

Keyham

This leaflet is one of a series produced to promote circular walking throughout the county. You can obtain others in the series by visiting your local library or Tourist Information Centre. You can also order them by phone or from our website.



Keyham

2 circular walks

- 1 8½kms/2½ miles
- 2 4¾kms/3 miles



It is advisable to wear suitable footwear when walking.

Stout shoes or walking boots are recommended.

Some stretches of the route follow minor country roads. Beware of traffic approaching from both directions. If possible stay on the verge, if not walk in single file on the right hand side of the road.

Enjoy the walks, whilst observing the Countryside Code.

contact details:

Access Officer, Community Services Department, County Hall.

Telephone: 0116 305 8160 Fax: 0116 305 7965

Minicom: 0116 305 7334

email: footpaths@leics.gov.uk Website: www.leics.gov.uk/paths

The information in this leaflet is available in other formats on request.

Mention of Keyham can be found as early as the 11th century. The village is particularly attractive and has a vibrant community spirit based around the All Saints Church, the Village Hall and the Dog and Gun public house. Keyham has around 120 inhabitants and the village has changed little since 1900.

P *Park carefully in one of the narrow village lanes. Alternatively at the Village Hall or the Dog and Gun public house with permission of the landlord.*

Walk 1: 8½km (5¼ miles), allow 2½ hours, mixture of arable and pasture land

Walk down Snow's Lane, notice the Dog and Gun public house to the left. When the lane turns sharply to the left, cross the stile ahead and go down the field to a footbridge, ignoring the footpath to the right.

A After the footbridge, walk uphill with the hedge on the right to reach a stile in the hedge. Go over the stile and the footbridge and continue climbing with the hedge now on your left.

The path becomes a wide grass track and soon reaches Covert Lane where you should turn right.

B After about 50 metre take the bridleway on the left (*not the footpath that leads to Bushby, and links with Walk Two of the Thurnby and Bushby Parish Walk*).

The bridleway takes you through a spinney before going diagonally right across a field. Follow the path through the trees to reach an open field and walk down the right hand side.

C On reaching the end of the spinney turn right to see Leicester ahead, lying in a slight hollow. Go into the next field with the hedge on your left. After 160m turn left and cross back into the original field, following the line of a footpath, to reach the dismantled railway line.

The Great Northern Railway line was opened in 1882. It ran from a station in Belgrave, connecting Leicester to the eastern parts of England. It was very popular with Leicester holidaymakers travelling to Skegness and Maplethorpe, but ceased to operate in 1962.

D After crossing the railway cutting walk across the field towards the buildings of New Ingarsby Farm. Cross a stile and with the hedge on the left, walk to

the line of poplars following the waymark signs through gates and over stiles to pass in-front of the farm and eventually reach the A47.

E Turn left towards Houghton-on-the-Hill. After about 200 metres take the bridleway on the left to pass Redver's Farm. After the third gate, cross the large field beyond, walking to the first telegraph post and then turn right to meet a byway.

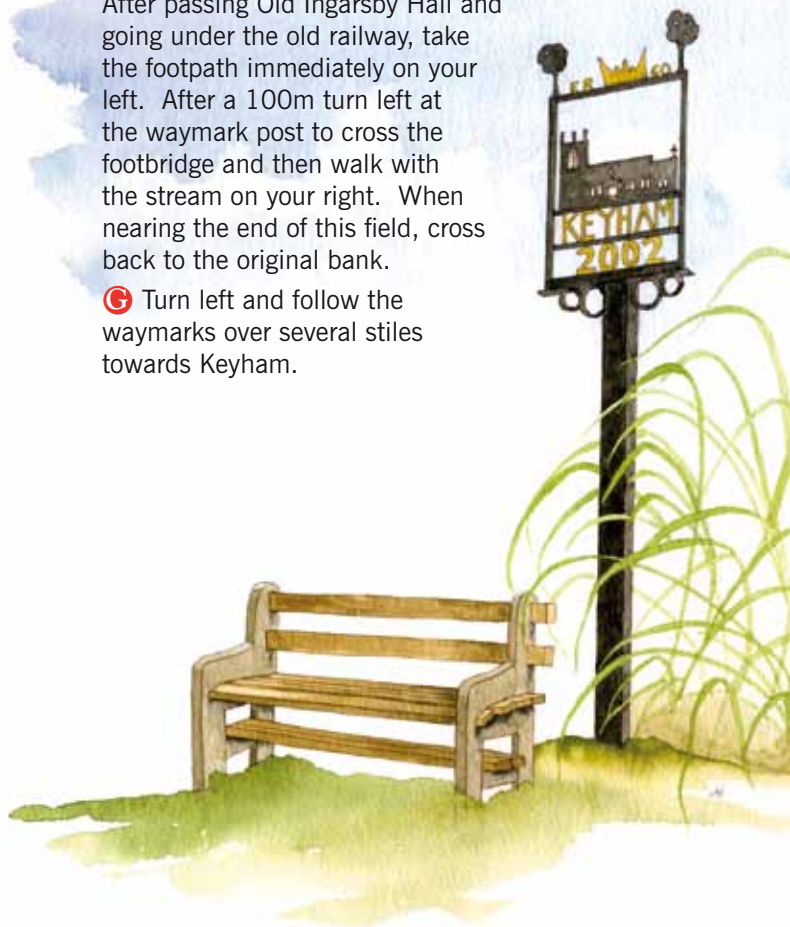
F Follow this rough track past the earth works of Monk's Grave on the left to a gate on the Houghton to Ingarsby lane.

Turn left to follow the road. *A short detour along the bridleway to the right will take you into the site of the deserted mediaeval village of Ingarsby with a plaque at the top with more information.*

The early parts of Old Ingarsby Hall were probably built in the late 15th or early 16th century.

After passing Old Ingarsby Hall and going under the old railway, take the footpath immediately on your left. After a 100m turn left at the waymark post to cross the footbridge and then walk with the stream on your right. When nearing the end of this field, cross back to the original bank.

G Turn left and follow the waymarks over several stiles towards Keyham.



On reaching stables on the left follow the signs diagonally uphill to the right through fences to a stile in the hedge at the top of the field.

H Aim for the middle telegraph pole to your left, to find a waymark post and stile. Follow the path behind the houses and out onto the road. Turn right to return to the start point.

Walk 2: **4³/₄km (3 miles), allow 1¹/₄ hours, more than half is along easy to follow tracks.**

Follow the directions for **Walk 1** until you reach Covert Lane at **Point B**. Turn left and follow the tarmac lane that eventually becomes a rough track.

- 1 Pass the footpath on the right, then just before the gate across the track, take the bridleway on the left.
- 2 In the second field aim for the far left corner, walk with the hedge on the left to another gate. Keeping the



hedge on the left, continue through the next two fields, crossing the dismantled railway line on the way.

- 3 Beyond the railway bridge follow the path with the hedge on your left. Then turn left at the gravel track.
- 4 After the track turns to the left follow it for a further 300 metres to the end of the field where it makes a right turn towards Keyham. This path leads through Keyham Kennels and Catery before emerging out onto Snow's Lane. Follow the lane back to the start point.

The routes are clearly marked with bold, yellow topped waymarker posts and waymarker discs with the Parish Walks symbol.



Walking - Be fit and well

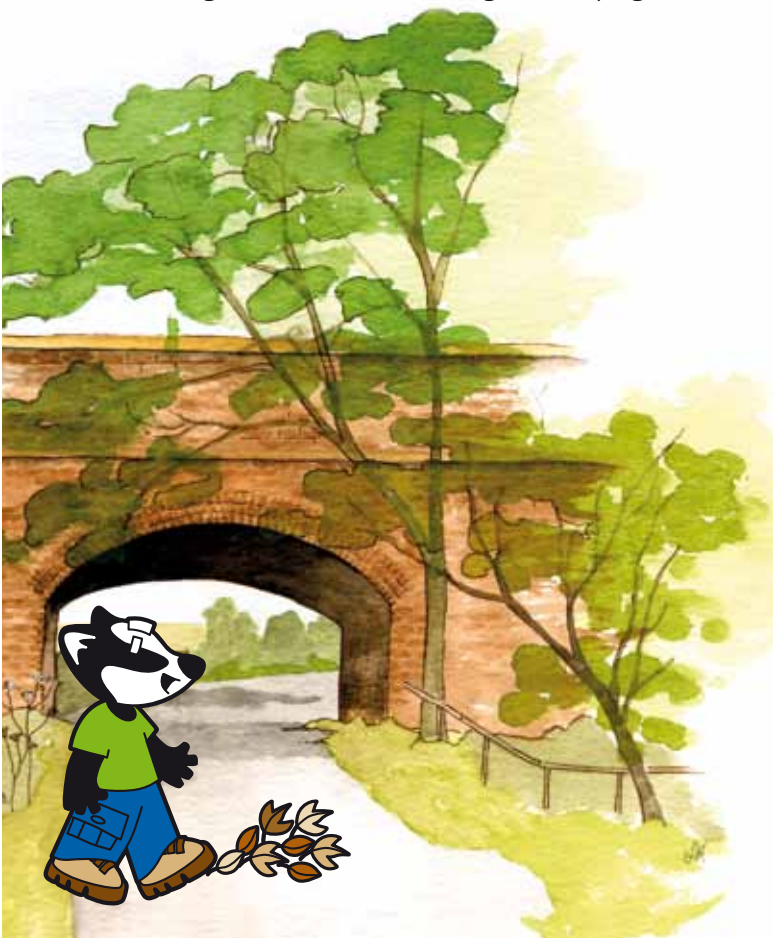
Walking is a form of exercise that is suitable and enjoyable for all ages. It's a free and fun way for families and friends to get fit together. Just 30 minutes of brisk walking on a daily basis can benefit your health and quality of life.

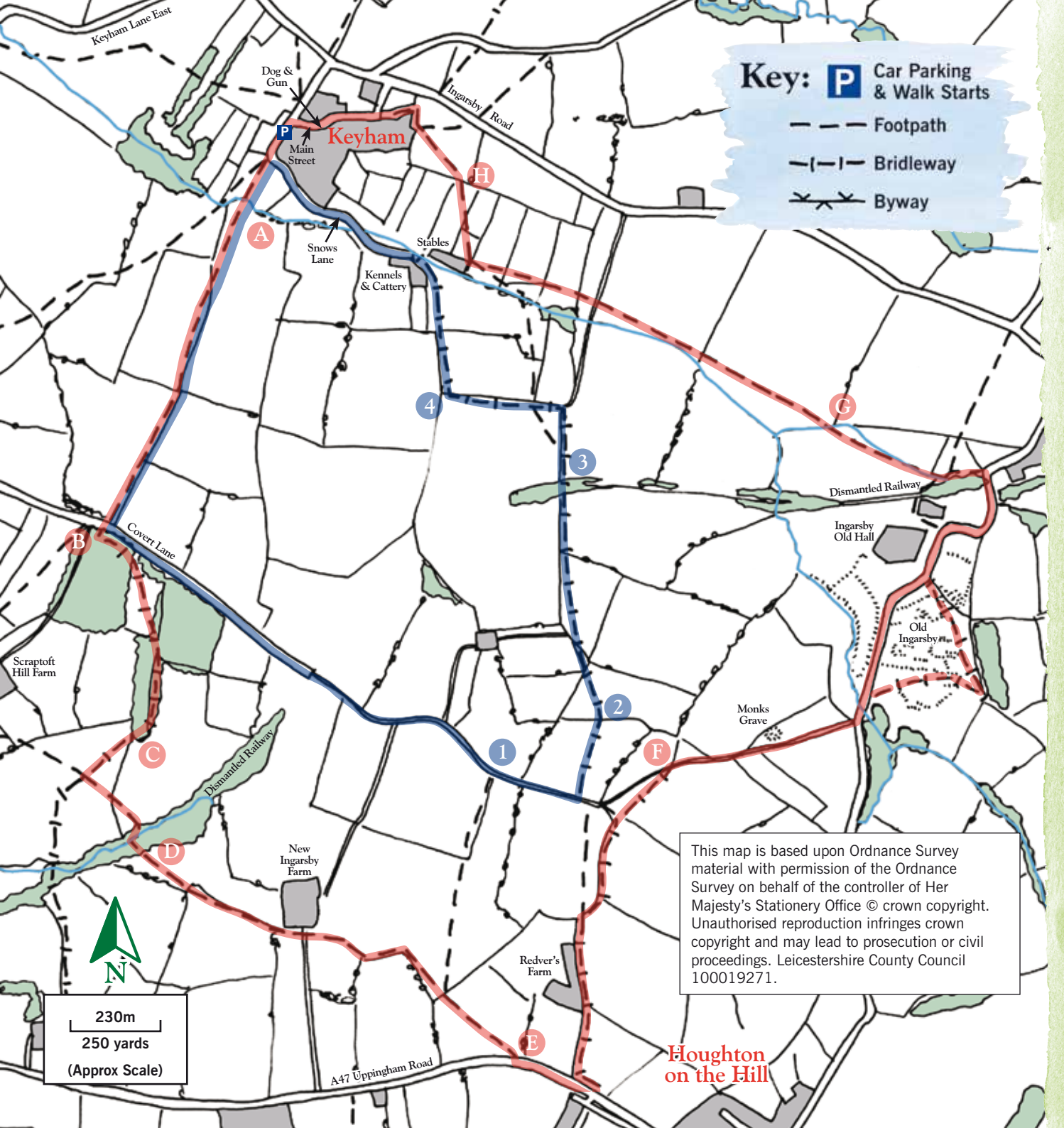
useful information:

Buses: Service 747 Leicester to Uppingham via Houghton on the Hill (Mon—Sat) Walk 1 can be started at **point E**.

By Car: From the A47 at Houghton on the Hill, turn off following signs for Hungarton. At the T-junction turn left, then take the first road on the left that will lead down into Keyham.

Refreshments: The Dog and Gun, Keyham. Rose and Crown, Houghton on the Hill





Key: **P** Car Parking & Walk Starts

--- Footpath

-|-| Bridleway

<-> Byway

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**Houghton
on the Hill**

230m

250 yards

(Approx Scale)

N

Dog & Gun

P

Main Street

Keyham

Ingarsby Road

H

A

Snows Lane

Stables

Kennels & Cattery

4

3

G

Dismantled Railway

Ingarsby Old Hall

Old Ingarsby

Monks Grave

2

F

Covert Lane

B

C

D

New Ingarsby Farm

1

Redver's Farm

E

A47 Uppingham Road

Scraptoft Hill Farm

