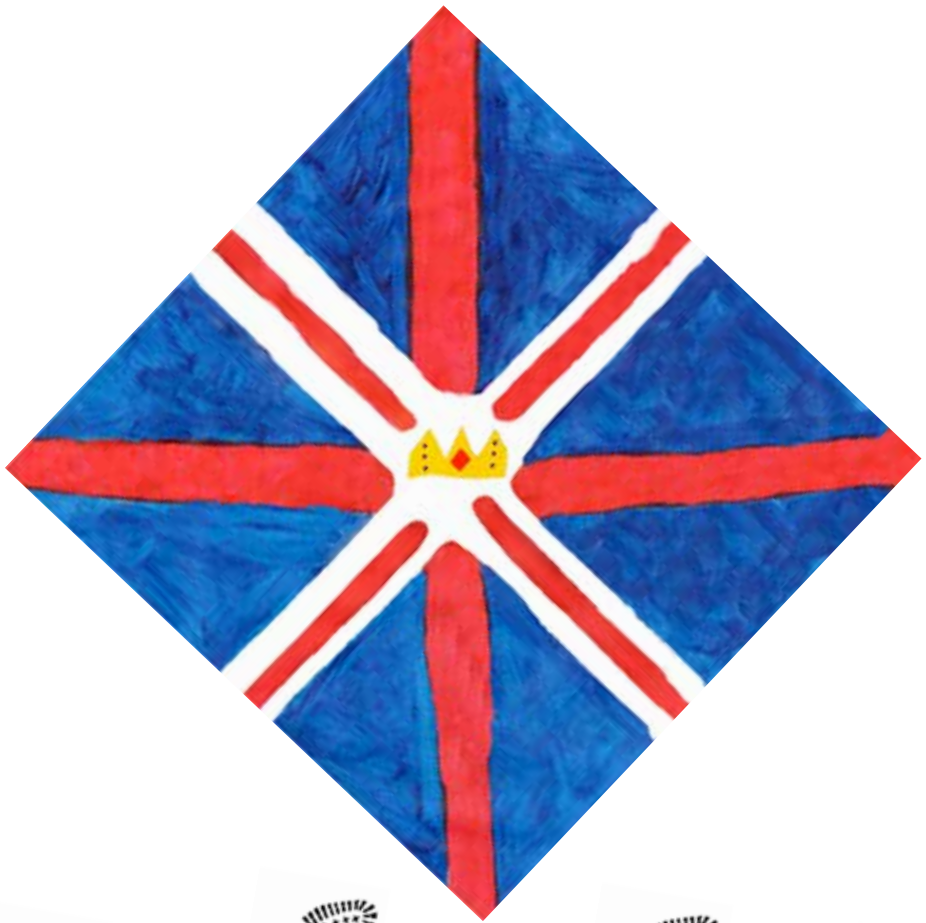


Moments in time....

Comberton Diamond Jubilee Walk



Moments in time....

This Jubilee Walk has been created to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee (1952-2012) of Queen Elizabeth II

Dotted around the village are various features or areas created to commemorate Royal events or activities. The Jubilee walk links these areas and this booklet provides a small amount of information about each area. The Walk is circular and can be started at any point... Each area is marked with a waymark post and special logo designed by Emma Hatherly (aged 8). There is an area of the walk that follows a 'permissive path' (from Watts Wood to the church), walkers are asked to be aware of farm machinery at certain times of the year.

So what is a Jubilee?...

The word jubilee has its origins in Biblical times. It talks of families gathering every 50 years for a jubilee; to restore land to its original owners, remit debts and free slaves. The word Jubilee comes from the Hebrew for the ram's horn trumpet, a yobel. This was used to signal its beginning of the Jubilee. Since 1300, the Catholic Church has celebrated a 'jubilee' every 25 years. The most recent was marked by the Jubilee 2000 campaign to relieve third world debt.

Royal Jubilees celebrate significant periods in monarchs' reigns and the national life. Few British monarchs achieved reigns of 50 years, so Golden Jubilees are very rare and therefore Diamond Jubilees even rarer! The first British monarch to mark 60 years on the throne in a significant way was Queen Victoria. Queen Elizabeth II had Silver Jubilee celebrations in 1977 and celebrations in 2002 when she marked 50 years – her Golden Jubilee. Now in June 2012 she marks her Diamond Jubilee.



