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"Make a Trail"

by
The Boys of
the Modern
School



FOR THE FIRST TIME VISITOR TO THE REGION:

Welcome to Debenham! We hope you have an interesting and enjoyable visit. As you know our village is on show this weekend in order to represent the region of East Anglia. We hope you will like both our village and this part of England. To help you we have compiled a random sample of what we think are interesting places hereabouts. Our main purpose was to give you as much variety as we could find so as to please as many of you as we could.

Originally we had hoped to lead you by the trail method. But this was thought to be unsuitable in view of the short intensive nature of the festival and the large number of visitors anticipated, for the prospect of long crocodiles tramping the same course would not be a happy one. The feeling was also reinforced by our concern for visitors in family units for whom trailing can be burdensome.

From our information you will be able to visit as many places as you would wish to choose without the feeling that you haven't completed the course. Besides there will be things happening from time to time in Debenham that you will wish to see.

The people of Debenham are friendly people and generous. Although they are part of a tightly knit working community in a real live village and take part actively in local affairs they are aware of being part of a wider East Anglian scene. They are fond not only of their village but also of what is over their fence. They would wish you to know about places around Debenham as well. Hence the inclusion of a wide range of places near to and farther from the village.

A cautionary note about our lanes. East Anglian lanes are infamously perverse on first acquaintance. Whereas our Roman friends showed us clearly that the shortest distance is a straight line, and there are three good examples in our area, happily in this region they were only partially successful in getting their message across. No, it has been said that the lanes here about were so lovely that in order to eke out the pleasures of watching them they were made unconstrainedly wayward.

One has to treat the sign posts with respect if one is a stickler for precision. Quite commonly the anticipation of journey's end in two miles time is shattered by the assertion of the next post that one still has two and a half miles to go. If this should happen to you, be assured you are not to worry; the sign post is right.

There are two publications which are both crammed with interesting lore and fact about the village and some of the surrounding ones; you might wish to obtain these. One recently finished on the history of Debenham is by Mrs. Pauline Heywood; the other is the magazine of the pupils of the Modern School. For books on East Anglia in general you cannot do better than visit 'Ancient House' in the Buttermarket, Ipswich, who have a wide range to offer.

We all wish you happy exploring and hope you will find something in these items to enhance your visit to our village.

Vth Year Boys of the Modern School.

↑
TO STOWMARKET

3
HOUSE CURRENTLY BEING
RESORED - NEAR
KNIGHTS
THE BUILDERS

CHERRY
TREE

WEAVERS ①
COTTAGE
(6 LOW ROAD)

②
ANCIENT
HOUSE

THE GUILD
HALL
④ (FLEMINGS ANTIQUES)

THE PRINCE OF WALES ⑤

TO EY

ST
MARYS
CHURCH

⑤ OAK HOUSE

⑥ THE OLD
COOPERAGE

A.

In order to ease your passage through the village we have provided a straight-line map of the lay-out.

There are also maps at the church and the information caravan.

Houses Open in the Village at particular times:

1. Weavers' Cottage
2. Ancient House
3. A newly restored house.
4. Flemings Antiques
5. Oak House (no. 9 High Street)
6. The Old Cooperage
7. The Prince of Wales.

Other Places of Interest:

The church - various displays inside
Rush Weavers
Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School
The Euco Market
The Modern School
Forresters' Hall - antiques
The Guild Hall - antiques
The Old Pumps
Biggs & Sowter's Bakery
The three New Housing Developments
Water Lane.

There are various events, demonstrations and exhibitions running concurrently.

B

The following is a list of points and places of interest immediately surrounding Debenham within a radius of 7 miles - about 15 minutes riding.

Little Stonham

This village on the A 140 has a unique inn figure which straddles the road. This is called 'The Magpie'. This sign had to be dismantled when 'The Mustard Pot' trundled through at snail pace from Mendlesham on its way to Needham Market beside the river.

