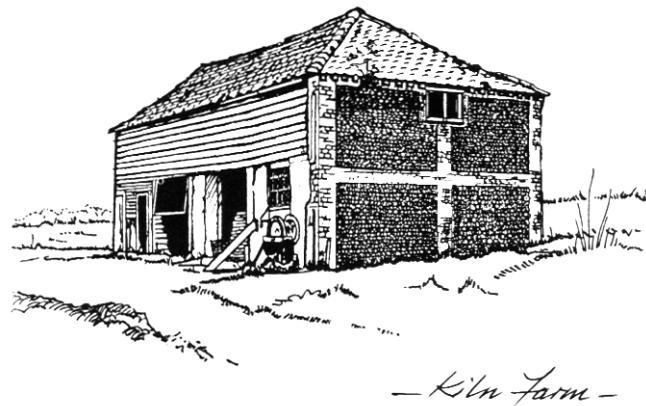




**(B) CHAD BROOK CIRCULAR WALK - 5\_ miles**

Follow the main road (A1092) towards Bury St Edmunds, away from the village. After about 100 metres turn left along the impressive driveway lined with pollarded limes. These trees are several hundred years old and in the past narrowly escaped being made into pianos. Today they continue to be maintained by pollarding but where trees have died new ones have been planted to replace them. These are protected against rabbit browsing by tree shelters that help the tree to grow faster as they act as mini greenhouses.



Kentwell Hall (12), a fine red brick moated manor house, stands proudly at the end of this driveway. The house was built in the shape of an "E" as a mark of respect for Queen Elizabeth I. The house is open to the public on selected days. It used to be surrounded by a large deer park but in the past few decades most of this has been ploughed up to grow arable crops and only small remnants can still be seen.

Follow the track up to and past the house. When you arrive in an area of pasture, look out for a footpath sign on your right, and turn right. Follow the track along the track past Pond Plantation (13) that is the site of the old Kentwell Hall, towards Kiln Farm (11).



*Avenue of Pollarded Limes*

Just before you reach the remains of Kiln Farm, take the track on the right that follows the edges of Kiln, Ashen and Brakes Ley Groves. Eventually this path crosses several fields to Bridge Street (15) passing the pond enclosed by trees on your left (14). Another footpath skirts round the back of the village to come near the Pub. Cross the busy A134 with care. Follow the track near Ford Hall, noting the diverse wildlife, including moorhens, kingfishers and a wide variety of flowers including red campion.

Follow the green lane alongside Chad Brook (16) crossing a ford at one point (17). The Brook was diverted to feed the water mill, (mentioned in the Domesday Book) which, together with a ford which crosses the brook, gave Long Melford its name ("Mill Ford"). Although Queech Plantation (18) is mainly planted it is rich in wildlife mainly because of the diversity of habitats that can be found nearby: wetland, grassland and woodland. Dead wood is also valuable as it supports a range of insects – food for birds and small animals.

Follow the path next to the woodland. Ignore a footpath to your right and continue straight on. Notice a World War II pillbox on your right (19). These were built as a secondary line of defence against German invasion for use if the coastal line of defence were broken through.

Follow this field edge track and then an uphill track to the right, called Hare Drift (20). Then up the hill and carefully cross the by-pass back to Long Melford.

**Waymarking**

The routes of the circular walks are waymarked in both directions to guide the walker. Look for green discs with a yellow arrow bearing the circular walk logo.



The public footpaths that cross the route and that may form short cuts are marked with green discs with either a plain yellow arrow or bearing the words "Public Footpath".

**Countryside Code – Advice for the Public**

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

**INFORMATION**

**Parking**

In Long Melford either along the High Street or near the village green in front of the church. Alternatively road parking in Bridge Street or Stanstead. **Please park with care and consideration.**

**Public Transport**

Bus services from Colchester and Bury St Edmunds go to Long Melford. Ring Traveline East Anglia Public Transport Information on **0870 6082608** for a timetable.

**Refreshments**

There are shops, pubs and tea rooms in Long Melford, and pubs in both Bridge Street and Stanstead.

**Footwear**

Sturdy waterproof footwear is recommended.

