# WALKS AROUND STISTED



## WALK 1

(approx, 3¾ miles)

After the first half a mile along the lane out of the village, this walk is mostly across open farmland, with good views of the surrounding countryside, and finishes with a track through Bluebell Wood and the path around part of the Golf Course by the River Blackwater.

Turn left from the Onley Arms and walk past the school on the right and the road to Braintree on the left, continuing ahead past houses and the Village Hall as far as the first turning on the left (signed Bocking and Gosfield). Follow this lane to a gap in the hedge just beyond a house on the left. Pass through the gap on to FP I4 and follow this pleasant narrow tree-lined path to cross the stile at the end into a field, and then immediately cross a second stile to your left into the adjoining field. Here turn right and walk on beside the hedge to reach another stile and steps down to a footbridge over a stream. Walk over this and up the steps on the other side which give access to a large field. The path from here (sometimes indistinct), then ascends diagonally left to the cottages which can be seen at the top of the rise, with a waymark sign to their right. On reaching this turn left to the lane, and then right to

pass in front of the cottages as far as FP 32 on the left.

Turn left on to this wide track and walk on towards Kentishes Farm, an impressive old building. After passing the farm buildings, with extensive views across the fields to Braintree, descend a fairly steep track, and at the bottom where it veers away to the right, turn left along the grass path between the trees and continue ahead into the field slightly to the right. Keep to the edge of this field alongside the ditch on the left, and just after passing a large gap in the hedge on the right, cross the footbridge over the stream and wide ditch ahead to join FP 34. Here turn right and continue ahead again at the edge of the field until reaching woodland on the right just before the end of the field, and keep to the path as it goes through the trees for a short distance before emerging on to the lane.(N.B. \*See below for an alternative route from this point).

To continue on FP 34, cross the lane and over the stile on the left into the field opposite, and walk slightly uphill to cross another stile which can be seen ahead, and up a few steps into another large field. From here walk a few yards to the right to a waymark post. The direction of the footpath from this point is not always obvious, but the route continues steeply uphill across the middle of the field to the top to come out through a large gap in

the hedge on to the lane. Here turn right for a short distance to FP I5 on the right which takes you into another field. (At this point you are a very short distance from FP I4 on the opposite side of the lane which you took near the beginning of your walk).

(\*A pleasant alternative to this last part of FP 34 is to remain on the lane where the path came out of the trees, and instead of crossing it into the field, turn left and walk to the bridge at the T junction, turning right up the hill and past the point where FP 34 comes out of the field, going on to turn right on to FP I5 as above).

Now follow FP I5 at the field edge (where on a clear day part of Braintree can be seen in the distance, with the spire of St. Michael's Church and the modern library building just visible). At a point just before the corner of this field as it bears left, continue on the path as it goes through a gap in the hedge on the left, and into a large paddock. Keep to the edge again until reaching another stile on the right. Cross this, turn left and then right to follow the path in the field as it skirts the trees for a short distance before entering Bluebell Wood by the waymark for FP 27 on the left. Cross the footbridge and walk uphill to the main track at the top. Here turn right and walk on through this wood with its splendid trees, which in the Spring is carpeted with bluebells. At the end of the wood turn left to the

village centre, <u>OR</u> take a longer route by turning right on the lane, proceed down the hill and walk through the entrance to the Golf Course on the left. Follow FP 45 down beside the trees on the right to the River Blackwater, and carry on beside it round the bends and up the hill at the far end. Near the top cross over to walk beside the Churchyard and through the gate to reach the village street.

## WALK 2

(approx.43/4 miles)

This walk, which commences with a one mile stretch of lane, continues by field paths and short distances of lane, and includes a pleasant walk through the woodland of Brookes Reserve.

Turn left from the Onley Arms and walk past the school on the right and the road to Braintree on the left, continuing ahead past houses and the Village Hall. Still carry on in the Halstead direction as you pass a turning on the left which is signed Bocking/Gosfield. There are a few cottages on the left of this stretch of lane, and distant views to the right.

