

Walk 6



Langford Landscape

Starting from St Mary's Church. A walk along the river valley, crossing over the northern railway line, through farmland up onto the Eastern ridge. A fine walk with spectacular views to the Southwest. Sharpenhoe Clappers, Barton Hills and Deacon Hill can be clearly seen? There are two stiles on the walk and steps up to the Railway Bridge. Also two reasonable inclines.

DISTANCE: 10.7km (6.6 miles). Maps - Ordnance Survey: Landranger 153 and Explorer 193 & 208.

YOUR ROUTE: With the church on your left walk between gatehouses, past Boyd Memorial Scout Field, kindly donated by the Lennox Boyd family, past owners of Henlow Grange. After iron gates keep left, through gap by field gate. Continue on track, taking first waymarked turning on the left. Cross over Ivel river-bridge, turn left **1**. Continue to pass entrance to fishing lakes, cross a narrow bridge. Shortly turn right onto waymarked path. Continue uphill with hedge on right to reach a concrete road **2**. Turn left, and take next right turn onto path leading to footbridge over the railway. Cross over and follow worn path diagonally left to reach a track. Turn right, go forward to reach a waymarked path on your left **3**. Follow this path across three fields, continue with hedge on your left. At field end bear right to cross stile by metal gate. Walk down the field with hedge on your left, after turning right reach a stile in the hedge **4**. Cross stile, then a sleeper- bridge (*this could be slippery*). Follow path around a large pond to reach Vine Farm. Continue on the track to a waymarked junction, turn left **5**. Follow this route uphill to reach the highest point of the walk. *After that climb, perhaps a pause to take in the panoramic view? Note the **Water Tower** up hill on your right.* On reaching the road cross over onto opposite field path, then forward to reach a line of trees with a track going left on other side **6**. Follow this down hill and round to right, reaching a pedestrian crossing over the main northern railway line **7**. *Cross with greatest care.* Follow field path to reach a minor road. Go forward, slightly downhill, at road junction turn right. Take next turn left, continue to reach main road. Cross over and turn left, walk downhill to reach a "green" on the right. Cross the River Bridge **8**, immediately turn left, and follow riverside path to main road. Turn right, in short distance cross the road onto waymarked path, (*watch for rabbit holes*), follow this to reach a farmyard. Turning left continue to reach waymarked cross-field path (*note permissive alternative route*), follow this to main road. Turn left, walk on ignoring Gardeners Lane and Northfield Close, take next left to St Mary's Church.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

Langford Water Tower, Topleys Hill: When built the tower cost £14,500, it opened in May 1934. The water, raised from New Spring, Biggleswade is contained in a steel plated spherical bowl suspended within the structure. It holds 300,000 gals. In 1980 the original steel roof was replaced by an aluminium cap costing £26,000.



KEY

- Route
- Reference point
- Start
- Water/river
- Road
- Pub
- Bus stop

