

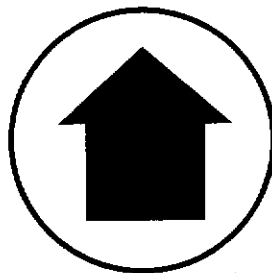
## The Butterley Extension

As part of Challenge Walk 2, we have a special addition to the route called the 'Butterley Extension'; this takes you through regenerated land that was once actively quarried for gravel. It also takes us to the River Erewash and, with the River Derwent to the west, helps Challenge Walk 2 encompass the entire southern boundary of Erewash borough, as well as touching 3 rivers and 3 counties along the way.

Join the Butterley Extension where the red arrow waymarkers (pictured right) split, at the point mentioned in the beginning of the leaflet. The path roughly follows the profile of the lakes that were created when gravel was first quarried here. The lakes and their margins were left to regenerate naturally and now support many diverse species of flora and fauna. Continue to follow the lake edges and waymarkers ~ take care as the ground is uneven in many

places along the edge of the lakes. Eventually you will meet the River Erewash as it flows into the lakes, bear left and follow the Erewash a short distance up-river to where a bridge crosses it. Turn right over the bridge and follow the track parallel with the train lines. The track ends at the level crossing where the road for Attenborough Nature Reserve crosses the railway line. Turn right and proceed along the road, passing through the main car park for the nature reserve. Cross the footbridge ahead and continue on until you come to the River Trent. Turn right and follow the path alongside the Trent. Eventually you will meet the path on the right which comes up from Trent Meadows and you may rejoin the main walk once again.

The Butterley Extension is a permissive path and is used with the kind permission of Butterley Aggregates Ltd.



### PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

**GUARD AGAINST FIRE** Every year carelessness costs thousands of pounds.  
**FASTEN GATES** - even if you find them open. Animals will wander if they can.  
**KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL** - on a lead wherever there is livestock.  
**KEEP TO PATHS.**  
**AVOID DAMAGING FENCES, HEDGES AND WALLS.**

**LEAVE NO LITTER.**  
**SAFEGUARD WATER SUPPLIES** Do not pollute streams or cattle troughs.  
**PROTECT WILDLIFE, PLANTS, TREES.**  
**GO CAREFULLY ON COUNTRY ROADS**  
 Keep in single file, facing oncoming traffic, on the right.  
**RESPECT THE LIFE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE.**



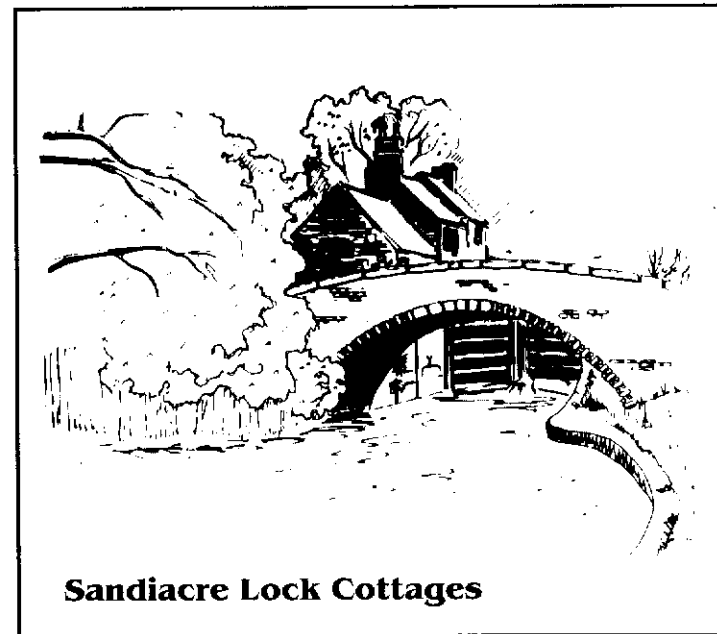
# CHALLENGE WALK 2

## IN AND AROUND EREWASH

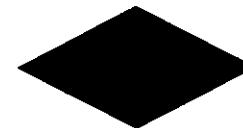
### The 3 Rivers Walk

17 Miles (+ extension)

9 Hours



Sandiacre Lock Cottages



Butterley Aggregates



**EREWASH**



This leaflet was produced with funds from Groundwork Environment Fund, supported by the Department of Environment.