A big word of thanks to the sponsors of this booklet

Comberton Contact – our Monthly village magazine generously paid for the creation of this booklet. Organisations listed below also gave donations to collectively fund the waymark posts and discs

COMBERTON CONTACT *Costcutter* *Jeffreys Houghton & Co*



Meridian Primary School



St Mary's Church



The Twinning Association

1. The village pond

The Crossroads and village pond mark the central part of the village. Comberton Pond was originally a horse pond and has over the years been restored several times. In 1953 the **pond** area was vastly improved and had the addition of the **Bus shelter** – to mark the Queen's Coronation.



During one restoration the army was drafted in to help.

1. The Village Sign

The sign at the centre of the village was erected in 1978 to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee. The official opening was attended by the Jubilee baby – Nicola, her mum Sue Hoover and chairman of the jubilee gala celebrations, Sandra Hyde.



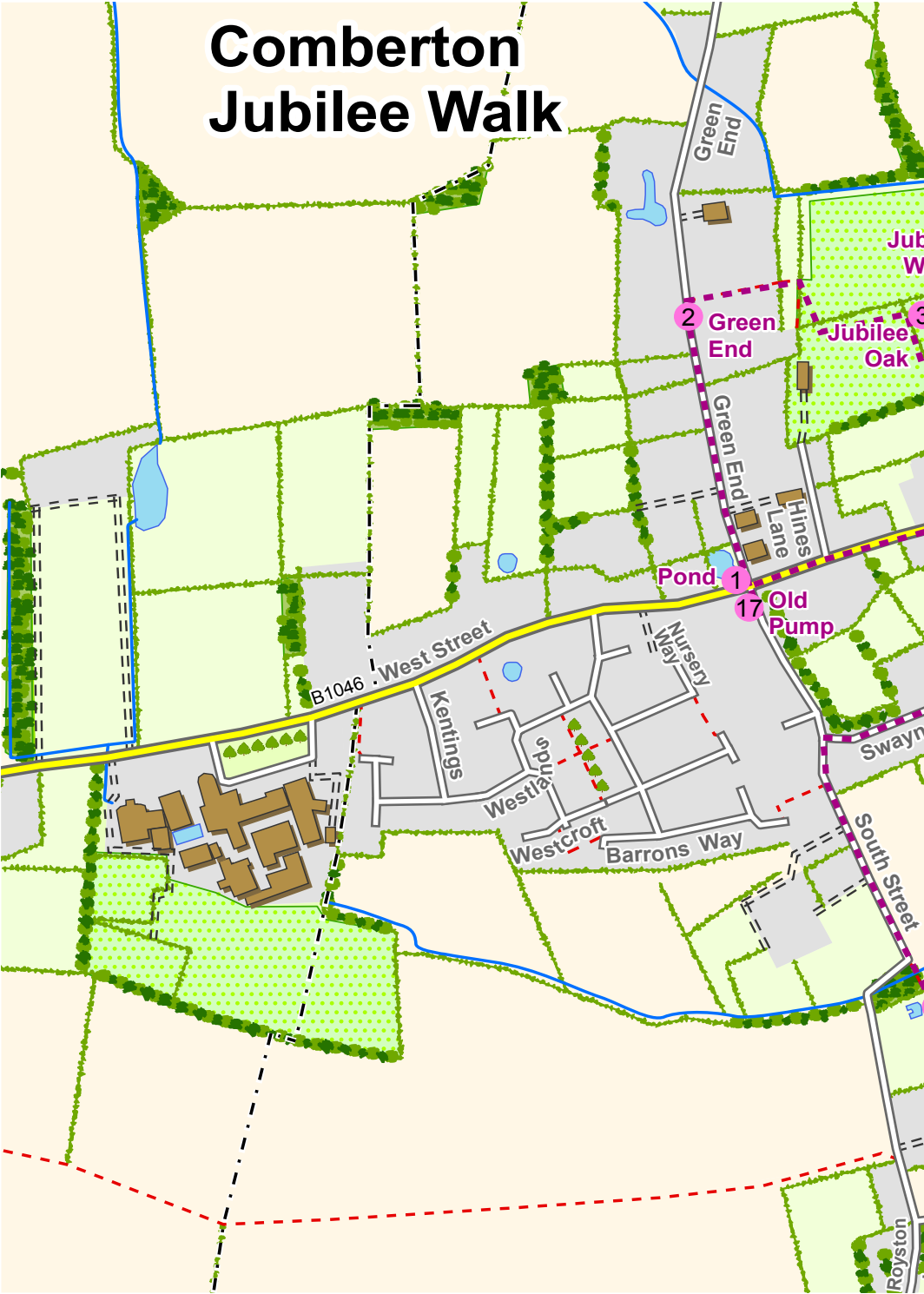
The images on the sign tell of our history, one side shows our close relationship with agriculture and pictures the Wind Mill, which was further along West Street. While on the other side it depicts the giving of herrings to the poor at Easter.