Notes

The old station at Mendlesham now houses a transport depot.
To the south of the town from A 140 to Mendlesham there used to stand 'The Mustard Pot' which is now a fisherman's cottage at Needham Market after having been dismantled by Jerry. It was removed to make way for road improvements. A cottage similar to 'Mustard Pot' remains and in the distance one standing back and higher than the road - on left hand side travelling south just before Mendlesham town.
Richard's Mill is now a hotel catering for non-residents. Cuisine is excellent.
Richard's Mill - Richard's Mill was once a water mill.
Near the top of the bottom of Hoby Hill is a house named because the little stream runs underneath it.
At the top of Hoby Hill is a 18th - 19th century house to the east of the village.
Mill Green - The new house built - an example of a unique family industry. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly's business are reported to many parts of the world.
At Mill Green is an old mill and it is out down to the road house. The mill grinding stones are propped up outside - antiquaries are said to have furnished nearby.
Stonham The village of Stonham is nearly and has a fine church and many old buildings, notably Sturton Hall mentioned in Domesday Survey. Two cottages in the village were also saved from one fire to their present one on rollers.
At the end of the road stands 'The House' which is responsible for having once been called 'The Four Hours' in those days it stood beside the church in Stonham. It was removed on rollers to its present site. The task took 3 days.

B

1. Mickfield Fish Centre A unique concern of much interest to the water gardener as well as to tropical fish lovers. Over 200 different species of tropical, freshwater and sea water fish.

A 140 Roman Road - Ipswich to Norwich still has milestones. I.T.A. mast on site of ex war time airfield 'Mendlesham Airfield'. Like a similar field near by on this same road further to north this field now used for storage and transport industries and a large part is farmed. Many war time Nissen huts and other airfield type buildings today still remain.

Near the Ipswich 13 mile milestone is a war memorial to men of the 8th Air Force who served in Liberator (daylight) bombers during the Second World War.

Mendlesham Church - well preserved - contains fine church font cover in oak - a good brass - a collection of 15th century and 16th century armour. knight in armour 1417.

Whilst in Mendlesham take a passing look at R & W Paul Ltd. maltings and grain drying building - a very large piece of modern industry for a small village.

The Mid Suffolk Light Railway - the old station at Mendlesham now houses a Transport Depot.

On Southern corner of the turn from A 140 to Mendlesham there used to stand 'The Mustard Pot' which is now a fisherman's cottage at Needham Market after having been transported by lorry. It was removed to make way for road improvements. A cottage similar to 'Mustard Pot' remains and is the thatched one standing back and higher than the road - on left hand side travelling north just before Mendlesham turning.

Wetheringsett Manor is now a hotel catering for non-residents. Cuisine is excellent.

Wetheringsett Church - Richard Hakluyt was once a rector here.

Near the signpost at the bottom of Hockey Hill is a house unusual because the little stream runs underneath it.

At the top of Hockey Hill is a 1914 - 18 War Memorial to the men of the village.

Mill Green - Jig saw Puzzle Centre - an example of a unique family industry. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly's puzzles are exported to many parts of the world.

At Mill Green is an old mill and it is cut down to the round house. The mill grinding stones are propped up outside. Antiques are sold at Dove Farmhouse nearby.

Stonham Aspal The village of Stonham Aspal is nearby and has a fine church and many old buildings, notably Broughton Hall mentioned in Domesday Survey. Two cottages in the village were also moved from one site to their present one on rollers.

At East End Lane stands 'Town House' which is remarkable for having once been called 'The Poor House' In those days it stood beside the church in Stonham Aspal. It was removed on rollers to its present site. The task took 3 days.

Stonham Aspal contd.

On the Stowmarket Coastal on the left hand side coming into the village from Norwich Road and in a field near the sewage works is the covered up site of a Roman bath house and hypocaust.

Crowfield Crowfield Church - a beautiful village church. The chancel is half timbered. Strangely the church stands apart from the village of Crowfield. It is well worth a visit. The rector is Rev. Crouchman rector of Stonham, Crowfield and Mickfield.

Crowfield Mill - now derelict and shortly to be demolished. This mill is a wooden structure - the one depicted in the school magazine by a young artist.

Helmingham Hall This is the home of the Tollemache family. Although the house is not normally open to the public the gardens and park frequently are. The parkland contains a fine herd of deer. Many of the cottages on the estate are readily recognisable by their cream doors. Part of the estate is farmed by tenant farmers.

Framsden Mill - a restored 18th century post mill built by John Flick in 1760. It ceased working in the 1930's. Privately restored for public viewing about eight years ago. The mill houses Mr. Abblett's small museum of country bygones.

Fritillery Field This is also in Framsden at Boundary Farm in a meadow in which grow the fritillaria. They have been carefully protected for many years by the owner. They only allow viewing on one weekend in the year. Whereas this is a privately owned field, another field exists near Mickfield which is administered and protected by the Suffolk Nature Conservancy.

