



# The Hundred Parishes

## Quiet Lane Walks – number 334

### Manuden – 5.2 miles (8 kms)

This walk is entirely within the administrative parish of Manuden. The route is mostly on quiet lanes through attractive countryside with about a mile along pavement through the village of Manuden when the description includes information about many buildings. The route is quite hilly at times.

In 2024 there was nowhere to obtain refreshment along the route although there is hope that The Yew Tree Inn ( 01279 814279 - [www.yewtreeinmanuden.co.uk](http://www.yewtreeinmanuden.co.uk) ) will one day serve food again during the day.

A diagram of the route is provided at the end of this description.

Some parts of the route are also used in other walks, numbers 146 and 157.

You can, of course, join this circular walk anywhere along the route.

**Start and finish:** The route description starts and finishes at the free car park of Manuden's Community Centre in David Collins Drive at the northern end of the village. Although the car park is large, it can fill up when football matches are being played.

Ordnance Survey Grid Reference: TL486273 - Postcode: CM23 1EH – what3words: destroyer.ever.pouting

The route can be followed fully on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 194 with most of the route also appearing on Map 195.

This route is mostly on quiet lanes, but please follow the usual safety precautions: where there is no pavement, keep to the right so as to face oncoming traffic, crossing occasionally to the left if this offers a clearer view around a right-hand bend. Drivers and cyclists may be as surprised to see you as you are to see them!

We leave the car park the way we drove in. On the left is Langlands, a private road of 21st-century homes built in earlier styles.

On reaching the road, we turn right for about 100 yards – possibly using the grass verge.

After 100 yards, with care, we cross the road and turn left into a lane signposted towards Furneux Pelham and Maggots End. This is Maggotts End Road. We should keep to the right, facing any oncoming traffic.

Our lane climbs steadily for about 200 yards until we reach a lane on the left. There is no signage, but we turn left into Sheepcote Lane.

The lane climbs a little more before levelling off.

We pass beneath several mature oak trees. Over to the left, we look down onto the northern part of Manuden village and across the Stort valley to the hillside beyond.

After a while we descend a little to meet the western extremity of Manuden village. We go straight on past Butt Lane on our right and then Butt Lane on our left. Here, Sheepcote Lane becomes Dogden Lane – none of this is signposted.

After another quarter of a mile, we pass a footpath on the left and then the thatched Keepers Cottage on the right – it dates from the 18th or 19th century.

Soon afterwards, we reach a staggered crossroads. Straight ahead, over the hedge, is thatched Broome Cottage, also from the 18th or 19th century.

Once again, there is no signage at this junction – but we turn right. Just after turning, a glance back will give a better view of Broome Cottage. Down the drive opposite Dogben Lane, the house is called Old Kennels and it dates from the 16th century.

Having turned right, we are now in Mallows Green Road, once again climbing for a while.

We pass the entrance to Ark End on the right.

Further on we pass a pair of brick houses on the right.

Over to the right, lines of pylons radiate out from Pelham electricity transformer station, about 2 miles away near Stocking Pelham.

Our lane bears left and the view opens up ahead.

We pass the entrance to Parsonage Farm on the left and then descend gently.

The road levels out and after a while we reach a fork in the road. Here we will fork to the right, starting a counter-clockwise loop which will return us to this spot in about 2 miles. Before turning right, we might like to assess whether we will be able to return along the road that forks left – it sometimes floods at this point and pedestrians have to use the footbridge behind the UPPEND sign.

There is at last some signage: “UPPEND” is the name of the hamlet which we will pass through during our loop. Our lane is still called Mallows Green Road.

About a quarter of a mile after forking right, we pass Saucemeres Cottage on the right – it has no visible name but is dated 1863.

Soon, we pass Saucemeres Farm on the right. The farmhouse dates from the 16th century, albeit considerably altered over the last 500 years. We follow the lane round to the left.

Soon, we keep left at a grass traffic island, ignoring another entrance to Saucemeres Farm on the right.

