

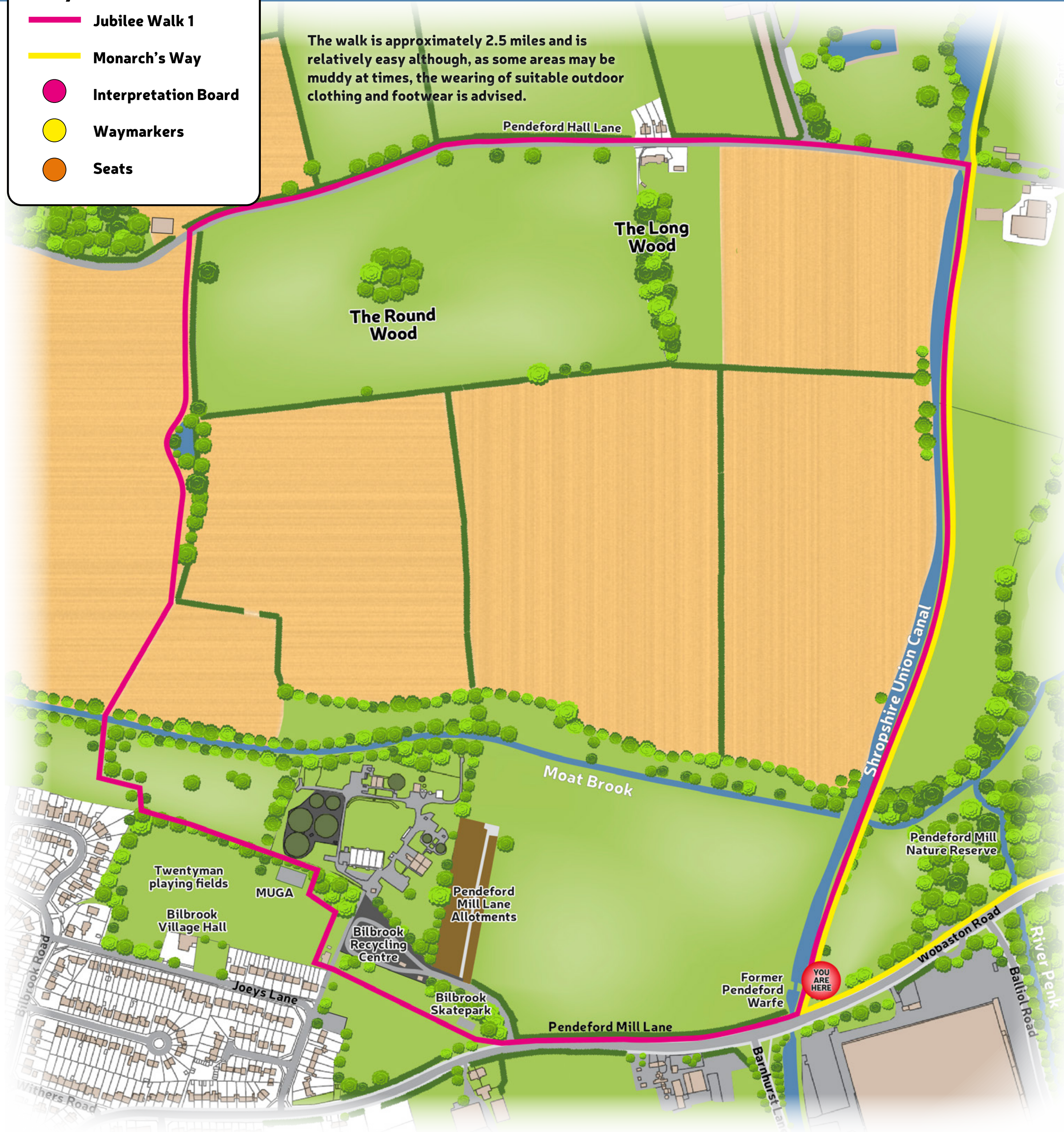
Bilbrook

Jubilee Walk 1

Key

- Jubilee Walk 1
- Monarch's Way
- Interpretation Board
- Waymarkers
- Seats

The walk is approximately 2.5 miles and is relatively easy although, as some areas may be muddy at times, the wearing of suitable outdoor clothing and footwear is advised.