As the lane bears sharply to the right, leave it and follow the made up "no through road" on the left past a bungalow on the right. Follow this track between fields, passing a few low buildings on the left and FP 3 on the left at the top of a slight gradient. Still continue ahead on the track for a short distance until reaching FP 4I on the right. Follow this path between the fields to come out on another lane. Here turn left and proceed for about a quarter of a mile until you reach the entrance to Essex Wild Life Brookes Nature Reserve on the bend of the road. Go through the gate into the Reserve on FP 4 and walk along the path to enter the wood. You can now keep to the main wide track, which for the last section goes around the edge of the wood, or you can explore further by following any of the narrower paths which lead in various directions into the interior. On re-joining the main track this again emerges on to a lane.

Turn right on the lane and continue as far as FP 8 on the left at a bend in the road. Turn on to this footpath and follow it across the field towards Warley Farm which can be seen ahead (<u>DO NOT</u> take the bridleway which forks left from the lane). At the end of the large field turn left and then right to cross 2 stiles, and walk past the farmhouse on your right to the lane.

Here turn right and walk on down the lane for

about a quarter of a mile to a T junction. Cross the lane and follow the grassy track immediately opposite to cross a stile into a field again. Maintain a forward direction along the field edge, and shortly cross a double stile and footbridge on the left into the parallel field, turning right and following the field edge again. At the end of this field pass through a large opening and turn right beside the large oak tree and down into the next field. Continue straight ahead beside a ditch on the left between fields, and then left at the bottom, and very shortly cross a footbridge on the right on to FP 12. Walk on ahead in this field with the hedge on your right, and pass through a small gap at the top right-hand corner into the adjoining field. Carry on forward for a short distance with the hedge on the left, and then go through another gap into the field ahead. Passing the house on the right, turn left on to the lane and walk up the hill to the centre of the village.

# WALK 3

(approx. 4 miles)

The first part of this walk follows the path from the back of Sarcel and uphill to give extensive views of Stisted and surrounding countryside, followed by some pleasant lane walking, to finish on lower paths across farmland.

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore

Institute, walk down the road ahead (signed Greenstead Green) between the houses to the junction, and continue ahead along the road named Sarcel almost opposite. At the small green on the left, walk to the far corner and along the pathway between numbers 24 and 25, turning right at the end of the garden of number 25 and along behind the back gardens to cross a stile into the field on the left. FP I9 continues across the middle of the field and down to cross a stream by a footbridge, and comes out into the next field. Here the path ascends rather steeply, and is not alwavs immediately apparent, but the route is to a large gap at the top of the hill which can be clearly seen as the gradient becomes less steep. On reaching the gap, and before entering the trees to the left, turn around and take a few minutes rest after your climb to look back and observe the excellent view of the village and the Church below.

Now follow the path through the woodland on the left, which then emerges on to a farm track. Follow this around the bends, passing cottages and a barn on the left to join a lane, and very soon take the footpath on the left beside and behind a cottage, turning left again at the corner of the field and walk on down the edge beside a ditch on your right, skirting around trees and a pond. From here there are again very good views of the village. Continue on down the field as far as a gap in the line of trees, and turn right in front of the oak tree into the adjoining field. Again continue at the field edge, and

shortly before reaching the end, with the lane and trees ahead, cross a stile and footbridge on the left into the next field, turning right to continue to the gate ahead at the corner. Cross the stile beside it and walk along the grassy path to the lane.

Now turn left and continue down the lane to the corner, where either cross the field ahead by FP 7, or walk on along the lane (which is pleasant walking) for a distance of about a quarter of a mile. At the road junction turn left and pass the first lane on the right, turning right at the next one just past the point where FP 7 across the field on the left emerges. Walk on past the farm buildings, and then take FP I3 on the left just opposite a lane on the right, continuing on this path until entering a field. Here walk straight ahead on the path alongside the ditch on the left as far as a footbridge on the left over the ditch. Cross this and turn right, continuing ahead into the next field. Walk across the middle of this towards the end of the hedge ahead, pass through the gap, and then walk straight across the middle of the next field also to the left end of the line of trees ahead. Here turn right for a short distance, and then cross the footbridge and stile on the left. walking straight ahead to cross another stile and past the allotments on the right to reach the lane. Here turn left towards the centre of the village.

