

Welcome

It is thought the village name originates from the 7th or 8th century; Hep meaning rosehip and Worth meaning fenced in, resulting in Rose Hip Enclosure.

Regular livestock and arable crop markets were held in the mid-1800s where today the former Duke of Marlborough pub stands on the A143 Bury Road.

The junction of Clay Lane and Sumner Road with the Bury Road is known locally as 'The Turnpike' as tolls were paid to access to this old coach road running between Bury St Edmunds and Scole.

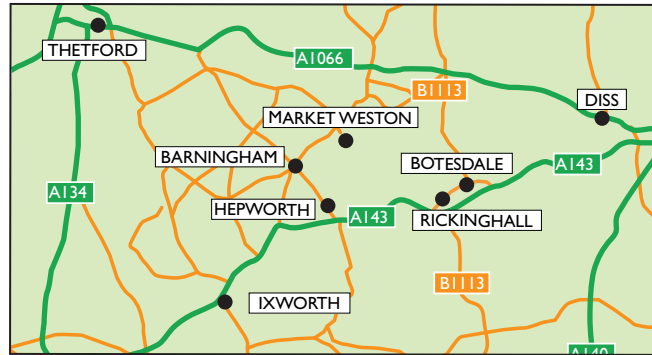
South of Bury Road lays the former WWII Shepherds Grove airfield built originally for the USAAF and was the base for Stirling bombers and the Avro Ansons. Between 1959 and 1963, it became a Thor Missile Base. Today the airfield is an industrial estate.

The colourful village sign depicting rural life and the village hall were made possible thanks to public subscription.

The walks described in this leaflet are in the peaceful surroundings of the village and start from the village hall. They follow mainly public rights of way and there is some road walking. The routes are easy going but can be muddy in places after rain, suitable footwear is advised.



Location





Hepworth lies just off the A143, 13 miles north-east of Bury St Edmunds and 10½ miles south-west of Diss.

Public Transport

Public transport is available to Hepworth. Visit www.suffolkonboard.com (0345 606 6171) or www.travelineeastanglia.co.uk (08712 002 233) to plan your journey.

Discover Suffolk

If you enjoyed this leaflet why not try Barningham & Market Weston or Stanton Rides. Discover more walking and cycling leaflets by visiting www.discoveruffolk.org.uk. Follow us on  and .

OS Explorer Map

Use O.S. Explorer Map 230 Diss & Harleston to enjoy this walk and the wider area.

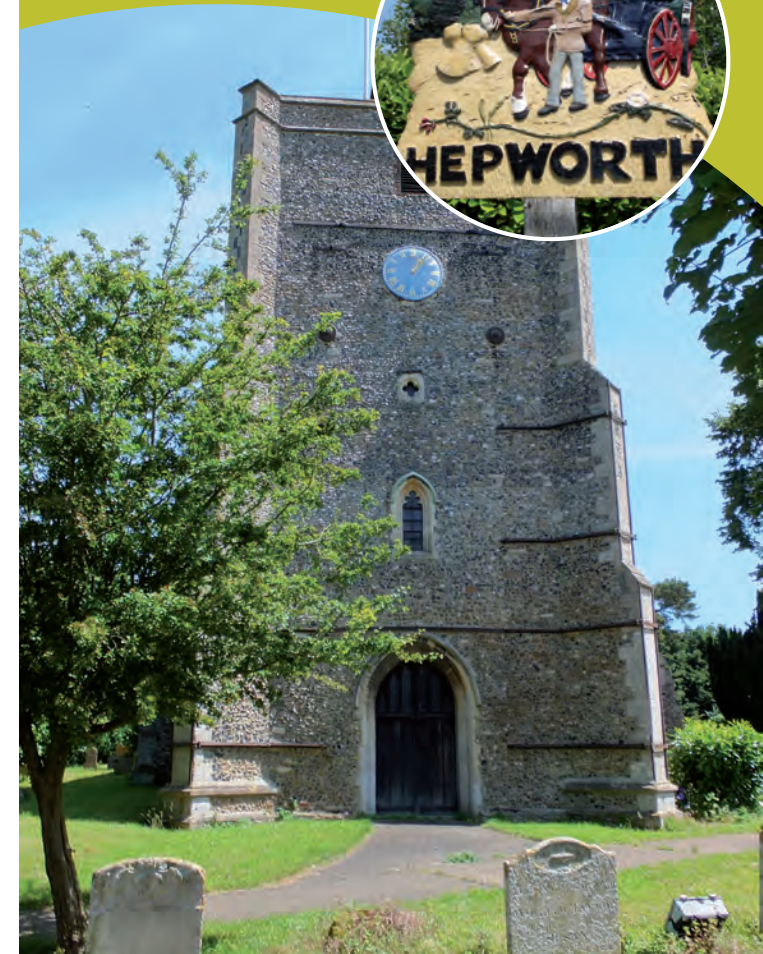
Produced by Suffolk County Council and Hepworth Parish Council



