



Muston

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.



2 circular walks

① 2kms/1.2 miles

② 6.5kms/4 miles



59

Continue along the track past a footpath going off to the left. Take the next footpath left, through Muston Meadows Nature Reserve, managed by English Nature. *This is one of the finest lowland meadows in England and known for its colony of over 10,000 green-winged orchids.* Bear right through the narrow field to the crossing in the field boundary. Then heading for the castle, carry straight on to meet the track once more.

① As the path meets the track again, turn left. After 80 metres turn right to cut across two fields. Turn left when you meet another track, then left again.

② Follow the towpath with Grantham canal on your right. Pass the brick arch of Longore Bridge (bridge No. 58) *In Spring, wildflowers thrive with swans and geese adding to the enchantment. See if you can spot the old white canal sign - 25¾ miles from the Trent.*

③ Just after Muston Bridge (bridge no. 59), follow the track away from the canal, then left to join the wooded route of a disused mineral railway line. *Iron ore was once mined from Belvoir escarpment and hauled along this track. Sustrans now maintain it as part of the national cycle network - route 15.*

④ Continue until you reach a small parking area and a track crossing. Leave the old railway line and follow the road back towards the village. On reaching the village Cross turn right down the slope and cross the River Devon. Bear left, slightly uphill to the churchyard, on reaching the lane turn right back to the Muston Gap PH.

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:

Bus Service 625 Grantham - Nottingham. If walking from Bottesford, more buses would be available. Please confirm with Traveline (0870 608 2 608) before you travel.

refreshments & toilets: Muston Gap PH

Special thanks go to the Bottesford Environmental/Conservation Volunteers (BECV) for the descriptions of the walks.

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 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.

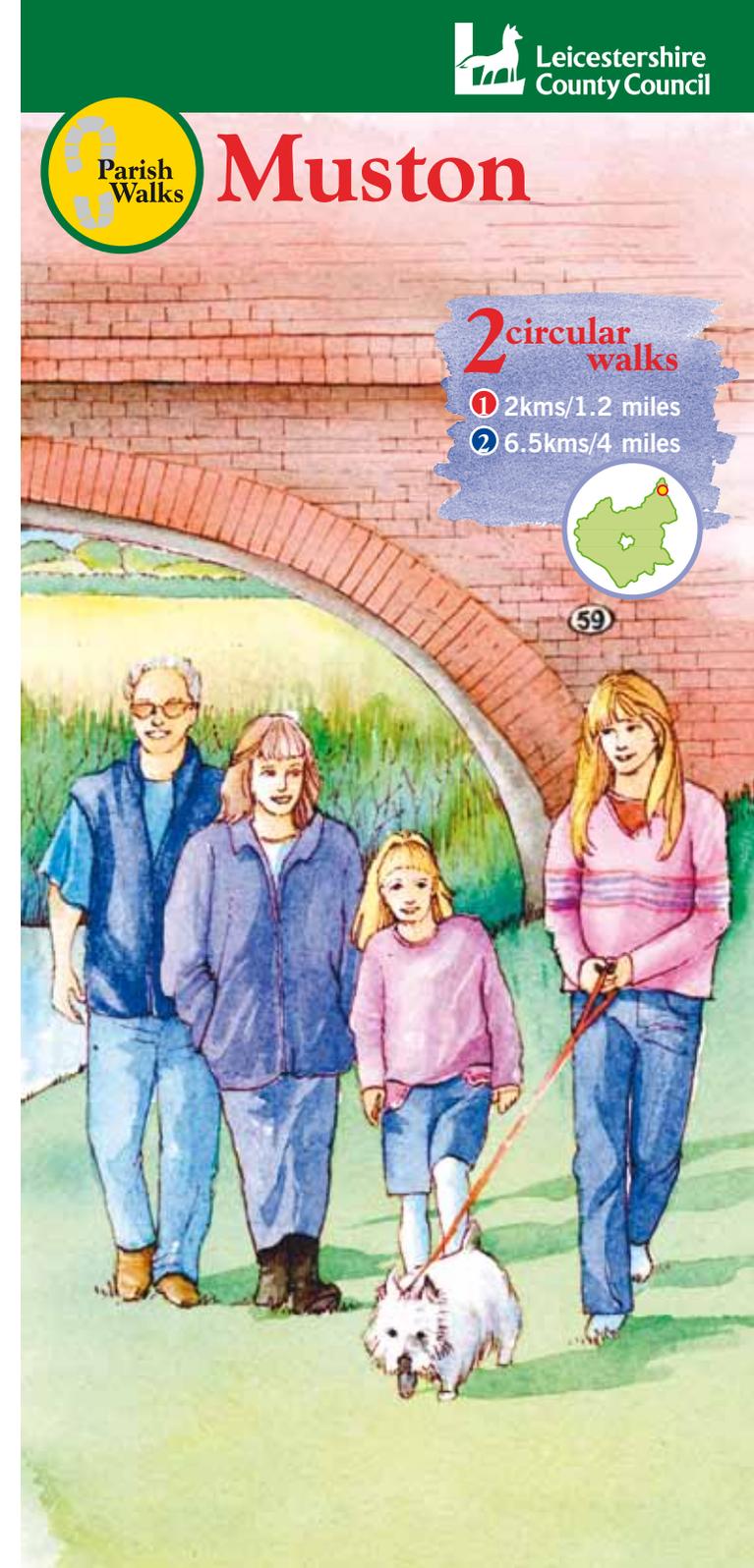
Telephone: 0116 305 8160 Fax: 0116 305 7965

