

South Woodham Ferrers U3A

Walking Group

Catalogue of Walks



If you find any errors or think that further clarification is required for any of the included walks, please send your comments to robert.tyas82@gmail.com

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|| Bicknacre - Cock Clarks No 1 Walk

This walk starts from White Elms Nursery which is in White Elm Road and is approximately 6 miles long. Please remember to speak to the owner in plenty of time prior to the walk for permission to park. The nursery does have a nice café and other outlet of interest which you might wish to visit after the walk. If there has been a lot of rain, part of the walk can get flooded.

Leave White Elms Nursery turning right into White Elm Road. There is no path as such so be extra vigilant and walk in single file because this is quite a busy road.

As a point of interest, it is claimed that a notorious highwayman was executed and buried at White Elm crossroad with an elm stake through his body.

Continue along White Elm Road and where it bears left pass into Slough Road heading towards Jacklett's Farm. Again, there is no path so progress with care. This road will eventually bring you alongside Slough House Wood. Close to here you should see a footpath sign on your right taking you down a leafy footpath. Continue over two stiles which lead you into a field.

Continue along the edge of the field with a ditch on your right. About halfway across this field you will need to cross into the field on your right, turning left as you enter this field.

Continue around the edge of this field with the hedge on your left, turning right at the first corner and then right again at the next. Pass over a footbridge and turn left. Continue around the edge of this field until reaching the main road at Corporation Bridge. This is a good place to take a breather if desired.

Turn right onto the main road, again taking care since there is no footpath and the road is generally quite busy. After about 500 yards and opposite Corporation Farm you will see a footpath sign taking you to your right. This path takes you in the direction of Great Wood.

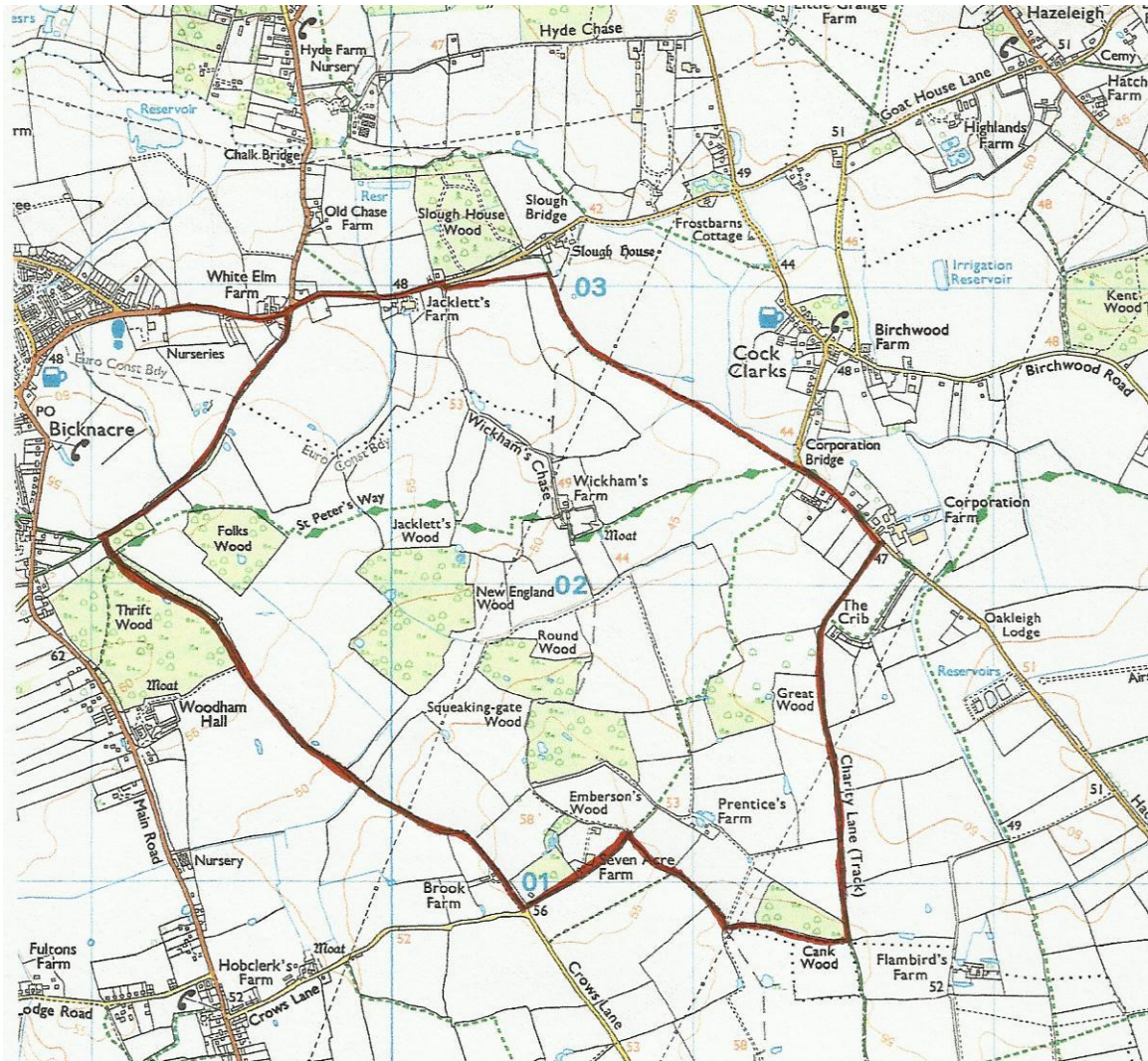
Continue forward and one field will eventually lead into another near to some houses. Keeping the hedges on your right you will come to a gate which takes you into Charity Lane.

Charity Lane is a fine example of a green lane for which Essex is famous, however, after heavy rain it is prone to flooding and can be impassible at certain times of the year. You have been warned. You can, however, often get over this by walking in the fields which run parallel to Charity Lane.

Continue down Charity Lane until you reach the furthest edge of Cank Wood on your right, here you turn right. Continue forward along the edge of the wood until you reach a dirt road, go right and then immediately left. In the corner of this field go left into the next field and then immediately right continuing forward until you soon meet a tree-lined lane.

Turn left into the lane and continue almost to the point where it meets Crows Lane, here you should see a footpath sign on your right which will take you along a bridleway known as Old Salt Road. Salt extraction from sea water was an important industry in the 14th and 15th century hence the name of the bridleway. In winter, this bridleway can be very muddy and hard going.

At the end of the bridleway enter Thrift Wood where you continue to the far side. On the far side of Thrift Wood, you go right and follow this pathway back to White Elm Crossroads. Turn left and make your way carefully back to White Elms Nursery.



Bicknacre - Cock Clarks No1 Walk – Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Bicknacre - Cock Clarks No 2 Walk

This walk starts from the sport field car park which is to the side of Bicknacre School and is a walk of about 6.5 miles. During the winter, it can be a very muddy walk since there are several fields to cross.

Leave the car park by walking along the edge of the sports field keeping the hedge to your right as you walk away for the direction of the school (you should be heading in the direction of Danbury). As you leave the sports field and enter a footpath, turn left. Follow this footpath until you reach a lane and turn right.

At the end of the lane where you meet the main Bicknacre to Danbury road, cross carefully and go left. There is not much of a verge and the road is busy so progress with care. After a short distance turn into Gay Bowers Road on your right.

Continue along Gay Bowers Road for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile until you come to a T-junction, turn right into Capons Lane, and then almost immediately left. At the next crossroad continue ahead into Tyndales Lane until you reach the Maldon Road. Cross the road with care and enter Hyde Wood. Take the footpath which skirts the left-hand side of the wood. At the far corner where the path turns to the right, go left and exit the wood across a footbridge and continue along the edge of the field until you reach Marlpit Road.

Cross the road and follow the footpath sign down the road towards Grange Farm. Pass through the farmyard past the pond on your right, continue past the barn until you see a footpath sign which takes diagonally across the field on your right to Goat House Lane.

Turn right into Goat House Lane and then after a short distance turn left along another lane. At the T-junction turn right to reach the Fox and Hound public house. Turn left and follow the road until you reach Corporation Bridge. The footpath does not continue all the way to Corporation Bridge so progress with care since this is a busy road.

After crossing Corporation Bridge turn immediately to your right. There is a footpath sign with three ways indicated. Take the middle footpath (St Peters Way). Part way across the field you come to a hedge, follow this with it on your right. Continue on this footpath, past water on your right through three gates where you turn right and pass Wickham's Farm.

Just past the farm building pass through a hedge and turn left. Follow the hedge on your left for a short distance and then cross the field in front of you. On the far side of this field turn right.

Follow this path until it turns left across another field. Cross another field to bring you to the edge of Folks Wood where you go right and follow the edge of the wood. Cross one more field to bring you to the edge of Thrift Wood.

Enter Thrift Wood turning right at the bridleway. At the next junction turn left and take the right fork to the Bicknacre Road. Turn right and follow this back to the car park.



Bicknacre - Cock Clarks No 2 Walk – Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Blake's Wood

This walk starts from Mayes Lane car park in Danbury and is a walk of approximately 5.5 miles. At the end of this walk there are several very steep paths so pace yourselves and take rest as necessary. After the walk, you can get refreshment at several places in Danbury Village. The U3A walking group have always found the Cricketers Pub very accommodating. There are toilets at the Community Centre car park and in the Community Centre itself. You will need to ask at reception to use those in the Community Centre.

Start the walk by walking passed the Community Centre heading towards the radio mast. On your way, you will pass the Armada Beacon. At the end of the path turn left and walk down the hill to the road where you turn right and pass the Cricketers Pub.

At the next junction cross with care into Sporehams Lane and take the footpath on your right. Follow the footpath diagonally across the common and cross a footbridge to Fitzwalter Lane. (If the conditions are very wet you could continue along Sporehams Lane to reach Fitzwalter Lane.)

Turning right into Fitzwalter Lane continue pass several houses, after the last house (Wildcroft) take the footpath on the left. Follow this until you reach Woodhill Road where you turn left. After about 25 yards past the Danbury Park car park entrance pass through the kissing gate on your right and take the footpath into the park. Continue forward following the yellow arrow signs, pass over a stream and exit the wooded area.

Pass across the open area and go through another kissing gate into the Youth Camp field. Turning left at the footpath sign follow the yellow arrows across the park, turning right just before a marker post indicating a junction of paths. Take the path just north of a dip and continue following the yellow arrows, past a pond until you come to the main Danbury to Chelmsford road (A414).

Cross the busy A414 with extreme care into Riffhams Lane. Continue along Riffhams Lane until almost opposite Elm Green Lane where you will notice a footpath sign on your left. Cross a stile and take the footpath across the field to the far left-hand corner. Here you cross another stile and enter a wooded area.

Follow the path through the wood exiting into a field. Keep to the extreme left-hand side of this field as you continue forward. Just before reaching a road (Graces Lane) you will see a footpath on your left which run parallel with the Lane, with a hedge on your right. Continue along this path until the next stile. Cross this stile and then cross Graces Lane to a kissing gate which leads to a path through an orchard.

Continue straight ahead along this path which takes you down into part of Blake's Wood. You will cross a stream and at the exit of the wood cross a grassed area and a drive, into another footpath between some rather nice country houses. Continue along this path crossing a stile, bridge and track and enter the field in front of you.

