- Broadfields Farm is an historic farm complex including a Grade II listed 17th or 18th century elm barn and 19th century stable block with complete king-post truss roof. It now forms the historic heart of the Thames Chase Community Forest and The Forest Centre.
- 2. The rich farmland of the area was well known for its market gardening for many generations. Its historic use is often reflected in local road names: look out here for Pike. Pea and Bramble Lanes.
- North Ockendon dates back to AD630 and a visit by St Cedd. This two-centred historic settlement is still linked across the fields by a footpath, now the North Ockendon Conservation Area centred on the medieval Grade I listed church and cluster of other listed and historic buildings. The adjacent Victorian farm complex, now converted to private homes, is within the ancient moated site of the 16th century Ockendon Hall demolished through a direct bomb hit during WWII. During the reign of Henry II the Lord of the Manor was Reginald Fitzurse the knight who smote the first blow against Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury.
- St Cedd's well it is thought that St Cedd used the well to baptise Christians on his missionary journeys through Essex.
- 5. Bulphan Fens the fens, or Saxon 'fanns' here once stretched from Rainham in the west all the way to Canvey Island in the east and are recorded here in names such as Fen Lane and Puddle Dock, In the 13th century a Pilgrim route passed through here via Pilgrim's Hatch and St Thomas' Chapel in Brentwood, down through Great Warley, Franks via barge here to be guided across the marshes and ferried across the river Thames. The Pilgrims were on their way, just as in Chancer's famous tale, to the shrine of Thomas Beckett at Canterbury Cathedral.

The heritage information acknowledgements:

Havering Local Studies & Family History Centre, Central Library, St Edwards Way, Romford RM I 3AR

Sue Smith Conservation Planner S & G (Smith) Ltd

## Thames Chase -**Community Forest**

Environmental improvements within the borders of Thames Chase Community Forest are all around you in the many green spaces that are enjoyed through its 40 sq miles of countryside.

This landscape regeneration project is now being managed by the Thames Chase Trust.

The Forest Centre provides information about the

Community Forest and a focus for community activities. There is a wide range of events to interest all ages pick up a leaflet at the Forest Centre.



Opening Hours

Visitor Centre: Late March to October; 10am - 5pm every day. November to Late March:

10am - 4pm each day.

Site: Daily; 8.30am - to dusk.

Car parking

A fixed daily donation to Thames Chase Trust payable at the ticket machine.

Thames Chase Walks are sponsored by



Veolia North Thames



/Thames Chase @ Thames\_Chase







For more information and to make bookings please ring 01708 642970 or call at The Thames Chase Forest Centre. Pike Lane, Upminster RM14 3NS E-mail: enquiries@thameschase.org.uk Web site: www.thameschase.org.uk Charity no. 1115627. Company No. 5687558

Design & Artwork by P A Vine Mobile: 07940570194 Email: pav123@rocketmail.com



**Transforming** landscapes, transforming lives

**Thames** Chase Walk No.I

Circular walk via:

St. Mary Magdalene Church

North Ockendon

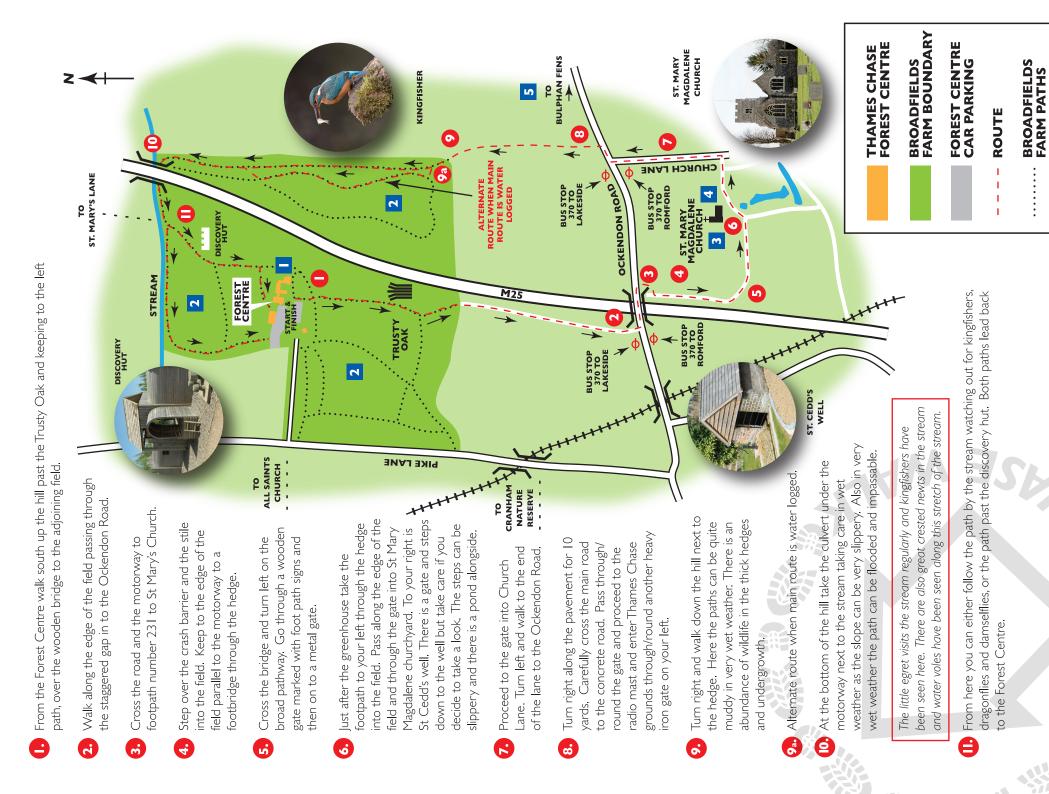
3 miles (approx)

1.5 hours (approx)

(Can be muddy in places and the culvert under the M25 can be impassable after heavy rainfall.)



Thames Chase Trust



RAILWAY

+++