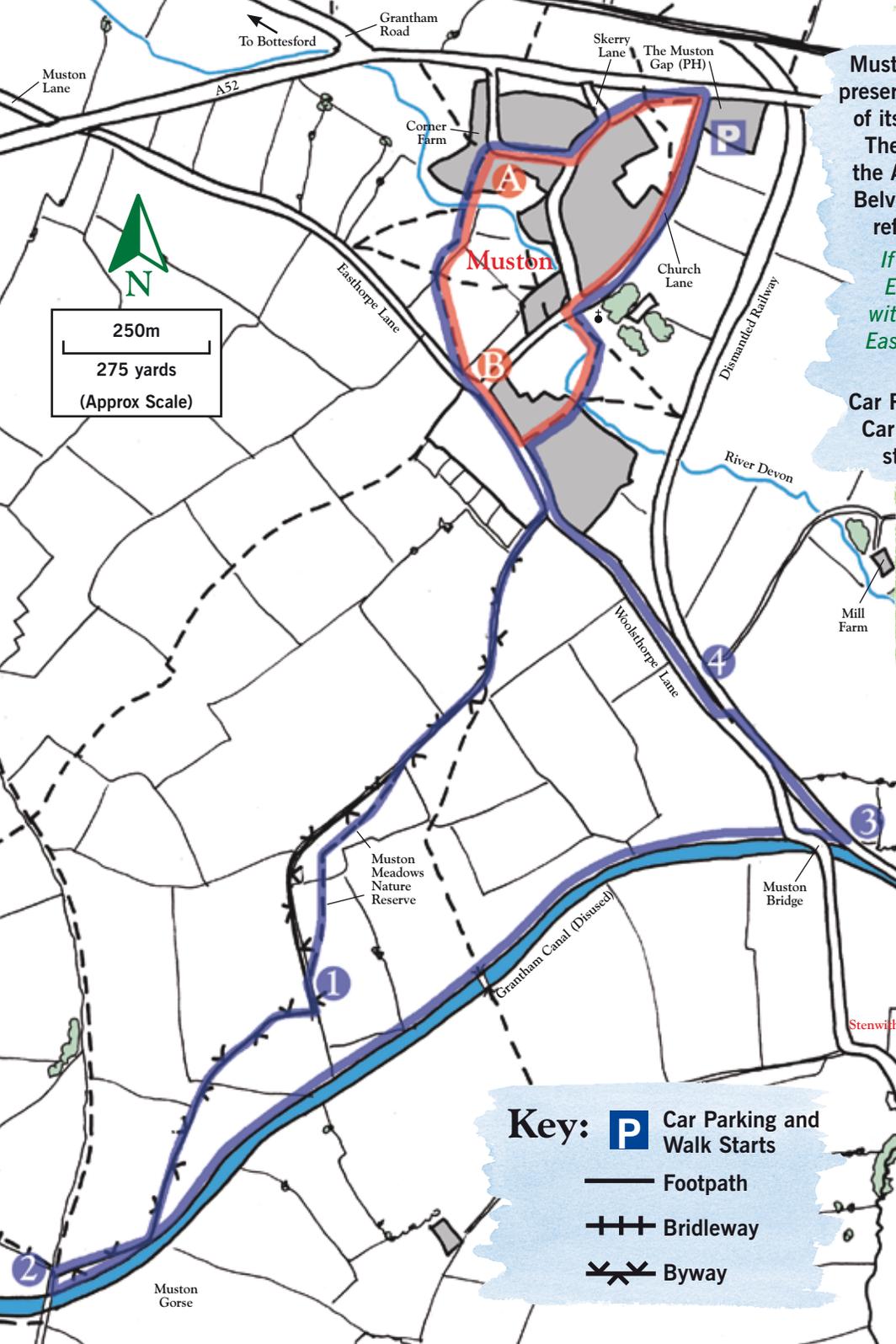
Minicom: 0116 305 7334

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

For more information on Bottesford and Muston: www.bottesford.org.uk

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





250m
275 yards
(Approx Scale)

Key: **P** Car Parking and Walk Starts
 — Footpath
 +++ Bridleway
 x/x Byway

Muston is an ancient village which has preserved its sense of tranquillity in spite of its close proximity to the busy A52. The village can be approached from the A607 via Long Lane in the Vale of Belvoir, then east along the A52 (Map ref. OS Explorer 247 SK831 383)

If walking from Bottesford go via Easthorpe to Muston Lane, then with extreme care cross the A52 to Easthorpe Lane, Muston.(2km), and join the routes at point B

Car Parking: Muston Gap Public House Car Park (please check with the pub staff before leaving on the walk)

walk 1: 2km (1.2miles), allow ¾ hour, easy level ground, **P** Muston Gap PH

Leaving Muston Gap Public House car park, cross Church Lane to a stile in the corner of the field and follow the path to Skerry Lane. Follow the lane bearing left, then at the junction turn right past the colourful cottage gardens to reach Corner Farm.

A Turn left taking the footpath to the left of a large barn and farmyard, then cross the bridge over the River Devon.

A prominent ditch and bank in the field marks the site of a medieval building.

Cross the fields towards farm buildings ahead, and cross the stile to Easthorpe Lane. Walkers from Bottesford will join the route here

B Continue along Woolsthorpe Lane past farms and pretty gardens to the Market Cross. Turn left by the Cross, down the slope and re-cross the River Devon. Bear left, slightly uphill to a stile leading to Muston Parish Churchyard.

To the right of the medieval church is the handsome rectory, which became home to the poet George Crabbe in 1789.

Walk through the churchyard to Church Lane. *If you have time, turn left over the bridge, sharp left and you will find a quiet garden to sit in. A children's play area is nearby.* Turn right and follow the lane back to the Muston Gap PH

walk 2: 6.5km (4 miles), allow 2 hours, mainly hard surface paths. **P** Muston Gap PH

Follow the directions for **Walk 1** until you reach **point B**. Instead of turning left by the cross, continue along the road to the end of the village, then turn right along the track with views towards Belvoir Castle and the Ridge. *The hedge alongside this track is great for blackberries.*