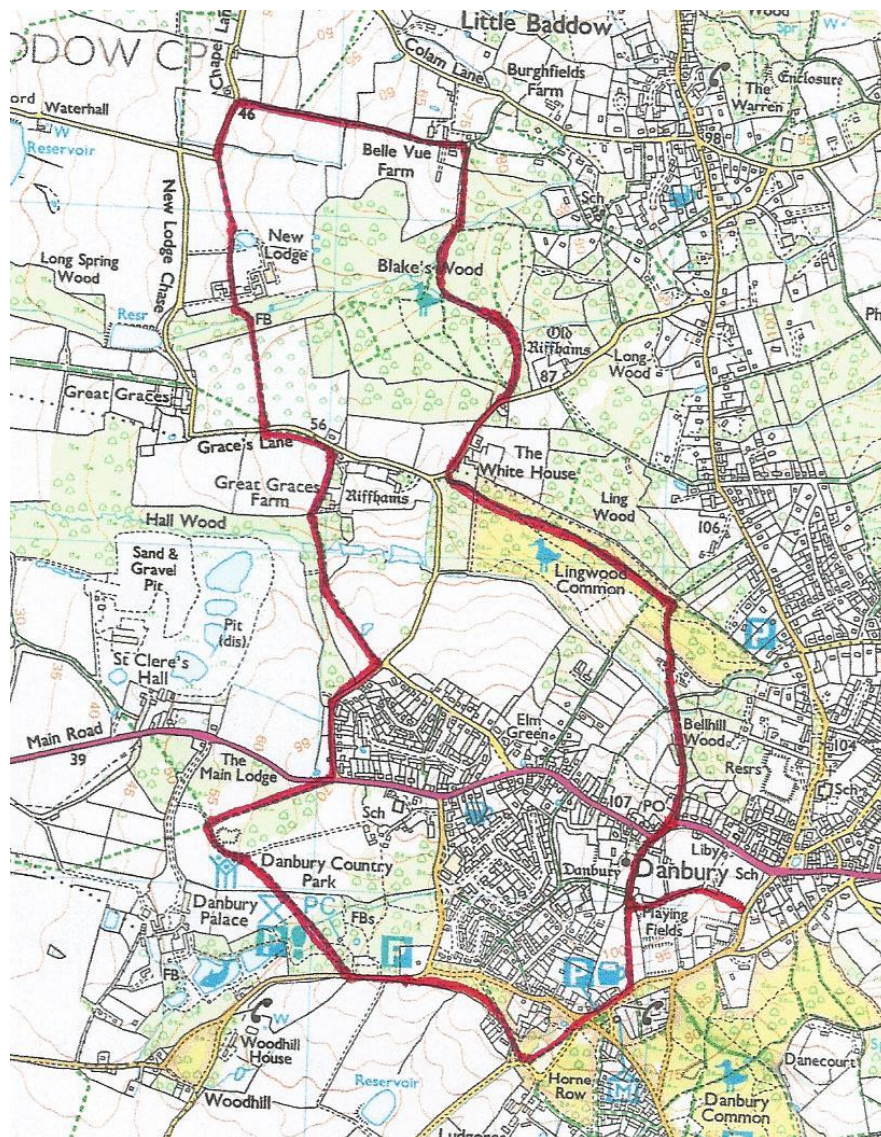
Bearing slightly to your right go diagonally across the field (there are usually horses in the field) and exit right into Chapel Lane. Continue along this lane and take the next footpath on your right, the

hedge will be on your left. Continue on this footpath and at Belle Vue Farm turn right and head on into Blake Wood.

Walk on into Blake Wood and at the next junction go right. Follow the 'Wildside Walk' signs as you pass through the wood and at the forth path on your right follow the path up to the car park. Pass through the car park on to Riffhams Chase where you go right.

Continue down Riffhams Chase for about 350 yards and just after the White House turn left into Lingwood Common. Continue on this path, passing a seat on your left, until you reach a second seat. Turn right and follow the 'Wildside Walk' sign until you reach a concrete driveway. Turn left and follow the drive to the A414. The last part of the walk is particularly steep so progress with care.

Cross the A414 with extreme care and follow the road up to the Church. Take the path to the left of the church and after the radio mast turn left. Follow the path back to the car park.



Blake's Wood Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Bradwell Walk

This walk starts from the St Peter's-on-the-Wall car parking area and is a walk of about 6.5 miles. The Kings Head in Bradwell village is a pleasant pub to have a drink and a bite to eat at the end of the walk.



St Peters-on-the Wall

Leaving the car park head for St Peter's-on-the-Wall. St Peter's was built in 654 A.D. by St Cedd on the site of a Roman fort and it is well worth stopping to take a look inside this lovely old church.

As you leave the church head northward past the observation tower and go up onto the sea wall. It is worth noting that behind the trees is based the Christian community of Othona. Once on the sea wall head towards the decommissioned power station.

Continue along the sea wall until you are about 250 yards pass the power station, descend by the steps and continue across the field on the track which leads towards some trees and weatherboard bungalows. Follow the road that leads from the track as it veers to the left joint the power station road, turn right and head towards the village.

At the Bradwell Bay War Memorial go left and take the old airfield perimeter track. After a short distance take the first big path on the right, this is the beginning of Sandy Path. Follow this all the way down to meet East End Road. Turn left into East End Road and follow this back to where the cars are parked.



Bradwell Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer 176

|| Burnham-on-Crouch Walk

The walk is of about 6.5 miles over level footpaths and country roads. Parking is in the Burnham Marina car park which is situated on the left at the end of Foundry Lane. Parking here is free.

Walk down the steps which leads towards the river, turning right to follow the path around the marina, passing in front of the main building. At the other side join the seawall, walking in the direction of Creeksea.

Continue around the seawall until you come to a footpath marker, leave the seawall and follow the path with runs along the left side of the field with the hedge on your left. After a short distance, the path leads you to a railway crossing point. Cross with care and continue ahead until you reach a road.

At this point turn right and follow the road until you meet the main road into Burnham. Cross the main road with care and take the footpath which runs between two houses. Continue along the footpath until you reach the a narrow road where you turn right.

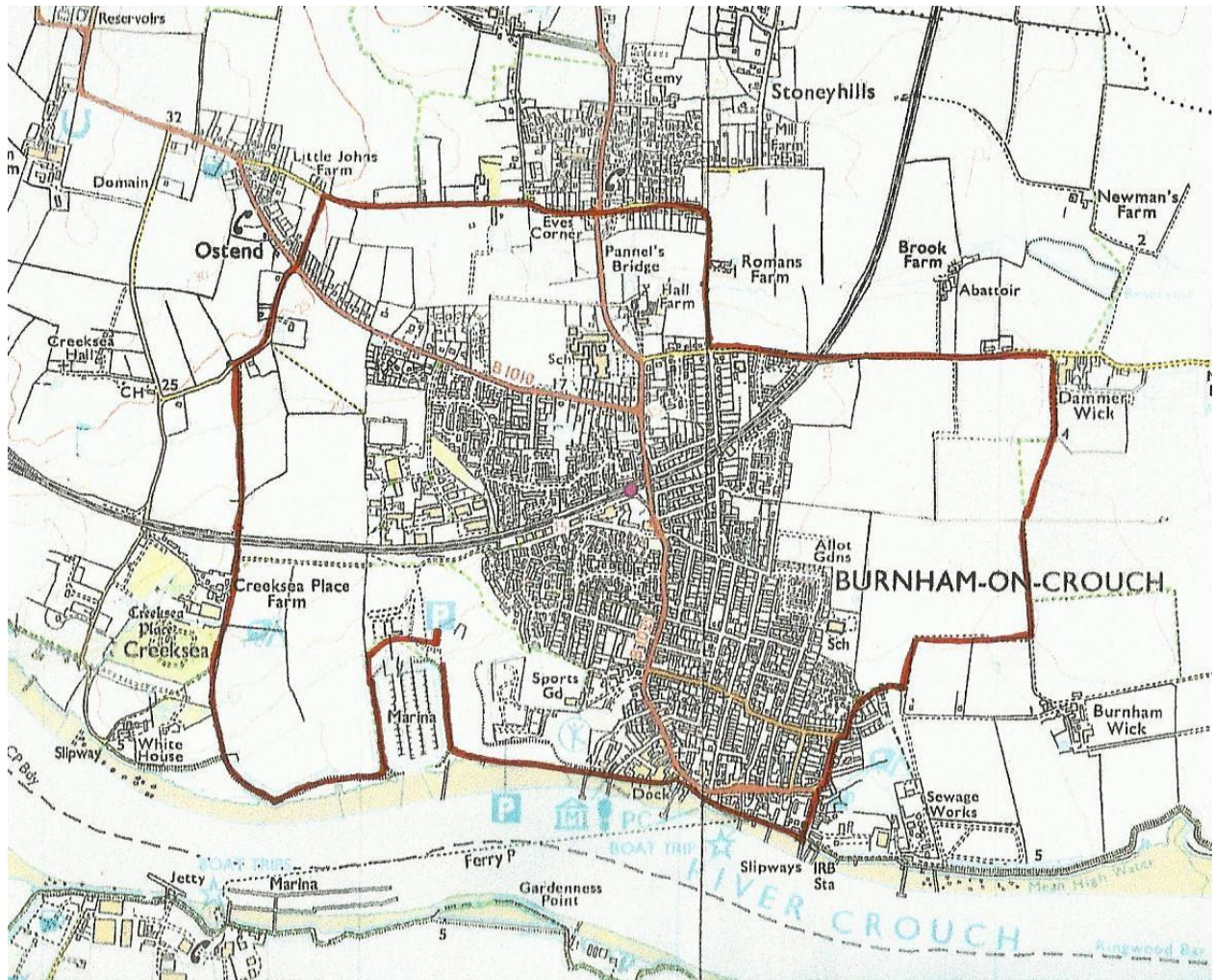
Follow this road until you meet the main Burnham to Southminster road and cross into Mill Road. Continue along Mill Road until it makes a sharp left where you now take the track to the right. This track is sign posted Romans Farm Chase. Avoid the farm and continue down to a brook which you cross by footbridge and continue until you reach the road.

Here you turn left, continue over a railway bridge and head towards Dammer Wick Farm. Just before the farm turn right and follow the path with the farm building on your left. Just beyond the farm building you will see a track, follow this to the edge of a field where you go right. You will notice at Dammer Wick farm that they manufacture boat's and you will see a number of boats, of the type used for singlehanded crossing of the Atlantic.

A short distance along the edge of this field you should see a crossing point to your left. If not, head for the line of trees in the field on your left. On the other side follow the path which runs beside the line of trees.

Just past a path on your left you will see another going right, follow this path with the hedge on your left, turning left again at the tall tree ahead of you. Continue until you reach the road where you go right towards Burnham.

Follow Wick Road until you can turn left into Silver Street. As you reach the High Street turn left at The Victoria Inn down Belvedere Road until reaching the river front. Turn right and follow the path through Burnham and back to the marina.



Burnham-on-Crouch Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 176

|| Cock Clark Walk from South Woodham Ferrers

This is a walk from South Woodham Ferrers to Cock Clarks and back of about 9.5 miles, depending from where you start in SWF.

Starting from the grassed area where King Edwards Road meets Hamberts Road, cross the road carefully and head up towards Radar Hill. At the barbwire fence turn right and follow the path to Crows Lane, where you turn left.

At the top of Crows Lane just before reaching the sharp left turn, turn right and pass through the gap in the hedge and walk along the edge of the field with Hawe's Wood on your left. At the end of the field you meet a bridleway where you turn left. [Please note that the gap in the hedge referred to above has recently had a wooden barrier erected across it to prevent access to horses and bikes.]

At the far corner of the wood you meet another bridleway where you again turn left. After a short distance, the bridleway turns right. Continue the bridleway for some distance and at its end you will meet a narrow road which continues for a short distance. Follow this road and at its end continue forward towards the far wood. At the wood turn left and walk along the edge of the wood with the wood on your right.

After a short distance you will come to an unmade track, go right and then immediately left and walk along the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. At the fields corner go left through a gap in the hedge and then immediately right with the hedge now on your right. At the next roadway turn right and follow the road. At the next T-junction cross the field in front of you following the footpath signs. (If you do not want to cross the field, turn right, and follow the roadway round to the next marker.)

