

following signposts. Pass Purdis Farm on right, then Purdis Hall. Pass Poppies Farm and continue on track.

At top of incline, at corner of field (8), on right and follow footpath signs. Continue walking between the hedge and field. As you exit onto track between the corner of two fields, bear left and walk along edge of field for 25mts and turn right into wood. Follow the footpath which alternates between a boarded walkway over marsh ground and undulating woodland footpath. Some areas can be extremely wet and muddy from autumn through to spring.

Follow the footpath and boardwalk, passing over two footbridges. Just after second footbridge continue straight on. At footpath 'T' junction (9) turn left. At the junction with Foxhall Road (10), cross road (watch for traffic) and turn right following footpath alongside road. Almost at the top of the incline take footpath marked to left (11) passing to the right of Brookhill Cottages.

Cross over track to cottages and follow footpath signs. Pass through concrete posts and continue almost straight on. At junction with entrance road to Foxhall Stadium, follow the road and take track bending to the right that goes through the middle of the open space.

Continue on wide track into wooded area. Continue until you reach a gate at the junction with Bell Lane. You are now back where you started. I hope you enjoyed your walk.



## Places of Interest

### *The Heath (West of Bell Lane)*

This is one of the remaining remnants of the Sandlings coastal strip of land between Ipswich and Southwold and is a vital link between Purdis Heath and Martlesham Heath. Natural heathland should consist of heathers and grasses. However, bracken, gorse and birch trees tend to smother and dominate all other vegetation.

### *Relay Station*

Once the sight of the USAF early warning facility its history is unclear, was it in the 1930s (the oldest building on the site has Art Deco features typical of pre-war RAF buildings) or was it the 1960s (it doesn't appear on earlier maps but, then, lots of secret installations were omitted) whichever is correct, it was operational during the cold war and up to 1984. It is now a small museum open seasonally with displays & information on local aviation history with tea room and a gift shop.

### *Monument*

The Monument is an iron-faced obelisk erected in memory of the Revd. George Routh MA, rector of Holbrook with St. Clements and St. Helens of Ipswich - an obviously convenient group of parishes at the time. The monument was erected soon after his death in 1821 to mark this tranquil spot he so loved to visit ... a kind of wilderness of Foxhall! It is just visible from the road midway between points (5) and (6) but because the monument is well camouflaged with conifers it is still difficult to identify clearly, even though it is approximately five metres in height. Please note the monument is on private land, therefore if you wish to inspect at close quarters permission should be obtained from the farm.

### *The Stadium*

Although known as Foxhall Stadium it is in fact in Kesgrave and has been since 1984 when the parish boundaries were changed. The stadium opened in 1950 and for most of the past half century has accommodated both Speedway and Stockcar racing.

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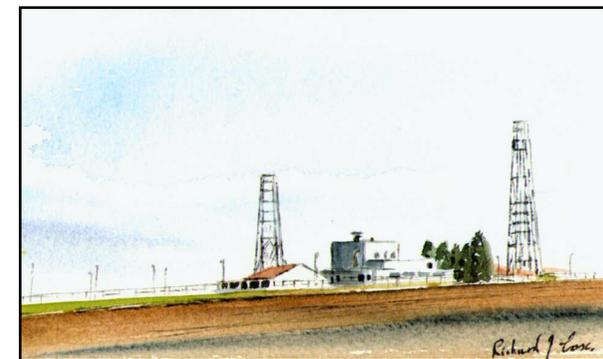
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# Parish Walks