#### WALK 4

(approx. 3¾ miles)

This walk is mainly across field and woodland paths and tracks to Church Farm, with short distances of lane.

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore Institute, walk down the road ahead (signposted Greenstead Green) to the crossroads and then turn left. Follow the lane down to cottages, passing FP I2 on the right opposite the first one, and then turn left on to FP 30 which runs beside the next house and into a field. Walk along the field edge to a gap where another path crosses, turning right into the adjoining field on to FP I3. Almost immediately cross a footbridge over a ditch on the left and turn right. Continue straight ahead alongside the ditch, and then between a few trees with a house on the left to emerge on to a lane.

Now turn left and walk on as far as the bend in the lane (approx.150 yds.), and take the made up track ahead, beside a bungalow on the right. This track continues between fields, passing a few low buildings on the left. Carry on walking ahead as far as FP 3 and bridleway on the left at the top of a slight gradient. Turn left on to this footpath, and then right, following it around the field, and then through a gap into the next field. Continue on the

path as it descends, and then uphill where the track then becomes tree-lined, and walk on through the woodland as far as the entrance to Church Farm on the right.

Here turn left on to the farm approach lane, and follow it to the end where it joins another lane. Maintaining the same direction still carry on ahead to turn left into a field immediately past the row of cottages on the left. After approximately 100 yards take FP I4 to the right and walk down the centre of the field to the trees at the bottom. Here go straight ahead into the trees through the gap, down rough steps and across the footbridge, and up steps and over a stile into another field. Continue ahead at the edge for a short distance to cross another stile on the left, and then another on the right into more trees. Walk on through the spinney, coming out on to a lane.

Here turn right for a very short distance, and then take FP I5 on the left into the field. Follow this at the edge (where on a clear day part of Braintree can be seen in the distance, with the spire of St. Michael's Church and the modern library building just visible). At a point just before the corner of the field as it bears left, continue on the path as it goes through a gap in the hedge on the left into a large paddock. Carry on along the edge, passing a stile on the right immediately before crossing a double stile and footbridge ahead, and again walk on at the edge of

this field. You will notice a splendid large oak tree here, and a large white house on the opposite side of the field which was once the former Rectory. Almost opposite this cross a stile on the right and turn left to continue on the waymarked path at the edge of the Golf Course and then cross a short section of the Course to the houses ahead. Continue behind the houses to come out on to the lane. Here turn left to the T junction by the school, and right to the Onley Arms.

#### WALK 5

(approx.41/2 miles)

This walk follows the same route as Walk 3, uphill from the back of Sarcel, continuing on through the village of Bradwell by field paths and lanes, returning to Stisted across farmland and the River Blackwater.

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore Institute, walk down the road ahead (signed Greenstead Green) between the houses to the junction, and continue ahead along the road named Sarcel almost opposite. At the small green on the left, walk to the far corner and along the pathway between numbers 24 and 25, turning right at the end

of the garden of number 25 and along behind the back gardens to cross a stile into the field on the left. FP 19 continues across the middle of the field and down to cross a stream by a footbridge, coming out into the next field. Here the path ascends rather steeply, and is not always immediately apparent, but the route is to a large gap at the top of the hill which can be clearly seen as the gradient becomes less steep. On reaching the gap it is worth turning around to take a few minutes rest after your climb to look back and observe the excellent view of the village and the Church below.

Now continue straight ahead through the gap on the track until bearing left through the farmyard of Pattiswick Farm. Turn right on to the lane and walk past the farmhouse to the junction, continuing ahead with Pattiswick Church on the left. Just before the phone box turn right on to the signed footpath, and follow the grassy track down to the village of Bradwell on the busy A120 road. Cross this road with extreme care to the signed footpath a little to the left on the other side of the road, and follow it past the wall of the building, across the river by the footbridge, and along the path to the playing field Walk through this to the top left-hand corner, crossing the footbridge on the left over a ditch into the adjoining field. Here turn right and walk along the edge to come out in Bradwell Street and turn right. Walk through this part of the village

as far as the road named Rectory Meadow on the left, turn into this cul-de-sac, and then continue left for a short distance to join the signed footpath into the field ahead. Walk along the bank at the first part of the edge of the field with the ditch on the left, continuing until passing through a small gap into the next field. Here turn left and then right at the corner and along the edge to reach the lane through a gap in the hedge at the top left-hand corner.