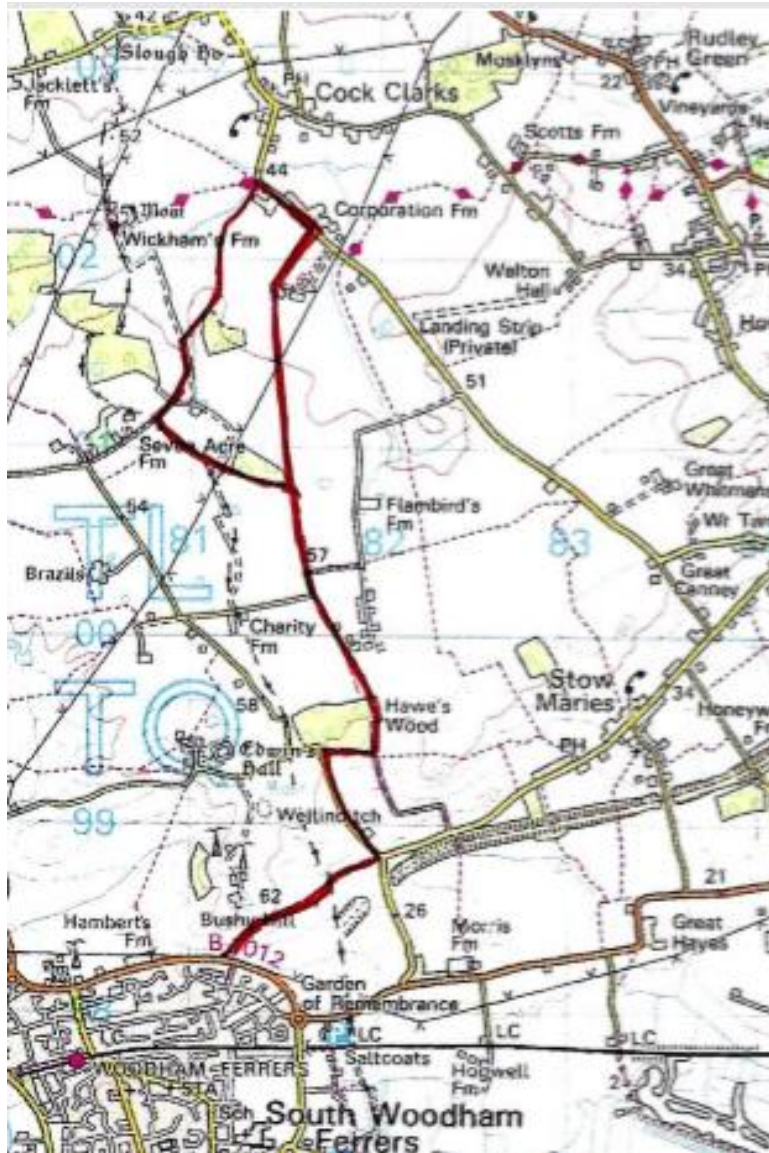
Assuming you have crossed the field, at the next marker turn left and follow the roadway. After a short distance you will see a marker which turns you right and takes you past the edge of a wood. The wood will be on your right. At the next footpath marker, follow the edge of the field(s), with the hedge, at all times on your left, until you reach the main road at Corporation Bridge.

At the main road turn right and after about 500 yards and opposite Corporation Farm you will see a footpath sign taking you to your right. This path takes you in the direction of Great Wood.

Continue forward and one field will eventually lead into another near to some houses. Keeping the hedges on your right you will come to a gate which takes you into Charity Lane.

Charity Lane is a fine example of a green lane for which Essex is famous, however, after heavy rain it is prone to flooding and can be impassible at certain times of the year. You have been warned. You can, however, often get over this by walking in the fields which run parallel to Charity Lane.

Continue down Charity Lane until you reach the furthest edge of Cank Wood on your right, here you will continue forward and home retracing paths you took at the start of the walk.



South Woodham Ferrers/Cock Clarks Walk – OS Landranger Map 168

|| Crondon Park Golf Course Walk

This is one of the longest walks in this catalogue and is approximately 7 miles starting from a Galleywood car park which is situated on the left in Margaretting Road. It does entail walking across several fields which if ploughed in winter months can be very muddy.

From the car park, head west and you will find a footpath in a corner of a grassed area adjacent to the car park. Follow this for a very short distance, until you come to a lane. Turn left and after about 50 yards take the footpath on your right. You will be walking past a house and garden on your left and the edge of a wooded area on your right.

Continue along this footpath for about 700 yards and where there is an exit to the Margaretting Road, go right and immediately left and follow this pathway which bears right at the A12 boundary fence. At the Margaretting Road turn left, cross the A12 and then follow the path which is almost immediately on your left. This path follows the boundary fence of the A12 but now on its other side.

If conditions are very wet you could take the bridleway* that you next come to on your right, otherwise continue along the edge of the next field for about another 200 yards until you come to a footpath sign directing you to your right across the field towards farm buildings. Continue across the field, cross a ditch and enter a field that is often used to graze horses. Head for the exit of the field on the far left-hand corner.

Continue through the farm building turning right and pass the farmhouse (Crondon Hall). Follow the farm approach drive for about 150 yards to meet the previously mentioned bridleway* on your right. If walking from the direction of the farmhouse turn left. If coming from the bridleway continue ahead. After about 80 yards take the footpath on your right, diagonally across the field to meet Swan Lane.

Turn left onto Swan Lane and after passing the White Hart Public House take the lane on your right which is signed as a 'No Through Road'. Do not bear right when the road turns but continue ahead past a farm building on your left and down a rough pathway to enter a field. Go left and join St Peters Way. After about 150 yards go left into the adjacent field and continue up to a stile which leads you back on to Swan Lane.

Go right on Swan Lane and as the road turns left follow the footpath sign straight ahead which takes you into a lane. After about 150 yards turn left and pass through a gate leading onto Fristling Hall property. Continue straight ahead and pass through the next gate, turning right and heading for the Fristling Halls driveway. At the driveway turn left and exit from Fristling Hall.

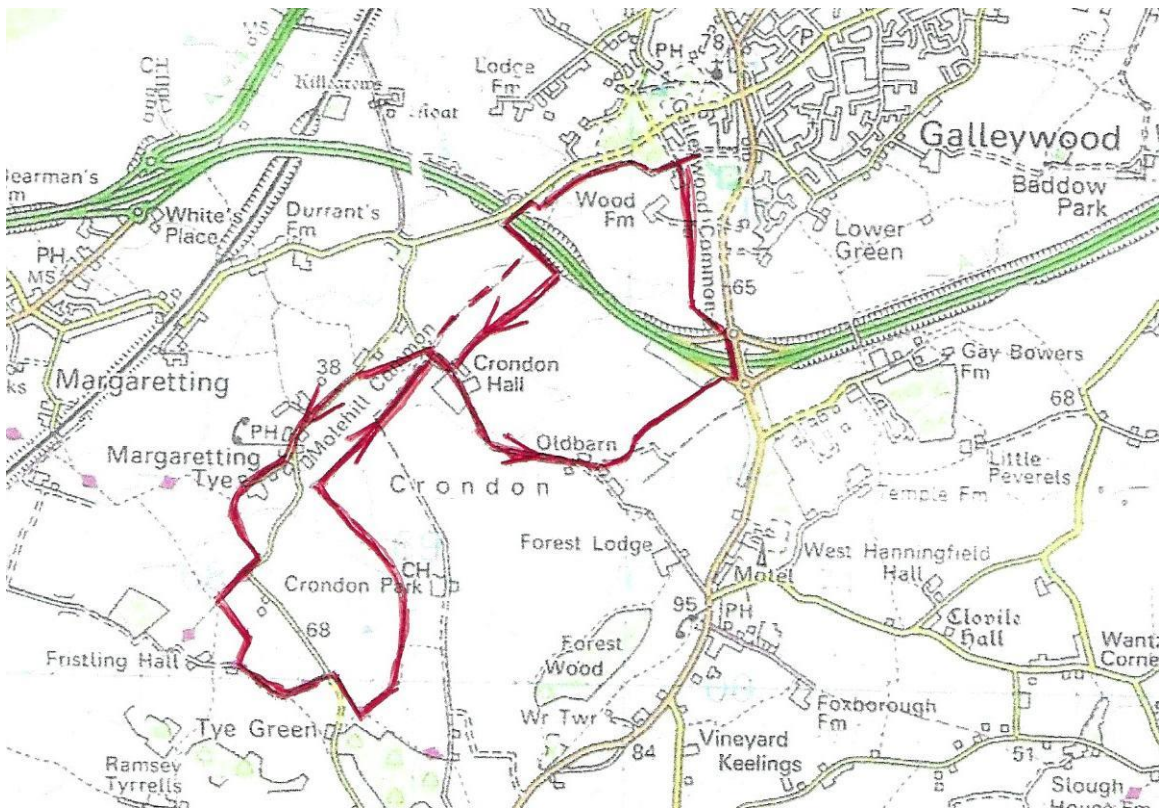
At the road bearing slightly left, cross the road with care and enter Crondon Park Golf Course by crossing the stile in front of you. Follow this path along the edge of the golf course until you see a marker directing you to the left across one of the fairways.

Before crossing the fairway look to you left for any golfers teeing off. If clear to do so cross first one fairway and then a second. At the second look to your right for golfers. On the far side of the second fairway continue ahead on the pathway which eventually turns left and then after a short distance, right. After about 25 yards max., there is a gap in the hedge on your left, pass through this and

continues around the edge of the golf course for about 600 yards. You will cross a number of fairways as you progress, stop at each to let any golfers play through and watch out for stray golf balls.

After leaving the golf course you will enter a field, going slightly to your left go diagonally across the field to meet Swan Lane once again, turn right and enter a bridleway. Follow the bridleway for about 900 yards to meet the approach driveway to Crondon Hall. Turn right and follow the footpath signs between the farm buildings, eventually exiting the buildings along a concrete roadway. Where the roadway turns left follow the road up to Oldbarn.

As you approach Oldbarn go to your left and walk down towards a wooded area. Continue ahead across the next field, turning right on the far side. This will lead you to the bridge over the A12. After crossing the slip-road by the second roundabout follow the footpath diagonally across the field on your left. This will lead you to the path which leads back to the Galleywood lower car park. Follow the old racetrack back to the start car park.



Crondon Park Golf Course Walk - Ordnance Survey Landranger 167

|| Danbury - Thrift Wood Walk

This is a slightly modified version of a Danbury walk published by Essex County Council. The walk starts from Mayes Lane car park and is about 6 miles in length. There are toilets at the start in the Community Centre car park and in the Community Centre. You will need to ask to use the toilets in the Centre.

On leaving the car park head across the edge of the playing field towards the A414. Cross this road and enter Little Baddow Road, after about 1/4 mile turn right into Runsell Lane until reaching Scrubs Wood Nature Reserve.

Enter the wood and go slightly right and then almost immediately left. Continue straight ahead until reaching a large dip. Go right and follow this path down into the dip. Continue down passing one footbridge on your left until you come to a second one, again on your left. Cross the bridge and follow the path as it goes right. At the next junction go right over another footbridge (it is often very muddy here in winter months). Follow the path uphill until you reach a track.

Turn left onto the track and just before the house called Robin Wood turn right and take the footpath that runs along the edge of The Warren Golf Course. Continue on this footpath until you reach Woodham Walter Road.

Cross the road with care and enter Thrift Wood. Take the path which continues through the centre of the wood (in winter this part of the walk can be very muddy). After some distance, you cross a footbridge. Continue for a little further on this path to the edge of the wood. On leaving the wood continue along the footpath heading towards the Zara Indian Restaurant (was Royal Oak Public House)..

