

Walk 8 : Rede



This walk is about 5 miles long. Park in the Village Green in Rede and start from in front of the old school house, now a Village Hall. In front of you is the lovely thatched pub, The Plough. Further to the left of it you'll find a path leading over a stile to a field. Follow the edge round to the left and you'll find a gap in the hedge and another stile, over which you'll find a road. Cross over to a footpath on the other side between fields (which in June 2020 had been nicely mown) leading in a pretty well straight line, south eastwards. You'll next come to a sizeable concrete pad with a track coming from the left. To the right are the remains of Hawk's Farm which appears to have been abandoned quite some time ago. Go straight across the concrete to continue your journey in the same direction till sleepers cross a ditch and you turn right and walk towards a road. This is Cooks Lane, a quiet country road: go right and when, after a most attractive thatched cottage on the right, you come to a T-junction. Turn right for a short distance and then, where there's a gap in the vegetation on the left, follow this short track into a field. Turn right and follow the field boundary, which shortly includes a right-angle turn left. At the end of this side of the field go straight ahead out of the field through a small group of trees to emerge into the next field. Do not follow the path which has been cut through the crop; rather stay along the right-hand side of the field and then through and across the next field down to find a farm track. Here the route turns left but you may care to take a short diversion right, round to a quite large lake with a park bench attractively positioned so that you can enjoy a break with any refreshments you may have brought with you. This is the site of another abandoned farm, Cresslands Farm: retrace your steps to the farm track and go right. After a cattle grid you should be able to enter a meadow on the right. Go straight ahead, with the aforementioned lake on your right and at the end a gate should lead you into the next field. Walk on the left side of this field and continue in a north-west direction through a couple more fields until you meet a concrete farm road at an angle. Turn right on this (completely straight) road and walk towards a radio tower ahead (which may be partially hidden by trees). Turn right at the radio tower and you are approaching the remains of Chedburgh RAF airfield, with some concrete apron areas. The continuation of the path may be a little difficult to find at this point, but if you bear left initially when reaching the concrete and then bear right around the vegetation on the right, you'll hopefully see

the finger post indicating the footpath through some scrubby land which opens out to a field after a couple of hundred yards. You'll now approach woodland, and the path now goes along the edge of a second field with the woodland (called 'Great Wood on the O.S. map) to your right. Beyond the wood, keep on the right side until, in a straight line you're led across cultivated land towards a clump of trees on the opposite side. There'll be firstly a small field (a meadow?) then a larger one; keep to the right hand side of both and then, when indicated, pass through the boundary to another field and now keep the tree-boundary on your left. This tall hedge shortly switches to the right side of the track, which you keep following as the houses and church of Rede come into view. You'll bear right and keeping to the eastern edge of the field, pass the backs of a number of properties before reaching your starting point in the Village Green.

Walked June 2020