a short walk downhill to The Crown.

To continue with the longer walk take the signposted footpath to the left immediately before Longfields. **(3)** This path takes you to a narrow footbridge, marking the boundary between Great Glemham and Sweffling. Cross the bridge with a pond on your left. Turning right, walk a few yards to the edge of the copse, walk across the field to the oak trees. To your left the towers of Sweffling and Rendham churches

can be seen. From the oaks follow the cart track downhill, past a barn on your right, to meet the road. Turn right along the road towards White House Farm **(4)** and Great Glemham.

To continue with the full walk turn left down the farm drive follow the footpath to the right past the great oak. Here you pass plantings of young trees which are vulnerable to deer as well as rabbits and hares. You are crossing the Bird Ground, a productive market garden when cultivated by the Land Army in the second World War. Soon the track bears right, to the left is the River Alde with its wild irises. The track meets the road opposite the lodge to Glemham House. Turn left and follow the road.

The wall enclosing the grounds of Glemham House is on your right. At the cross roads turn right, again following the brick boundary wall. The flint frontage and black tiled roof of Stone Cottage can be seen at the end of the road. On reaching Stone Cottage turn right to find The Crown.

Follow the Country Code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Fasten all gates
- Keep your dogs under close control
- Keep to public paths across farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Help to keep all water clean
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise