

Thurnby and Bushby

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.



Your Parish or Local Community Group may wish to produce a walking leaflet, please contact the Access Officer at County Hall for more information.

It is advisable to wear suitable footwear when walking. Stout shoes or walking boots are recommended.

Some stretches of the route follow minor road 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 265 3065

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.



Thurnby and Bushby

3 circular
walks

- 1 3kms/2 miles
- 2 4½kms/2¾ miles
- 3 7½kms/4¾ miles



Thurnby and Bushby are twin villages that were originally on the south side of the Uppingham turnpike (A47) but have now spread to both sides.

The boundary between the two villages passes through The Rose and Crown – the bar is said to be in Thurnby and the lounge in Bushby.

Parking: along Main Street near St. Luke's Church or further along in the Rose and Crown Public House car park (by permission of the landlord)

walk 1:

3km (2 miles), allow 1 hour, gently undulating across open countryside.

From the Rose and Crown public house car park, take the footpath to the left of the pub and walk downhill through the fields of ridge-and-furrow. Cross the brook, then ascend the hill ahead to eventually meet a farm track.

A Turn right, then at the road cross over to the bridleway opposite. Follow this towards the housing, and via a narrow path to Newhaven Road. Turn right and at the end, right again into Swinstead Road.

B Cross the stile at the end of the road and follow the path diagonally across the fields, then turn left at the road.

C Walk along the pavement into Thurnby village and back to the starting point.

walk 2: 4½ km (2¾ miles) allow 1½ hours, undulating countryside, some muddy bits.

Starting from St. Luke's Church, walk down Main Street, past St. Luke's CoE Primary School and take the jitty to the right of the school. This comes out at the A47 Uppingham Road, next to the Petrol Station.

1 Cross via the pedestrian crossing and turn right. Cross the entrance of Hereward Drive, past the Thurnby & Bushby United Reform Church and turn left down Dalby Ave.

2 As the road bends right, go straight ahead following the footpath fingerpost down an enclosed path. The path emerges into open fields.

Walk the left-hand boundary alongside the backs of the houses. Follow the waymarkers into the flood relief basin (don't go out to the road) cross to a footbridge and continue behind the housing.

3 The path turns left at the end of the housing, along the ditch, then right heading straight up the field, under the telegraph wire and to the field corner, to the road.

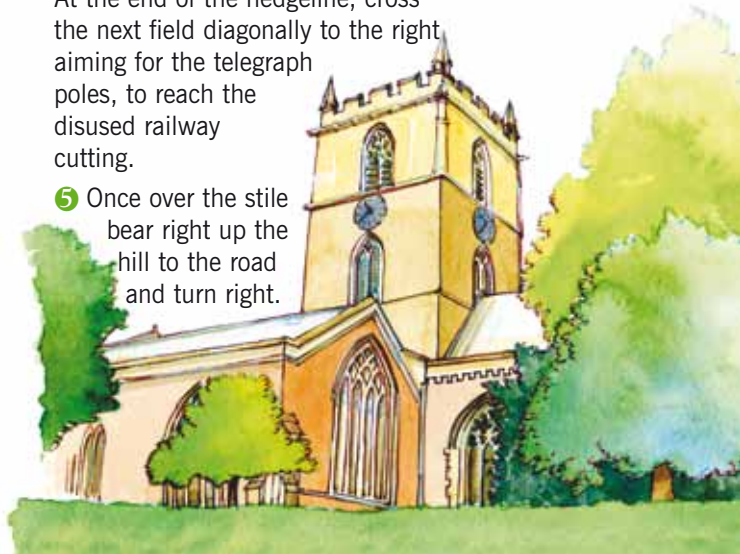
Now turn right and walk back down the field diagonally to the left, parallel with the left hand hedge to meet a brook at the bottom of the hill.

4 Cross the footbridge, bear left and walk up the hill with the hedge on your left.

Just before the farm turn right and continue with the hedge on the left.

At the end of the hedgeline, cross the next field diagonally to the right aiming for the telegraph poles, to reach the disused railway cutting.

5 Once over the stile bear right up the hill to the road and turn right.



Retrace your steps left along Dalby Avenue, right along the A47, cross the pedestrian crossing, and take the jitty next to the petrol station to return to the start point.

walk 3:

7½km (4¾miles), allow 2½ hours, undulating countryside, some steep bits and some parts are very muddy

From the Rose and Crown turn right onto Main Street and walk on the right hand side of the road into Bushby. As the road turns sharply to the left, walk into the cul-de-sac ahead, go past Bushby Lodge Farm on the right and onto a well-marked footpath to Houghton on the Hill.

i Follow the waymarkers across several fields before heading up hill to enter Houghton on the Hill.

Keep to the path between the houses and bear right following the cycleway to reach Stretton Lane. Turn right and walk out of the village along the lane. Very soon you reach a footpath on the right at the village sign. The wide grass path takes you gently downhill, then into open fields. Walk with the hedge on your right to reach and cross the stream, where the ground can be extremely muddy. *To the left there are interesting views of Leicester Airport, built during the Second World War, and mostly used by the United States Air Force. Britain's largest war time bomber, the Short Stirling flew from here during the war. It had a wing span of over*

99 feet! It is now a private airfield run by Leicester Aero Club.

In clear weather, Bradgate Park in Charnwood Forest can be seen directly ahead across the spread of Leicester lying in a slight hollow.

ii Climb up to the stile ahead and follow the waymarkers across fields to reach Houghton Lodge.



Follow the waymarkers to the right, then on reaching the metalled road turn right towards Stoughton

iii After about 400 metres turn right onto the bridle path across the middle of a large field and bear left around the edge of a spinney. Pass through a gap in the hedge and walk with the hedge on your left to join a farm track.

iv Just before the road turn right over a stile and onto the footpath to Thurnby. St. Luke's Church is clearly seen on the hill before you.

Follow the footpath downhill passing over a stile at the corner of the spinney and then cross a field of ridge and furrow to reach a footbridge in the far right hand corner of the field. *Ridge-and-furrow is a remnant of open field cultivation preserved by the enclosures of 1772.*

After crossing Bushby Brook, climb the field ahead to return to the Rose and Crown public house.

For another local walk try the Keyham and Ingarsby Parish Walks.

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



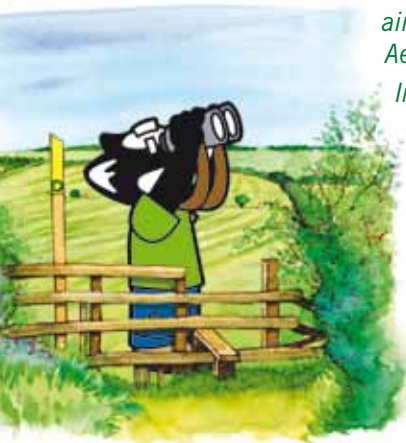
Walking - Be fit and well

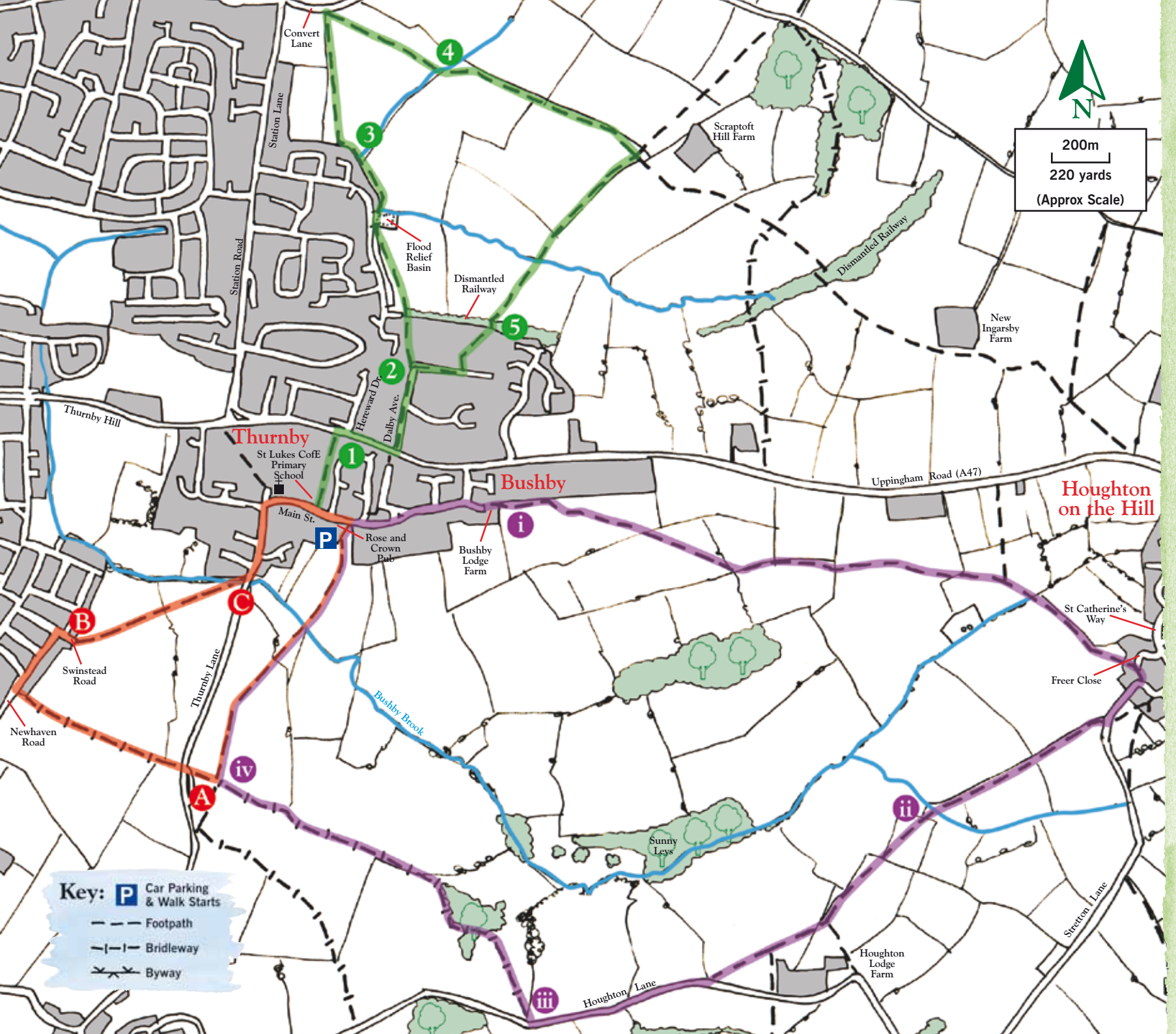
Walking is a form of exercise that is suitable and enjoyable for all ages. It's a free and fun way for families and friends to get fit together. Just 30 minutes of brisk walking on a daily basis can benefit your health and quality of life.

useful information:

Buses: Service 747 Leicester-Uppingham (Mon-Sat)

Refreshments: tearoom and public house in Thurnby





200m
220 yards
(Approx Scale)

Convert Lane

Station Lane

Station Road

Thurnby Hill

Thurnby

St Luke's CofE Primary School

Main St.

Hereward Dr.
Dalby Ave.

Dismantled Railway

Bushby

Rose and Crown Pub

Bushby Lodge Farm

Uppingham Road (A47)

Houghton on the Hill

St Catherine's Way

Freer Close

B

C

Thurnby Lane

Swinstead Road

Newhaven Road

A

iv

Bushby Brook

Sunny Leys

ii

Key: P Car Parking & Walk Starts

--- Footpath

-|-| Bridleway

~x~x~ Byway

Houghton Lane

Houghton Lodge Farm

Stretton Lane