

## Short Walk

### Around the pond

Distance:	Approximately: ½ Mile
Duration:	20 minutes
Total Steps:	1,952

Stage	A to B	B to C	C to A
Duration (Mins)	6	8	6
No. of Steps	596	760	596

### What will I see...

From Longton Road travelling from Longton towards Trentham as you approach the main line railway bridge just past the junction with Newstead Trading Estate, you will see a left turning into Hem Heath and Newstead Woods immediately beside an electricity sub station and just prior to the start of the central reservation on Longton Road. The turning from Longton Road into the car park is very sharp and you will approach it very suddenly; extreme care should be taken when driving into this location. Drive into the car park and then walk, as if you were leaving the car park, down to the stile situated on your left just prior to the entrance. **A**



You should go through the stile and follow the path past the old stone gatehouse down to the pond. **B** Follow the path around the pond back until you come back to the path that you followed earlier to get to the pond, **C** then follow that path, retracing your steps back past the stone gatehouse and through the stile. **A**

## Long Walk

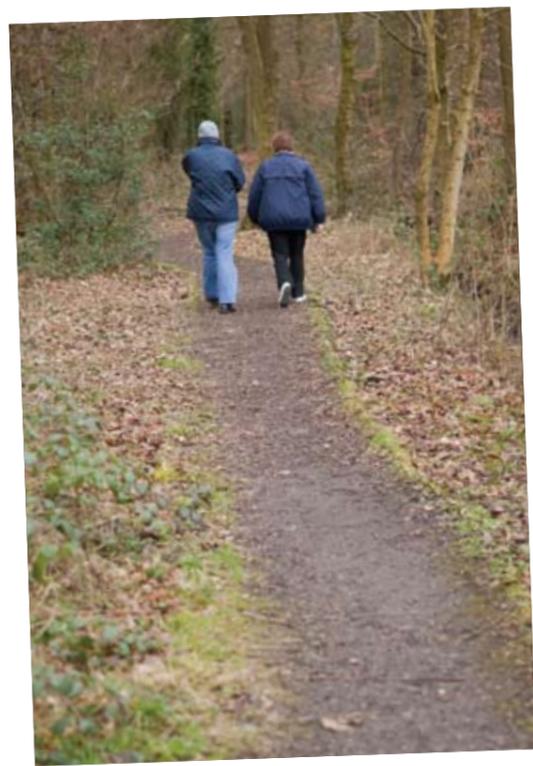
### Hem Heath/Newstead Wood & Nature reserve

Distance:	Approximately: 2 Miles				
Duration:	42 minutes				
Total Steps:	3,948				

Stage	A to B	B to C	C to D	D to E	E to A
Duration (Mins)	7	6	5	3	21
No. of Steps	944	560	318	152	1,974