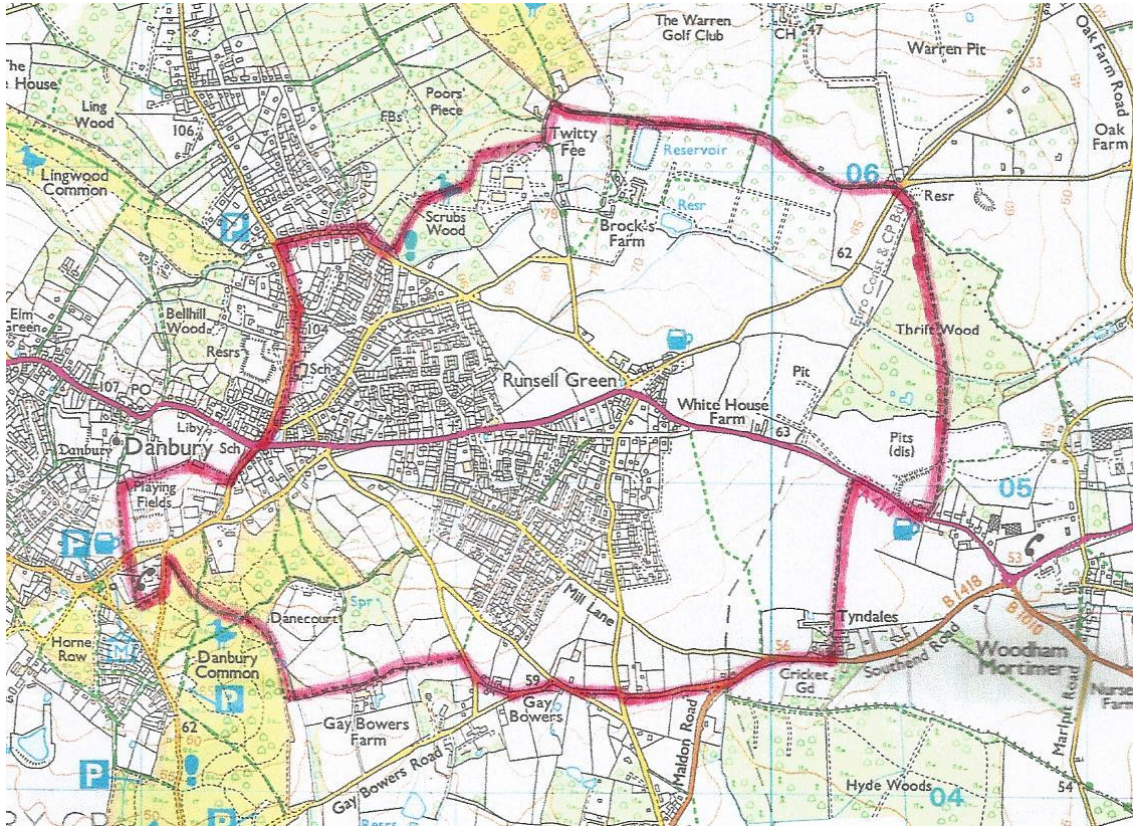
Turn right at the road and take the footpath which run alongside the main road for about 200 to 300 yards. It's a narrow footpath and the road is very busy so go with care. You then cross the road at a footpath sign on the other side of the road. Follow this path to Tyndale Farm and continue until you reach the Maldon Road where you turn right.

Continue along the side of Maldon Road, taking the second right into Tynedale Lane. At the cross-road continue straight across. At the next junction go right and then almost immediately left into Gay Bowers Road. After about 100 yards turn right into a track passing Ivy Cottage. At the end of the short track go right and after about 30 yards cross the road and follow the footpath sign down an open field. Upon entering the field, you will cross a stile.

Follow the path up the next field towards the farm. Pass through the staggered barrier and go immediately left over another stile. Continue ahead passing some stables. Cross another stile and continue ahead through another staggered barrier. Continue ahead down the field keeping the hedge on your left and pass through yet another staggered barrier into the wood which is part of Danbury Common.

After crossing a footbridge over a small stream turn right and follow the footpath up through the wood ignoring other paths as you continue your way to the main road. Turn left and after approximately 100 yards cross the road with care to follow the footpath. After about 100 yards by a

manhole cover turn right and follow the path to Penny Royal Road. Cross the road and follow the path up towards the church. Turn right before the radio mast, pass the Armada Beacon back to the Mayes Lane car park.



Danbury - Thrift Wood Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 183

|| Danbury Circular Walk

This walk starts from Mayes Lane car park in Danbury and is about 7.5 miles in length. There are toilets at the start in the Community Centre car park and in the Community Centre. You will need to ask to use the toilets in the Centre.

On leaving the car park head across the edge of the playing field towards the A414, turn left at the main road and cross at the zebra crossing. Continue left and at the first corner turn right and head off down the concrete strip famously known as "cardiac hill". Fortunately, you will be going down as opposed to climbing it.

At the end of the concrete strip continue forward and take the footpath which enters Lingwood Common and climb to the top of the hill. At the top of the hill go left past the seat and continue all the way to the end of this path until you reach Riffhams Chase where you turn right.

Continue along Riffhams Chase for a couple of hundred yards and enter Blake's Wood on your left. Cross the car park and pass through the kissing gate and take the path to your right. Follow the path down, cross the wooden bridge and go right. After a short distance you will come to a Y junction, take the left fork. At the next junction go right and continue on this path until it exits the wood via a kissing gate onto a narrow lane.

Continue along this lane until you reach the main road known as The Ridge. You will have passed a cricket field on your right and garden of The General Public House on your left. Turn right and then almost immediately left into Mill Lane. At the end of Mill Lane cross the road and follow the footpath down towards the house called The Old Rodney. Pass to the left of The Old Rodney and follow the bridleway which notes that all horses must go this way.

At the next junction continue ahead into a field with a wood on your left. At the far side of the field turn right and continue to the other side of the field where you turn right keeping the hedge on your left. After a very short distance cross the footbridge on your left and continue ahead across the field and into the wood in front of you. You will go down a few steps, cross another bridge at entry to the wood. Follow the path through the wood, exiting into a field which often has horses in it.

Exit the field on the far side via a stile and go right on the road. You will be at the point marked 'Bassetts' on the OS map. At the second bend follow the footpath sign across the field, heading to the left of the part of the field which juts out in the middle of the far side where you will find another footpath sign. Follow the path to the Spring Elms Lane and turn right.

After several hundred yards take Postman's Lane on your left. After some distance the lane bears right, at this point you continue ahead onto the bridleway. Continue on this bridleway for some considerable distance until a Y junction where you go right. After climbing some steps continue right until an Anglia Water facility, at this point go left and exit the wood. At the road go right and then right again into Runsell lane. At the main road go left and continue back to Eves Corner and the car park.



Danbury Circular Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Bicknacre/East Hanningfield Walk

This is a walk of approximately 5.5 miles starting from the Brewers Arms/Drunken Dragon Public House and Restaurant in Bicknacre. Please phone and ask the landlord for permission to park, in advance of the walk. Tel: 01245224061. The Brewers Arms is an excellent pub to have food and drink after the walk.

From the pub car park cross the road with care and enter the wide bridleway. Continue along the bridleway until a right turn signpost which will take you onto St Peter's Way through Thrift Wood. At the end of Thrift Wood continue straight ahead along the bridleway known as the Old Salt Road with a ditch on your right. In winter months, this can be very muddy and hard going. This continues for about a mile where you will meet up with Crows Lane.

Turn right into Crow Lane and continue until the main Woodham to Danbury road. Cross this with care, turning right and almost immediately left into a wide track. This track takes you to Barrack Cottage. Just before the cottage turn left up a grass track which takes you round the back garden. It is worth stopping here to take in the view. Continue right walking back past the other side of the cottage until you reach Lodge Road.

Turn left into Lodge Road passing Woodham Lodge. After turning the right-hand corner and after about 300 yards follow the footpath sign on your left diagonally across the field of grape vines. (During winter months, it might be better to follow the country lanes in order to avoid what can be a muddy trek.) After passing through a small wooded area cross the road to a bridleway sign and walk up the track to a wooden footpath sign by a gate. Bear left at the chicken sheds onto a gravel track.

As the track turns right, take the footpath to your left across the field as indicated by the footpath sign. At the far side of the field and between two oak trees cross the footbridge and continue towards the houses over the next field.

Another footbridge and stile takes you into another field. Going slightly to your right the path takes you to a stile and wooden fence that takes you to the East Hanningfield Road, turn right and follow the footpath. After approximately 100 yards turn right and follow the footpath sign through Cobb's.

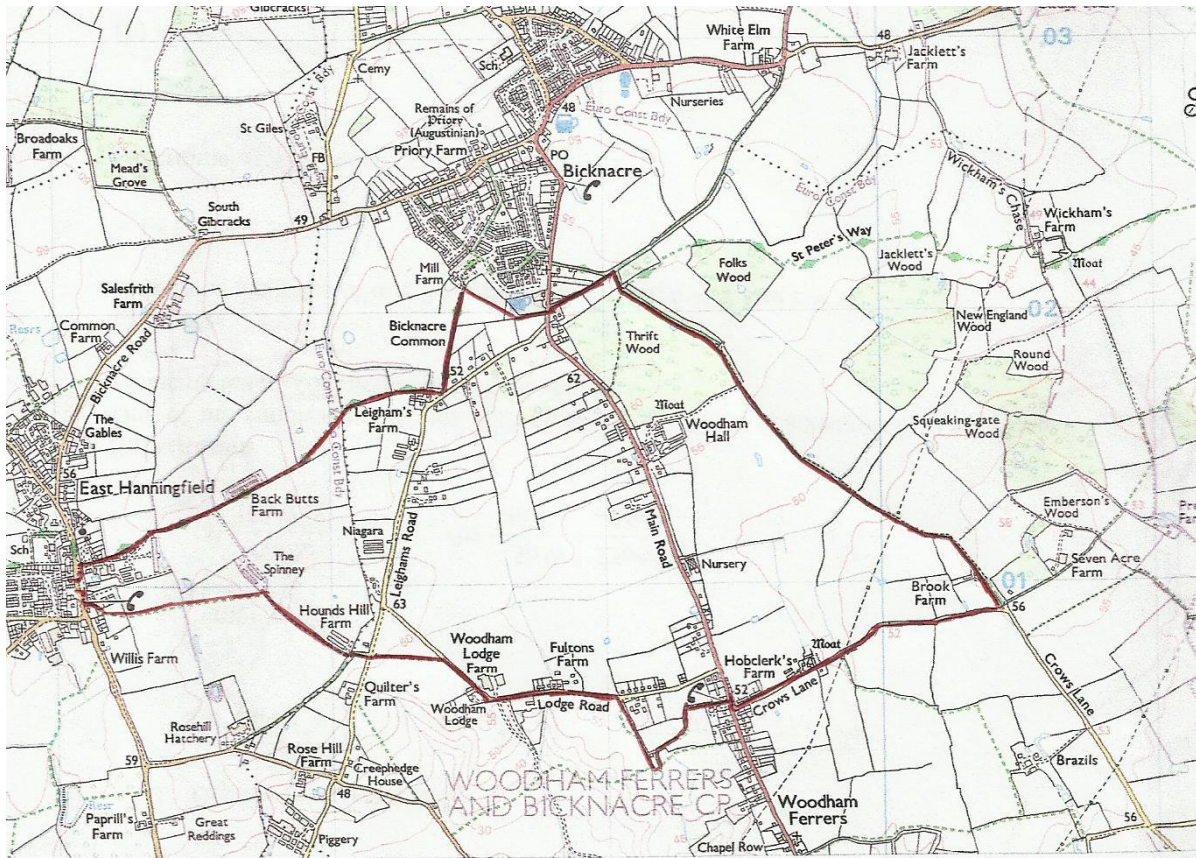
Walk carefully through this industrial area until you see a concrete strip on your left, take this strip. At the junction continue straight ahead walking towards the hen houses.

Take the footpath which passes between the hen house and the hedge on your right and continue into the next field. The footpath crosses the field here, however, it is better to keep to the edge of the field with the hedge on your right. At the corner of the field turn left. About a third of the way along this edge there is a stile on your right, just past a pond.

Cross the stile and continue along this path, crossing a footbridge and enter Leighams Farm. The path goes left, then right, then left at the end of the paddock. Continue round the buildings, passing the horse's exercise machine, and cross the stile and bridge ahead. Continue ahead with the hedge on your

left and just before reaching the road turn left down a bridleway. (If its particularly wet and muddy you can take the road back to the Brewers Arms.)

Towards the end of this bridleway turn right onto the village playing field. Cross the playing field to the far left-hand corner and enter a wide grasses area which leads to the main road. At the road, turn left, and in a short distance you will be back at the Brewers Arms car park.