Aspall Cyder House - not to be confused with Stonham Aspal. This is a fine example of a family concern begun in the 18th century. It is of historical as well as general interest and should most certainly not be missed.

Aspall Hall - Adjacent to the Cyder House is the elegant moated hall, home of the Chevallier family. Apart from the architectural interest it has a historic link with Lord Kitchener of Khartoum.

Moving out a little further around Debenham, the next group will involve one in car journeys between 20 and 45 minutes.

Letheringham Water Mill

The old mill and gardens are open to the public. The scene of a 17th Century murder of a brutal kind. It is now a most peaceful site. There has been a mill on the site since before the Conquest. Teas are served.

Easton Farm Park

This is situated on the outskirts of Easton (the village with the wibbly wobbly wall). A visit here could take some time among the walks, the machinery, the cattle and even old motor cycles.

The Abbots Hall Museum

of Rural Life of

East Anglia

Stowmarket

An exhibition outdoors and undercover of buildings, implements, carts, machines and even a water mill. The museum though of only recent origin has become established as the important centre for recording rural life in the region. It has a very large number of exhibits.

Whilst in the Stowmarket area - the new Sports Hall of mid-Suffolk deserves a visit. There is also a massive by-pass system being built hereabouts involving bridges and different levels. Narey's Garden Centre will be of interest to gardeners.

Saxtead Mill

An ancient monument. This is a post mill of extremely fine preservation and is in working order. Apart from the interest there is the added thrill of the climb up and the view from the loft window.

Framlingham Castle

A castle of three fortified enclosures and of 4 distinct periods of building. It is possible to walk the curtain wall or ponder the defensive possibilities with one's heart in one's mouth.

Framlingham

The town, church and public school are of course interesting on their own accounts, but tend to be in the shadow of the castle.

Brandeston

This small village still has a very active smithy who also works in wrought iron.

Sandon Saddlery is also nearby and is an exciting shop for pony enthusiasts.

c Ipswich The town has many delights and one can only list a few.

Ipswich Museum Houses:

16th Century Christchurch Mansion has many period rooms and other exhibits.

Ancient House in the Buttermarket is also 16th century. It now houses the 'Ancient House Bookshop'. Its facade has elaborate pargetting with oriel windows. The shop has a particularly good stock of a wide range of books on the lore of East Anglia from countryside to coast.

Ipswich Museum This houses natural history, geology archaeology and material relating to Sutton Hoo.

Heveningham Hall (near Halesworth) - House, park and garden. Georgian mansion in English Palladian style.

Ickworth (near Bury St. Edmunds). 18th century mansion with Rotunda. Treasures and state rooms are late Regency. It is situated in Horringer on A43 3 miles S.W. of Bury St. Edmunds.

Minsmere Bird Sanctuary. This is near Dunwich. Permits required in advance from R.S.P.B.

Dunwich - Underwater surveys of the sunken town are often carried out here and recorded.

Eastbridge - example of Smock Mill.

The Leys at Hoxne near Eye Waterfowl farm. Horse and carriage rides.

Aldringham Craft Market (near Aldeburgh). Good quality crafts are on view and on sale.

Aldeburgh Moot Hall. Life boat.

Aldeburgh Festival Snape Maltings is the concert hall for the festival.

Sizewell near Leiston This is a nuclear power station situated right on the coast.

The Reeve Museum of Rural Bygones at Banham An interesting small museum showing a variety of aspects of 19th century rural life.

Banham Zoo This is between Attleborough and Diss)

Woodbridge now has a restored Tide Mill. The famous site of Sutton Hoo is near this town which stands on the Deben. It is a well-known boating centre.

Notcutts Garden Centre This is on the outskirts of Woodbridge. It is well worth a visit.

* D Places much further out allow 45 mins ⊕

The Broads Various delights here - a very extensive region of interest. Hickling Water Trail from Pleasure Boat Inn is a good introduction.

Sudbury Gainsborough's House and exhibition of his work.

Duxford Aerodrome Aircraft museum on A 505 Royston - Newmarket road. Air display on June 28th - 29th sponsored by Imperial War Museum.

Kilverstone New World Wild Life Park On A11 on Norwich side of Thetford.

Somerleyton Hall - near Lowestoft on B1074. Anglo-Italian style state rooms and furnishings. Also parkland and gardens, miniature railway.

Lowestoft Small marine museum near the lighthouse which is also open to the public.

Flixton (Bungay) Aeronautical Museum.