**Challenge Walk 2 17 Miles 9 Hours**

**Start:** The walk can be started from various points along the route. Parking is available at: Trent Meadows, at the end of Meadow Lane, Long Eaton; Cranfleet Lock, off Pasture Lane, Long Eaton; Trent Lock, Sawley; St Chads Water, Church Wilne and the village square Breaston.

**Buses:** Buses can only be accessed by starting the walk from Breaston village square. Bus services from Nottingham to Derby run regularly through Breaston.

**Time:** Allow 9 hours.

**OS Map:** Pathfinder 833

**Type of Walk:** By canal and riverside, country lanes and rolling fields.

**Long Eaton - Sawley - Shardlow**

From the car park on Trent Meadows, follow the track between the 2 grassy banks. Continue along this track as it bends down and to the left. Follow the path to the right as it swings around the bottom of an overgrown bank, continue on ~ \*At this point you will notice some red waymarkers, directing you off to the left of the path. Following these will take you round the 'Butterley Extension' (see back page of leaflet) which is a permissive path through naturally regenerated land owned by Butterley Aggregates and parts of Attenborough Nature Reserve ~ and cross over the green bridge ahead of you. After approximately

50 metres you will find the River Trent (\*Butterley Extension rejoins the walk). Turn to your right and follow the path along the riverside.

All the lakes to the right of the path were created by gravel extraction carried out during the 1980s and 90s. These same lakes and channels connect up with Attenborough Nature Reserve SSSI about 1 1/2 miles north of here, which also formed after gravel extraction. The water here is used for many activities including angling and windsurfing, as well as many areas which are left to regenerate naturally.

Eventually you will come to Cranfleet Lock. This lock stands at the end of a small section of canal which was built to avoid the weir on the River Trent at the base of Red Hill, to your left. Continue on now along the canal towpath, passing underneath the old stone footbridge and the railway bridge further on, as you head towards Trent Lock.



**The Cranfleet Canal**

Looking over to your left you can see the railway as it heads into Red Hill tunnel. The tunnel entrance is surrounded by ornate and stylised castellations, which were built around the tunnel entrance to improve its appearance.

As you come to the end of the towpath, it begins to swing round to the right to join the Erewash Canal at Trent Lock. Proceed over the bridge on your left and carry on again along the path by the River Trent. Further along the River Trent, directly after another railway bridge, you will find a small footbridge on the opposite side of the embankment to take you over the Trent and down onto Sawley Lock. Once again, this small section of canal and the lock were



**The Trent & Mersey Canal**  
(via Shardlow)

constructed to avoid the weir on the River Trent as it snakes around water meadows in Old Sawley. Continue along the canal towpath and through Sawley Marina until you come up and out onto the old Tamworth Road through Long Eaton and Sawley. Crossing

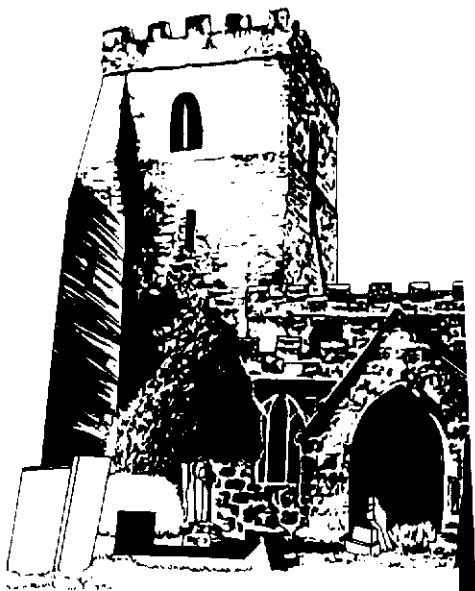
Tamworth Road (caution - Tamworth Road can get very busy), bear slightly to your left and through the gateway on the left of the bridge, continue down the steps along the left-hand side of the canal towpath. After 4-500 yards the canal ends and you join the River Trent once again. Proceed along the path by the river, passing underneath the M1 motorway, over the first footbridge and over 'Long



**The Malt Shovel - Shardlow**

Horse Bridge' a little further on. Over to your right is the Derwent mouth, at its confluence with the River Trent. This point forms the end of the National Heritage Corridor™ which runs the whole length of the Derwent from its beginnings 58 miles away in the Derbyshire Peak.

