

STEPPING OUT – a series of walks around the East Leake Area.

This month's walk is a circular walk of just under 5 miles from Bunny via Bradmore and the edge of Rushcliffe Country Park at Ruddington.

The following description starts from Bunny but alternative starting points would be Bradmore or the Country Park. If you started from the Country Park you would add about ½ a mile to access the route from the car park.

It would be a good idea to time your walk to have lunch at the Rancliffe Arms in Bunny. If you do this and you make arrangements with the landlord you may leave your car in the pub car park.

Bunny, Bradmore, Rushcliffe Country Park, Bunny.

Five miles, allow 2½ hours

From Bunny walk about 400m along the main road in the direction of Nottingham.

Take the footpath into the field on the left indicated by a fingerpost. Cross the corner of the field and then continue along the field edges with the hedge on your right for about 500m. The path then follows cross field routes for another 400m and then emerges into the outskirts of the village of Bradmore.

Your route to the Country Park is indicated by a finger post to the right of Littlemoor Lane but if you don't know Bradmore it is well worthwhile taking a detour through the village. So turn right down Main Street as far as the Church on your left, then take the footpath alongside the church into Far Street. Notice that the oldest part of the church is built of limestone with a low tower. The tower has subsequently been raised and a spire added in sandstone. The limestone would have come from the top of Bunny Hill and the sandstone from much further away.

Turn left and walk along Far Street back to Littlemoor Lane and your path towards the Country Park.

This path goes down hill with the hedge on your left and then turns through a right angle and continues for another 400m to emerge onto the track to Long Farm with the entrance to the Country Park just ahead of you on the other side of the track.

Enter the park and turn left along the track through the wild flower meadows. After about 100m there is an exit to the park on your left – ignore this. You should also ignore all right forks in the track, then finally after about a kilometre, turn left towards the next exit gate which opens onto the road to Moor Farm.

Turn left down this road and as you approach the farm keep the hedge on your right. However after a few yards you will find a gap in the hedge through which the official footpath goes and continues round the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. At the corner of the field the path turns through

a right angle and continues for over a kilometre, first with the hedge on your left and then for the last few hundred metres it changes to the other side of the hedge. The path then reaches a T junction with clearly marked tracks going left and right. You turn left along the track in the direction of Bunny. In about 100m the track takes a left and a right turn to become a bridleway. This follows an almost straight line for over a kilometre and comes to another T junction where you turn right and arrive in Bunny at the end of Moor Lane. Turn left, walk along Moor Lane, and you are back on the main road near the old Grammar School building on your left..

Dennis Fox