

If arriving by car, please note that the Golf Club have asked that walkers refrain from using their car park.

While you are out you are also doing your health a favour. Regular moderate activity, such as brisk walking, is enough to keep you in shape. You don't need to sweat and pant - feeling warm and breathing harder than usual will give you benefits and you're never too old or too far gone to start!

Originally built in 1802 this dramatic building was used for numerous war time purposes, including a training centre for people who worked with the European resistance movements, and as a maternity hospital. It now forms part of Hertfordshire University's Watford Campus.

Wall Hall.

In 601 AD Pope Gregory issued a letter to all missionaries which decreed that pagan idols and myths should be sanctified by incorporating them into the teachings and the fabric of the church. Hence Aldenham's unusual church tower, still standing long after these beliefs have disappeared.

This is one of a series of short walks through the Hertsmere countryside. It follows Rights of Way across private land, which are waymarked as follows:



FOOTPATH



BRIDLEWAY



BYWAY OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC



ROAD USED AS A PUBLIC PATH

As well as following the markers on the ground, you might like to discover your own routes, using Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map no. 1139 Watford and Rickmansworth.

Please be considerate in the countryside. Leave only footprints. Take only photos.

The Countryside Management Service works with communities in Hertfordshire and North London to care for and enjoy the countryside. For more information contact us at Blanche Farm, Blanche Lane, Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 3 LF.



Illustration by Sarah Johnson

Due to its unusual appearance Puddingstone was frequently attributed strange powers in folklore. Its tendency to come to the surface led to the superstition that it actually grew in the fields, damaging crops and ploughshares. In more extreme cases it was thought to grow constantly, gathering in pebbles, fruit and unsuspecting children. Pieces of the stone were often placed on the doorstep of a house or carried around in pockets to ward off evil. A parish record of 1662 states that a piece was placed on top of the coffin of a suspected witch, to prevent her from escaping.

Within the church tower, notice the presence of Hertfordshire Puddingstone, a rock unique to this area. In appearance it looks rather like concrete. This is a very young rock at just 54 million years old! Originally laid down as sand and gravel in a huge river estuary, silica percolated into the sand and set to form an Saxon church built by King Offa of Mercia in 785 AD. The spire however is quite new, the original having been destroyed by bombing during the Second World War. This impressive building dates mostly from the 14th and 15th Century and occupies the site of a previous Hertfordshire Puddingstone, a rock unique to this area.

The Church of St. John the Baptist.

The Round Bush Ramble

A circular walk taking about 1 1/2 hours to complete, passing through Round Bush, Aldenham and Wall Hall.
3 miles or 4 3/4 km

The walk starts at the Round Bush Public House but could equally be started from outside the church. A bus service is available from Radlett, Bushey and Watford Junction Railway Stations. Services 311, 602, 634 stop at either the church or the University.



River Colne

Golf Course

Wall Hall College

Hertfordshire University

Edge Grove School

Otterspool Farm

Church Lane

Round Bush

PH

St John
The Baptist Church

Aldenham

Radlett Road

The Round Bush
Public house

Marble Arch
14 Miles



The Round Bush Public House serves food :
12 - 2pm Weekdays
12 - 2.30pm Weekends