Bicknacre/East Hanningfield Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 183

|| Goldhanger and Blackwater Circular Walk

This is a relatively easy walk of about 6 miles over flat terrain starting from the Chequers Inn car park in Goldhanger. There is no need to contact the owners of the inn prior to the walk; walkers appear to be most welcome because of the trade they give to the inn after the completion of walk. Indeed, the Inn has an excellent reputation for food and drink and is well worth a visit whether you are walking or just out for a ride in the country.

From the front of the Chequers Inn go west along Head Street (this is the road that you have probably used to enter Goldhanger) until you reach the main road. Carefully cross the main road and take the footpath directly in front of you. As you follow this path the hedge and houses will be to your right.

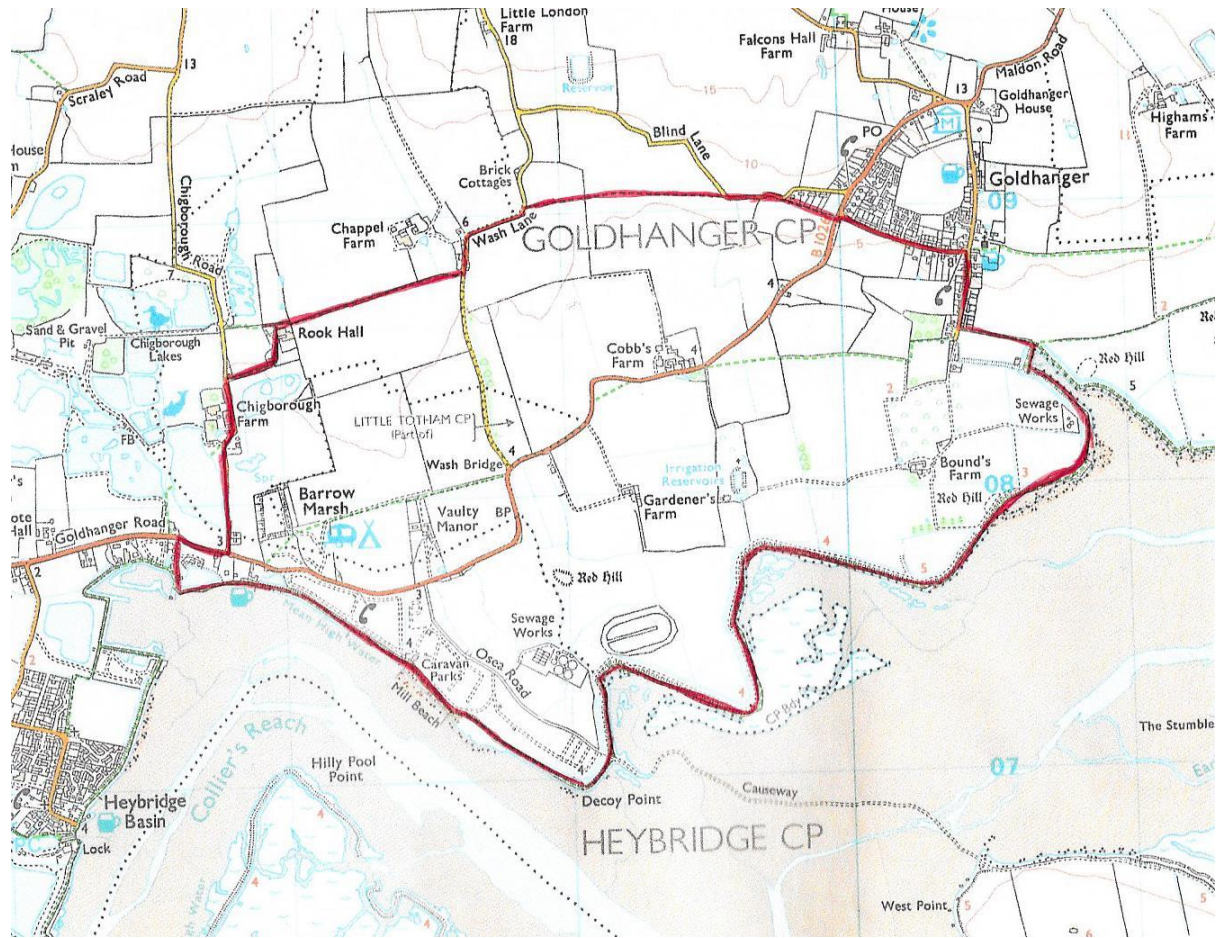
After a short while you will reach a lane where you go left. After about 200 metres, at a right-hand bend, follow the sign on your left, cross a footbridge and head west across a very large field. At the edge of the field cross a small footbridge and continue across a much smaller field. You will exit this field onto another lane.

Continue left on this lane, and after a short distance past a thatched cottage on your left, take the footpath on your right. As you walk this footpath you will notice an interesting area of lakes on your left. These were originally gravel pits and you may notice that the lakes are often frequented by a variety of wading birds. Continue along this path and enter Rook Hall Farm.

At Rook Hall Farm go left by a barn and pass in front of Rook Hall. Follow the lane out of Rook Hall Farm and after a short distance you reach Chigborough Road where you turn left. You will pass a small retail area on your right which includes a café and smokery. At the end of Chigborough Road go right onto the main Maldon Road. This is a busy, narrow road and extra care will be needed. After about 150 metres go left into Wharf Road.

At the river edge go left and follow the riverside path back towards Goldhanger. You will pass several caravan sites on your left and across the river you will see that we pass Northey Island and then a little later Osea Island. If the tide is low, you may see the causeway across to Osea. As you continue along the seawall you will eventually see the spire of St Peter's Church at Goldhanger in the distance to your left. After about 2 km you will see the signal hut of Goldhanger Sailing Club. Continue round the Goldhanger Creek and just past a metal bench bear left and drop down by a noticeboard to take the second path on your left between high hedgerows which leads to Fish Street. Go right and follow Fish Street back to the Chequers Inn car park.

See next page for map.



Goldhanger and Blackwater Circular Walk – Ordnance Survey 176

|| Goldhanger Walk

This walk starts from the car park of the Chequers Inn in the village of Goldhanger. There is no need to contact the owners of the inn prior to the walk; walkers appear to be most welcome because of the trade they give to the inn after the completion of walk. Indeed, the Inn has an excellent reputation for food and drink and is well worth a visit whether you are walking or just out for a ride in the country. The walk is between 6 to 7 miles in length.

On leaving the car park head for the church, pass through the kissing gate and follow the path to the rear of the church and exit the churchyard through the rather unusual gap in the wall. Continue forward along the footpath and on reaching a wide track, continue forward across another field.

At the other side of the field, do not cross the footbridge but turn right. At the next corner turn left over a concrete bridge. Go forward and at the next opening go right and then immediately left with the hedge on your left. After a short while you will pass a fairly large house on your left, approximately 25 yards past the house turn left and follow the footpath sign towards the sheds. Another sign will take you to the rear of the sheds where another footpath sign will direct you to turn right and cross a field.

On the other side of the field you will probably need to go to your left for a short distance to find a bridge crossing a ditch. Cross the bridge, pass in front of a bungalow, pass through a gate and follow the drive for a short distance. At the next junction turn right and follow the somewhat antiquated footpath sign which takes you between some farm buildings.

Pass through a kissing gate into a field which often has a rare breed of sheep grazing in it. Cross this field and exit via the metal four-bar gate. At the first opening on your right, after only a very short distance, follow the footpath sign taking you in the direction of the river.

Follow this winding footpath until you come to a wide track. At this point you have two options:

Option 1 (this will shorten the walk by about a mile)

For a shorter walk which you might want to take if the weather is not too good, turn right and follow the track down to the seawall. Turn right and follow the seawall back to Goldhanger. As you approach Goldhanger you will be walking around a bay which normally has a number of boats moored in it. Part way round the bay you will see step taking you down and away from the seawall. Take these steps, pass through a wooded walkway until you reach a road. Turn right onto the road and follow this back to the car park.

Option 2 (U3A Walking Groups normal walk)

Cross over this track and follow the path around the edge of the field with the hedge on your left, you will come to a bridge through the hedge. Cross the bridge and turn left. After about 20 paces you will see a wide path on your right crossing a field. Take this path which eventually meets up with a wide track. Turn right onto the track and follow this all the way down to the seawall. The track goes right and then left and eventually becomes a grass pathway. Turn right and follow the seawall back to Goldhanger. As you approach Goldhanger you will be walking around a bay which normally has a number of boats moored in it. Part way round the bay you will see step taking you down and away

from the seawall. Take these steps, pass through a wooded walkway until you reach a road. Turn right onto the road and follow this back to the car park.



Goldhanger Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer - 176

|| Maldon, Langford and Beeleigh Walk

This walk started life as a Maldon and Langford walk but was considered to be a little too short. In view of this we have added on an extra section which takes you past Beeleigh Abbey before returning to the Maldon, Tesco car park, which is the start for this walk. In winter months parts of the Beeleigh section can get very muddy, if this is the case you can always miss this section and return to the car park by the red dotted route shown on the map below. There are toilets in the Tesco supermarket and quite a nice café for refreshments at the end of the walk. For sheer convenience, it is suggested that you park as close to the river as possible. The full walk is about 6.5 miles while the short version is close to 4 miles.

Leave the car park and head for the path which run alongside the river. Turn right and follow the path as it crosses the footbridge. Just over the footbridge make you way down to the canal footpath and turn left, heading towards Heybridge. After a short distance, you pass under a road bridge, continue ahead and at the next bridge leave the canal footpath and take the steps up to the main road. Cross the road with care and turn left.

After a short distance take the lane on your right which leads down to Grapnells Farm. Passing the farm on your left continue on the footpath past Heybridge Wood on your right until you are close to the large fishing lake on your left. Leave the footpath and pass anti-clockwise around the lake picking up the footpath again as it passes the top end of the lake.

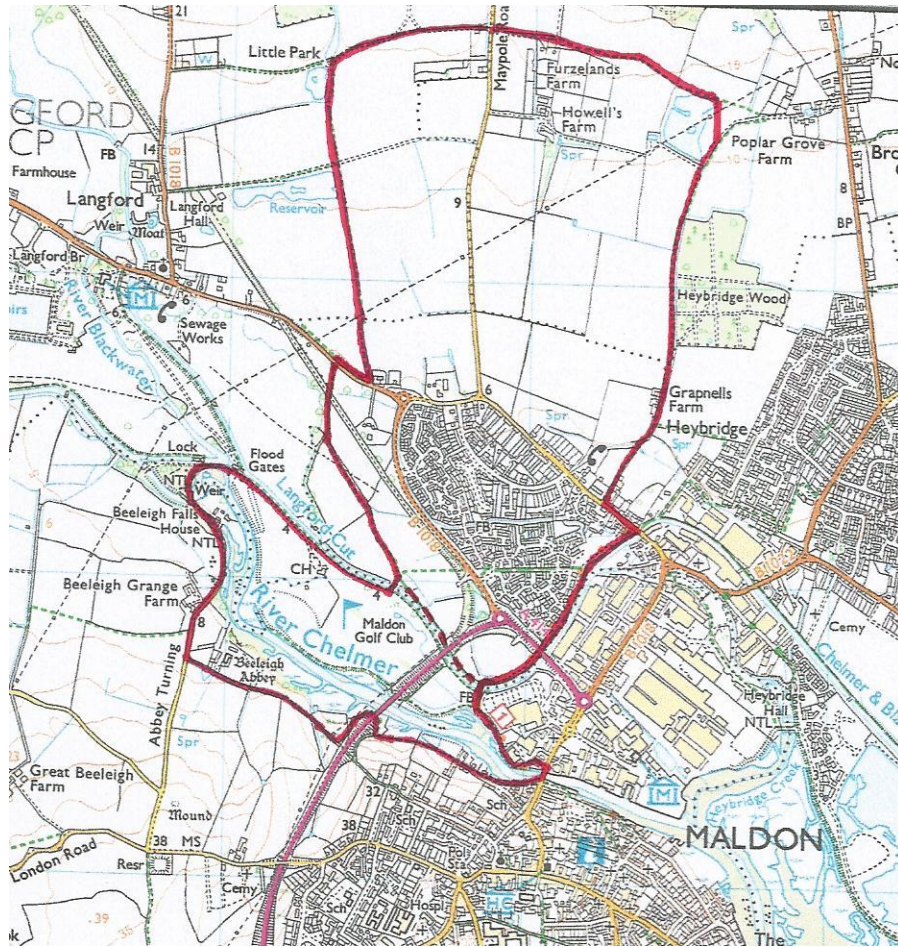
Continue on the footpath to Furzelands Farm, passing between farm building and exiting the farm along the concrete access road. On reaching the main road, cross with care and take the footpath which passes through a driveway/entrance to a bungalow on your left. Continue on this footpath to Little Park lake where you turn left.