East Bergholt for Flatford Mill and Dedham Vale. This is Gonstable country.

Sandringham, Norfolk This is normally open to the public when the Royal family is away.

Grimes Graves - Weeting This site can be reached by the A 134 and B1108 from Thetford (5 miles south east) and is a fine example of Neolithic Industrial organisation. One pit is open to the public, but the galleries are now sealed off. The pit itself is impressive enough, however, and finds of antler picks and a chalk fertility goddess are to be seen.

Thetford - Tom Paine's town. Ancient House Museum has archaeological and local history exhibits mostly from the Brecklands Neolithic settlements. Saxon pots.

Bressingham Nursery and Gardens Gardeners will enjoy browsing here.

Cockley Cley near Bury St. Edmunds Iceni village and museum. Reconstruction of Iceni camp on original site of 2,000 years ago.

Bressingham Live Steam Museum Nearly forty steam engines both road and rail. Footplate rides on express locomotives. This is the home of the 'Royal Scot' as well as miniatures also traction engines.

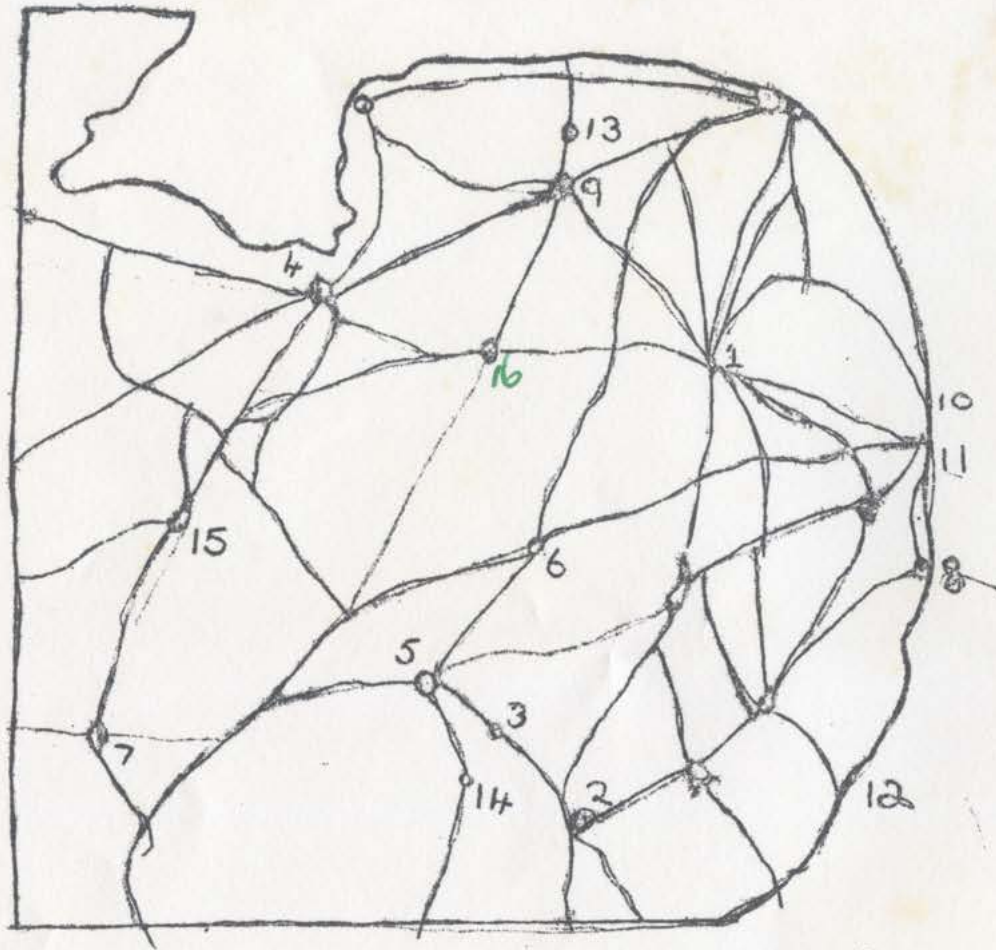
Drinkstone Craft Centre (near Bury St. Edmunds) (Rattlesden). Many varieties of crafts. Craftsmen can be seen at work. Public are invited to try one or two of the crafts.

City of Norwich has interests too numerous to mention. It has a castle museum and of course its cathedral, its city and Madder Market Theatre which was once a church. There is also all the excitement of the river.