**Map**

This leaflet can be used in conjunction with OS Explorer series map 196: "Sudbury, Hadleigh & Dedham Vale" (1:25,000 scale).

**For further information please contact:**

The Dedham Vale (AONB) & Stour Valley Countryside Project  
 C/o Suffolk County Council  
 Endeavour House (B3 F1)  
 8 Russell Road  
 Ipswich  
 Suffolk IP1 2BX  
 Tel: 01473 264263  
[www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org](http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org)



The Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Countryside Project is a countryside management project working in the Stour Valley area. We are involved in conserving landscape features and wildlife habitats and improving access and informal countryside recreation opportunities.

Project supported by:  
 Suffolk County Council, Babergh District Council, Colchester Borough Council, Braintree District Council, The Borough of St Edmundsbury, Tendring District Council and the Countryside Agency

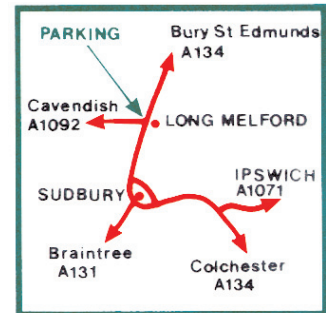
**Countryside Walks in the Stour Valley**



**Long Melford**



The footpaths on this walk follow the edges of ancient woodlands, cross-farmland and pass many interesting features and buildings, including the impressive Kentwell Hall.



Allow 3 to 4 hours to complete each circular walk. Other rights of way are shown if you require a short cut. The routes are described from Long Melford but can be started from Bridge Street or Stanstead.



BOTH ROUTES ARE DESCRIBED IN A CLOCKWISE DIRECTION STARTING FROM THE GREEN (1) IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH.

**(A) RIVER GLEM CIRCULAR WALK- 7 miles**

Long Melford village was an important Roman staging post, from which 5 Roman roads led. The fine buildings surrounding the green were built between the 15th and 18th centuries with wealth derived from the wool trade. The most magnificent is the late Perpendicular church which was rebuilt in the 15th century with donations from local wealthy families especially the Cloptons, who were granted Kentwell Hall after the dissolution of the abbey of St Edmund. The almshouses in front of the church were built as a hospital for old and destitute villagers.