Turn right on to the country lane and follow it to the junction, turning left to continue along the lane where you will now have another clear view of Stisted and its Church, and also Stisted Hall (the old Manor House) set in the trees further to the left. Just before the second bend in the road opposite a road bend sign, enter the field on the right through a rather awkward gap in the hedge (sometimes obscured) to join FP 26. Walk straight ahead following the edge of the field, with the hedge to the right to the corner, entering the field ahead over a stile. Turn right and keep to the edge of this field and carry on to cross the footbridge ahead and up a few steps.

Continue straight across the next field on FP 24 (currently the site of car boot sales), crossing a stile and down steps to the Al20 road. Again cross this road with care to the lane opposite, passing the Dolphin Inn on the left. Carry on down the lane

(where the vista of most of your earlier walk is now laid out before you), as far as FP 23 on the left, and follow the track to the gate ahead. If you missed seeing Stisted Hall before, you can now see it more clearly in the trees to the left. Cross the stile beside the gate and walk down the pasture field straight ahead to the left edge of the hedge at the bottom where a stile becomes visible as you approach. After crossing this, walk diagonally across this field and the next to China Bridge over the River Blackwater. Cross the bridge and follow FP 45 uphill around the right-hand edge of the Golf Course, and near the top cross over to walk beside the Churchyard and through the gate to reach the village street.

# WALK 6

(approx.41/2 miles)

This walk is by field paths and lanes and through Great Monks Wood at Pattiswick, returning to Stisted down the hill to the back of Sarcel.

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore Institute, walk down the road ahead (signposted Greenstead Green) and turn left at the crossroads.

Follow the lane down to the first cottage on the left, and take FP 12 opposite and walk on to go through a gap in the hedge at the left-hand corner of the field. Continue ahead at the edge of this field for a short distance to pass through another gap on the right to the adjoining one. Carry on down the lefthand edge of this field to cross a footbridge at the bottom, turning left and then shortly right on to the signed footpath to walk between the fields to a gap by a large oak tree. Here turn left on to the signed footpath through the large gap into the adjoining field. Follow the path at the field edge, and shortly before reaching the end, with the lane and trees ahead, cross a stile and footbridge on the left into the next field. Here turn right and continue to the gate ahead at the corner. Cross the stile beside it and walk along the grassy path to come out on to the lane

Now cross the lane and walk on up the one opposite for about a quarter of a mile as far as 2 cottages on the left. Just past the farm buildings enter Great Monks Wood on the right by the signed footpath, and keep to the right fork where the path divides almost immediately. Walk on through the wood on the track. On reaching a junction where another track crosses, still continue ahead on a wider track, and continue through a splendid avenue of trees until emerging into a clearing. Here still maintain the same direction ahead alongside the

trees on the left to the far left-hand corner of the clearing, and then bear left on a track as it enters the trees again, passing a small pond on the right. Follow this track as it skirts the wood, and at the end turn right and walk past a house on the right to come out on to the lane.

Here turn right again and walk on along the lane. with good views ahead and towards Braintree. After passing a farmhouse on the right proceed as far as a signed bridleway on the left. Follow this wide grassy track between the fields to the trees ahead, walk through them and then turn right on to a path, keeping to it as it shortly turns left. This soon becomes a surfaced lane with cottages and a farm on the right. After passing the last house where the lane goes sharply left, carry on straight ahead on a track which passes 2 more cottages on the right. Continue on this path as it bends to the right and then to the left. At the third bend, where part of Stisted village and the Church can be seen in the distance ahead, enter the spinney in front of you by the signed footpath and walk on through the trees. On emerging into the field turn right and follow the path down the middle of the large field (not always obvious) to the bottom to enter a few trees and cross a footbridge over a stream to reach another field with houses ahead. Follow the path through the middle and cross the stile ahead, turn right to walk behind the houses and left to reach the small

green. Walk around the green to the road, and turninght to the centre of the village.

