

Sherington Historical Society

Norman Arnold started the Sherington Historical Society in the year 2000 to ensure that the history of the village was not lost. He recruited a small band of like-minded people to set about documenting the history of the village and researching events prior to those in living memory. Our local group is growing slowly and steadily, and now consists of nearly 50 members.

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month except for August in Sherington Village Hall at 8.00 pm. New members are always welcome. We run a yearly programme of social events. These include guests speaking on various heritage-related topics and members working together on the village archive.

For further information email:

sheringtonhs@yahoo.co.uk

or phone the Chairman, Mark Vale, on:

01908 216543.

Visit our website:

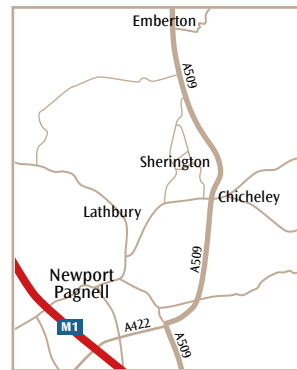
www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs



St Laud's Church Circular Walk

The walk starts and ends at: St Laud's Church, Church End, Sherington, MK16 9PD.

Please note that there is no car park at the church.



Directions to Sherington

By car:

From Newport Pagnell: Take the B526 north towards Northampton. Take the first right fork (Sherington Road) signposted Sherington, Chicheley and Bedford. After Sherington Bridge turn left to Sherington Village. Take the second right turn (Church Road) by The Knoll (village green). St Laud's Church is at the top of the hill on the left down Church End. Church End is not a good place to park. There is room for parking in School Lane.

From Olney: Take the A509 south past Emberton. After the speed derestriction sign take the right turn to Sherington (High Street). Proceed down the hill to The Knoll (village green). Turn left at Church Road. St Laud's Church is at the top of the hill on the left down Church End. Church End is not a good place to park. There is room for parking in School Lane.

By bus:

21 – Monday to Friday hourly bus service between Lavendon and Central Milton Keynes stops at The Knoll, Sherington.

40 – Monday to Saturday hourly bus service, limited service on a Sunday between Bedford and Central Milton Keynes stops at The Knoll, Sherington.

321 – Sunday only bus service between Olney and Milton Keynes Rail Station stops at The Knoll, Sherington.

For information about Sherington Historical Society visit: www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs



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**MILTON KEYNES
HERITAGE ASSOCIATION**



**Sherington
Historical Society**



St Laud's Church Circular Walk

Sherington Self-guided Walk No.1

St Laud's Church Circular Walk

1 **St Laud's** is the only church in the country with this name. It is only one of two that is dedicated to the 6th century French Bishop. The other is St Laudus in Mabe, Cornwall. This Grade I listed building is a fine example of an English country church, with parts of the structure dating back to Norman times.



From the church door, look to your right to a large square monument. This is for John Cheyney (Cheyne) (JC), a military physician who wrote a number of papers on medical topics, and lived in the Manor from 1828 until his death in 1837. He was born in Scotland in 1777.

An interesting feature on the outside of the church is the sundial engraved in the buttress to the right of the organ door. There are 2 scratch dial clocks on the church. These were used by the bell ringers before the clock was installed, to judge when the services were.

The Lychgate was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott (1839-97). He also designed the original Sherington village school. The Lychgate was restored in 1990. Take a look at the old padlock as you walk through the gate.



2 Look to your left to see the driveway leading to **Church Farm**. This is the site of one of the manor houses that were in existence in the 1600s.



2



1

3 As you walk down Church End on your right is **Calgary House**, its name is from Calgary, Alberta in Canada. Paul Mann, the artist, used to live here.



3

4 On your left is **The Brew House**. It was previously The Royal Oak but is now a private dwelling. The rear wall of the building has been dated to between 1650 and 1670.



5 Turn left along Church Road. On your left is **Sherington Place**, a Grade II listed building. At one time this house was one of five manors within the village. It dates back to the 18th century.



