

- 9 *contd* Fripps Acre, the play area, and behind that the community orchard. Turn left at the stone plinth, and rejoin the High Street turn right.
- 10 On the corner of Rectory Lane and the High Street stands the Old Market House, one of the oldest houses in the village. Opposite, on the corner of Queenwood Road is the Old Corner Shop, which was a sweet shop, and later a second-hand shop. There used to be a regular fair in the Square, which attracted a large trade, but ceased as transport links improved.
- 11 Between the two pubs there are now houses, but another butcher's shop was here until the late 80s. Morgan Hinwood, the butcher, wrote a monograph about life in Broughton in the early 1900's. He would ride his bike 4.5 miles to Dunbridge to catch the train to take him to school in Southampton.
- 12 Passing Old Church Farm, on the same side of the road is Dowse Cottage and the Old School House, used until the new school opened in 1910. This school was funded from the 17th century by the Dowse Trust, which still supports education in the village.
- 13 Now you're back at the village hall, built in 1925, and extended most recently in 2019, when a community shop was added at the back. You can probably find some refreshment here, as well as some treats to take home.
Next, you might care to go south...
- 14 Turn left into Rookery Lane. You might hear why it got its name. Pause on the bridge over the Wallop Brook – you might see egrets or herons, or even a fish. Continue round to the right until you reach "Grandfathers". In the eighteenth century, Anne Steele lived here, possibly Broughton's most eminent resident, and a pious Baptist. She wrote a large number of hymns, which are still sung.

- 15 If it's not too muddy, take the little path opposite the house, by the pumping station, to the mill. This is one of several mills along the Wallop Brook. Come out onto Horsebridge Road and turn right back to the Village Hall. The alternative walk (15a) is to the bottom of Rookery Lane, where a right turn takes you over the Deep Ford and back up Horsebridge Road. Not for today, perhaps, but if you turn left at the end of Rookery Lane, you will find steps on the right that take you to the long distance Clarendon Way, and on to Winchester. By the steps is a millennium sculpture of rooks.
- 16 The village has some excellent longer walks. On Broughton Down Nature Reserve is an ancient burial mound and a very fine view. Go up Queenwood Road from the pub, admire the village signpost, erected in 2000, at the top junction (The Pound). Cross the B3084 and left up Buckholt Road past the sports ground. Where the road ends, note the third millennium work, a representation of corn stalks, hugely magnified. Take the track under the height restriction bar. Almost at the top, take the track forking right and then, in a few yards, the signposted footpath with trees to the right and open field to the left. Go through the gate by a nature reserve sign and keep on until you see, through the trees to your right, a kissing gate. Take the gate, kissing optional, and follow the path round to the left. Ahead of you is Plum Pudding, an ancient earthwork. The dent in the top was caused by digging in the faint hope of finding treasure. There's a fine view over part of the village and towards the Iron Age fort at Danebury.

A Walk around Broughton's History

This little guide takes you to some interesting pieces of our village's history. Overleaf is a map with the main points marked, and some additional footpaths. There are two loops within the village, and one longer one up to Broughton Down.