# WALK 7

(approx,5½ miles)

The first part of this walk is along the edge of the Golf Course, and then continues by field paths to Clapgate and Braintree Woods, returning to the village past Church Farm by lanes and more field paths.

Turn left from the Onley Arms and then left again opposite the School to walk along the road signed to Braintree. After passing the few houses on each side turn on to FP 15 on the right. Follow this on the Golf Course behind the houses, cross a short section of the Course ahead, and then carry on by the hedge for a short distance to cross a stile on the right into a field and turn left. You will notice a large white house opposite which was the former Rectory, and also a splendid large oak tree. Walk on at the edge of this field to the end to cross a double stile and footbridge into a large paddock and then continue ahead again to go through a gap in the hedge at the corner into the next field. Here turn right and continue until reaching the lane.

Now turn left on the lane and walk down the hill to the bridge at the junction, again turning left to follow the lane until reaching a gap in the trees on the right just before the lane starts to go uphill, to join FP 34. Walk through the few trees to come out into a field, and walk on along the edge, passing the footbridge to FP 41 on the left, and proceed as far as the next footbridge on the left over the stream and wide ditch.

Cross this footbridge and almost immediately pass through the gap in the hedge on the left into the adjoining field and turn right, continuing ahead at the edge to the top corner to go through a gap on the right and over another footbridge. Go straight ahead in this field, slightly uphill, with the hedge on the left. From here Kentishes Farm and the cottages can be seen over to the right. At the top of the gradient continue around the corner to the left and carry on to a point about 30 yards before the field bears to the left, and where the path continues over a fairly long sloping footbridge on the left across a deep ditch. Cross this into the adjoining field, turn right again and walk on at the field edge to the top and continue straight ahead over a ditch into the field ahead, passing a pond on the right, and turn left at the top corner. From here, very shortly pass through a large gap on the right and walk between the 2 fields towards Clapgate and Braintree Woods, ahead and enter them through a gap in the trees.

Now turn right in the woods and follow the track for about three quarters of a mile, which then emerges into a field. Follow the path across the middle, and then turn left, passing the farm buildings to come out on to a lane. Here go straight ahead past the farmhouse and a pond on the left, and follow the lane with a few houses on each side as far as FP 2 on the right just opposite the last house on the left. Walk on at the edge of this fairly long field and pass through a gap between a few trees and over a footbridge into the field ahead. straight across this to the hedge ahead, turn right and continue along the edge to reach Church Farm. Walk through the farmyard and on down the farm approach lane to the end where it joins another lane. Maintaining the same direction still carry on ahead to turn left into a field immediately past the row of cottages on the left. After approximately 100 yards take FP 14 to the right and walk down the centre of the field to the trees at the bottom. Here go straight ahead into the trees through the gap, down rough steps and across the footbridge, and up steps and over a stile into another field. Continue ahead at the edge for a short distance to cross another stile on the left, and then another on the right into more trees. Walk on through the spinney, coming out on to a lane.

Here turn left and walk to the T junction, and then right to reach the village centre.

THE FOLLOWING WALKS, NUMBERS 8-14, ARE OF A SHORTER LENGTH THAN THE PREVIOUS ONES, AND SOME OF THEM INCLUDE PARTS OF THE ROUTES ALREADY DESCRIBED.

#### WALK 8

(approx. 2 miles)

Turn right from the Onley Arms and walk down the Street and the path to the Church, continuing to pass through the gate on to the Golf Course. Carry on beside the Churchyard wall for a short distance as far as the waymark, and then turn left and cross the Course directly to the trees opposite. Walk on beside the trees on the left down the hill, turn right and carry on to follow the river bank on the left around the bends as far as the line of trees at the far end. Go on up the hill beside the trees to come out on to the lane by the entrance to Stisted Hall. Here turn right on the lane and continue up the hill, past cottages on the left on a bend, and shortly after enter the wood on the left by FP 27. Walk on through this wood, with its splendid trees, which in Spring is carpeted with bluebells, almost to the far end as far as a waymarked track on the left. down this and over a footbridge into a field. Here turn right to the corner, and then left for a short distance to cross a stile on the right into the adjoining field. Immediately turn right again to go over a double stile and footbridge, and walk on at

the edge of this field. You will notice a splendid large oak tree here, and a large white house on the opposite side of the field which was once the former Rectory. Almost opposite this cross a stile on the right and turn left to continue on the waymarked path at the edge of the Golf Course, and then cross a short section of the Course to the houses ahead. Continue behind the houses to come out on to the lane. Here turn left to the T junction by the school, and right to the Onley Arms.

