



The Hundred Parishes

An introduction to

HENHAM



Location: 3 miles northeast of Stansted Mountfitchet. **Ordnance Survey grid square:** TL5428.
Postcode: CM22 6AG. **Access:** north off B1051. Regional Cycle Route 60.
Bus: 7/7A, hourly, Mon-Sat, Bishop's Stortford – Stansted Airport.
County: Essex. **District:** Uttlesford. **Population:** 1,233 in 2011.

Henham (or Henham on the Mount, as it was once called) sits on relatively high ground. Its most distinctive features are the duck ponds and extensive greens which line the road through the village. The parish includes the hamlets of Pledgdon Green and Little Henham.



Henham can trace its origins back to Saxon times and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. With more than 70 listed buildings and 30 thatched dwellings, it is not surprising that the charming village centre is designated as a conservation area. Senior among its listings at Grade I is the parish church, dedicated to St Mary the Virgin, mostly 13th and 14th century and without much later alteration.



It is very much a thriving community, with a shop run by volunteers, a successful primary school, an active church and church community and an excellent pub, The Cock, shown here. Henham is also home to Saffron Brewery, a popular micro-brewery.

There is a diary of regular weekly village clubs and societies, including tennis, art, badminton, bridge and bell-ringing, to name but a few. In addition, there is an annual village fete and rounders competition, held on the attractive Wood End Green, as well as a bi-annual fun run.



Henham is indebted to local amateur historian Miss Joyce Winmill, who in the 1950s began chronicling much of the village's history. In the year 2000, as a mark of the new millennium, *'Memories of Henham'* was published, including numerous photographs and interviews with local residents, whose own recollections, or those told to them, stretched back over a hundred years. There is an extensive and informative history website, www.henhamhistory.org.



Pre-dating the memories of current inhabitants is the legend of a resident dragon, last sighted over the village some 350 years ago and reported in a pamphlet published in 1669 entitled "The Flying Serpent". Its visit is commemorated in the name of the free parish magazine, *The Dragon*, and also on the village sign.



Hospitality:

The Cock Inn – 01279 850180 - www.thecockinnhenham.co.uk

Holiday cottages: Parsonage Stables – 01279 850150 – www.farmholidayinessex.co.uk

Included in Hundred Parishes walk:

5: Between Elsenham and Newport stations (7 miles).

Adjacent parishes:

Elsenham, Stansted Mountfitchet, Ugley, Widdington, Debden, Chickney, Broxton.

Links:

Community website: www.henham.org

Village history: www.henhamhistory.org

Further reading:

Memories of Henham, Carol Eaton & Frances Roberts