

footpath off to left passing behind houses. At junction with Woodbridge Road (13) turn left and follow main road. Pass tile centre and bus stop. Cross over road using central reservation at junction with Holly Road (14) on your right.

Go down Holly Road. Pass entrance to Yewtree Grove. At end of Holly Road (15) take footpath bearing off to right passing in front of number 67. Continue through wood. At junction with Penzance Road, turn right and go down hill. Cross road into Brendon Drive.

Continue on to where footpath crosses road. You are now back where you started. I hope you have enjoyed your walk.



Places of Interest

Rushmere Common

Located in the middle of Rushmere St. Andrew, it occupies some 168 acres of Common Land known as Rushmere Heath. This land probably existed as far back as the Middle Ages. Certainly in 1763 and again in 1766, the Common was used for public executions. Although ownership of the Common has been the subject of much debate over many years, in 1958, the title was purchased by Mr Hugh Law, Chairman of the Commoners Committee, for £500. He then sold it to the Commoners for the same price. The title is held in trust by the trustees and conduct of the Commoners' affairs is regulated by the Trust deed. In 1967 the Common was registered as a Common under the Commons Registration Act. Day to day management of the Common is vested in the Commoners Committee which has nine members. It is also home to Rushmere Golf Club.

St. Andrews Church

The Church dates back to the 12th Century with the tower rebuilt in 1583 and further decorated with Pinnacles and Evangelists during the middle of the 19th Century. In 1856 the yew hedge was planted in front of the Church parallel to the road. The main body of the Church was rebuilt in 1861. In 1968 an east extension was built doubling its seating capacity. The ring of six bells were re-hung and the tower strengthened in 1980

with the insertion of a re-inforced concrete ringbeam as ringing of the bells had caused vertical cracking. The insertion of a west window may have been partly to blame for the weakening effect! In 1988 a new Church Hall was built adjacent to the front of the Church.

Rushmere Baptist Church

Originally built as a mission in 1859 by Robert Lacy Everett on land purchased for £10. It became a Baptist Church in 1944. Much of the original building has since been replaced. A kitchen, lounge and vestibule being built in 1988. On the front wall is fixed a tablet affirming the Commoners' rights on Rushmere Heath, an agreement drawn up as a result of continuing conflicts between the Commoners and the local Lord of the Manor, the Marquis of Bristol during the mid 19th Century.

Rushmere Ponds

There are three ponds within the parish if you exclude the Mill Stream pond located on the Bixley Farm development. A 'Dew' pond is located on the Rushmere Heath/Common. This is a natural pond currently managed by the Commoners Committee to encourage wildlife to this area. The 'Limes' pond located at the junction of The Street and Lamberts Lane was donated to the Parish Council by the first owner of 'Willow Ways' during the 1960's. The 'Chestnuts' pond is owned by Mr J Fenton. It was originally larger, spreading into the road area, but during the 1950's was filled to its current size. From 1982 the Parish Council has maintained the pond in agreement with the owner. There are numerous birds on this pond at any time.

Acknowledgements:

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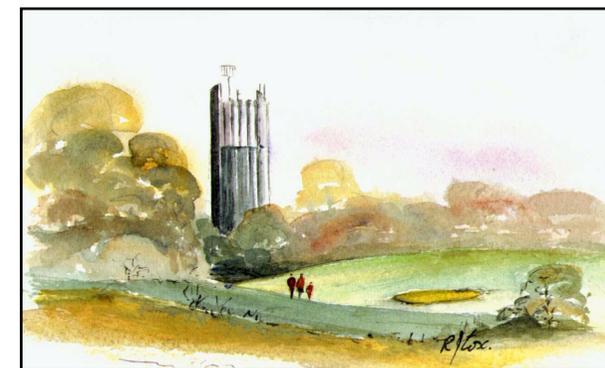


Produced by Kesgrave Town Council



Parish Walks

WALK 2



Rushmere Water Tower

Rushmere St. Andrew



Suffolk County Council
PARISH PATHS
partnership
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GREENWAYS
countryside project

