



16. Crispin Cottages/ Malting House Row/ Bakers Lane. If you look straight ahead as you cross the stile, up Bakers Lane you will see a row of Victorian cottages. These cottages were built by the owner of the shoe factory, Stephen Walker, for his extended family. On the corner of Bakers Lane just across from Crispin Cottages a bungalow stands on the site of a thatch and stone row of houses known as Malting House Row. It is thought that it was originally a malting house – it may have provided brewing for the Five Bells pub, just up Bakers Lane where Church View now stands. The Malt House was divided at some stage into cottages and was occupied until the 1940's. It was demolished in the late 40's early 50's.



Turn right and walk along Rectory Lane taking a left turn up a small alleyway called Church Lane.



17. Church Lane. The sharp double bend in this winding path, known locally as the "jetty" is due to a diversion to avoid an old **Cruck Cottage**. The cottage, which was of a very old stone and thatch construction, was demolished in the 1940's, but the path still follows the winding route. An old village story states that the path that now diverts around the external wall of the cottage used to go under it as a passageway – this would make sense, as one dictionary description of jetty is "a part of a building which juts beyond the ground-plan"

As the "jetty" opens out by the church you will see **The Chestnuts** to your right and next to it **Five Bells**. The Chestnuts was Stephen Walker's first house in the village and shoes were made in the upstairs rooms. In 1887 Walker built a small factory next to the Chestnuts, which is now Five Bells



18. St Peter's Church
In medieval Walgrave the village lay at the centre of three fields; it was clustered around the village Greens, and at its heart stood the Church of St Peter. Daily life in a medieval village revolved around the Church and the Lord of the Manor.

There was a church here as early as October 1217, when the first rector was installed. At this time the Malesoures family, lords of the manor of Walgrave, held the advowson, or the right to appoint the Rector – a right later granted to St Augustine's priory in Daventry. The ground plan of the church, with the exception of the vestry, is of the 14th century. Major restoration took place in 1867 when the spire was re-built. The Langham chapel was probably added in the later half of the 17th century.

By the south door to the church is the socket stone and stump of an old cross. Local tradition suggests that this is part of the village cross which once stood at "The Cross" at the cross roads of Old Road/ Baker's Lane/Holcot Road/High Street.



Follow the narrow path from the door of the Church towards the Old Rectory and down the steps towards Lower Green and the War Memorial.

19. Old Rectory. This listed building was built in 1687 probably to replace/enlarge a previous building. The eastern wing is mid Victorian (abt. 1860's) . The façade facing the church has been little altered over the years and the banded stonework, known as galletting, is especially noteworthy.



20. War Memorial and Jubilee Tree
 The dedication of the War memorial took place in 1920. The Reverend Samuel Wathen Wigg (founder of Northampton Saints Rugby Team) conducted the ceremony. The memorial is engraved with the names of 25 parishioners who gave their lives during the 1914-18 War. The list contains three pairs of brothers. Six further names were added after the 1939-44 War. In 1887 villagers planted the tree on Lower Green to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee



Return along the High Street, on the opposite side of the road to the Church, in the direction of Holcot.



21.The Langham Arms and The Stocks. 22.The Robin Hood
 On each corner of Gold Street stand two of Walgrave's original five Public Houses. The first is the Robin Hood and on the opposite corner stands the Langham Arms.



The area at the junction of Gold Street and High Street used to be known as "The Stocks". It is thought that the stocks stood on the corner of the Langham Arms. There was a petrol pump on the site in the 1920's/30's. The old pub sign for the Langham Arms is on the wall inside the church.

