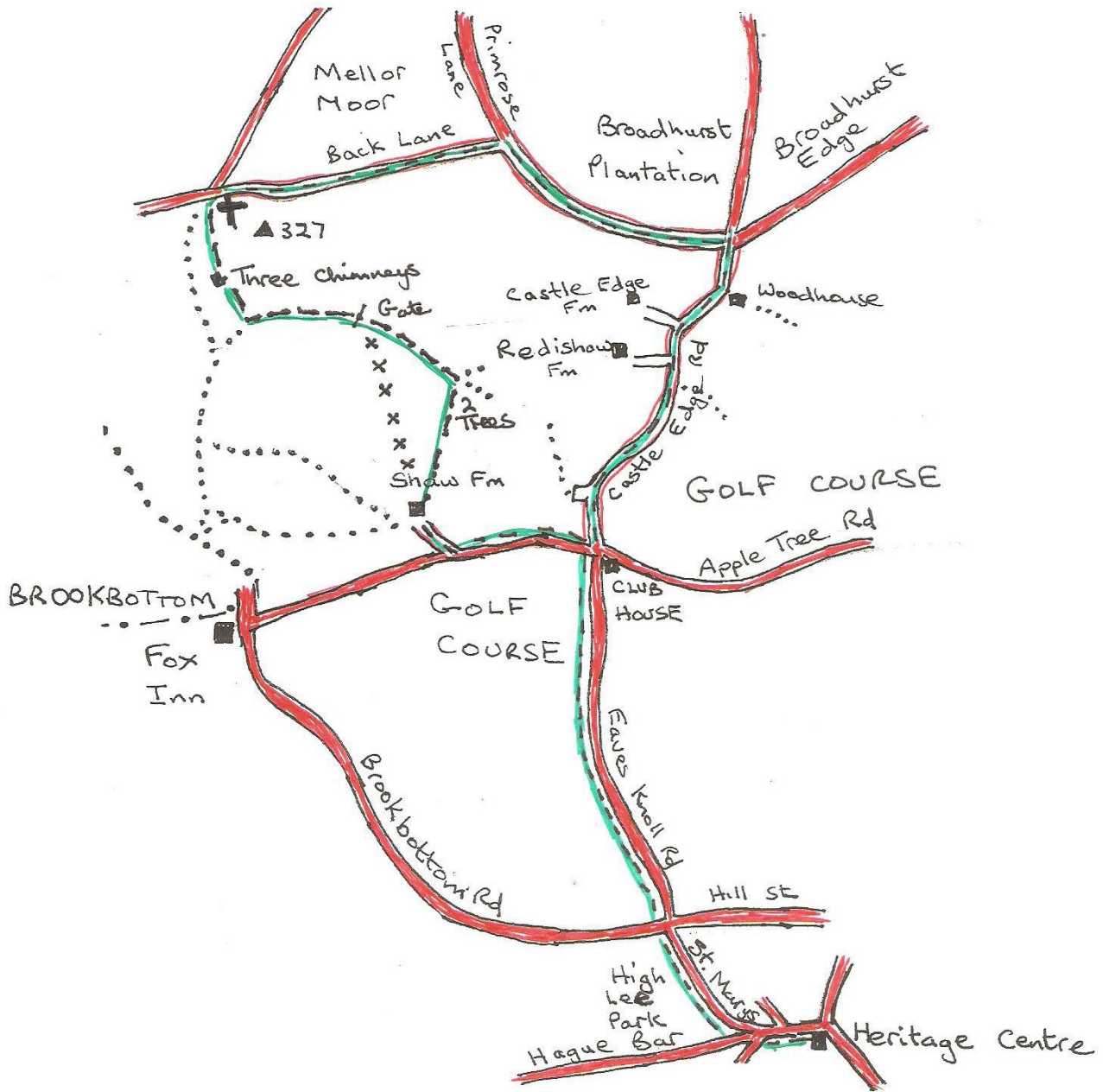


New Mills Golf Club to Mellor Cross

Approx 2 miles. Quiet roads, tracks and field footpaths. Can be muddy. Grade moderate

1. From the Heritage Centre, walk or drive up St Mary's Road, go straight on at a crossroads; the road then becomes Eaves Knoll. Continue uphill until you reach the Golf Club at a crossroads. Park in the lane on the left (distance about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile). Please remember this lane is used by the farm.
2. With the clubhouse facing you, go left up Castle Edge Road. Ignore the sign to Stoney Piece on your left and continue up the road with the golf course on your right. Ignore the next farm entrance (Redishaw) and the next (Castle Edge) both on your left. Go past a large white house on your right and just past some stables on your left is a crossways.
3. Broadhurst Plantation is on your right and is a nature reserve owned and managed by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (there is no access).
4. Go left at crossways and follow the tarmac lane which, after Knapkin Piece becomes a stony, and invariably puddled, track. At the next crossways you want to turn left but take note of a large boulder in the wall next to a gate on your right which was a boundary stone.
5. Go up the track. The area to your left and right was Mellor Moor before the enclosure act of the 1700s.
6. As you go over the crest of the hill and start to come down you will see a small gate on your left. This will take you to a trig point at 1079ft (327m) above sea level. There are panoramic views and it is also the site of a late Neolithic burial cairn. The finds and explanations are displayed in Stockport Story Museum. Please retrace your steps back to the gate. Carry on down the hill, noting Mellor Cross on what is locally known as Soldiers Knob. It was erected by the Local Council of Churches in 1970.
7. At the crossways go left following the lane which is going uphill (ignore the notice at the house on your right; you are on a public footpath). The tarmac becomes a grassy track and you carry straight on round the edge of the hill all the way to a gate with a stile on the right of it. This is known as Rachel's Stile and was built to remember Rachel who at the age of 15 died from meningitis (she loved to come up here with her dog and family).
8. Go over the stile. At this point there is a choice of getting down to Shaw Farm below. The concessionary one is to go straight down the hill keeping the wall at all times on your right but the track lower down can get very mucky.
9. To use the official one you follow the track down, until you see a gate stile between 2 posts and a water trough in the middle of the field. Go through and head diagonally left downhill to another stile next to a bath water trough. Go over this and, ignoring the path left to another stile, go straight down to the right of the trees below, to another stile next to a water trough (the trees are on your left).
10. Carry on down to the end of the field and bear right towards the buildings. The stile is in the bottom corner. Go over this and follow the concrete down, past the muck store on your left and the buildings on your right. This is Shaw Farm and was first mentioned in 1285 when it was called The Shae. It has been farmed ever since and was owned (but not lived in) by the Egertons of Tatton Park between 1747 and 1942.
11. At the bottom turn left. Go up the drive out of the farm and at the T, turn left and walk back to the golf club and the start.
 - Alternatively, you can turn right at the T, walk down the stony track and at the bottom turn right and this will take you to the Fox Inn at Brookbottom; it is about a 10 min. walk. It is a small pub and does food but it is advisable to 'phone to make sure it is open; tel. no. 0161 427 1634.

Heritage Centre to New Mills Golf Club, Broadhurst, Mellor Cross and Shaw Farm



SCALE
1/2 mile

KEY	
	Road
	Footpath
	Midshires Way
	Line of walk
	Named buildings
	▲ 327 Trig. point
	† Mellor Cross
	Xx Path permitted by farmer