



PIGNEYS WOOD

Pigneys Wood is a community woodland with local ownership and involvement. The Wood is open to the public at all times. It is situated along the Paston Way, in the Parish of Knapton and is approximately 2½ kilometres (1½ miles) north east of the market town of North Walsham. The whole site extends to 23.5 hectares which comprises of 1.7 hectares of mature mixed woodland, 7.8 hectares of new woodland, 8.5 hectares of open ground and 5.5 hectares of low lying wet grassland.

The site was sold to the North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust by a local farmer who found the land unsuitable for arable and he no longer kept animals to use it for grazing. That farmer's son is now a trustee and approximately 8 hectares of the wood is leased to him which is put to set aside in return for which he cuts the grass. This arrangement is mutually beneficial to both parties and provides financial stability to the site.

Over the past 10 years more than 20,000 trees of 40 different species have been planted. This work has been carried out by volunteers, and some trees are now over 9m (30 feet) tall. Other features of the site include a renovated barn, information boards, bird hide, reed beds, a scrape to attract wading birds, newly planted oaks to commemorate the Battle of Trafalgar, and the North Walsham and Dilham canal. An easy access path has been created from the car park on Hall Lane to a viewpoint over the whole site. A native hedge of over 1300 plants has been situated alongside this path, together with information boards on wild flowers, butterflies, trees and birds.

Visit www.pigneys-wood.co.uk for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Travel to North Walsham

The town is served by several bus routes, notably the 5 from Norwich to Cromer, and One Railway's Bittern Line from Norwich to Sheringham. For routes and timetables phone Traveline 0870 6082608 or visit www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk.

If arriving by car, leave the bypass, going in the direction of the town centre, at the Cromer Road A149 junction. Turn left at the next traffic lights then take first right, keep to the right and cross over to car park. This route is shown on the map.

Places to Eat

On the route of the walk you can visit the Cockerel Tearooms, opposite the car park at the beginning and the Orchard Gardens pub on the way out of town. Opposite the entrance to Sainsbury's is the The Three Cottages Fish Restaurant and takeaway. There are a number of other places in and around the Market Place including coffee shops, pubs, restaurants and take aways.

Toilets

The nearest public toilets are situated near the tower end of the church, just off the Market Place. During opening hours you may also use the toilets in Sainsbury's.

Tourism Information

The Area Partnership office is situated at the start of this walk and can be contacted on 01629 407509 or visit www.griffon.org.uk.

Other Local Walks

Guides to other walks are available in the Area Partnership office including the Paston Way, a 32 kilometres (20 mile) journey from North Walsham to Cromer via 15 churches and 15 villages and towns, and the Weavers Way, a 98 kilometres (61 mile) path between Cromer and Great Yarmouth visiting Aylsham, North Walsham, Stalham and Acle.

THE GRIFFON AREA PARTNERSHIP
For North Walsham and the twenty-five surrounding parishes



PRODUCED BY

The Griffon Area Partnership, 32 Vicarage Street,
North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 9DQ
For North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust

Design: LizDixonGraphicDesign.com

THE GRIFFON WALKS
Circular walks from North Walsham
Series 1



WALK ONE: PIGNEYS WOOD

A circular walk of 5½ kilometres (3½ miles) from North Walsham to Pigneys Wood community woodland



Norfolk
Time to explore
www.visitnorfolk.co.uk

THE WALK

- 1** Start from outside the Area Partnership office on Vicarage Street, opposite the pay & display car park adjacent to Sainsbury's car park. The first part of the walk shares the route of the Paston Way. Cross over the pedestrian crossing to the car park, turn left and walk down the hill. At the T junction you will see a sign for Pigney's Wood, turn right on to Mundesley Road. Walk along this road passing Sainsbury's on your right. Continue all the way to the end of the road and turn right at Paston Way sign.
- 2** Almost immediately turn left and descend the steps on to the old track bed of the Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Railway Company line.

The line began as a branch to Mundesley in June 1898 built by the Midland and Great Northern Railway. Later the same year the M&GN and the Great Eastern Railway, anxious to avoid wasteful competition in opening up the Norfolk coast, formed the Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Committee to continue the branch to Cromer which finally opened in August 1906. A number of the very wealthy were encouraged to buy estates near the line and reputedly some of the richest people in the world made use of it, but all this came to nothing. By winter 1923 services had been reduced to six



- 3** Follow the Paston Way to the right, cross the railway line and follow the path through the trees. Turn right onto the road and follow the road to the right, then turn right again onto the road.

5

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KEY

P	Parking
T	Toilets
F	Food
R	Railway Station
—	Route on road
—	Route on path



In 1825 work began on a canal between Antingham and Dilham which would connect the area with the port of Great Yarmouth. By June 14th 1836 the first laden wherry reached Antingham Bone Mills. Without railway competition until 1874, the canal was moderately successful but poor water flow allowed the use of no more than six small, 12 ton wherries. By 1890 a decline had set in as customers moved towards the railways and by 1935 the last wherry

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