Circular Walks

Hepworth

A village full of rural charm



Distant Horizons

DISTANCE: 6½ miles (10½ km)

DURATION: 3¼ hours

WAYMARKER: Red



opposite side of the road **3**. Follow the footpath past an old meadow and on across a field to a sleeper bridge in the hedgerow gap **1**.

Pause to enjoy the views over to Star Cottage and beyond whilst listening to the bird chatter in the hedgerow.



Cross over and keeping the hedge on your left continue along the path as it curves right to take you down to Star Cottage **5**. Here, turn left and proceed along Market Weston Road, pass Stanton Road Farm until you reach Weston Bury Lane on your right **6**; leading you to Market Weston.

Turn left from the village hall car park and follow the grass path downhill to join Wood Lane, follow the route left **1**.

On a clear day, the Eye turbine blades can be seen. Sounds of a screaming peacock or a honking goose can be heard in the distance as you head off.

When you reach the benches on Hepworth Street, turn right **2**. After passing The Old Rectory, take the Public Footpath on the



This green lane will take you through open countryside where you will be serenaded by Sky Larks flying above.

When you reach Market Weston **7** turn right and continue along The Street.

Market Weston has a fine selection of Grade II listed buildings to admire.

Pass the village hall on your left following the road until it turns a sharp right-angle bend; **8** take the Byway on your left. Proceed along and down the grassy Byway to the road, cross over **9** and continue along another Byway, called Dunhill Lane, leading to Brockley Wood.

Brockley Wood, with its wonderful Oak Trees, is home to Bluebells, Primroses and Orchids in springtime.

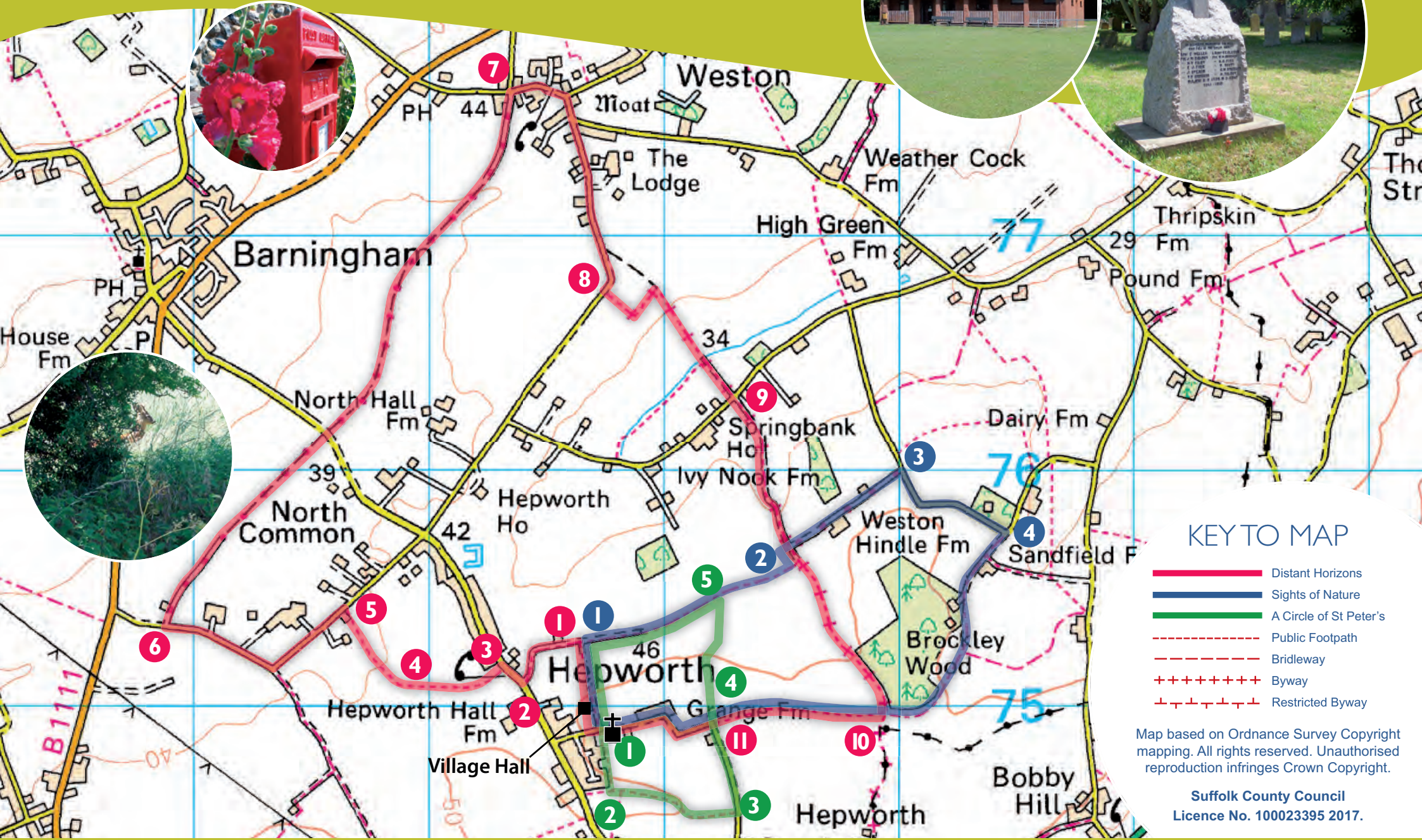
As you reach the wood, continue along the dappled shaded Byway until you come to the footbridge on your right **10**, cross over and turn right along the field edge until you reach a wide footpath, where you turn left.