White-clawed crayfish



Heron



Kingfisher

Introduction/Route

- The walk begins in the top left (North West) corner of Twentyman Playing Fields, off Joey's Lane.
- Take the Public Footpath (Bilbrook 2) path northwards towards the Moat Brook. The path crosses the Moat Brook by a footbridge.
- The walk proceeds north on the path through a large field with a hedgerow on the right. It then passes around a pond and then continues north until it meets Pendeford Hall Lane. Turn right onto Pendeford Hall Lane.
- Passing the Round Wood and Rose Cottage on the right and Upper Hattons Cottage on the left, the walk continues along Pendeford Hall Lane to Upper Hattons Bridge (No.5) on the Shropshire Union Canal.
- The route swings right and follows the canal towpath South, which, at this point is carried on an embankment. The towpath forms part of the Monarch's Way.
- As the towpath nears Wobaston Road, the canal crosses the Moat Brook. To the left is the confluence of the Moat Brook with the River Penk. This is also near the site of Pendeford Mill. (Accessed via Pendeford Mill Nature Reserve)
- At Pendeford Bridge (No.4) on the Shropshire Union Canal, take the path up to Wobaston Road. In front of you to the left is the former site of the Boulton Paul Aircraft Factory.
- Turn right and cross over the canal bridge. To the right is Pendeford Wharf, once associated with the Boulton Paul Aircraft factory.
- The walk follows Pendeford Mill Lane. It crosses the access road leading to Bilbrook Recycling Centre and the allotments. Take the gate into the skate park field and follow the right of way (Bilbrook 3) to the North West of the Field
- Go through the gate, cross the path leading to the Severn Trent Water Treatment Plant and continue into the next playing field. Cross the field in which Bilbrook Village Hall stands to complete the walk.

The Moat Brook and the River Penk

The Moat Brook rises in Chillington Estate and Oaken Village. Within Bilbrook it creates the North West Border of the Parish. It passes under the Shropshire Union Canal via a semi-circular arched sandstone aqueduct built in 1832 and flows into the River Penk at Pendeford Mill Nature Reserve. Outside of the Parish, the River Penk joins the River Sow, which joins the River Trent which joins the River Humber and eventually flows into the North Sea from the Humber Estuary, near Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

The Monarch's Way

The Monarch's Way is a long-distance walk of 625 miles using footpaths and bridleways which closely follow the route taken by Charles II after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester on the 3rd of September 1651. The section that passes through the Civil Parish of Bilbrook is part of the 11½ mile route from Boscobel to Moseley Old Hall.

Pendeford Mill and Pendeford Hall

Within the Parish of Bilbrook is the 68-acre site of the former Pendeford Mill and Pendeford Hall. The site of the old mill is to the East of the Shropshire Union Canal as it nears the Wobaston Road. Pendeford Mill was a watermill on the Penk, that operated from c.1650. The mill house was converted into two cottages in 1912. Pendeford Hall was rebuilt in 1670. Together with its estate, it was sold to Wolverhampton Corporation in 1935. The Hall was requisitioned during the Second World War and partly demolished in 1953; the demolition being completed in 1968. The cottages were demolished in 1961. The site was developed by Wolverhampton Council in 1976. Pendeford Mill Nature Reserve now occupies part of the site.

Boulton Paul Aircraft factory

The Boulton Paul Aircraft factory was completed in 1936 and had a massive impact on the village with around 600 skilled employees moving from Norwich to Bilbrook to work there. Over 300 houses were built in Bilbrook to house their families. The company underwent several name changes and in 2009 was sold to Moog Inc. who have moved to new premises at the I54 business park which is still within the Civil Parish of Bilbrook.

The Twentyman Playing Fields

The Twentyman family moved to Bilbrook in the early 1900s to live at Bilbrook Manor. The two sons Richard & Anthony were to become famous names in the art world. When the family sold the manor in 1956 some of the land was given to Bilbrook Parish Council for the creation of an open area for playing fields and recreation.

Species

In the grassland, shrubs and trees

Mammals and Amphibians

Otter, Grey squirrel, Frog, Yellow neck mouse, Wood mouse, Hare, Fox and Rabbit.

Crustaceans

White-clawed crayfish.

Birds

Lapwing, Sparrow, Sparrowhawk, Buzzard, Heron, Robin, Blue tit, Goldfinch, Magpie, Wood pigeon, Stock dove, Greenfinch, Blackbird, Jay, Collared dove, Grey wagtail, Kingfisher, Tawny owl, Little owl and Great tit.

Butterflies

Small tortoiseshell, Gatekeeper, Ringlet and Red admiral.

Insects and other

Bumblebee, Damselfly or Broadwater Damselfly, Southern Hawker, Dragonfly, Grasshopper, Cardinal beetle, Ladybird, Redtail bumblebee, Honeybee, Marmalade bumblebee, Hoverfly and White-lipped snail.

Plants

Bluebell, Hawthorn, Elder and Hazel.

Trees

Ash, Alder, Oak, Pine and Sycamore.

Public Notices & Information

POINTS OF CONTACT

If you notice anything untoward whilst enjoying this site or would like to know more about the Bilbrook Jubilee Walks please contact Bilbrook Parish Council:

Tel: **01902 840007**

Email: clerk@bilbrookparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.bilbrookparishcouncil.gov.uk

For "Public Rights of Way" issues contact Staffordshire County Council. Tel: **0300 111 8000**.

For Issues on the canal towpath contact the Canal and River Trust on **0303 040 4040**.