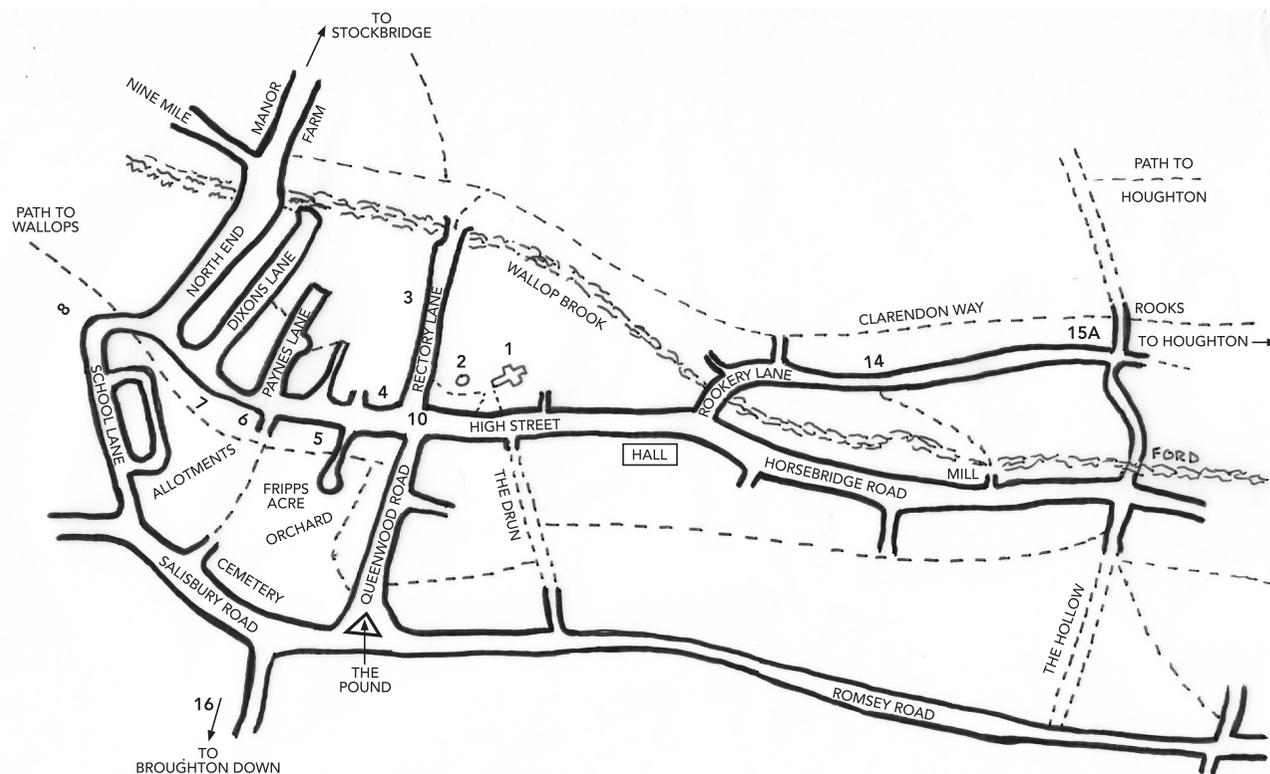


The Broughton Community Archive contains hundreds of photographs and documents about the village's social history. Visit www.broughtonhistory.org.uk/TOPICS to download a copy of this guide.

To read more, buy a copy of *Broughton in Hampshire* for £5 from the Community Shop.

Start Here ...

- 1 With your back to the village hall, turn left up the High Street. Keep going until you reach, on your right, the church, which has stood, much changed over the years, since the eleventh century. The church is usually open during the day, so go in, take a pew, and learn something about it.
- 2 When you leave the church, walk to the back of the graveyard and you'll see the dovecote. The doves, their meat, eggs, and droppings (fertiliser) were the perquisite of the incumbent clergyman and the birds would eat the crops of his parishioners. No birds can enter, nowadays. Imagine what it was like with 400 or so pairs of birds – the noise, the smell – when it was in use.
- 3 Past the dovecote is the little gate that leads out onto Rectory Lane. Check the war graves on your right as you go. Facing you is the old rectory, which the rector left in the 70's for the house next door. Our clergyman now lives in Stockbridge, the first one for 800 years not to live in the village.
- 4 Turn left, then right into the High Street. The first house, no 12, was a butcher's shop, which also sold fish from a small hut at the side of the gate. Next door is the Old Plough, an ale house until 1912, one of many such ale houses or taverns in the village. Cross the road and look at the roof. Can you see the diamond pattern? It was made to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.



- 5 Next is the Well House. Read the inscription. It's a very deep well and it didn't run dry in long, hot summers. John Trude Fripp had the well and its house built after the First World War, in memory of his son killed in action. He also provided Fripp's Acre, a playground. The well house was restored in the 1980s.
- 6 Continue up the High Street, passing Chapel Lane, where a chapel stood from 1819. Pass Top House, formerly a general store. The last Methodist Chapel, now several homes, opened in 1910 and closed in 1976. The gate carries the initials of Thomas Hinwood, its benefactor.

- 7 The Baptist Chapel, further on, is much more historic. A community met in houses from 1653, although this was illegal until 1672. This chapel was built in 1816, with a new façade in 1926. It is now a private house.
- 8 The next left turn is into School Lane. The primary school, opened in 1910, is on the first bend. This is the latest of several schools in the village.
- 9 Retrace your steps and just past the surgery there's a little path on the right that you can take back towards the middle of the village. If it's too muddy, just return by the High Street. Along here you will find allotments,

Continue overleaf.....