

NADFAS CHURCH CRAWL – TUESDAY 8 AUGUST 2017



Radwinter



Little Sampford



Thaxted

We will be visiting 3 churches in North West Essex this year, starting with St Mary the Virgin, Radwinter, followed by the Church St Mary the Virgin, Little Sampford, and , in the afternoon to St John the Baptist with Our Lady and St Laurence, Thaxted.

The programme is as follows:-

- 10.30-11.00 Radwinter Village Hall for coffee
- 11.00 St Mary the Virgin, Radwinter
- 12.30 St Mary the Virgin, Little Sampford
- 1.15 Lunch in Thaxted
- 2.15 St John the Baptist with our Lady and St Laurence

To make things easier for those with satnavs the post codes for Radwinter and Little Sampford churches and the car park in Thaxted are –

Radwinter CB10 2SW

Little Sampford CB10 2FN

Thaxted Car Park CM6 2QN

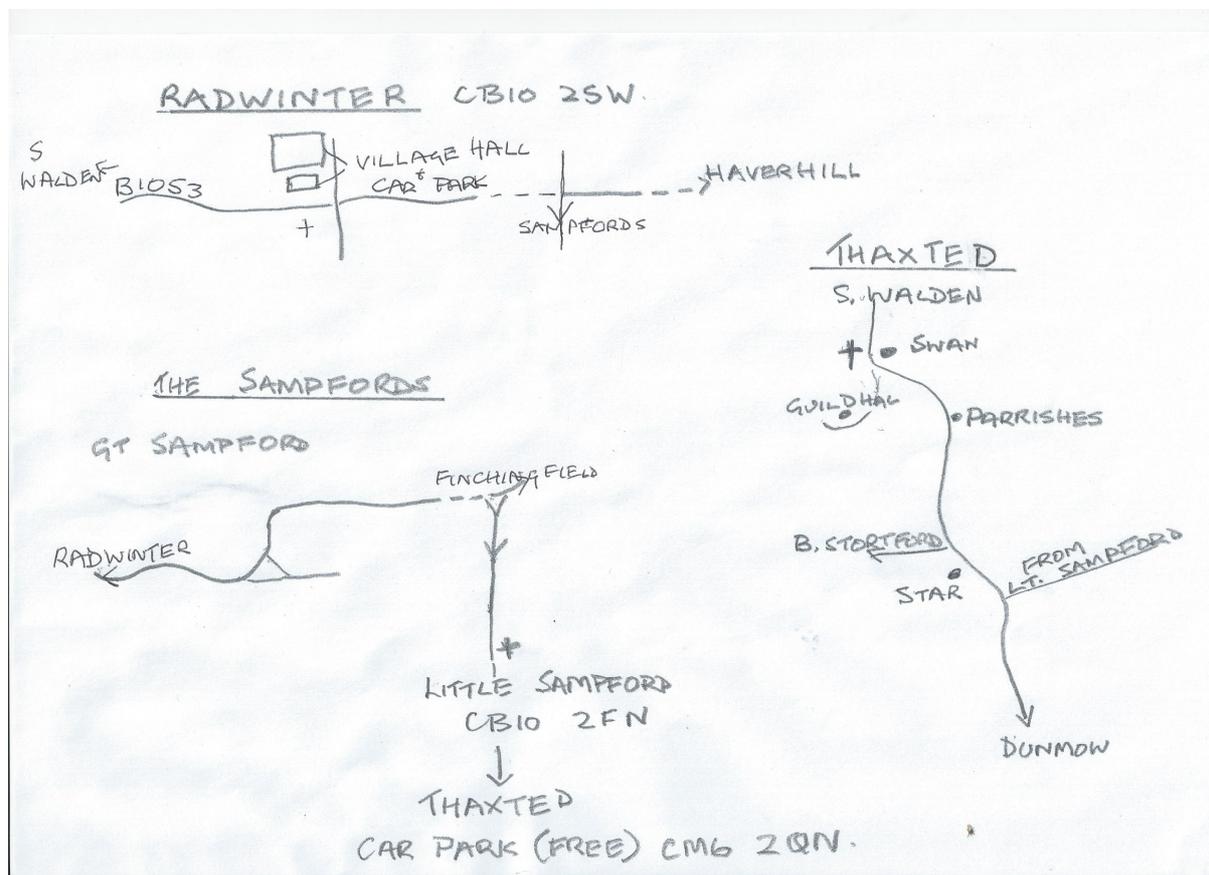
The post codes are also on the maps.

There are 3 places marked on the Thaxted map where food is served. For those who prefer a picnic there should be a bench near the windmill.

It is hoped that the Guildhall in Thaxted will be open for those who have time after the church

The Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin has stood in the centre of Radwinter for some 700 years. It is built of flint and white limestone with bands of tiles of irregular length and spacing. The roofs are covered with tiles and lead.

See following sketch map



Further notes on the Churches to be visited

The restoration and enlargement of the Church was undertaken by the Reverend John Frederick Watkinson Bullock (Rector from 1865-1916) on his own initiative, and largely at his own expense, Mr. Eden Nesfield was the Architect. Letters of his describing his work are still remaining and have been published by the Friends of Radwinter Church under the title "A Deuce of an Uproar". The Chancel was rebuilt and lengthened to its present proportions; the south and north aisles were rebuilt. Quaint stone heads, of medieval age, can be seen below the five roof beams. A north vestry and a south vestry and an organ chamber were added. The church was re-consecrated by the Bishop of Rochester on Wednesday 25th May 1870.

Above and behind the high altar is the magnificent wooden Reredos of Flemish workmanship of the early sixteenth century. It was bought for Radwinter church from a saleroom in London in 1888. It contains six scenes from the life of Our Lady, with small free-standing figures against shallow carved backgrounds, with elaborate tracery. An illustrated booklet on the reredos was published by the Friends of Radwinter Church in 2003.

Little Sampford Church

- Flint and stone rubble church mainly of the early C14. The west tower shows evidence of an interruption of the building work after the lower 2 stages were completed before the mid C14. Probably due to the intervention of the Black Death. The upper stages were built after 1350. It has set-back buttresses which become octagonal corner turrets with plain pinnacles at the top stage, an embattled parapet and a small C17 leaded spire. The nave with quatrefoil clerestory windows is C14 and the arcade has lozenge shaped piers with attached shafts. The chancel was rebuilt and the north porch added in the late C15. The south porch of red and blue brick is C17 and in 1682 the nave roof was renewed. There is some C19 restoration. The interior has a number of C16, C17 and C18 monuments including monuments of Sir Edward Greene (d. 1556), William Twedy (d. 1605) and wife and a standing wall monument of Bridget Peck (d. 1712). Graded for its architectural and historical value.

Thaxted's tradition of Anglo-Catholic Faith and Order and Christian Socialism is maintained in this wonderful Church. Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and daily services are all held here throughout the year, Our local Primary School and various musical and drama organisations make full use of the building for the greater benefit of the local community and the thousands of visitors we attract from all over the world. We continue to grow and we thank all those who give their support to the services of this church