

INTRODUCTION

Bodenham, either homestead or enclosure of a man called BOTA or BODA, or Old English for “place where the Beadle lived”, is an attractive village which lies just east of the A49 on the eastern edge of Dinmore Hill mid way between Hereford and Leominster. It falls entirely in an Area of Great Landscape Value and is a Conservation Area. The River Lugg on which it stands is one of the few rivers in the country to be designated throughout its length as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Lugg is a Celtic word for “bright stream”. There are interesting old houses and timbered cottages, and the interesting church of St Michael and All Angels is well worth a visit. The village has strong associations with the Devereux and Arkwright families and ample evidence of their influence on the area is to be seen on the walks.

Based on the footpaths of Bodenham (BM) the walks include some connecting footpaths in Hope under Dinmore (HD) and Marden (MR) in order to create circular walks. The series of notes draw attention to the points of interest on the walks and their historical background.

In 1990 a group of retired residents, organised by Bodenham Ramblers, joined, in cooperation with Hereford and Worcester County Council, a project to open up public rights of way by the year 2000. Work in Bodenham was completed in 1991 and the group went on to restore, in total, some 35 miles (56 km) of paths in 7 further parishes. The work was carried out with enthusiasm, much humour and a sense of achievement. This booklet is intended to introduce you to just a few of those paths and to mark at the Millennium the close of our part in “Project 2000”.

We hope that you enjoy walking on these paths as much as we enjoyed working on them and we trust that you will encounter no difficulties. If you do they should be reported to the Area Rights of Way Warden at Hereford County Council on (01432) 260000 or write to P.O. Box 234, Hereford, HRI 2ZD quoting the appropriate path number.

Always follow the Country Code !

The Country Code

1. Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
2. Guard against all risk of fire.
3. Fasten all gates that you open.
4. Keep dogs under close control.
5. Keep to the public paths across farmland (unless you have permission to do otherwise, as applies on some of our walks).
6. Avoid damaging fences, hedges and walls.
7. Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
8. Leave no litter, take it home.
9. Safeguard water supplies and keep them clean.
10. Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
11. Take special care on country roads.
12. Make no unnecessary noise.

THANK YOU

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Refreshments

England's Gate Inn (note S)

Queenswood Cafe, Queenswood Country Park (note V)

The Railway Inn (note O)

Groceries, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, etc.

Bodenham Post Office and General Store.

Saffron's Cross Garage and Store, Bodenham.

INDEX

For all the walks Ordnance Survey Explorer Series maps to a scale of 1:25,000 will be helpful and provide more information about the surroundings and distant vistas.

*The maps are available from the Hereford Map Centre, 24 & 25 Church Street, Hereford HR1 2LR
Tel: (01432) 266322*

Introduction.....	1
The Country Code.....	1
Thank you to Sponsors.....	2
Refreshments.....	3
Index to Points of Interest	5
Points of Interest	6

Walks starting from the carpark, Bodenham. Pathfinder 994 and 1017 or Explorer 202 GR 531 511

1. Bodenham to the Vern 2.5 km. (1.5 miles).....	11
2. Bodenham, Litmarsh and Little Berrington. 4 km. (2.5 miles).....	12
3. Bodenham, Monmarsh and the Vault. 5.5 km. (3.5 miles).....	14
4. Little Berrington and the River Lugg. 3.5 km. (2.25 miles).....	16
5. The River Lugg and Bodenham Bridge 2.5 km. (1.5 miles).....	18
6. St. Michael's Church to Saffron's Cross. 4.75 km. (3 miles).....	19
7. The Vault and Venn's Green. 6.5 km. (4.5 miles).....	20
8. The Henhouse Farm and Bodenham Lake. 5 km. (3 miles).....	22
9. Bodenham and Queenswood Country Park. 8 km. (5 miles).....	24
10. Isle of Rhea and Bowley Town. 6.5 km. (4 miles).....	26
11. Dinmore, Queenswood and Hope under Dinmore. 10.5 km. (6.5 miles).....	28
12. Queenswood, Burghope Wood, Kipperknowle and the Henhouse 9.5 km. (6 miles) ...	30
13. Litmarsh the Vault and Ash Grove Farm. 5.5 km. (3.5 miles).....	32
14. Bodenham Moor and Maund Common. 9.5 km. (6 miles).....	34

Walks starting from the Parish Hall, Pathfinder 994 and 1017 or Explorer 202 GR 554 513 or from England's Gate Inn GR 543 512

15. Calderwell and Bodenham Moor. 3 or 3.5 km. (2 or 2.25 miles).....	36
16. Calderwell, Bodenham Lake and Bunhill. 5 or 7 km. (3 or 4 miles).....	38
17. Dudales Hope and Maund Common. 9 or 11 km. (5.5 or 7 miles).....	40
18. Bodenham Moor, Pool Head, Maund Common and Rowberry Court. 8 km. (5 miles) ..	42
19. Isle of Rhea, Bowley Town and Hampton Park. 8 km. (5 miles).....	44
20. Whitechurch Maund, Upper Holbatch and Venn's Green. 12 km. (7 miles).....	46