The path now switches once again from riverside to canalside as you proceed along the Trent & Mersey Canal towards Shardlow. Eventually the path rises up to the left to emerge on Wilne Lane in Shardlow. In front of you are the Malt Shovel and the New Inn public houses, situated on the canalside.



**St Chads Church - Church Wilne**

**Shardlow - Church Wilne - Breaston**

At the bridge over the canal, turn right onto Wilne Lane, pass through the old hamlet of Great Wilne until the lane ends. Cross over the right-hand stile at the end of Wilne Lane and follow the path across the field to the bridge over the River Derwent. Turn left onto another Wilne Lane (Church Wilne) and proceed along the lane towards St Chads Church.

St Chads Church houses - if not the oldest - at least the second oldest Saxon font in the country. At one time there was a medieval village at this site. The name Wilne - in Great Wilne and Church Wilne - means 'a clearing in the willows'

Continue along Wilne Lane until you come to the cottages. Follow

the bridleway which runs along the right-hand side of the cottages. Cross over Sawley Road and continue along the bridleway.

This forms part of the route of the Coffin Stones Country Walk. As you approach the railway crossing over the bridleway you will notice a large stone slab on your right. This is the last surviving 'coffin stone', that pallbearers in olden days used to rest the coffins on, during the journey from Breaston to St Chads Church at Church Wilne.

Taking care now, proceed over the pedestrian rail crossing and follow the path as it bears to the right, eventually coming to the end of Marlborough Road in Breaston. Do not proceed up Marlborough Road, but follow the waymarkers to the right. Continue across the next four fields until you come out onto Church View, to the rear of Breaston Church. Walk alongside the church until you come out onto Nottingham Road, opposite the Chequers public house. Turn right and proceed a short distance along Nottingham Road, cross at the zebra crossing and proceed down Risley Lane, by the side of the Bulls Head.

**Breaston - Sandiacre - Long Eaton**

Continue along Risley Lane until you reach the Navigation public house. Cross over the road and follow the line of the old Derby & Sandiacre Canal, that runs along the back of the houses on

Longmoor Lane. Proceed towards the M1 motorway ahead of you. The footpath now joins Longmoor Lane, going underneath the motorway. Directly after passing under the motorway, turn left and proceed across the open grass area away from the M1 and toward the Novotel. Continue along the old canal route, parallel to Longmoor Road. Eventually this will bring you to the old junction of the Derby & Sandiacre Canal, with the Erewash Canal, at Sandiacre Lock Cottages. You must now follow the footpath by the Erewash Canal southwards, towards Long Eaton and Trent Lock.

The historical Sandiacre Lock Cottages are open to visitors every Sunday and provide a unique view of life along the canal years ago. The Erewash Canal ran originally from Trent Lock, in Sawley, to Langley Mill. As you walk southwards from Lock Cottages, you will pass by many of the mills that