Walk past Sherington Place and left into Gun Lane. This road possibly got its name by being the site of a gun emplacement for the Roundheads during the English Civil War.



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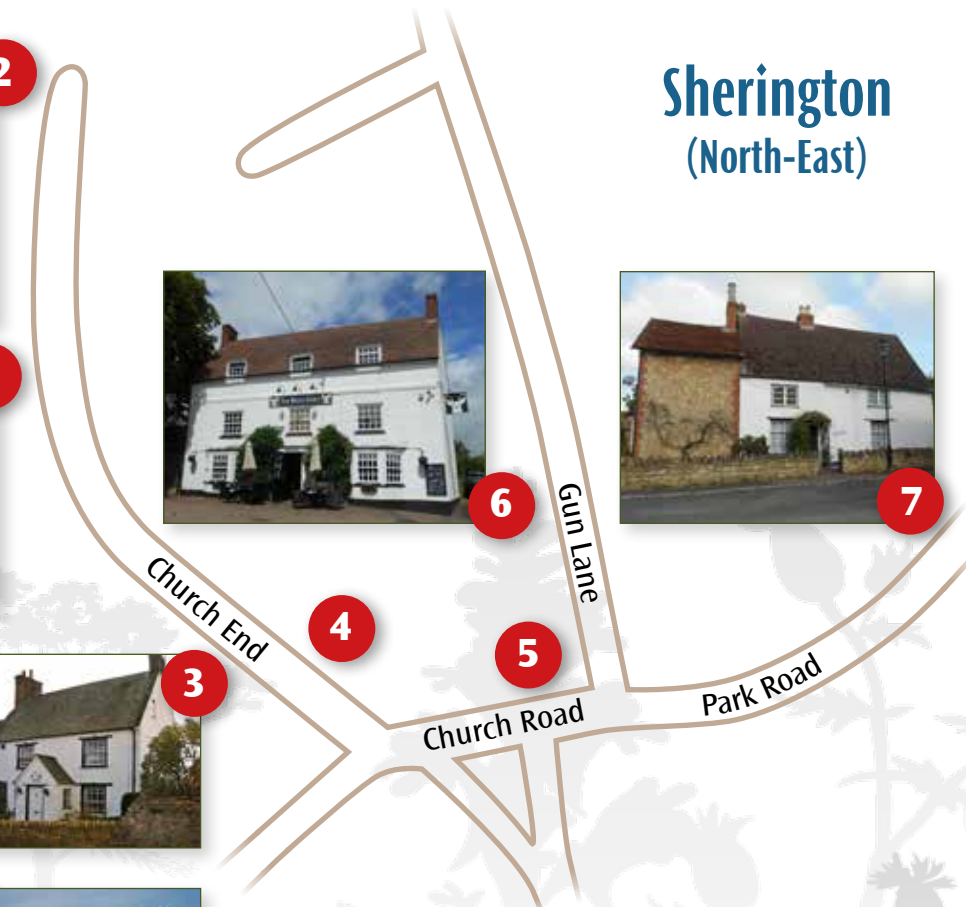
6 On your left is **The White Hart**, one of the oldest establishments in Sherington. In the 1740s the rent was 5/- per year for inn, outbuildings and orchard. Walk back down Gun Lane and turn left into Park Road.

7 A little way up Park Road on your left is **Rowan Cottage**. Parts of the building date from the 16th century, but the west end of the house was extensively refurbished in Victorian times. The outside walls of this section are finished in stone laid in a decorative herringbone pattern. Look out for the insurance plaque or fire mark at the top of the white wall. This is from the Sun Fire Office and precursor to Royal Sun Alliance. The 6-digit number is the policy number. It came into being after the Great Fire of London. *(continued overleaf...)*



7

Sherington (North-East)



St Laud's Church Circular Walk (continued)

8 Continuing our tour in Park Road... Opposite Rowan Cottage is **Yew Tree Farm**. The old farmhouse is set well back from the road behind other buildings at the end of a private drive. Built in 1595, this fine farmhouse is now the oldest dwelling in the village and Grade II listed.