### What will I see...

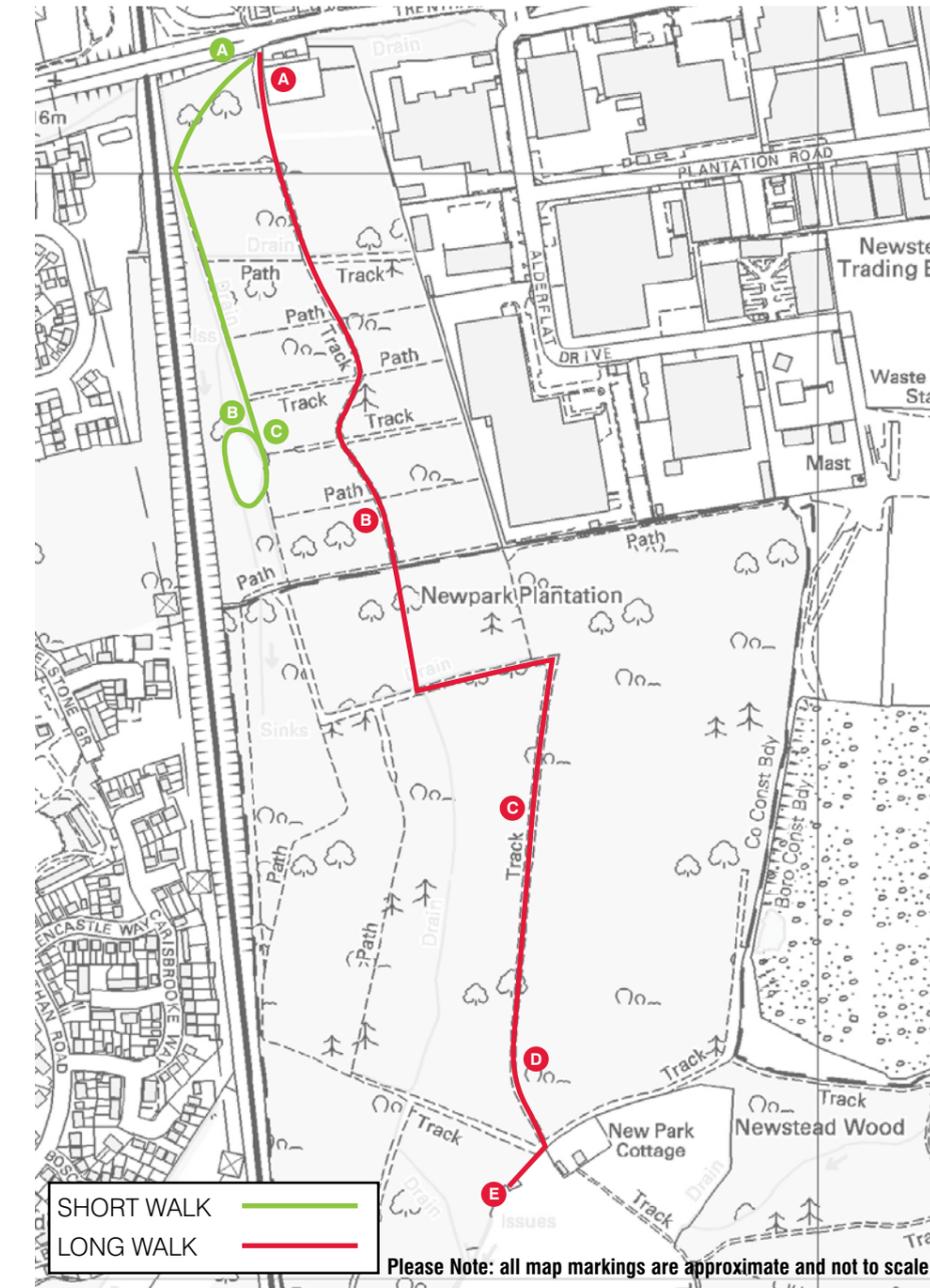
From Longton Road travelling from Longton towards Trentham as you approach the main line railway bridge just past the junction with Newstead Trading Estate, you will see a left turning into Hem Heath and Newstead Woods immediately beside an electricity sub station and just prior to the start of the central reservation on Longton Road. The turning from Longton Road into the car park is very sharp and you will approach it very suddenly; extreme



care should be taken when driving into this location. There is a stile going off into the woods on your right, ignore this and continue into the car park. At the far end of the car park is a gate and a second stile, go through this stile and into the woodland area.

