

a bust medallion (see front cover) set into the grass bank in front of the house placed by the Charles Lamb Society. Go back down the road the way you came and continue past the sign for Wakeley Farm. You will reach a public bridleway sign to the right, but before you turn down here, look at the uncultivated field in front of you noticing a few humps and bumps. This is the site of the deserted medieval village of Wakeley. It must have been a sizeable settlement as it had its own church, a watermill and windmill. Probably badly hit by the Black Death, the village still had 10 households in 1428 and by 1801 a population of 7.

7. You will now follow a track for about 3/4 mile. The track ends at a field in front of you, and you take the narrow path to the right. As it nears Aspenden this path becomes a hollow way bordered by old suckering lime trees. This must have been the ancient route between Wakeley and Aspenden for many centuries.
8. When you reach the road turn left and follow the road to its end at St. Mary's Church. Walk through the churchyard to the right of the church emerging at a footpath which goes through a field, over a bridge, up a hill then across a footbridge over the Buntingford bypass. Cross a field, follow the footpath sign to the left, cross the road and follow the footpath until you come to a main road. Turn right here, past the police station and the post office and you will arrive in Buntingford High Street.

Seek refreshments and catch the bus back to Standon from the stop opposite the Crown Pub. Get off the bus at the Crown and Falcon Pub in Puckeridge High Street and walk up to Huntsman Close where your walk began.

Like walking? Check www.walkinginherts.co.uk for information, guided walks and much more.

Refreshments in Buntingford

Munchkins Coffee Shop

Open Mon – Sat 9.00am – 3.00pm
Wed 9.00am – 2.00pm

Bacchus Wine Bar

Open Tues– Sat 12.00– 2.00pm & 7.30 – 11.00pm

Viceroy of India

Open Sat & Sun Noon- 2.00pm & evenings every day.

Brunels

Open Sun from 12.00pm, rest of week evenings only

Webbs Deli and Tea Room

Open Mon – Sat 9.00am – 5.30pm
except Wed 9.00am – 2.30pm

The *Black Bull* has food at lunchtime and *The Crown* do food at lunchtimes and in the evening.

Bus Times

Leaving from opposite the Crown Pub

Arriva Service 331 to Puckeridge

Mon – Fri
9.32, 11.02, 13.02, 15.02, 16.02, 18.02, 19.02
Sat
11.02, 13.02, 15.02, 17.02
(17 minute journey)

Service 700

Mon – Fri
10.50, 12.50, 14.50, 16.50, 19.30
Sat
10.50, 12.50, 14.50 16.50 19.30
(7 minute journey)

To check bus times ring the Intalink Traveline on
0870 6082 608

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A Lunchtime Walk Puckeridge to Buntingford

(and return by bus)