9 On the right side of the road, just past Yew Tree Farm, is **No. 18**, formerly The Nest. The house was built in the late 16th century, with the red-brick extension being added in early Victorian times. In 1865 the dwelling was known as The Bakery and Jointure House. It was the home of Thomas Ivester-Lloyd, the artist, and his son Jack, the author, in the first part of the 20th century.

10 Further up Park Road on the left is **Bramble Cottage**. It is said that the beams in this house are from the hull of an old oak ship.

Walk back down Park Road and turn left into School Lane, which was known as Parsons Lane as the rectory has always been located on this road.



11 Look to your right at **2 School Lane**. The whole of the corner site was known as Griggs Farm and was built in 1776. During WWII it was home to numerous evacuee families.

Continue down School Lane to No. 15 on your left.

12 This house is **The Old Laundry** where at one time laundry was taken in for the Rector and the Church. Mrs Nursaw lived here in the 1930s. She made toffee which she sold to the schoolchildren for a ha'p'orth for 6 or a pen'orth for 12 pieces.

13 Just past The Old Laundry on the same side is **The Old School House**. It was built in 1872. See the stone plaque on the outside of the right-hand wall. All the children of the village were educated here until the 1940s, when it became a primary school. It then was a Spar shop before being converted into a private residence. You can see the present school next door, it was built in the 1950s.



14 Opposite is **The Old Rectory**. Built in 1607 by John Martin, The Old Rectory stands in 3 acres of mature gardens, is an eclectic mix of Jacobean and Victorian architecture and has a priest hole. The original entrance was in Crofts End. The Church sold this property in 1953 and a new rectory was built on the opposite side of the road.

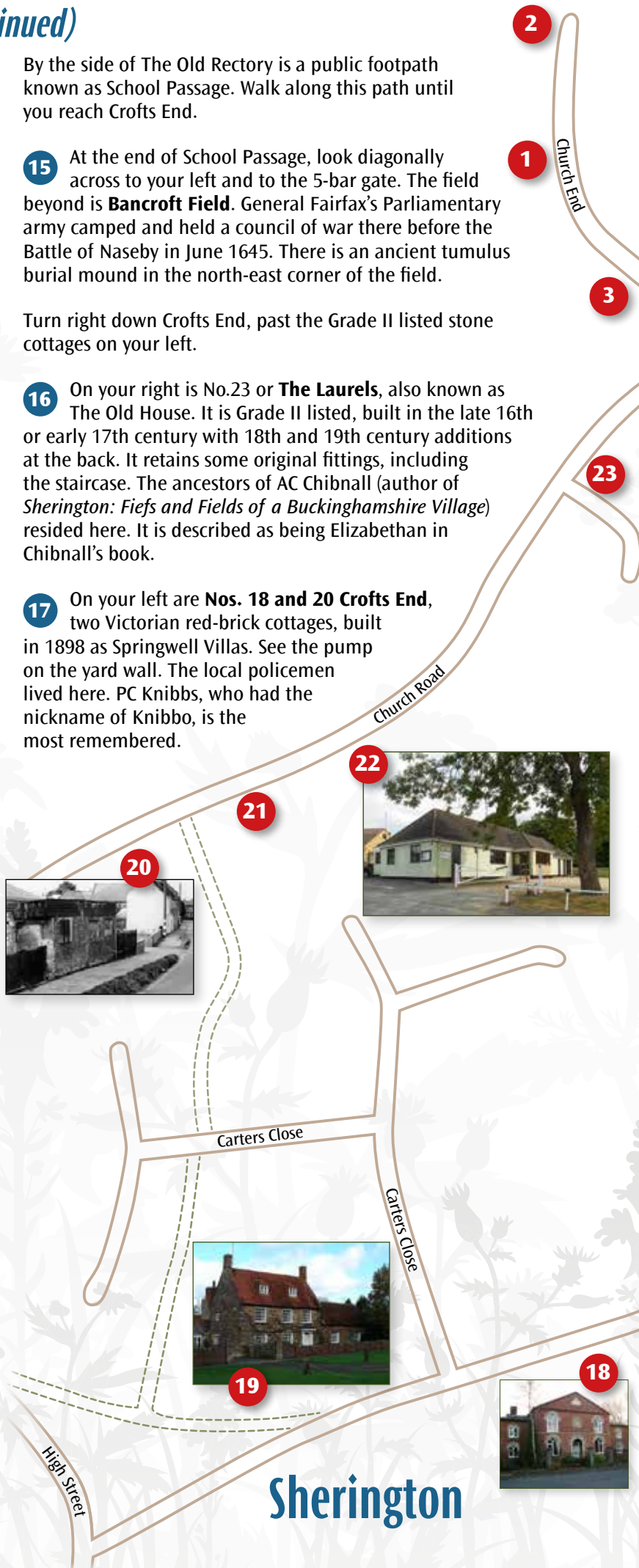
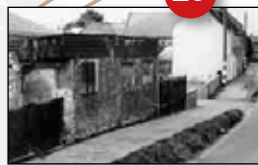
By the side of The Old Rectory is a public footpath known as School Passage. Walk along this path until you reach Crofts End.