Once through the stile, there is an information board on your right with a site map; **A** walk straight on along the main central path going through the woods ignoring all other paths, and you will come to another information board which says: "Hem Heath and Newstead Woods, and there's more... 'The final frontier'". It also tells you about the agreement in 1995 with Wedgwood to extend the reserve beyond the fence line into the Wedgwood estates. **B**

Continuing from this point walk on into the Newstead plantation. Keeping the information board on your right, walk on between two wooden posts and shortly afterwards you will come to a T junction with another dirt path; bear left here and continue on. Follow the path around to your



SHORT WALK ———  
LONG WALK ———

Please Note: all map markings are approximate and not to scale

right, through the trees and straight on. Just off to your right, at this point, there is a clearing which would make a very nice picnic area in summer months; as you walk on you will come across a stream and path going off to your right. **C** You should ignore this path and continue on along the central path to the next information board which is on your left, again headed Newstead Woods, reading: 'Potty about heritage'. **D**

Keeping the information board on your left continue along the path that you were following (the path at this point has a lot of sunken bricks in it so please be careful) as you walk on you will come to another (muddy) T junction with a gate just off to your right. If you look across the field beyond this gate, you can see Wedgwood Visitor Centre. You should walk on up to this gate leading into an open field, beyond which you can see the Wedgwood factory. **E**

With the gate behind you, you should retrace your steps to point **A**.



## Remember

100 acres of woodland within the Potteries - partly owned by and leased from Wedgwood.

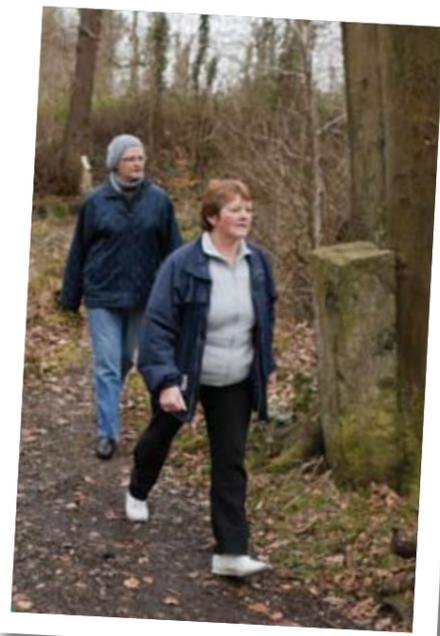
These walks contain uphill stretches and may be undertaken by anyone on foot; however, they are unsuitable for anyone with a pram/pushchair and for wheelchair users. If you are not used to walking, or are unsure about your level of fitness, please consult your GP prior to undertaking these walks.

There are a number of paths crossing through Hem Heath and Newstead woods and since the area is completely enclosed by perimeter fencing, you may wish to explore some of them; all paths form a grid system and so ultimately lead back to the Car Park at the entrance to the woods.

**Toilets were not available in this area at the time of going to press.**

### Hazards to look out for...

Tree roots, boggy areas of path, buried stones, paths churned up by motorcycles and maintenance/service vehicles and flooding are some of the hazards in Hem Heath and Newstead Woods. Roads leading to the woods also present a hazard and care should be taken when crossing them; particularly Longton Road which is a main and busy trunk road.



Closer to home  
Circular Walks



STOKE SOUTH  
No:5

## Hem Heath/Newstead Woods & Nature Reserve Points of interest

- Hem Heath woodland actually encompasses four distinct woods - Hem Heath, The Oaks, Newpark Plantation and Newstead Wood providing a beautiful sanctuary; in what is the largest single area of woodland in Stoke-on-Trent.
- Oak, ash, sycamore, beech and cherry can all be found here. Commonly spotted flora and fauna include: bluebells, wood sorrel, wood sanicle, figwort and broadleaved helleborine and a range of Summer breeding bird species which include chiffchaff, willow warbler, wood warbler, nuthatch and tree creeper.
- The woodland is criss-crossed by a series of drainage ditches laid amid the planting during the nineteenth century. However, the attractive pond in Hem Heath pre-dates this and is shown on eighteenth century maps, surrounded by fields. An old stone gatepost can still be found immediately to the northeast of this pond, close to a stile.

[www.wildlifetrusts.org/Staffordshire](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/Staffordshire)



Closer to home  
Circular Walks



STOKE SOUTH  
No:5



## Two walks around Hem Heath/Newstead Woods & Nature Reserve