Continue ahead with a hedge/ditch on your right until you reach a dirt bridge which allows you to cross so that as you continue forward to the main road the ditch will now be on your left. At the main road turn right for about 50 yards where you turn left, cross the road and follow a footpath sign across a field.

At the next junction cross the footpath and continue ahead. At the next junction take the left fork and continue ahead to the canal footpath. At the canal, you can go left and return to the Tesco car park or cross the bridge and go right in the direction of Beeleigh.

If you have crossed the bridge and gone right take care because you are now walking along the edge of Maldon Golf Course. Continue ahead and at the next junction continue forward across a raised walkway. After a short distance take the next footpath on your left just before reaching the lockgate and follow this around Beeleigh Falls until you meet a road. Follow the road and after several hundred yards take the pathway on your left which passes Beeleigh Abbey.

Continue on this footpath and when close to the Maldon bye-pass road go left to pass under the road. The path now goes right and then make a left turn. Follow this path along the river back to the main Maldon Town to Heybridge road. Go left at this road over the bridge and then take the footpath which goes left between some buildings. On exit from the building go left and follow the path back to the Tesco car park.



Maldon, Langford and Beeleigh Walk - Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Purleigh Walk

This is a walk of approximately 5 miles starting from the Purleigh Playing Field car park. The walk is over fields, bridleways, quiet country lanes and roads.

Leave the car park turning left and continue along the road for approximately 150 yards until you see the footpath marker on your left. Take the footpath and follow the bridleway until you reach the edge of a field.

At the field go left and continue for approximately 150 yards until you see a stile on your left. Cross the stile and continue to the church. Before reaching the church, there is one more stile to cross. Pass through the churchyard and at exit go left.

A short distance down the road there is a kissing gate on your right, pass through this and continue around the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. When the field opens out and you lose the hedge continue forward to the main road.

Cross the main road with care and continue forward down the concrete strip towards New Hall Vineyard.

At the Vineyard buildings continue forward into the field passing through the two sets of small brick pillars. The hedge will be on your right. Continue into the next field. There is usually a diagonal pathway across this field. Cross the field and pass through the gap in the hedge on the other side.

A very short distance beyond this gap you come to a stile. Pass over and continue ahead.

On the other side of the field, after crossing another stile go right and then immediately left following the footpath marker into the next field, crossing a footbridge. Continue forward over a number of stiles eventually passing through Hazeleigh Hall stables and homestead.

As you pass Hazeleigh Hall turn left and exit through the main entrance to the house. Continue along the road for very approximately 150 yards until you see a footpath marker at the entrance to a bridleway (you will have passed one stile on your left which crosses into a horse jumping area).

At the bridleway go left and then almost immediately right. This will take you over a grasses area and then another field. You will be going diagonally across this area to the next stile that you should be able to see in front of you.

At the far edge of the field cross the stile and continue forward heading towards the pylon in front of you. As you approach the other side of the field a hedge will appear on your right.

Continue along the edge of this field until you come to the corner. Here you go right crossing a wooden bridge and then immediately left. Follow this path to Lodge Road. As you approach Lodge Road there is a small cemetery on your right.

At Lodge Road go left for a short distance until you meet a main road where you turn left.

After approximately 150 yards there is a footpath sign on your right follow this across three fields keeping the hedge on your right. At the footpath marker turn left. Continue forward with the hedge on your left and at the corner of the field enter Kent Wood.

Continue through the wood until you meet the Birchwood Road. At the Birchwood Road go left and continue for approximately ¼ mile until you reach Lodge Lane on your left.

Enter the Lane and continue on and down for about a quarter of a mile until you eventually see footpath sign and bridleway on your right. You will notice a small cottage with a red tile roof as you approach the bridleway.

Continue to the end of the bridleway, which eventually becomes a road until you meet Mill Hill Road. Turn left and continue for a short distance, turning right into Howegreen Road. This returns you to the car park on your left.



Purleigh Walk – Ordnance Survey Explorer 183

|| Paper Mill Lock Circular Walk

This walk starts from the General Arms public house in Little Baddow (01245 222069), please remember to ask the publican for permission to park.

Exit the car park and turn right, be careful as there is no footpath, and the road can be busy at certain times of the day. After a short distance cross the road and turn left into Mill Lane. At the end of Mill Lane cross the road and follow the footpath down towards the house called The Old Rodney. Pass to the left of The Old Rodney and follow the bridleway which notes that all horses must go this way.

At the next junction continue ahead into a field with a wood on your left. At the far side of the field turn right and continue to the other side of the field where you turn right keeping the hedge on your left. After a very short distance cross the footbridge on your left and continue ahead across the field and into the wood in front of you. You will go down a few steps, cross another bridge at entry to the wood. Follow the path through the wood, exiting into a field.

Exit the field on the far side via a stile and go right following the road until you come to the entrance on your right to Bassett's Farm. Follow this roadway which consists of two parallel concrete strips. The concrete strips eventually disappear and continues as a dirt/grass lane. Where this begins to turn right and end, you need to go into the field on your left. You should see a sign indication that it is the path to a bridge over the Chelmer, and which asks you to keep to the edge of the field. You will now have a hedge on your right. Continue along this path until you reach the Chelmer, turn left and head for Paper Mill Lock.

At the lock you will have completed just over half the walk, and you might want to stop for a drink and a bite to eat.

Continuing the walk along the Chelmer footpath, heading in the direction of Chelmsford. Just before the next bridge follow the footpath on your left up to Little Baddow Church. Exit the Church by the set of steps onto the road and turn left. Almost immediately turn right following the footpath signs (there is also a sign for the Church car park). After a bit of an S bend continue straight ahead until you eventually meet a hedge directly in front of you. You will have passed a number of orchards on your right. At the hedge turn left and then immediately right over a wooden bridge.

Continue on this path until you eventually reach a country lane where you turn left. Follow the lane round a sharp left turn and then after a couple of hundred yards go right across a stile and follow the footpath which is quite narrow in places. At the end of this path go left in front of a house and enter Blake Wood.

In the main part of the wood, at a T-junction turn left and eventually exit the wood. Follow the lane back to the main road, where you turn left back to the Generals Arms.



Paper Mill Lock Circular Walk – OS Explorer 183

|| River Crouch - Stow Maries Walk

This walk starts from the Compass Gardens car park in South Woodham Ferrers and is a walk of approximately 7 miles. In the winter months, this walk can be very muddy in places.

Leave the car park heading towards the old sea wall. Turn right at the sea wall and head towards the large sluice gates where the river is dammed.

At the dam go left for a short distance and then right and pass through the kissing gate which leads to the river sea wall. The river will be on your right.

Continue along the sea wall for at least a mile until you see West Wick yacht club, leaving the sea wall when you see a derelict farm building on your left.

Follow the track which leads across the railway line, taking great care as you cross. Continue ahead along the farm road until you come to the main Woodham to Fambridge Road.

Carefully cross the busy road and follow the footpath sign along the edge of the field. After a couple of hundred yards you go right and then immediately left and continue around the edge of the field, making for the disused railway line.

Make your way onto the railway line and go left. After several hundred yards leave the railway line and go right to the main road. Carefully cross the main road and enter a bridleway.

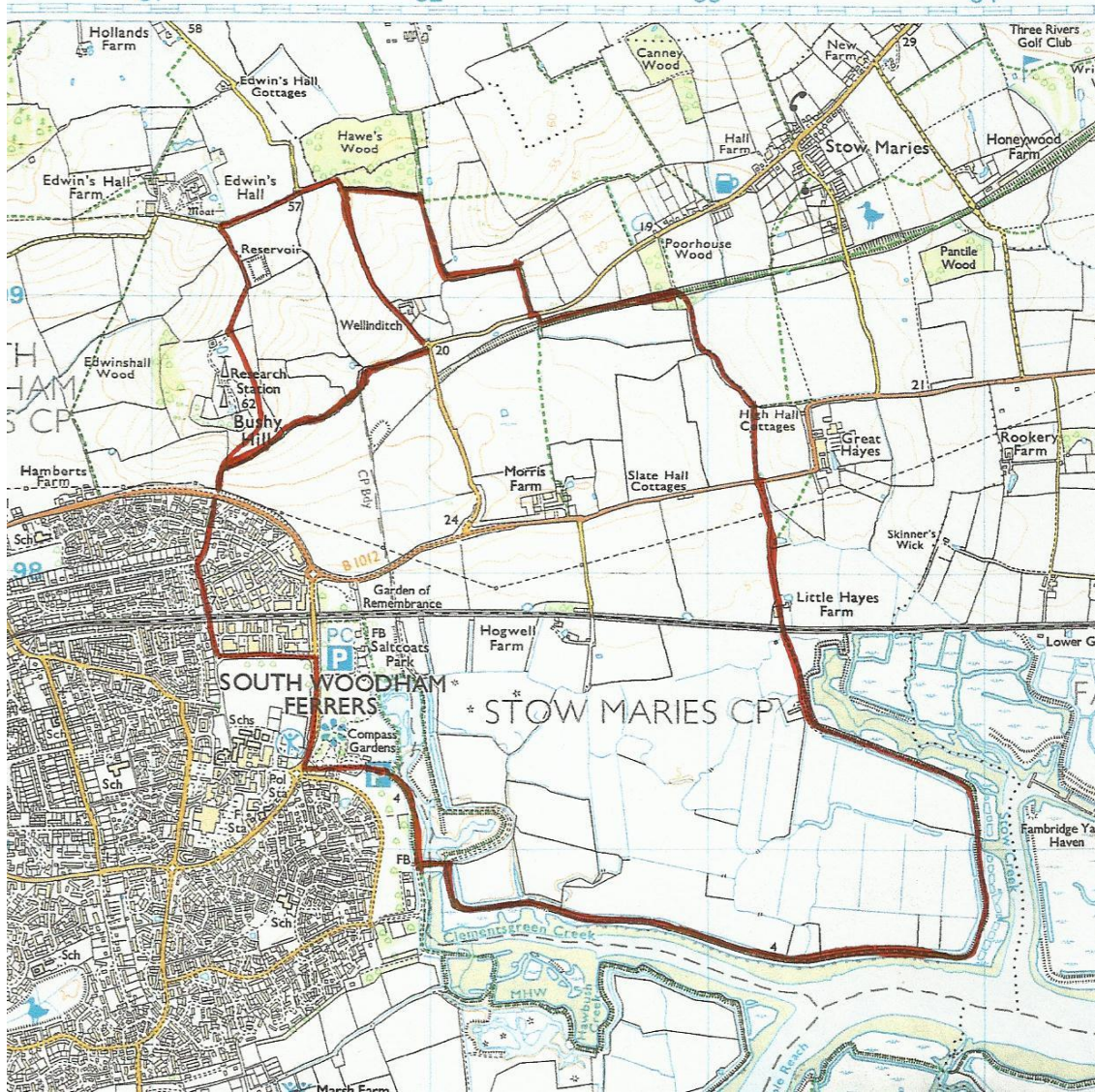
The bridleway will bear left and then right. At the edge of Hawe's Wood turn left and continue along the edge of the field until you reach the road (Crows Lane).

