



# The Hundred Parishes

## An introductory article about SNOWDROPS

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Flowering snowdrops are a welcome sight from early February. Although not native to this country, these spring-flowering bulbs were planted in churchyards from the 16th century onwards. As their seeds are dispersed by ants, they have become naturalised in suitable locations such as hedgerows. Snowdrops carpet parts of Hatfield Forest and the gardens of Audley End and Easton Lodge where visitors can admire them; smaller clusters are present in most of the churchyards around the Hundred Parishes.

One of the best churchyard displays is often at Great Amwell, pictured on the right. The rising ground enhances the show. Two of the Hundred Parishes walks pass through here, numbers 9 and 19. The two quite different routes each start from St Margarets Station.



Other churchyards worth a visit to view snowdrops include Aspenden, Farnham, Rickling, St Mary's in Stansted Mountfitchet and Takeley. Below, we show Takeley on the left and Rickling on the right.



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Any comments or suggestions for improvement may be submitted by using the Feedback form on the website. The website has many short articles on various aspects of The Hundred Parishes, as well as introductions to individual parishes and to a number of local celebrities, and an extensive What's On section. More than a hundred walk route descriptions can be freely downloaded, with each of the hundred parishes featuring in at least one walk.