Thetford Chase At Santon Downham there is the Forestry Commission's exhibition of work and life in the forest. There are nature trails here.

In Brandon (a flint knapping town) there is a charcoal burner to be seen at his trade.

The forest is pleasant for walking and there is the river. The forest now has many picnic reservations and there are herds of wild deer.



Complete the list.

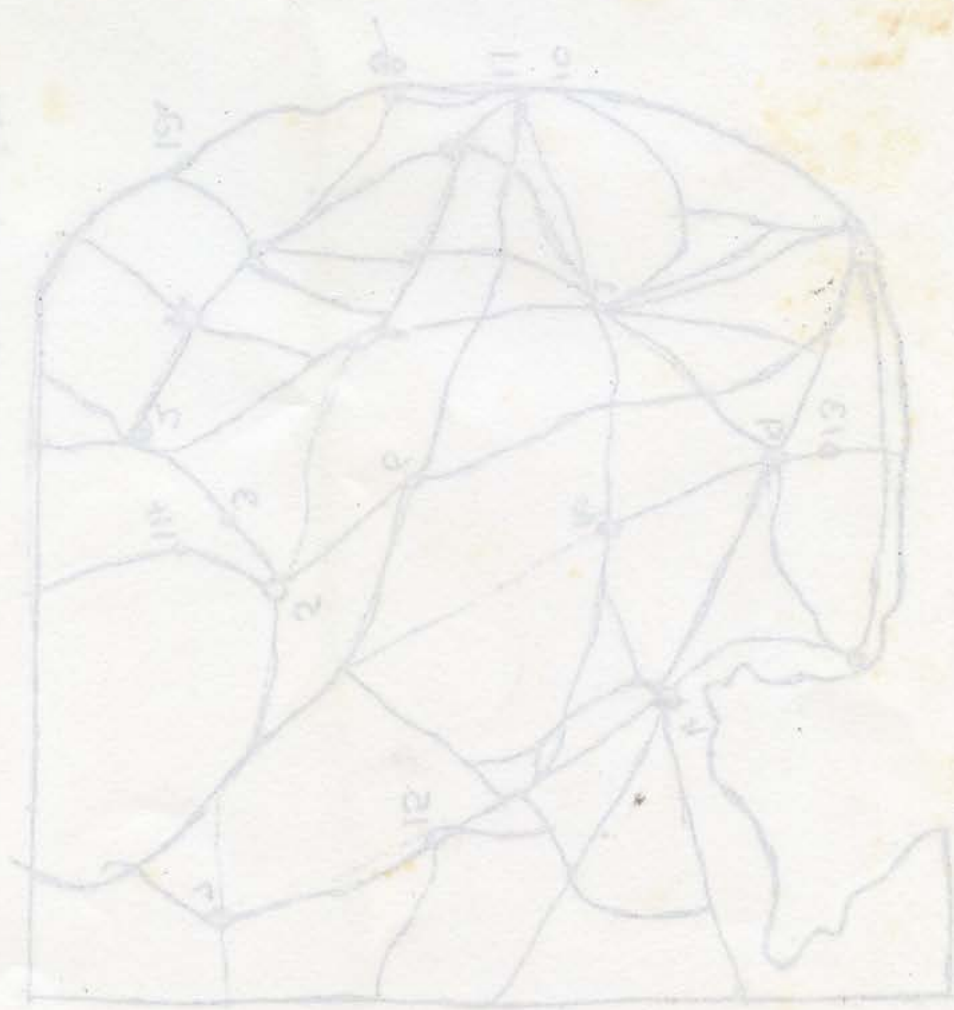
KEY

1. NORWICH
2. IPSWICH
3. STOWMARKET.
4. KINGS LYNN
5. BURY St EDMUNDS
6. THETFORD
7. CAMBRIDGE
8. SOUTHWOLD.
- 9.

MARKET DAYS IN SUFFOLK

- Monday Eye, Hadleigh, Wickham Market.
- Tuesday Ipswich and Newmarket.
- Wednesday Bury St. Edmunds, Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Saxmundham and Halesworth fortnightly.
- Thursday Bungay, Newmarket, Stowmarket, Sudbury and Woodbridge.
- Friday Beccles and Mildenhall
- Saturday Bury St. Edmunds, Framlingham, Ipswich and Lowestoft.

This is only a small random selection from the many excellent places of interest in this area within reasonable travelling distance by car.



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