Turn left and walk to the end of the road until it meets the main Woodham to Cold Norton Road. At this junction enter the field on your right keeping the hedge on your right. You will after a short distance come to a pathway which leads across the bottom of Radar Hill.

Follow this path eventually leaving Radar Hill and make for the Burnham Road. Carefully cross Burnham Road and cross the grassed area.

At the far edge of the grassed area cross into King Edwards Road. After a short distance take the first turning on your left and continue under the railway bridge.

Take the second opening on your left and continue ahead to the main road. Go right at this junction down to the roundabout. Here you cross into Compass Gardens and make for the car park.



River Crouch - Stow Maries Walk – Ordnance Survey Explorer 175

|| South Woodham Ferrers -Stow Maries Aerodrome Walk

This is a pleasant walk of approximately 6.5 miles, starting from Compass Gardens car park in South Woodham. Access to some of the footpaths close to the aerodrome are restricted at certain time due to aircraft activity.

On leaving the car park take the main road route towards Radar Hill cross the railway bridge and then carefully cross the roundabout following the road round to the left until you reach Hamberts Farm. Cross the road with care and follow the footpath sign with the farmhouse on your left. Follow the footpath signs which will eventually take you to the road close to Edwins Hall. Upon reaching the road go right and pass Edwins Hall.

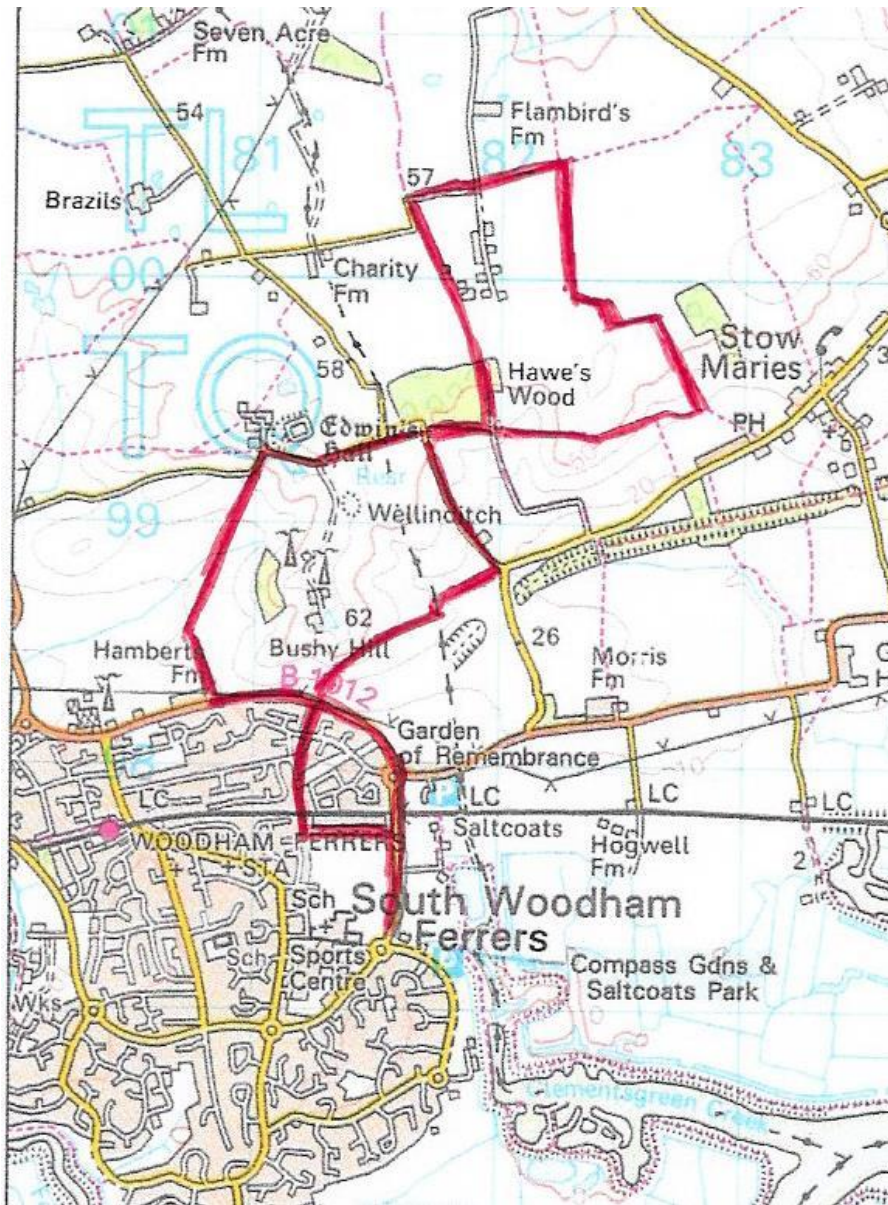
Follow the road past the junction with Crows Lane, where the road turns sharp right. The wood on your left is Hawes Wood and as you pass round this bend, take the footpath on your left and follow this along the edge of a field with the wood on your left. At the end of the field you meet a bridleway where you turn left.

At the corner of the wood you meet another bridleway where you again turn left. After a short distance, the bridleway turns right. Follow the bridleway to the right for some distance and at its end you will see a old service road on your right. Follow this road until you meet the road that leads into the WW1 Aerodrome. Pass through the gate on the opposite side of the road and aim slightly to your left until you reach a gate on the other side of the field.

Turn right through this gate and follow the footpath along the edge of the aerodrome which will be on your right. At the end of this footpath, cross a stile and turn left. Follow the edge of this field as it descends. At the bottom of the field continue an extra couple of metres and turn right into an overgrown track. At the end of this track turn right and enter another field, Follow the edge of this field as it rises slightly, keeping the hedge to your left. At the corner of the field go right and after a short distance cross a stile in the hedge on your left. Follow the footpath down the hill where you will pass some grapevines on your left and right.

At the bottom of the hill pass through a gate and cross the next two field back to the road. Turn left into Crows Lane and continue down the lane. Where it meets the main Woodham to Cold Norton road go right into a field with the hedge and a ditch on your right. Follow the hedge for about 150 metres and go right into an opening in the hedge (in the winter this is often very wet) which lead to a path crossing the lower part of Radar Hill. This eventually meets the path which takes you back down to the main Burnham Road. Carefully cross Burnham Road and cross the grassed area.

At the far edge of the grassed area cross into King Edwards Road. After a short distance take the first turning on your left and continue under the railway bridge. Take the second opening on your left and continue ahead to the main road. Go right at this junction down to the roundabout. Here you cross into Compass Gardens and make for the car park.



South Woodham Ferrers -Stow Maries Aerodrome Walk
Ordnance Survey Landranger Map 168

South Woodham Ferrers/Hyde Hall Walk

This is a circular walk of approximately 7.5 miles, depending on where you start from in SWF.

This walk starts from the grassed area where King Edwards Road meets Hamberts Road. At the Main Road turn left as if heading towards Sainsburys traffic lights. Just before Hambers Farm on the opposite side of the road, cross the road carefully and pass through the footpath gate and follow the edge of the field with the hedge on your left.

At the corner cross the stile and follow the edge of the field again with the hedge on your left. At the corner follow the white topped posts diagonally across the next two field. Then follow the edge of the next field with the hedge on your left to Edwins Hall Road where you turn right.

Follow the road round the first corner then cross the stile on your left which heads towards the Bell Public House in Woodham Ferrers. Follow the wide footpath through horse paddocks and at the edge of the field, pass through a wooden gate. Cross over the top of the next field and then head down towards the wide gap in the hedge below. Pass through into the next field and cross diagonally to the far-right corner which will take you into the Bell car park.

Cross the main road, enter the churchyard, and follow the path that leads down and out at the back of the church. Continue to follow this path, cross a footbridge and head straight across the field ahead of you. On the other side of the field turn right and head towards a large haystack. Turn left and carefully cross Creephedge Lane.

Follow the footpath across Hyde Hall land and on the far side turn left. Follow this path back to Creephedge Lane eventually crossing at the Bulk Fertilizer plant. Turn right and then left into Workhouse Road. Follow this road until it meets the main South Woodham Ferrers to Woodham Ferrers main road. Cross carefully and enter Edwins Hall Road. Follow this back to the fields leading back to South Woodham Ferrers where you will retrace the first part of the walk.

|| Stock - Magaretting - Imphy Hall Walk

This is a 6.5 mile circular walk which starts from Stock Village Hall car park. The Bakers Arms opposite the car park is ideal for food and drink at the end of the walk.

As you leave the car park turn right and then after about 50 yards at the main Stock Road turn right again. After 200 yards cross the road with extreme care and enter Crondon Park Lane. Follow this lane until you reach the far end of Swan Wood on your left and take the footpath that run along the border between the Swan Wood and Crondon Park Golf Course. This footpath is part of St Peters Way. Parts of this pathway can be very slippery when wet so proceed with care.

Continue ahead, crossing a footpath as you go, to eventually exiting through rough scrub onto a road. Cross the road and follow the footpath to Frisling Hall. Just before the main gates to Frisling Hall you will see a kissing gate on your right. Follow the path heading towards some large tree where you bear left behind some buildings. Continue ahead eventually exiting through another kissing gate where you turn left.

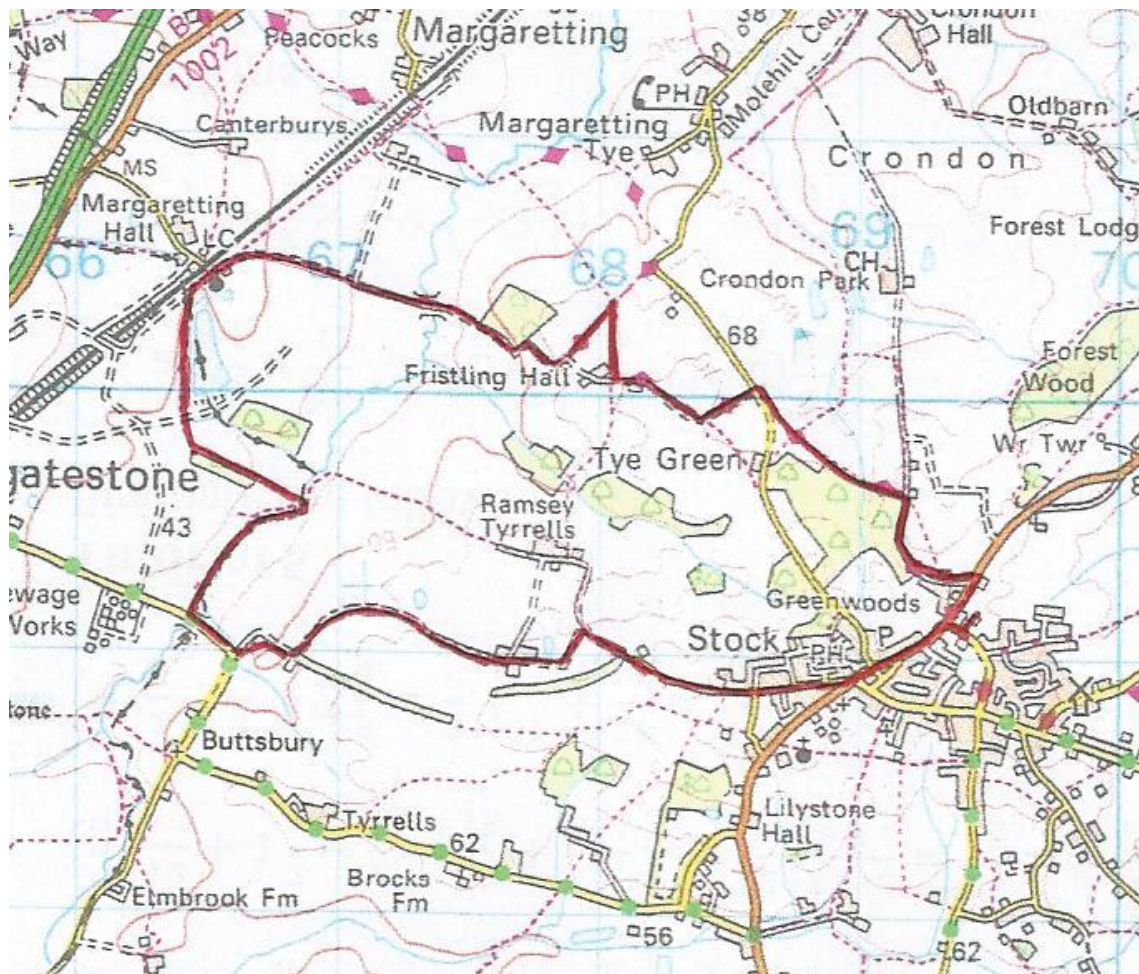
Continue towards the end of the track where the pathway turns right (be careful because you can miss it as the track continues on towards a farm). Continue past Pond Wood and then over a bridge and up a slight incline towards the railway line/crossing.