The Langham Arms was also the "stop" for the Walgrave Carters. Horace Knight started a horse and cart carrier service in the early 1920's. Motorised transport took over in the mid 20's offering a service to markets in Kettering and Northampton. The Langham was the main centre in the 1950's being home to Amber FC and the skittles club. There was even a barber in residence upstairs. Even earlier evidence of the Langham's importance as a social centre is found in the Golden Jubilee celebrations for King George III in 1809. The reason that the celebration was held a year early (49 years into his reign) may have been due to fears for his health. The celebrations included the presentation of a Jubilee loaf to every inhabitant. A fat sheep was roasted. After a church service the congregation processed to the green singing "God Save the King". After a dinner at the Langham Arms upwards of 300 people drank tea on the green. Several men with firelocks marched through the village and fired several volleys in honour of the day. There was then a Ball until midnight.

23.The Cross Stone
 In the wall of the house opposite the end of Church Lane there is a carved stone thought to be a consecration stone from an earlier church. It was found buried under or near ash pits behind a cottage on High Street that was demolished in the mid 20th century.



24. The Cross Roads
 "The Cross" The crossroads High Street/ Holcot Road/Old Road/Bakers Lane has been known as "The Cross" locally. It is assumed that this is where the stone village cross once stood. A base of a stone cross is now in the churchyard.

25. Co-op building and The Ferns.
 At the cross roads with the Old Road you will see the newly converted Co-op building on your right. In the 1910's-20 the main village bakery was in a building at the back of the Co-op. There was also a baker's oven in the second building



on the right going down Bakers Lane. The oven was used as a reserve and back-up to the Co-op oven but it is thought that it pre-dates the Co-op. There is a record of a fire in 1805, which started in the house of a baker called Richard Dunmore. Within four hours the fire had destroyed five houses. No location for the house is given but the likelihood is that it was in Bakers Lane. Next door to the Co-op is the Ferns which is reputedly one of the oldest houses in the village, being built in 1568.



The co-op was one of many stores in Walgrave in the early and mid 1900's.

26.Holly House.
On the opposite corner Holly House was once Mr Claydon's Tailors. Just further up past the Green on the Holcot Road there was a butchers shop. The first house on the corner of Bakers Lane was a general store called "Boyes" and until it was demolished in the 1950's it still displayed the old enamel signs.



Walking along the Holcot Road you will see the Dial house on your right.

27. The Dial House.
The sundial on the south wall of the Dial House is recorded by the British Sundial Society as a vertical declining 1700's dial. The inscription on the dial reads "We shall die all" " Hours fly, flowers die, new days, old ways pass by, love stays"



At the corner of the Holcot Road on the right hand side, just before leaving the village, you will see a farm gate. The walk along the side of this field will take you to the rear of the Parish Cemetery and avoids the necessity of walking on the main road.



Return to the village by retracing your steps along the Holcot Road, head to the crossroads and turn left into the Old Road.



28.The Old Shoe Factory 29.The Laurels

The Old Road illustrates the progress of Stephen Walker's business with the large Victorian Factory on your right. The factory was built in 1899 to house the growing boot manufacturing business. Next door is the Blacksmith's Forge known as Gladstone House and directly behind the factory stands Walker's own house, The Laurels, also built in 1899. This area of the village has seen many changes but the main Victorian buildings have been saved. The factory remained in operation, under various owners, up until the late 1980's. At one stage the original brick factory stood side by side with a large "modern" metal unit, which covered the area of Walkers Acre. At this time the Laurels was used as offices. In the early eighties the larger factory units were demolished and the houses on Walkers Acre were built as "starter" homes for villagers. In 2003 the factory was converted into three "town houses".



	On the way back to the Village Hall stop to look at the terraced houses on New Row.	
	<p>30. New Row. The Houses on New Row once again show the impact of the shoe industry and the growth of Walgrave.</p>	
	<p>31. Klondike Cottages. Also on the Old Road stand the Klondike Cottages, which are of similar style to those of Spionkop cottages with workshops at the rear. These cottages were named after the Klondike goldrush, Yukon Territories Canada 1896 –1899.</p>	
	As you walk back to the Village Hall you pass Amber Drive named after the highly successful Amber FC.	
	The walk finishes back at the Village Hall on Newlands Road.	
<i>We hope that you enjoyed your visit to Walgrave.</i>		Issue 1 (4/04)