Very soon, we come to another grass traffic island where we keep right, ignoring an entrance on the left to Mallows Green Farm.

Our lane bisects Mallows Green. Over to the left, a pair of semi-detached houses, timber-framed and plastered, date back to the 16th or 17th century.

We continue ahead for another quarter of a mile until the lane turns sharp left where a bridleway comes in from the right.

After 200 yards we pass 17th-18th-century Pond House on our left and 17th-century Whites Farm House on the right.

In another 200 yards, our lane bears left, passing Littlebrook House on the right.

We soon reach the most densely populated part of Uppend, passing several houses on the right.

The last house on the right is 17th-century Frog Hall which was once a pair of dwellings.

The lane turns right and then left and we then return to where we started the Uppend loop. Here, a ditch sometimes overflows onto the roadway and we may have to use a footbridge to the left.

Having completed the Uppend loop, we turn right to retrace along Mallows Green Road, heading in an easterly direction, firstly flat and then gently uphill over the next half mile.

We pass the entrance to Parsonage Farm on the right and continue on the flat and then gently downhill, past Ark End on the left, until we return to the staggered crossroads.

This time, we go straight ahead, past Broome Cottage, immediately on the right.

We are still on Mallows Green Road, descending between high banks or hedges on both sides until we reach 30 MPH signs as we re-enter Manuden village.

On the right, we pass Top Cottage, the first of a terrace of several 19th-century cottages with a communal water pump.

Next on the right is a detached house, Adam's Gate.

Just afterwards, we pass between thatched buildings on each side of the lane. The 18th-century property on the right is two dwellings: Adam's Cottage and Tyler's Cottage. The weather-boarded barn on the left dates from the 16th or 17th century.

The final house on the right is The Panels.

Opposite, on the left, the field behind the wall was once the village pound, a place where stray livestock would have been held. A few yards further on, looking over the wall and back up the hill, we can see The Bury, framed between its two thatched barns. The exterior of The Bury dates from the 18th century, constructed around a 16th-century core.

We reach a road junction where there is no signpost, but we turn right for a short distance along The Street before turning and coming back to here. We should use the pavement on the right.

On the right, we pass Manuden Cottages, 6 pairs of houses that were erected by J. Thomas as almshouses in 1857.

The pavement ends at the last of Manuden Cottages and here we should cross The Street with care to retrace on the other pavement. We start beside a flint and brick wall to a barn.

Just afterwards, The Old Inn, standing sideways to the road, once functioned as the Cock Inn.

Next, we go past two thatched, 18th-century houses: Grove Cottage and then The Long House.

We pass Manuden Primary School on the right - "Manuden Board School, 1877".

Ahead, Manuden's church comes into view.

We pass 18th-century number 12 on the right, opposite the junction with Mallows Green Road.

Just beyond, there is a clearer view of The Bury, over to the left.

We pass several more houses on the right that date from the 18th century.

Before we reach a bend, we should cross the road, when safe, and continue on the left pavement beside a low flintstone wall.

When the pavement ends, we fork left into the churchyard.

In just a few yards, we turn left on the path, heading towards the church porch.

On the left, note the exposed beams of 16th-century Benrose which backs onto the churchyard.

If the church is open, you are encouraged to visit. It dates from the 12th century but was largely rebuilt in the 1860s. It retains significant elements from the 15th century including the fine carving and tracery work of the chancel screen. There is a wall monument to Sir William Waad (pronounced Wade), a former Manuden resident who is best remembered for his role as Lieutenant of the Tower of London when he was responsible for the interrogation and execution of Guy Fawkes and his fellow conspirators following their failed attempt to blow up Parliament on 5th November 1605.

On leaving the church porch, we turn left and retrace through the churchyard, keeping straight ahead to exit through the gateway. Take great care as the gate opens directly onto the road with no pavement. When safe, cross the road to the pavement opposite and turn left.

We soon reach a road junction – with an interesting signpost - it is made of cast iron and was manufactured at Maldon Ironworks in Essex, probably around 1930.

