

Pic 1: The crossroad of Horseshoes Lane and Lacey Close Pic 2: The pavement between the houses



Pic 3: The Heath Road crossroad with Langley village sign Pic 4: The 'Public footpath' signpost where the footpath leaves Green Lane



Pic 5: The footpath through the bushes Pic 6: The entrance gate of the church of Saint Mary

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## The Little Langley Heath Stroll

## Walk overview:

Distance:	1 mile (1.5 km)
Time:	0.5 – 1 hour
Description:	Heading east, discover the neighbouring village of Langley Heath and the church of Saint Mary.



The Potting Shed Sutton Road Langley Maidstone, Kent ME17 3LZ www.thepottingshedlangley.co.uk enqueries@thepottingshedlangley.co.uk Tel: 01622 862112



Leave The Potting Shed, cross the road and turn right onto the pavement following Horseshoes Lane. Keep walking along the pavement for about 0.3 miles (500m) and then keep left (follow the signpost to Leeds and Village Hall). Continue along the pavement for about 0.15 miles (200m) until the crossroad with Lacey Close on your right hand side **(1)**. Turn right onto Lacey Close and keep walking until the car park, then just before it turn right onto a pavement between houses **(2)**.

Follow the pavement for about 50 yards (50m), and then continue straight along Porters Walk until a crossroad with Heath Road **(3)**; you can see the Langley village sign on your left hand side. Cross the main road and carry on along Green Lane for about 0.1 miles (150m) until a 'Public footpath' signpost on the right **(4)**.

Turn right onto the footpath and keep walking along it through the bushes **(5)** until the field. Follow the footpath through the field over a concrete bridge until you get into bushes again. Continue along the footpath through the bushes and between the fences until a road.

(If you cross the road, turn left and follow the pavement for about 100 yards (100m) and you will see the entrance gate of the church of Saint Mary **(6)**, where you can explore the church grounds)

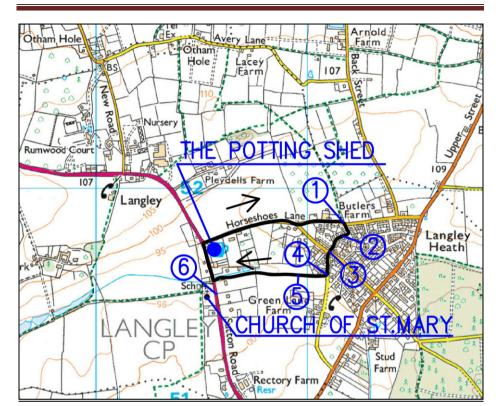
Cross the road, turn right and keep walking along the pavement for about 0.1 miles (150m) until The Potting Shed on the right.

## Langley village

Langley is a village and civil parish in the Maidstone District of Kent, England. The parish is located on the A274 road leading south from Maidstone to Headcorn .

Langley is a common English place-name, from the Old English lang leah or 'long field or woodland'. This village first appears in the records in 814 as Longanleag.

The village church is dedicated to St Mary. Behind this church is a lake, which was a possible place for 'trial by cold water' a medieval method of trial, when the jury couldn't decide if a person was guilty of witchcraft. The idea was that God would decide. If the accused floated they were found guilty because the water rejected them. If they sank, the water accepted them and thus they were innocent. As is often thought, it was not fair if the innocent drowned, but the result was usually always drowning. It was close to the church because the water had to be holy.



## Church of St.Mary, Langley

In the early 1970's the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Willington, was united with Otham. Then in 1982 these two were joined with St. Mary, Langley, to form the present parish of Otham with Langley. The parish now has a population of approximately 7,500.

Langley's Anglo-Saxon church was destroyed by fire and a new church was built during the 13th and 14th centuries. The Reverend William Bouverie Pusey, who became Rector in 1842 was not happy with the building and decided to construct a new church at his own expense on the foundations of the existing church which would be demolished. The new building was designed by William Butterfield and was opened in 1855. A toilet was additionally built in the 1990's but apart from that the church has changed little since it was built.