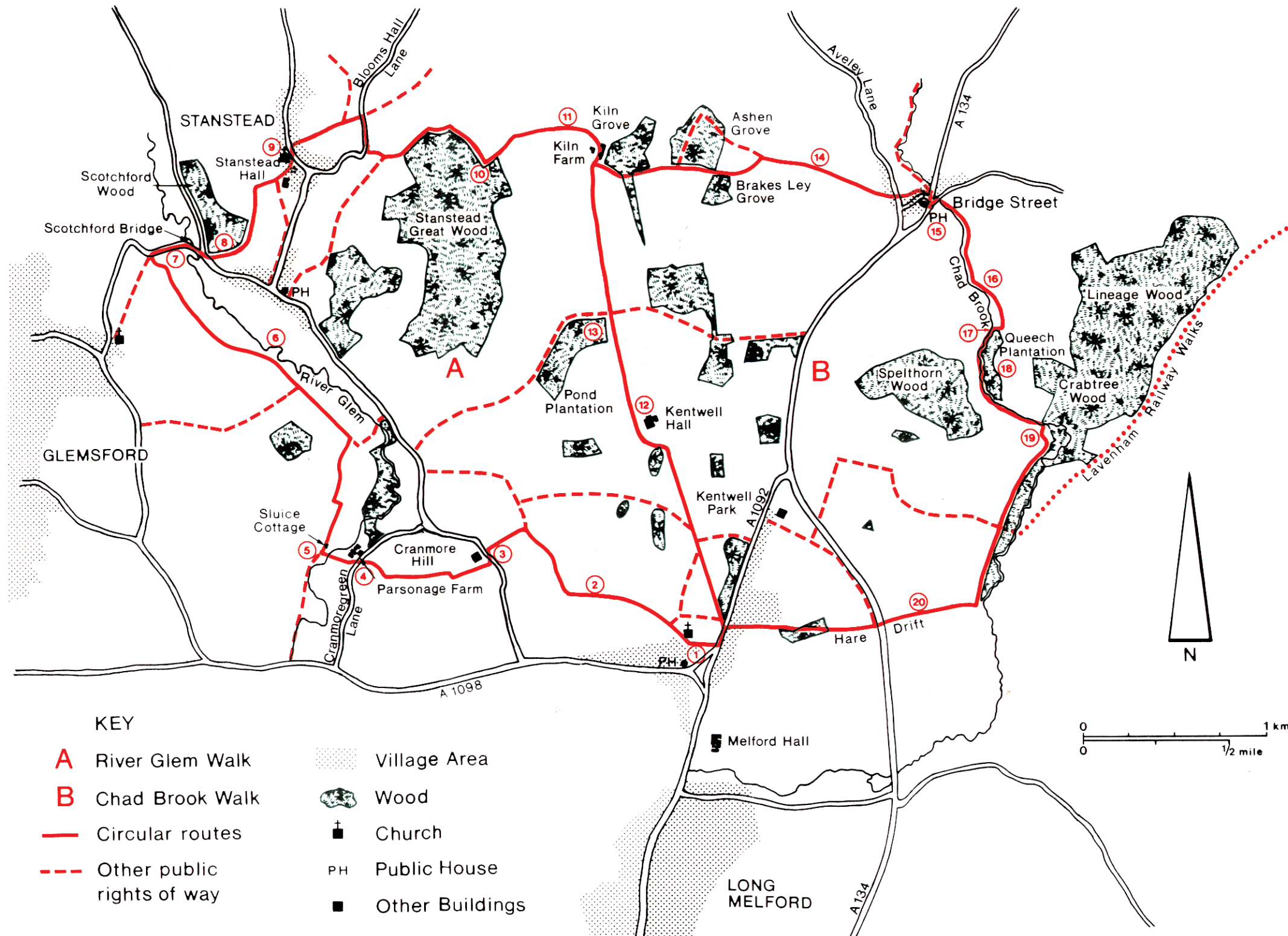


— Long Melford Church —

Walk up to the church. Take the path to the left of the church tower, through the gateway of the Rectory. Follow the waymarks straight ahead along the paths to Cranmore Hill (3) noting the fine mature oak trees along some of the hedgelines (2).

Turn left along the road for a short distance before taking the path towards Cranmoregreen Lane, just before the lane is a "wild low lying area (4) which is rich in wildlife. Follow the path just inside the bank to emerge beside the farmyard.

Turn left along the lane and then take first footpath on your right past Parsonage Farm to Sluice Cottage (5). The line of the sluice that drove the waterwheel for Glemsford Cornmill (mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086) can be seen.



<b>A</b>	River Glem Walk		Village Area
<b>B</b>	Chad Brook Walk		Wood
	Circular routes		Church
	Other public rights of way	PH	Public House
			Other Buildings

Keep the cottage on your right and follow the path towards Scotchford Bridge (7). Bible Meadow (6) on the right was left to Glemsford Church in the 17th century; the rent from the field was used to purchase bibles for the poor. The narrow stream that flows beside the path was dug in 1832 as a means of reducing flooding in this area.

At the road turn right, go over the bridge (7). Cross the B1066 with CARE at this corner. Go up the stepped path that skirts the edge of Scotchford Wood (8). In the Spring masses of bluebells and primroses can be seen in the wood from the path. Continue towards Stanstead church (9) that stands proudly on the hill top. It was built in the 14th century but was restored in Victorian times.



Walk to the road and take the path between two houses, (near the telephone box), cross the fields, turn right down Blooms Hall Lane and along the track on the left which skirts Stanstead Great Wood (10). Notice the difference between the areas of the wood with deciduous trees such as hazel and ash, and those with conifers. A greater variety of plants grow underneath the deciduous trees as the open canopy allows light through.

This path leads to the buildings of Kiln Farm (11). At this point a choice of routes is available. The main route follows the Lane, to the right, back to Long Melford via Kentwell Hall (see below 13 and 12). Alternatively, the Chad Brook Circular Walk can be joined at this point to make a 9\_ mile total circle back to Long Melford.