We should turn right into Pinchpools Road, passing a garage on the right. We pass a small green on the right – with post box, noticeboard and seat - and in about 50 yards we should halt where the road crosses a bridge. Beneath the bridge is the River Stort which is often dry.

Just beyond the river is Manuden Hall, mostly out of sight behind trees. It dates from the 16th century although much of it is a replacement following a disastrous fire in 1888. Arson was suspected. Manuden was particularly badly affected by a wave of "incendiarism" that was blamed on farm labourers who were discontent with their pay and with the progressive mechanisation of farming. We will turn here and retrace to the corner.

Before getting back to The Yew Tree, note the puddingstone on the ground, protecting the corner of the building. It was formed about 50 million years ago and probably deposited nearby by a retreating glacier, perhaps only 10,000 years ago.

At the corner, we turn right into The Street, passing the Yew Tree Inn on the right. You may like to take refreshment here if it is open (it stopped serving food in 2024). The inn dates from the 16th century but has been much modernised.

We continue along The Street. Next to the pub is 18th-century Church View and then The Old Maltings which dates from the 17th century and really was a maltings - where barley was processed for the brewing industry.

On the left, immediately after the churchyard, is Manuden Almshouses. A plaque gives their date as circa 1430 AD to 2012. The latter date is when they were upgraded and ceased to serve as almshouses.

On the right, number 42 - The Old Bakery – dates from the 17th century.

On the left, there is an entrance to Pakeman's Almshouses with an inscription 1675 to 2013.

Next, we pass number 55 on the left (16th-century but somewhat altered) and on the right we go past the former Post Office and the adjoining Old Wall House, dating from the 17th century.

On the left, the red-brick former vicarage, Cleeve Hall, dates from around 1720 AD.

Opposite Cleeve Hall, 18th-century Cedar House has an attractive curved bay window.

As the road turns right, on the left just after Cleeve Hall we can see Stable Cottage with its large clock. Next, we pass 18th-century Manuden House on the left with ornate iron railings and tall ornamental trees. The railings were installed around 1820 AD.

The pasture on our right is also bounded by railings of a similar vintage. A row of workers' cottages once stood along here, but they obscured the view from Manuden House. The owner of Manuden House had them taken down in the 1850s and the residents were moved to the south of the village - to Manuden Cottages which we saw earlier - built by J. Thomas in 1857.

After the field, we pass number 62, Cobbs on the right, of 16th-century origin.

Just after Butt Lane on the left, thatched number 75 on the left dates from the 17th century.

On the right, opposite Mailers Lane, there is a former village hall (as opposed to 'community centre' where we parked). It was built in the 19th century as a Congregational Chapel.

On the left, Waggoner's Court originated in the 17th century and for many years was the Jolly Waggoners pub.

Further along on the left, number 95 was built in 1880 as a Primitive Methodist Chapel and is now a private house.

On the left, there are three thatched cottages: number 97 is Oakdale; 99 Maydays and 101 Chapel Cottage. They are all timber-framed and plastered and all date from the 17th – 18th centuries.

The pavement ends opposite Chapel Cottage and here we turn sharp right onto a short lane. In about 50 yards, we ignore the service road behind the houses, and very soon turn left onto a surfaced path beside the playing fields on the right.

After the path bears right, the houses to our left may look old but they were actually built in the 21st century.

We are approaching the rather grand Manuden Community Centre on our right, built at the same time and as part of the scheme that included the new houses and new sports facilities.

After the Community Centre on the right, we return to the car park where this walk description started.

[If you started somewhere else along the route, please rejoin the route description from page 1 ]

This route description, last updated 23 September 2024, was downloaded from [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk) There, you can read more about the parish of Manuden and also find many additional walk routes.

Please email any suggestions for improving the route or the route description to [hundredparishes@btinternet.com](mailto:hundredparishes@btinternet.com).

A diagram of this route, based on the Ordnance Survey map, is shown below. It is published under © Crown copyright 2020 OS 100062498.