15 At the end of School Passage, look diagonally across to your left and to the 5-bar gate. The field beyond is **Bancroft Field**. General Fairfax's Parliamentary army camped and held a council of war there before the Battle of Naseby in June 1645. There is an ancient tumulus burial mound in the north-east corner of the field.

Turn right down Crofts End, past the Grade II listed stone cottages on your left.

16 On your right is No.23 or **The Laurels**, also known as The Old House. It is Grade II listed, built in the late 16th or early 17th century with 18th and 19th century additions at the back. It retains some original fittings, including the staircase. The ancestors of AC Chibnall (author of *Sherington: Fiefs and Fields of a Buckinghamshire Village*) resided here. It is described as being Elizabethan in Chibnall's book.

17 On your left are **Nos. 18 and 20 Crofts End**, two Victorian red-brick cottages, built in 1898 as Springwell Villas. See the pump on the yard wall. The local policemen lived here. PC Knibbs, who had the nickname of Knibbo, is the most remembered.



Sherington



18 Further down the road on the left is **Sherrington Chapel** (1822). A red brick Congregational Chapel, this was a place of worship until the late 1980s. This property has now been deconsecrated and has been converted into five small flats.

Cross Crofts End and walk past the entrance to Carters Close. Continue down to the green.

19 On the right is **Mercers Farm**, one of the oldest buildings in the village. On the Enclosure Map of 1796 it was stated that it was owned by the Mercers Company of London. In 1919 they broke their association with Sherrington and sold the farm to Mrs Mary E Jefferson.

Take the pedestrian pathway to the left of the two cottages adjacent to Mercers Farm, which will bring you into Carters Close.

The 58 houses in Carters Close were built in 1979 on three fields in the centre of the village, the largest being Carters Close, hence the name of the development. The fields were previously used for recreation, including fetes and gymkhanas.

Cross the road and continue to the left of the green. The path follows the hedge line and then leads into Church Road.

20 Just a few metres to your left is the site of **Honeymoon Cottage**, which now just presents a blank brick wall to the road. Traditionally this was temporary accommodation for visitors and newly-married couples in the garden of 6 Church Road.

Proceed up Church Road (with Honeymoon Cottage on your right).

21 You will pass **Arbour House**, a Grade II listed building. Built in 1730 as a small farmhouse using stone from the quarry at Weston Underwood, it was originally called Slaters Farm.



22 Also on the right-hand side is the **Village Hall**, built in 1927 as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the Great War.

23 You then pass **Griggs Farmhouse** on your right. The farm came into private hands on the breakup of the Tyringham Estates in 1917.



24 Across the road on the corner of Church End is the thatched, Grade II listed **May Cottage**.



Proceed up Church End back to St Laud's Church. This ends the circular tour. ○