**Breaston Church**

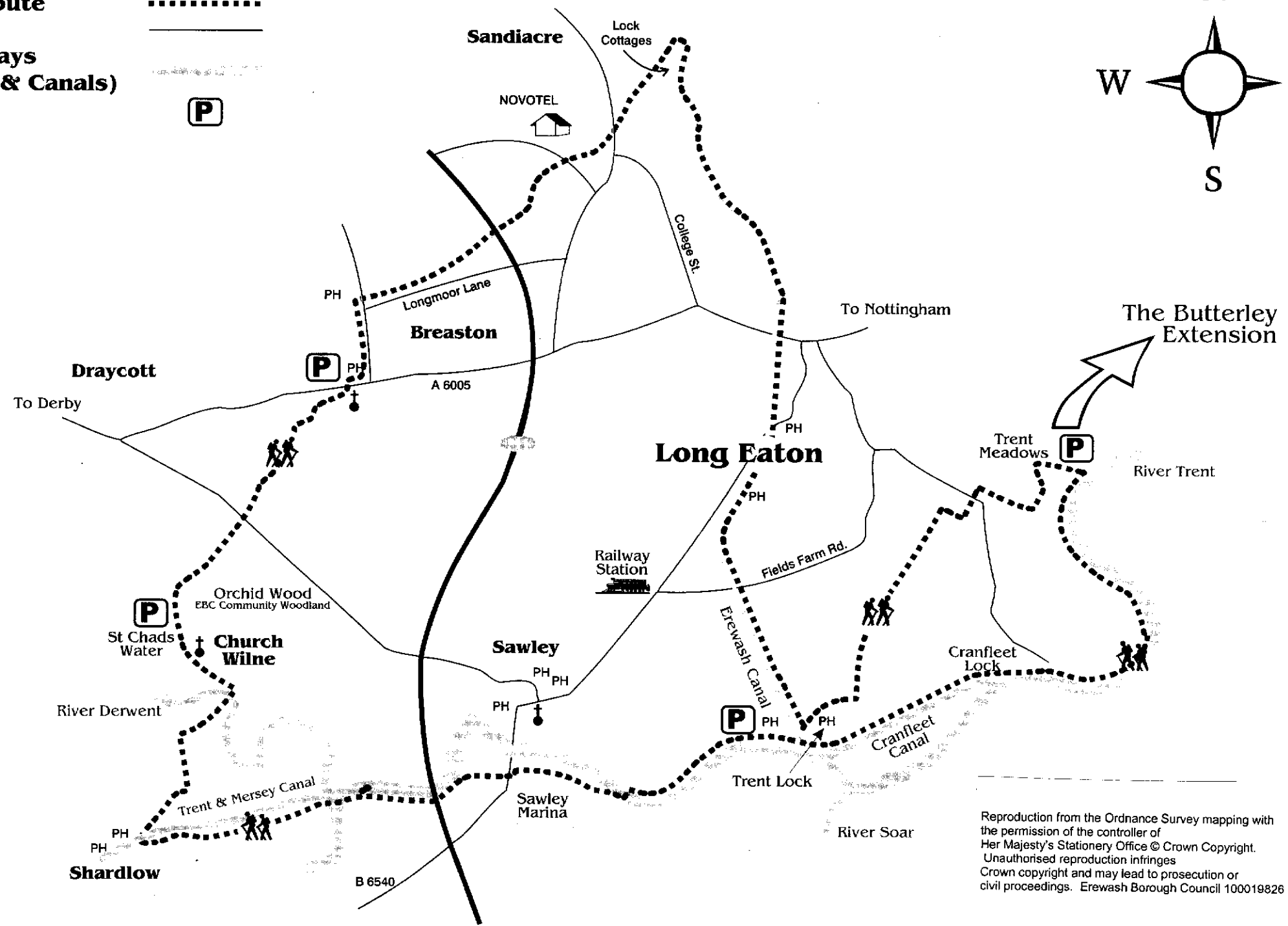
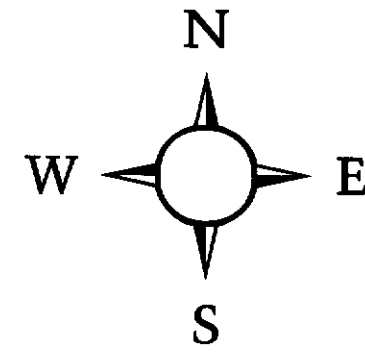
form the core of Long Eaton's industrial heritage, illustrating how important the canal was for transporting goods in days gone by.

As you approach Trent Lock, take the last stile on your left, where the hedgerow ends and Trent Lock begins. Proceed directly across the next two fields and through the two short tunnels under the railway embankments ahead, until you come out onto Trent Lane. Turn left and continue up Trent Lane, past the Rifle Lodge on your right.

At various points in the fields to your right, you can see large redbrick walls and a mound in front of a wooded bank. These are the remains of shooting ranges once used by the military. The mound in front of the wooded bank houses the remains of an old moving target range. The targets were moved up and down on a variety of pulleys, whose rusting remains lie overgrown with vegetation within the mound.

Continue along Trent Lane until you take the alleyway on your right. Cross over the road at the end of the alleyway and continue up Junction Road. At the end of Junction Road turn left onto Owen Avenue. At the end of Owen Avenue turn right onto Meadow Lane, continuing onto Trent Meadows and the car park where you began the walk.

**KEY:**  
**Walk Route** .....  
**Roads** ———  
**Waterways (Rivers & Canals)** ~~~~~  
**Parking** [P]



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