#### WALK 9

(approx.23/4 miles)

Turn right from the Onley Arms and walk down as far as the Church drive. Here turn right and follow the made up track past the house on the left for a very short distance, and then bear right to follow the path through the trees. towards the playing field to come out on to the Golf Course. Cross the short section by the waymark in front of the tee to the path ahead, and follow this as it bears left to emerge on to the lane through the entrance on the right. Now turn left and follow the lane for about 1½ miles, passing the entrance to Stisted Hall and crossing the River Blackwater at the Mill House. Continue on up the slight hill past cottages and Jenkins Farm on the left to reach FP 42 on the left on the sharp right hand bend of the road.

Go through the gate on to this footpath and walk along the grass track, and then continue at the edge of the field ahead with trees on the left. At the end of this field turn left into the adjoining one, and go on down the hill at the right hand edge. Just before the corner of the field at the bottom turn right to cross a footbridge and stile into the next field, turn left and walk the short distance to the corner and cross the double stile and footbridge slightly to the right into the pasture field ahead.

Walk across the middle of this field, but keep to the left of the narrow drain which runs across it. The River Blackwater is to the left, with part of the Golf Course beyond. Walk on as far as China Bridge to cross the stile which gradually becomes visible as you approach. Continue over the bridge and ahead to the Golf Course, turning right to follow the path around the edge by the trees. Near the top cross in front of the tee to the Churchyard wall, and turn right to go through the gate and continue to the village street.

# WALK 10

(approx.21/2 miles)

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore Institute, walk down the road ahead (signed Greenstead Green) and turn left at the crossroads. Follow the lane down to the first cottage on the left,

and take FP 12 opposite and walk on to go through a gap in the hedge at the left-hand corner of the field. Continue ahead at the edge of this field for a short distance to pass through another gap on the right into the adjoining one. Carry on down the lefthand edge of this field to cross a footbridge at the bottom, turning left and then shortly right on to the signed footpath to walk between the fields to a gap by a large oak tree. Now carry on straight ahead up the field, skirting trees and a pond on the left. turning right at the top corner, passing behind and beside a cottage to come out on to a lane and turn right. As this almost immediately bears sharply to the left, carry on straight ahead on the track ahead which passes 2 more cottages on the Continue on this path as it bends to the right and then to the left. At the third bend, where part of Stisted village and the Church can be seen in the distance ahead, enter the spinney in front of you by the signed footpath and walk on through the trees. On emerging into the field turn right and follow the path down the middle of the large field (not always obvious) to the bottom to enter a few trees and cross a footbridge over a stream to reach another field with houses ahead. Follow the path through the middle and cross the stile ahead, turn right to walk behind the houses, and then left to reach the small green. Walk around the green to the road, and turn right to the centre of the village.

#### WALK 11

(approx.2 miles)

Turn right from the Onley Arms and walk down the Street towards the Church, turning left and then right at the T junction. Continue on down the lane, passing a few houses on each side, and then over the bridge of the River Blackwater. From here turn right and walk up the lane and past Milles Farm as far as FP 23 on the right. Turn on to this and follow the track to the gate ahead. From here you can see Stisted Hall (the former Manor House) in the trees over to the left. Cross the stile beside the gate and walk down the pasture field straight ahead to the left edge of the hedge at the bottom where a stile becomes visible as you approach. After crossing this, walk diagonally across this field and the next to China Bridge over the River Blackwater. Cross the bridge and follow FP 45 uphill around the right-hand edge of the Golf Course, and near the top cross over in front of the tee to the Churchyard wall and turn right to go through the gate and continue to the village street.

