

GENERAL INFORMATION

This is one of a series of six linked walks in and around Stotfold, a small Bedfordshire town close to the borders of Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

Stotfold is thought to have gained its name when northern cattle drovers broke their journey to London down the Great North Road and penned their animals [stots] in enclosures [folds] before continuing their journey south.

Each individual walk covers two to four miles and can be linked to form longer routes. The area is generally level and the walks are easy, although not all will be accessible to wheelchairs or baby-buggies.

The walks were produced by TEASEL – the local conservation group. A combined map of all the walks showing how they are linked and notes on interesting flora and fauna which you are likely to see at different seasons can be found on the TEASEL website: www.teasel-info.com.



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PARKING

Many of the walks start from a car-park but if this is full, please show consideration for any traffic and local residents.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Buses run through Stotfold from Hitchin, Letchworth and Shefford. For further information, contact: Arriva Customer Services – 0844 800 44 11.

Arlesey Station, just 1½ miles away, has East Coast Main Line services from London and Peterborough.

OTHER WALKS IN THE AREA

Local libraries have information on other local and more long-distance walks. These include:

Kingfisher Way: Baldock to Tempsford

Greensand Ridge Walk: Leighton Buzzard to Gamlingay

Letchworth Greenway: 13½ miles around the town

USEFUL MAPS

Ordnance Survey Landranger Series, 153 @ 1:50 000

Ordnance Survey Explorer Series, 193 @ 1:25 000

FURTHER INFORMATION

There are various pubs and shops in the town which provide refreshments. There is a public convenience in the High Street.

Remember to obey The Countryside Code – keep to the footpaths, close all gates behind you and keep dogs under control.



Design & layout: Cedric Morgan, Ad-Lib Graphics • 01462 731845

TO RADWELL LAKE

1.7 miles/2.8 Km

4

Linked, Short Walks in and around **STOTFOLD**



- 1 Astwick's Ancient Church and Ruined Mill
- 2 The River Ivel
- 3 Town, Church and River
- 4 To Radwell Lake
- 5 Stotfold: Old and New
- 6 Wide Open Spaces and Water

Walk No. 4 TO RADWELL LAKE

1.7 miles/
2.8 Km

Start at The Old Bridge in Baldock Road [GR 224364] • Links with Walks 3 and 5.

- ★ Start at the bridge [A] at the eastern end of Baldock Road. Pass beside the metal gate into the tree-lined cul-de-sac and after 100 yds, go right through the fence on to a signed path which takes you down steps to the busy A507. **Cross the road with great care.**

- 1 On the other side, follow the path, trees to your right, a field rising on your left, to cross at the gates to Radwell Mill at the end of an avenue of chestnut trees.

Point of Interest

[A] Baldock Road is now a quiet cul-de-sac, but before the Stotfold by-pass was opened in 1996, it was a main route from the A1 to the M1 with heavy traffic regularly passing over this modest bridge.

- 2 Stay on the field-edge path until you reach a road. Turn right and walk down to the end. Look back over the bridge across Radwell Lake [B]. Here, various waterfowl will probably be clamouring for your attention.



- 3 Two signed footpaths lead away from the bridge. Take the left-hand one, cross a wooden bridge and emerge ahead on a tarmac road between farm buildings. Continue beside a hedge in front of a house and enter a wood, cross another wooden bridge beside a kissing-gate. Here, choose the right-hand path to reach another wooden bridge bearing footpath signs. Cross the two fields ahead to walk along behind back gardens to reach a tarmac road.



- 4 Continue ahead along this road, allotment gardens on your right, then bear left at farm buildings and walk down to cross a cycle-track. Turn right along the footpath beside this track, pass under the A507. Continue ahead along the pavement to turn right at the mini-roundabout.
- 5 You are now on Baldock Road again, walking towards your starting point.



Point of Interest

[B] Radwell Mill, seen across the lake, is now a private house. The son of the owner is an enthusiastic hang-glider pilot, and was the first person to fly a hang-glider over the top of Mount Everest.

