

one place to another. If you hear a sudden blast of song, it may be a Cetti's warbler, a Mediterranean species that arrived in Britain in the 1960s and has made the Broads its home. Herons' Carr is also a nesting site, for herons during early spring.

The Broad

The crystal clear water of Barton Broad was once famed as a 'botanist's paradise', with a rich diversity of plant life. Sadly during the second half of the 20th Century the broad became dark with algae probably because of nitrates and phosphates enriching the water. The algae blocked out the sunlight and caused many plants to die and sink to the bottom where they formed a thick, muddy deposit.

The Clear Water 2000 project aimed to resurrect the broad by encouraging the growth of huge numbers of daphnia, tiny aquatic animals, sometimes known as waterfleas, which eat algae and help keep the water clear. So for three years a dredging machine pumped the equivalent of 160 Olympic

swimming pools' worth of silt from the broad and a giant, fish-proof curtain was placed across parts of the broad. Fish were removed from these sections to allow the daphnia to increase in numbers. Barton Broad is now well on the road to recovery with submerged plants growing and kingfishers, herons, otters and common terns now finding plenty of food in it.

For information on other NWT reserves please phone 01603 625540 or visit:
www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

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Nature Reserve

Large Print Leaflet



NWT Barton Broad



 Broads Authority
The Broads - a member of the
National Park family

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Introduction

Barton Broad is the second largest of Norfolk's broads. It has been owned by Norfolk Wildlife Trust since 1945. Horatio Nelson may have sailed on these very waters, but today it is probably better known for its beauty, tranquillity and wildlife.

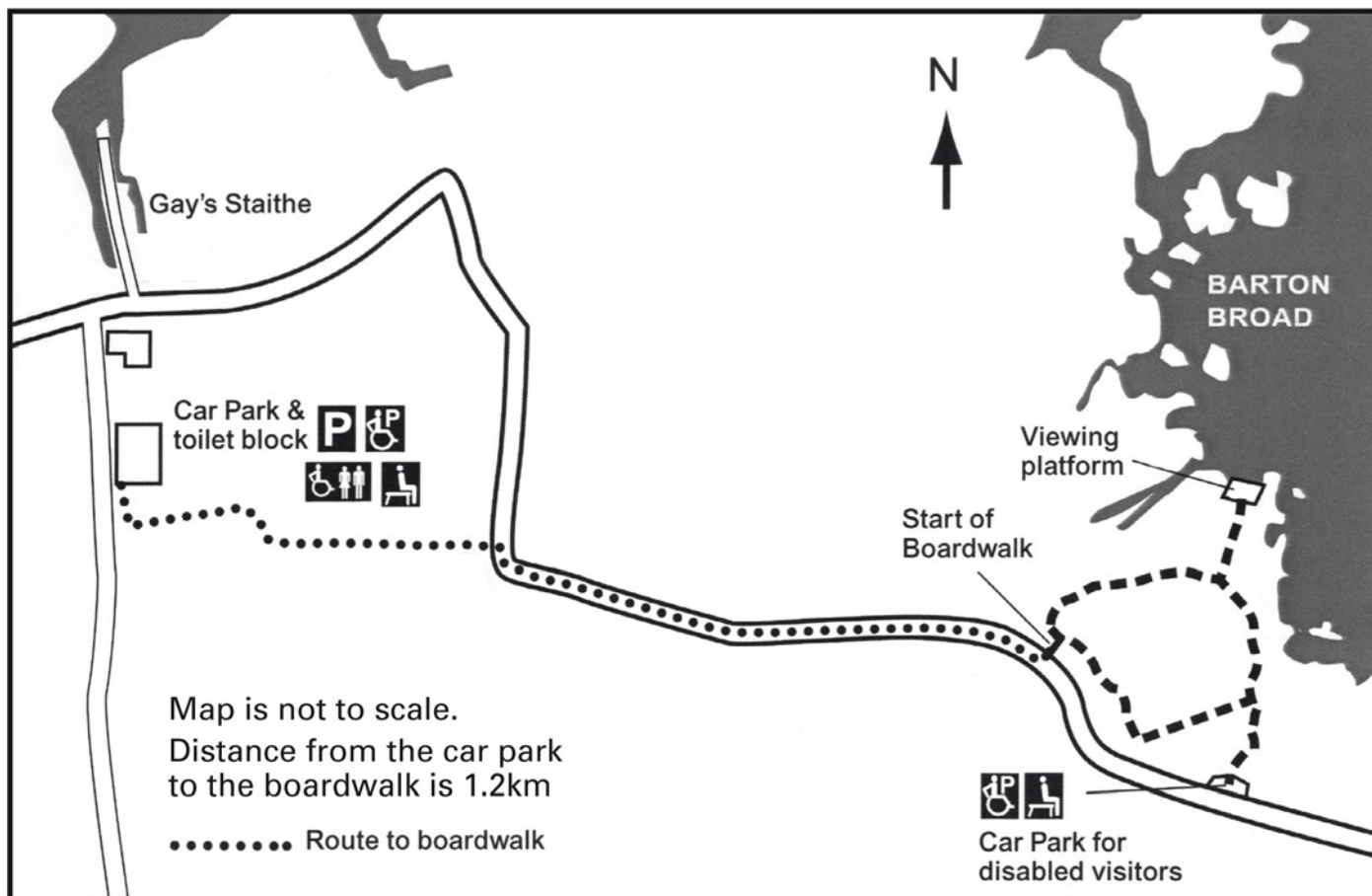
With the River Ant running through the middle of Barton Broad, the only way to access this fantastic reserve was by boat, until a boardwalk, funded through the Clear Water 2000 project, was built in 2003 by the Broads Authority.

Heron's Carr Boardwalk

This area was once open water. Over time reed and sedge began



Speckled wood



to grow, followed by trees, until the valuable carr woodland habitat you see today developed. The boardwalk, which was a major feat to construct, sits on 10 metres of liquid mud.

The carr woodland plays host to a huge variety of wildlife. Scientists believe there are around 1,500 different species of invertebrate found in this habitat. Look out

for speckled wood butterflies, dancing in beams of sunshine from early spring, and black-tailed skimmer dragonflies basking on the boardwalk. Norfolk's most famous resident, the swallowtail butterfly, can also be found here, with the caterpillars feeding on milk parsley.

Great spotted woodpeckers can often be seen, along with tree-creepers and goldcrests flitting from