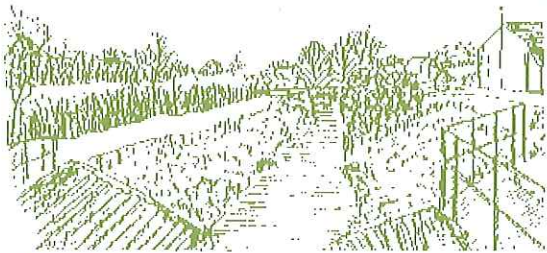


Common. Traditionally, children are turned upside down at the corners to teach them the boundaries of their Common, which they must protect.

Enjoy walking through The Common. During the summer, watch for enormous dragonflies in the wetland area. Follow the stream towards the railway line. Then turn right along the new path parallel to the railway. Head towards the north east corner and leave The Common by the kissing gate in front of you. Go straight on to Station Road. Wheelchair users can take the tarmac path from the chicane gate on Westerleigh Road to the kissing gate which leads onto Station Road.

Cross Station Road by the lights on the bridge. Continue walking away from Yate and turn right into North Road. You'll see some traffic lights approximately 500m along North Road. Just beyond them, there is a stone stile on your right. Cross it onto the riverbank. Wheelchair users will need to continue along North Road to Goose Green Way, turn right at the lights and rejoin the walk on Goose Green Way.

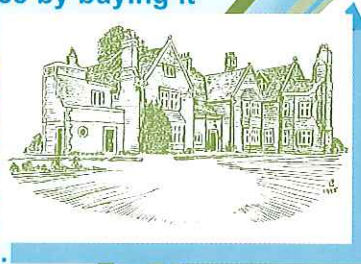
Within moments, walkers will find themselves on a quiet riverside walkway. This is part of the Frome Valley Walkway which runs from Old Sodbury to Snuff Mills at Stapleton. Watch out for conservation work going on, building up the banks and planting more reeds to encourage fish.



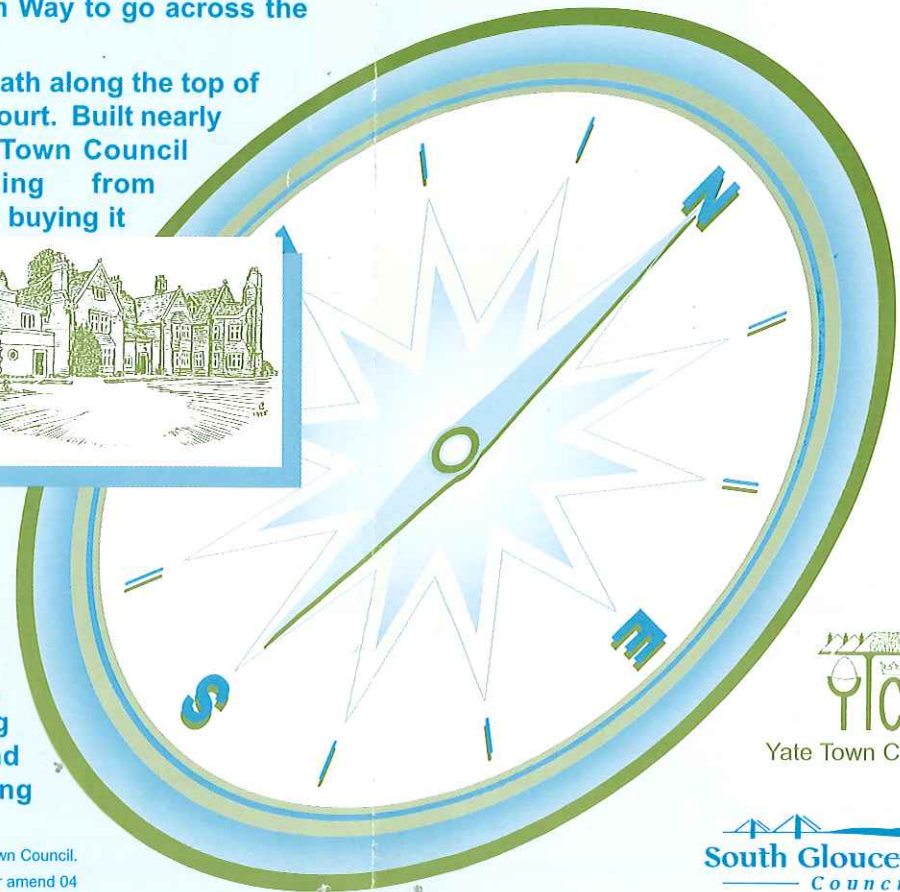
River Frome

When the path reaches Goose Green Way, go up onto the road to cross the railway. As soon as you are across, go back down the slope onto the important wildlife and wetland area on your right. Follow the track across the land and cross the little footbridge over the river. Turn left, keeping close to the river. Cross Cranleigh Court Road, turn left into Greenways Road and follow the river. Turn right across the footbridge at the end of Milton Road, then turn left along the river before turning right onto Newman's Mound, where yet another unique habitat has been created. The soil is very low quality and dry, so it hosts a range of plants not usually found in local wet clay soils. Wheelchair users will join with walkers when their path reaches Goose Green Way to go across the railway.

Follow the surfaced path along the top of the Mound to Poole Court. Built nearly 150 years ago, Yate Town Council saved the building from demolition in 1988 by buying it for £1 and has since restored it for community use. If the building is open, call in to look at the entrance hall: the stairs and landing are thought to be Jacobean. Leave Poole Court by the gate at the end of the car park, turning right along Poole Court Drive and return to the shopping centre.