Don't cross the railway line but turn left and pass in front of the church entrance. A short distance (maybe 100 yards max.) past the church there is a very dilapidated footpath sign where you turn left eventually passing a reservoir on your left. Cross a track and continue along the edge of one field and then cross another to the corner of Spring Wood.

Turn left and walk along the edge of the wood. At the end of the wood pass into the field on your right and follow the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. You will follow a stream for part of this pathway and will eventually reach Stock Lane where you turn left.

Follow the lane of a short distance and on the corner, cross into the field adjacent to the lane leading to Imphy Hall. Go immediately left and follow the edge of the field with the hedge on your left. Just past the top corner of the field there is a stile on your left which takes you from the field onto the lane leading to Imphy Hall.

Take the lane up to and beyond Imphy Hall where it turns left and then right. The lane eventually becomes a narrow road which will take you back to the main Stock Road. Turn left and follow the Stock Road back to the start of the walk.



Stock - Magareting - Imphy Hall Walk - Ordnance Survey 167

|| Woodham Ferrers – Hyde Hall Walk

This walk starts from the Bell public house car park and is approximately 6 miles over fairly flat terrain with one slight hill climb. Make sure you phone the pub well in advance to check on the parking.

On leaving the pub car park turn left and head down the hill. Care should be taken because the footpath is quite narrow, and the road is busy. At the bottom of the hill carefully cross the road and enter Workhouse Lane.

Continue along this lane until you reach a T-junction where you turn right into Creephedge Lane. After approximately 100 yards you will see a footpath sign to your left, cross the road and follow this path.

This path follows a ditch on your right and snakes right and left, however, at all times you want to be heading for the two trees in the distance. About halfway to the trees you cross over to the other side of the ditch, which will now be on your left. Continue until you reach an earth bridge where the footpath goes both to the left and the right. Turn right and after about 100 yards take the left fork which eventually leads to a green lane. Continue passing what previously was Hyde Halls car park until you reach Buckhatch Lane.

On reaching Buckhatch Lane turn right and continue until reaching a crossroad. Cross Creephedge Lane and enter Leigham Road. Pass Quilter's Farm on your left and ignore the first footpath sign on the right. On reaching Hounds Hall Farm on your left, take the footpath sign going right through a small wooded area.

On leaving the wooded area continue diagonally across a field eventually crossing a bridge into Lodge Road where you go right. Follow Lodge Road passes Woodham Lodge. Here the road turns left and takes you past Fulton's Farm on your left. After passing more houses on your left and one on your right you will eventually see a footpath sign going right. Take this footpath.

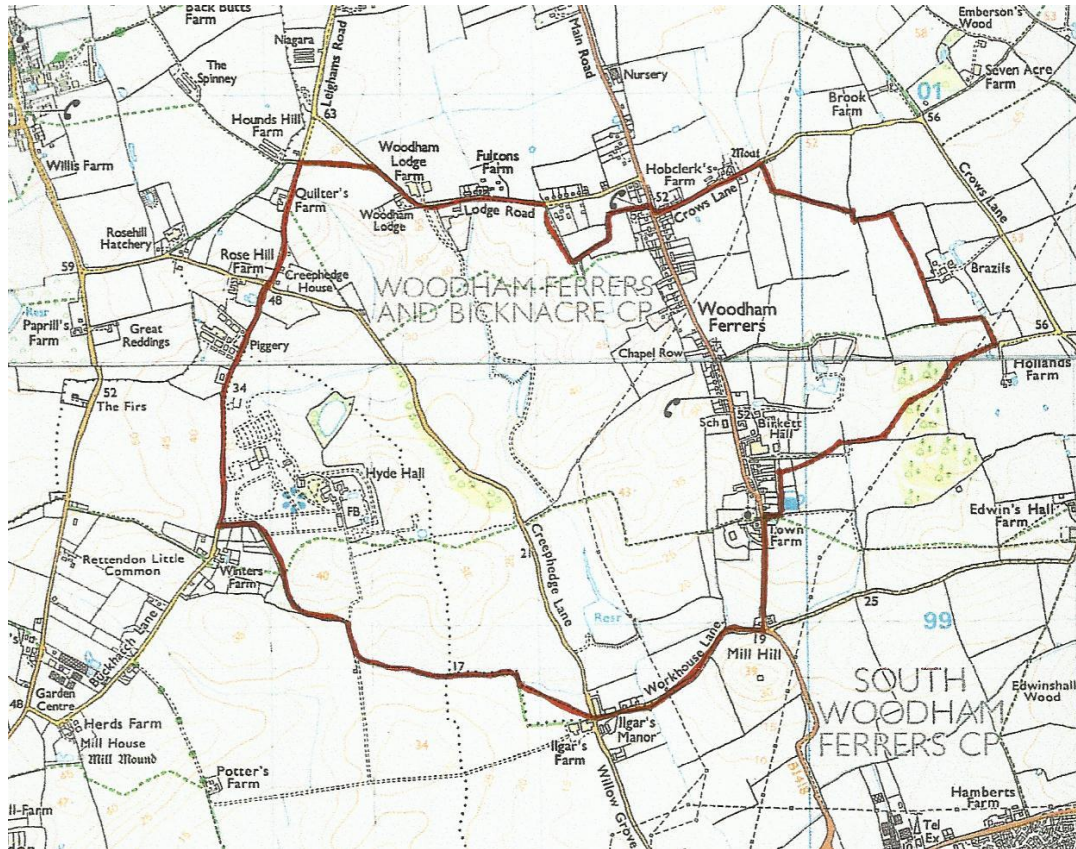
This footpath goes left behind a house and then left again. After passing through a gate you will join a cinder track. Follow this to the main Woodham to Danbury road. Turn right and then cross the road with care into Crows Lane.

Continue along Crows Lane passing the veterinary centre on your left. Continue a little further until you see a footpath sign going right. Follow this until it goes left though a hedge into the next field. Continue across this field with the hedge on your left. Continue also into the next field again keeping the hedge on your left, about halfway across the field turn right. This should be indicated by a footpath sign in the hedge which is often difficult to see.

Passing Brazil's on your left, continue to the other side of the field. Cross the style and go left. Continue along the edge of the field until it turns right where you cross another style/bridge and turn immediately right. Walk through a small area of scrub land to reach a road. Take the footpath to your right and then go slightly left at the pond.

Continue on this footpath bearing left across the field to cross another style. Follow the power lines but with them some distance on your left until you reach a path going downhill, with has trees on

both sides. At the bottom turn left to a gate on your right. Go through the gateway into the adjacent field and follow the footpath which leads uphill to the back of some houses. At the top, turn left and pass the garden fences. Return to the pub car park through an opening in the hedge.



Woodham Ferrers – Hyde Hall Walk – Ordnance Survey Explorer 175 & 183

|| Woodham Walter Walk

This is a walk of about 5.5 miles starting from a lay-bye opposite the Bell Pub in Woodham Walter. The terrain is varied and includes field, horse paddocks, and woodland. During winter months, the wooded areas can get quite muddy.

Bracketed numbers in the text which follows, refers to photos which may be found after the Ordinance Survey map.

Leave the lay-bye and walk in the direction of Little Baddow, after about 600 yards turn right into Stivvy's Road. After about a further 100 yards take the footpath on your left (1). On the far edge of this field pass through a gate (2) into the next field. Follow the path across this field and pass into the next over a footbridge.

The exit from this field over another footbridge (3) is not always clear to see but is to the right of a large tree. As you walk across the next field head diagonally to your right and about half way across you will see a gap in the electric fence, pass through this and go immediately left and exit the field through a home-made gate. Cross the track and enter the next field. Go diagonally left for the very short distance before passing through another home-made gate. You will now pass through a number of paddocks linked by similar home-made gates. You should be heading in the direction of a tall telegraph pole (4) with a yellow sign on it. In the background, you may just be able to make out the outline of a house between trees.

After the last paddock pass across a small area of scrubland and go over a stile on your right. This takes you across the back of a house. Keep close to the hedge on your left and exit to Little Baddow Road by a stile to the left of a five-barred gate. Go right, cross the road, and then left into a bridleway which takes you down into Danbury Ridge Nature Reserve (Woodham Walter Common on the OS map). Entrance to the bridleway is close to the Spring Elms Lane road sign (5).

Continue down into the wood and at the bottom cross a wooden bridge (6). The path then begins to rise and bears slightly to the right. After about 250 yards the track makes a sharp left turn; do not take this but continue straight ahead (7). When you eventually come to a T-junction after some distance, turn right. After about another 50 yards the path diverges; take the left fork (8).

Continue along this path which eventually slopes down towards a stream. Cross the stream taking the route via two wooden bridges, bear right and then left up the slope, keeping on the main path until you exit the wood. Cross the track on exit and take the footpath which runs along the edge of the Warren Golf Course. Upon reaching a road, cross with care, go over the stile (9) and take the footpath as it starts to enter Thrift Wood.

Don't enter the wood but take the path through the hedge (10) on your left and follow the path around the edge of the wood. At the far end of the wood join the path exiting the wood, going left on this path, away from the wood. Continue to the road, cross and enter the field on the other side.

Follow the footpath with the hedge on your left. At the corner pass through the hedge into the next field and again continue forward with the hedge still on your left. At the corner, where the path turns to the right leave the path, turning left on to a track leading to Lodge Farm (11).

Pass through the farm keeping the buildings to your right. At exit from the farm follow the access road past a number of houses on your right to a lane. Cross the lane and follow the footpath opposite, pass two cottages and enter the field in front of you. Walk around the edge of this field keeping the hedge on your left. Just after the first corner you will come across a gap in the hedge (12).

Pass through this gap and continue around the edge of the next field with the hedge/wooded area to your left. The path eventually leaves the wooded area and goes across a field. Head for an area of rough ground which form a field boundary with a ditch on your left. After about 200 yards you come to a bridge (13) between tall bushes on your left. Go through the gap, cross the narrow field and enter the wooded area. Pass straight through the woods and head for the church. At the road go right and walk back to where the car(s) are parked.



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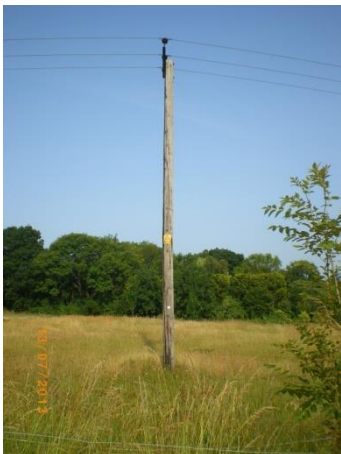
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)



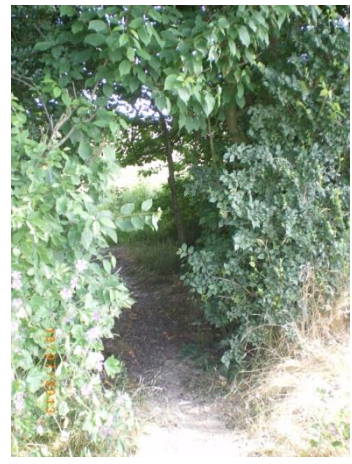
(9)



(10)



(11)



(12)



(13)