The footpath will lead you to Church Lane **11**; follow the lane past Grange Farm to return to the village hall.



Hepworth

A village full of rural charm



KEY TO MAP

- Distant Horizons
- Sights of Nature
- A Circle of St Peter's
- Public Footpath
- Bridleway
- Byway
- Restricted Byway

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A Circle of St Peter's

DISTANCE: 1¾ miles (3 km)

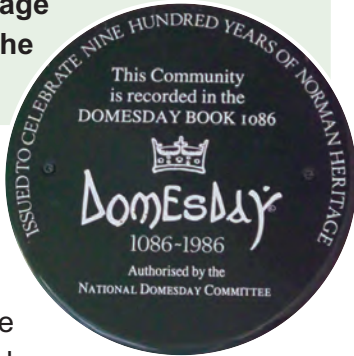
DURATION: 1 hour

WAYMARKER: Green



Turn right from the village hall car park towards the church.

There has been a church here since the Domesday Survey in 1086; Stone Age and Roman artefacts have been discovered around the location of St Peter's Church.



The present St Peter's Church dating from around the 14th/15th century originally had a thatched roof. Nearly destroyed by fire on Easter Monday in 1898 some of the original contents were saved including the chancel seats and 14th century font cover. A

piscine (shallow bowl) and a plain chest with unusual locks have also been preserved. The top of the unusual short tower has a pyramid with a dormer window in it.

Pass through the churchyard ① and exit through the gap in the wall and continue down the footpath, passing gardens, until you reach the bottom where you turn left ②



This grass footpath leads you to Clay Lane ③ where you again turn left. Continue along the lane until you reach the bend; continue straight ahead taking the Restricted Byway ④ alongside the horse paddocks.

At the bottom, turn left ⑤ and continue until you reach a footpath on your left ⑥ which takes you through a gap in the fence back to the village hall.

Sights of Nature

DISTANCE: 3 miles (4¾ km)

DURATION: 1½ hours

WAYMARKER: Blue



Turn left out of the village hall car park, through the fence gap and down to Wood Lane ①, turn right and follow this grassy track through open fields to reach Dunhill Lane ②, an old Byway.

Keep an eye out for the ears of a deer poking out above the crops, thinking he is hidden from you!

Turn left and after a short distance, turn right along a green track passing Weston Hindle Farm to meet New Lane ③. Turn right and follow the meandering lane until you reach a Restricted Byway on your right ④.

Follow this old lane up through Sandfield Farm and onwards past Brockley Wood, which will be on your right.

As you pass Brockley Wood you may get sight of a hovering hawk seeking it's prey.

You will re-join Dunhill Lane, with a footbridge in front of you ⑩, cross over and turn right along the field edge until you reach a wide footpath, where you turn left.

The footpath will lead you to Church Lane ⑪; follow the lane past Grange Farm to return to the village hall.