The Stanshawes Manor Walk



Yate Town Council

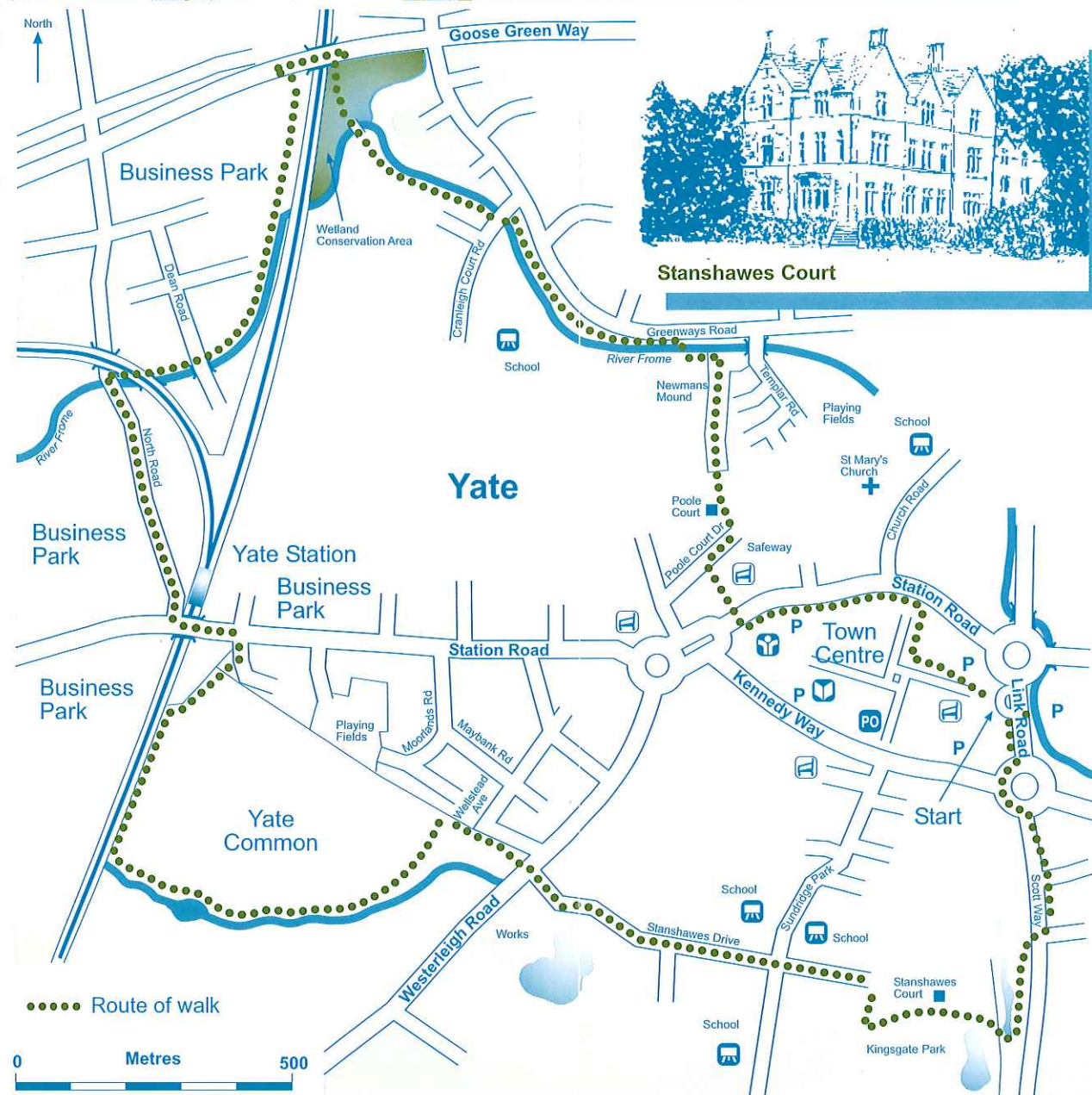


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PROW/Stanshawes Manor amend 04

Designed by Graphics and Mapping. 10396/1/05

Map of Route



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Starting from the car park on the east side of Link Road, this walk explores the southernmost of the ancient manors of Yate and Stanshawes and takes about two and a half hours to complete.

From the car park, head south towards Scott Way. The pond and landscaping on the Kennedy Way corner have been put in to help the riverside wildlife and plants. Herons and Kingfishers can be spotted here.

As you walk down Scott Way, turn right opposite Shackleton Avenue into Kingsgate Nature Reserve and Park, formerly part of the gardens of Stanshawes Court. The shores of the two lakes are popular nesting spots for a variety of birds, including swans. Follow the path between the two lakes and past the children's play areas. On your right is Stanshawes Court.

Leave by the gate on the right into the grounds of Stanshawes Court Hotel, then turn left into Stanshawes Drive, on the line of the drive to the house. The next section of Stanshawes Drive is also laid out as a cycleway. At the far end, you pass a pair of stone cottages on your left. These were the gatehouses for Stanshawes Court. Look for the large windows on the side of the houses. These windows allowed people inside to spot coaches approaching the gate so they could run out and open it. Continue past the houses to Westerleigh Road.

Cross Westerleigh Road and go through the chicanes onto the playing fields. Head to your left around the first football pitch and cross a stile onto The Common. Local residents and Yate Town Council successfully fought a legal battle to save The Common in 1988. On Rogation Sunday each May, an ancient custom is kept here: Beating the Bounds. The Rector, Town Mayor and local residents walk the boundaries of The