#### WALK 12

(approx.3 miles)

Turn left from the Onley Arms and walk past the school on the right and the road to Braintree on the left. Continue ahead past several houses on each

side of the road, and turn right on to FP 16 which is the entrance to allotments. After passing these cross a stile and carry on along the track through trees to cross another stile and footbridge into a field. Here turn right and continue along the edge of the field to the waymark for FP 13 which directs you to the left. Walk across the middle of the field to another waymark at the far side and go through a gap in the hedge into the next field. Cross this also in the same direction to the point where another path crosses and carry on ahead into the next field. Almost immediately cross a footbridge over ditch on the left and turn right. Continue straight ahead alongside the ditch, and then between a few trees with a house on the left to emerge on to a lane.

Now cross the lane to the one opposite and carry on, turning left by a house at the junction, and either walk across the field on the left on FP 5 , <u>OR</u> continue on further up the lane until reaching FP 41 on the left. Follow this footpath between the fields, and then turn left on to a track and continue past FP 3 on the right and some low buildings, until coming out on to the lane just past a bungalow on the left

Now turn right and follow the lane past cottages

on the right, with distant views to the left, and continue on, passing a turning to the right and then the Village Hall to reach the centre of the village.

# <u>WALK 13</u>

(approx.3 miles)

From the Onley Arms and facing the Montefiore Institute, walk down the road ahead (signposted Greenstead Green) and turn left at the crossroads. Follow the lane down to the first cottage on the left. and take FP 12 opposite and walk on to go through a gap in the hedge at the left-hand corner of the field. Continue ahead at the edge of this field for a short distance to pass through another gap on the right to the adjoining one. Carry on down the lefthand edge of this field to cross a footbridge at the bottom, turning left and then shortly right on to the signed footpath to walk between the fields to a gap by a large oak tree. Here turn left on to the signed footpath through the large gap into the adjoining field. Follow the path at the field edge, and shortly before reaching the end, with the lane and trees ahead, cross a stile and footbridge on the left into the next field. Here turn right and continue to the gate ahead at the corner. Cross the stile beside it and walk along the grassy path to come out on to the lane.

Now turn left and continue down the lane to the corner, where either cross the field ahead by FP 7, or walk on along the lane (which is pleasant walking) for a distance of about a quarter of a mile. At the road junction turn left and pass the first lane on the right, turning right at the next one just past the point where FP 7 across the field on the left emerges. Walk on past the farm buildings, and then take FP 13 on the left just opposite a lane on the right, continuing on this path until entering a field. Here walk straight ahead on the path alongside the ditch on the left as far as a footbridge on the left over the ditch. Cross this and turn right, continuing ahead into the next field. Walk across the middle of this towards the end of the hedge ahead, pass through the gap, and then walk straight across the middle of the next field also to the left end of the line of trees ahead. Here turn right for a short distance, and then cross the footbridge and stile on the left, walking straight ahead to cross another stile and past the allotments on the right to reach the lane. Here turn left towards the centre of the village.

# WALK 14

(approx.21/4 miles)

Turn left from the Onley Arms and walk along as far as the school on the right and turn left to follow the lane (signed Braintree) opposite and follow this past houses on each side as far as FP 15 on the right. Follow this path at the edge of the Golf Course behind the houses, cross a short section of the Course ahead, and then carry on by the hedge for a short distance to cross a stile on the right into a field and turn left. You will notice a large oak tree in this field, and a large house on the opposite side which was the former Rectory. Walk on at the edge of this field to the end to cross a double stile and footbridge into a large paddock, and then continue ahead again to go through a gap in the hedge at the corner into the next field. Here turn right and continue to the lane.

Now turn left and follow the lane downhill to the bridge, and then right up the hill to a point just before the row of cottages on the right. Turn right beside them into the field, and after approximately 100 yards take FP 14 on the right and walk down the centre of the field to the trees at the bottom. Here go straight ahead into the trees through the gap, down rough steps and across the footbridge, and up steps and over a stile into another field Continue ahead at the edge for a short distance to cross another stile on the left, and then another on the right into more trees. Walk on through the spinney, coming out on to a lane.

Here turn left and walk along the lane, turning right at the T junction, and continue on past the Village Hall on the right to the centre of the village.