

Byfleet Heritage Trail

This walk by local historian, Iain Wakeford, was compiled for the summer 2018 edition of *The Woking Magazine*. For more historical features download the guide that accompanies this walk at wokinghistory.org

Key facts

Start/finish: Byfleet War Memorial, High Road, Byfleet

Time: 2 to 2.5 hours

Distance: 2 miles/5.3 kilometres approx.

Type of walk: Easy and generally very flat with some narrow pathways that should nevertheless be accessible to pushchairs and wheelchairs. Please respect the Countryside Code and the privacy of local residents.

The route

1. From the War Memorial head south-east along High Road (away from the car park and Parvis Road). Follow the High Road all the way to the junction with Church Road (by the Clock House). Look out for the old Byfleet Fire Station. Built in 1885, the station closed in 1962.

2. Upon reaching the Clock House, bear right and cross Church Road. Head down the narrow footpath which leads to Mill Lane.

3. Continue along Mill Lane, as you bear right keep the Wey on your left and continue past the fallen tree.

4. As you approach the Manor House, bear right along the dirt



track for a short distance before going through a metal gate. Turn right, then sharp left and continue along the concrete path in between two meadows.



At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086, the manor of Byfleet was owned by Chertsey Abbey, but was later the property of the Crown (Edward, the Black Prince wrote several letters during the 14th Century). Since then the Manor House has been rebuilt many times, notably in the 17th Century and early 20th Century.

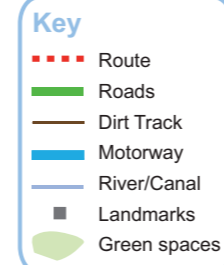
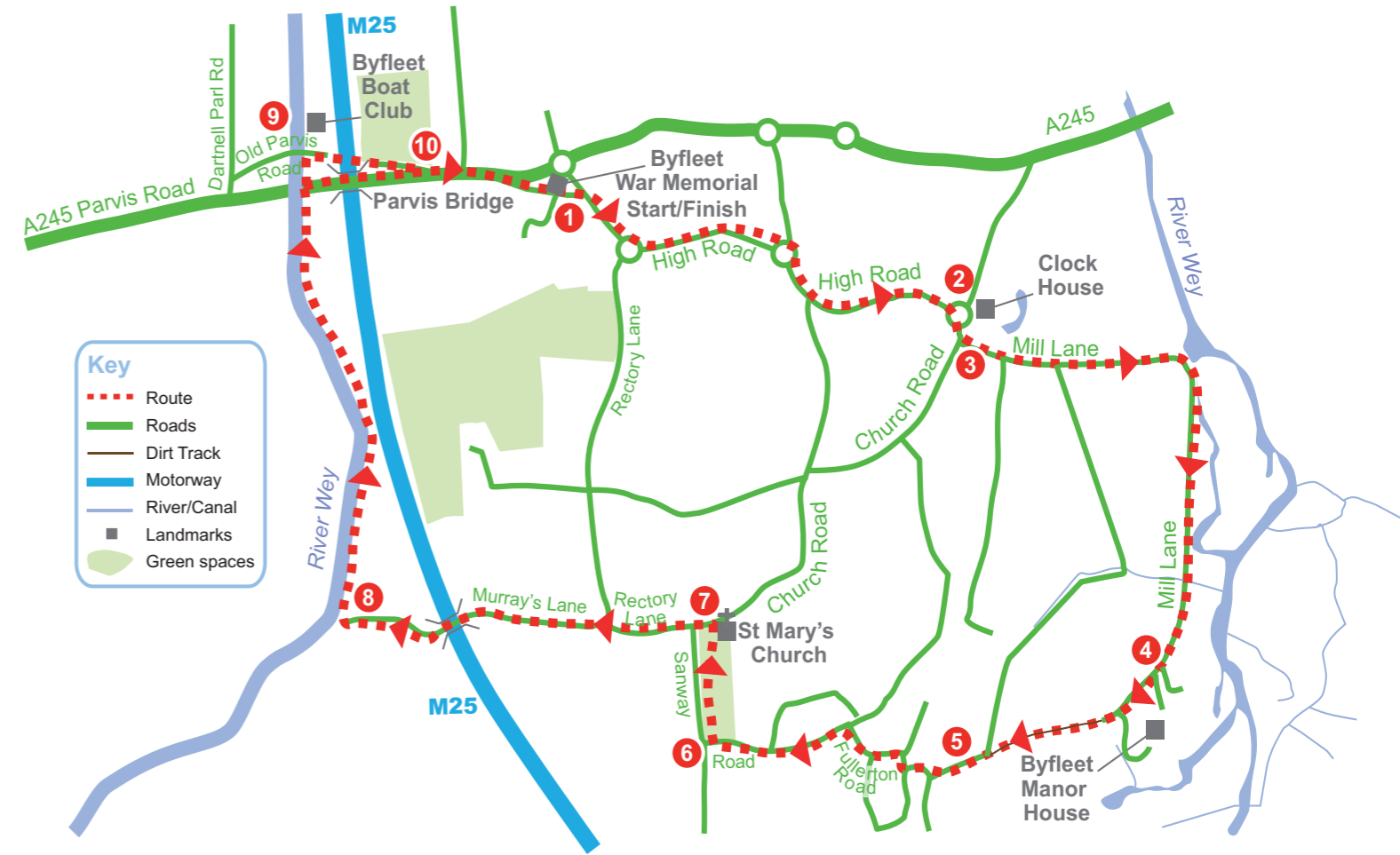
5. At reaching the housing estate, continue ahead between two houses onto Fullerton Close. Turn slightly right, then left into Fullerton Road. Continue ahead before turning left onto Celtic Road, then continue onto Sanway Road until you reach a sharp right-hand turn.

6. Enter the churchyard on your right and continue through towards St Mary's Church and back out onto Church Road.



There has been a church on the current site of St Mary's since the time of the Domesday survey, although the present building dates from the late 13th and early 14th Century.

7. Turn left and continue ahead onto Rectory Lane. As the road bears right, continue ahead along the track of Murrays Lane and over the M25 to the towpath of the Wey Navigation.



8. Turn right onto the towpath and continue ahead all the way to Parvis Road Bridge taking the footpath behind the boat yard.



Originally a single storey building, the workshop by Parvis Bridge was once a grist mill – one of six buildings built in the 1770s.

9. Cross the old Parvis Bridge and then either ascend the steps on the right up to Parvis Road, or continue on to the junction with Dartnell Park Road and turn left to get to Parvis Road.

10. Make your way across the bridge then carefully cross Parvis Road to return to the start of the walk via the cul-de-sac on High Road.

On weekends and bank holidays you can hire rowboats and pedalos from Byfleet Boat Club. The boat house was built in the 1880s by F.C. Stoop. He gifted it to the people of Byfleet after the First World War in gratitude to those who fought to free his native country.



Send us a photo

If you're enjoying this walk or you spot something interesting along the way, please share your photos with us by tagging @wokingcouncil on social media or by emailing images@woking.gov.uk when you get home.

Please note some features and reference points may have altered since this walk was first published. To inform us of any changes, please email editor@woking.gov.uk or call 01483 755855.

Designed by Gerald Warren and constructed by local builder W.G. Tarrent, the memorial was unveiled in 1928. Take a closer look at the War Memorial, does anyone have the same surname as you? Could you be related?