The bust medallion of Charles Lamb set into a bank in front of Button Snap

Produced by



*Working to improve
the rights of way in
Standon Parish*

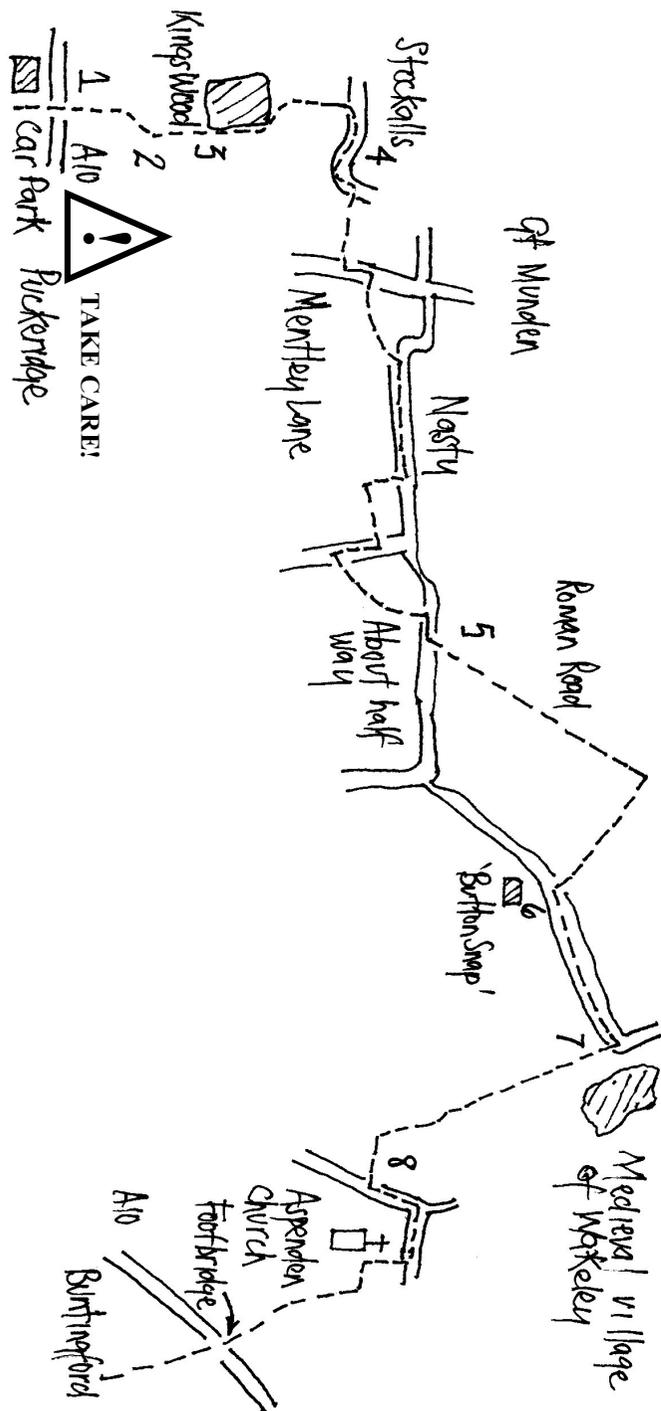
A Lunch Walk to Buntingford

What could be a better break in the day than a mid-morning walk slowly climbing up from Puckeridge in the Rib Valley through medieval parkland and along ancient lanes to Buntingford for refreshment and a ten minute bus ride back to where you started from? This combination of walk, refreshments and transport home can be done at any time of day of course.

This leaflet gives details of the walk, places to eat in Buntingford and current bus times. Ring Intalink Traveline on 0870 608 2 608 to check times.

Length of Walk 7 miles, 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

1. Start at the car park in Huntsman Close just off Puckeridge High Street. Turn left out of the car park and follow the public footpath sign on Tollsworth Way heading towards the A10 bypass. You will pass in front of houses and go up some steps, emerging on the A10. Cross the road with great care and pick up the footpath sign on the other side of the road, down some steps and over a stile. Follow the path, cross a bridge and turn left. The ditch on your left is the Puckeridge Tributary and you will be following it for a while.
2. Climb over a stile into the next field, noticing the fine old oak trees growing here and in the following field. You are now walking through what used to be a small park belonging to Milkley (later Mentley) Manor in the 14th century and the fields retain a park-like appearance. Cross the field, over a stile, (there is a 'beware of the bull' sign but rarely a bull - and no problem if he is in there with cows) across a bridge and over another stile. Walk to the right of the line of trees. The earthworks on your right are probably the site of a medieval tile works.



3. At the next stile you are at the corner of Kings Wood. This is a piece of ancient woodland with oak and coppiced hornbeam and the bluebells here in spring are magnificent. Follow the edge of the wood, pass through a hedge and reach the corner of the wood, bear right. Continue along the field edge, then straight across the middle of the next field, and straight on with a hedge on your right to the road.
4. Turn right past Stockholds (Stockalls on the map) and after a few hundred yards take the footpath to the right across the field. After 200m turn right onto a path by a seat. Turn left at the road and almost immediately right across the next field, cross the bridge and emerge on the road at the sign for Nasty. The name means "by the eastern enclosure". Walk through the village and turn right on the bridleway beside the sign for Nobles Farm. Walk up the track and turn left opposite the farm at the waymark. Carry straight on to a road, turn right then left at the next footpath sign. Follow the grassy track. Ignore a waymark on the left, but almost immediately, by an electricity pole, go left along the waymarked path which goes diagonally across a field. to another road.
5. Turn right at the road then left at the public byway sign, and you are now treading in the footsteps of the Romans. This is a section of the Roman road from the important Roman settlement at Braughing up to Baldock. March along it continuing down a drive between buildings, noticing a particularly pronounced piece of road with ditches either side just past Peasefield. Is this the original profile of the road? About half a mile past Peasefield turn right down a bridleway at a gap in the hedge. Follow a hedge on your right, then wind through a meadow to the road.
6. Take a hundred yard detour to your right to Button Snap. This house was owned by Charles Lamb, the essayist, although he did not live here. There is