Relay Station

## Foxhall

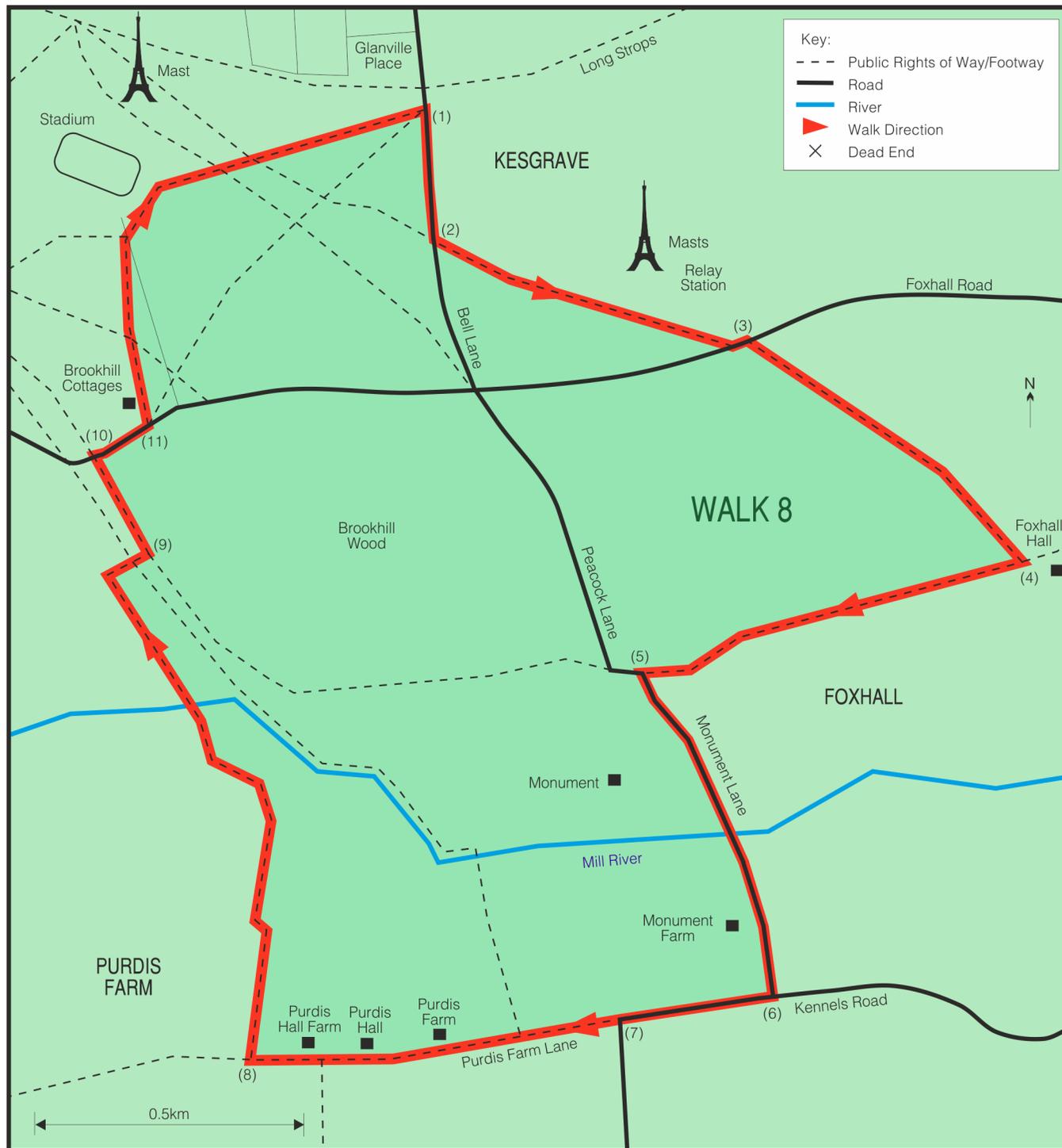


Suffolk County Council

PARISH PATHS  
partnership  
A COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION INITIATIVE



GREENWAYS  
countryside project



### Introduction

This walk takes you through a number of wooded areas, tracks and fields around the parishes of Foxhall, Kesgrave and Purdis Farm, for a distance of about 6.25 km. Completion of the walk should take 1.5 to 2 hours. There is no recommended car parking for this route. Access can also be gained to the walk using route 66 getting off at 'Penzance Road' and walking 400 metres along Bell Lane towards Foxhall Road.

### The Walk

Starting at Bell Lane, almost opposite the entrance to the Foxhall Stadium (1), walk along the footpath, away from the houses, south towards Foxhall Road. At slight bend in road (2) take marked footpath on left crossing corner of field at approximately 45 degrees. Cross over the track to the Suffolk Aviation Museum and continue to small clump of trees on the Kesgrave side of Foxhall Road at the start of the right hand corner.

When you meet Foxhall Road turn left and almost immediately cross the road (watching out for fast traffic) and take metal gate into the wood (3). Follow footpath signs through wood, going almost in a straight line.

At edge of field, pass through gate and take marked footpath across field heading towards the buildings of Foxhall Hall. At footpath junction in front of Foxhall Hall (4) take signed footpath to right turning almost back on yourself.

At corner of field pass through metal gate. Follow footpath signs keeping wood to your right and field to your left. At corner of field carry straight on into the trees, down a slight incline. Go through gate.

At road junction (5) turn left and walk along road, keeping your eye open for traffic as the road is narrow. Cross the bridge over Mill River. Continue on road up slight hill. Pass entrance to White House on your right.

At 'T' junction (6) turn right, signposted to Nacton and Ipswich. Pass entrance to Monument Farm. At sharp left hand bend in road (7) carry straight on up track