2. Green End

Comberton has a long association with Royalty. There were 3 manors in the village. (Merks, later called Greens, Burdeleys and Rectory) The largest, Merks (Greens) in Green End, was part of the Royal estates until 1177, when Henry II gave it to Esveillard de Seissum in return for keeping the royal falcons and a retriever. Of the original manor, only the moat remains (near the Surgery).

Comberton Jubilee Walk



3. The Jubilee oak is planted on the site of the old grass tennis courts and was donated by South Cambridgeshire District Council to mark the Diamond Jubilee.

4. The Jubilee playing fields and wooded area

This area was purchased by the Parish Council to provide an additional sports and recreational area. The pathway skirts the edge of the field and there are several mown paths at the eastern end, which add interest.

If you cast your eye to the east you will see a **view of Normandy Close**, (**5a 5b**) a small exception site development. There is a three-fold reason for the naming of the close...

- ♣ Our twin village Le Vaudreuil is in Normandy
- ♣ Remembering the number of Comberton residents that lost their lives in Normandy during world wars
- ♣ and Close, the old English name for an enclosure or field



6. The Maze at Meridian - Not many villages can boast a turf maze...And Comberton once had one on the village green (adjacent to the pond and playgroup) – that maze is now hidden under the tarmac... However Comberton now boasts 2 replica mazes – The one at the Meridian Primary School is visible when the grounds are open...or by appointment. It is a replica of the original at the crossroads. The PTA recreated this maze in 2008 to celebrate the school being open for 40 years. Meridian serves the villages of Comberton, Eversden and Toft...for more information please see www.meridian-school.com
The other replica maze is at the sensory garden.



7. The Entente Cordiale Tree

Comberton is twinned with Le Vaudreuil in Normandy. To mark the Entente Cordiale trees were planted in Le Vaudreuil and Comberton. Sadly the tree given by the French did not like the Comberton clay and a replacement was planted in 2007. The picture shows Gerard Lebegue from Le Vaudreuil planting the Black Walnut – *Juglans nigra*.



8. The Millennium Oak

Planted by Comberton Allotments and Gardens Association in 2000 to mark the millennium.



9. The Sensory Garden

This area was created in 2002 to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee. It features various sensory plants, a rolled gravel path and scale painted maze, ideal for children to tip-toe around...

The Herringland Trust

This village trust distributes funds to the needy of the village. Historically they gave herrings at Easter time. Income is gained from a field - the Herring field, which is south of Watts Wood. The trust has recently purchased a seat on the corner of Harbour Avenue and Barton Road to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee ...take a moment to rest and reflect as you travel on the Jubilee walk.

10. The Face created in 2003, a public art project funded by South Cambridgeshire District and Comberton Parish Council. The aim of the project was to create a lasting memorial to all who have lived and worked in the village
'The strength of our Village lies in its people'.



11. Watts Wood

Originally this formed part of the Church Lands but was sold to the district council to create a sewage pumping station. When the pumping station was relocated the district council gave permission for the area to be created into a nature reserve. The Parish Council purchased the wood from the District Council in 2005 for £1.

Bill Watts and other volunteers planted the trees. Bill, who died in 2002, was a much-respected district and parish councillor and a memorial plaque can be seen on the footbridge.



12 & 13. Unusually the **organ at St Mary's** is the village war memorial—purchased by the villagers to mark the end of the First World War.



The full history of the church can be read at www.combertonchurch.co.uk

St Mary's Church and the village celebrated the Diamond Jubilee with the lighting of a beacon on the church tower!

14. The Causeway

North of the church is the ancient cobbled causeway. This continues to the crossroads and beyond (although a large proportion of the pathway is under tarmac).

15 & 16. Footpath 5 and the new pump

Footpath 5 from Swaynes Lane to Barton Road, meanders through 'Brocks Close' and past some delightful listed cottages and emerges on Barton Road (once named Cambridge Lane).



This path is recorded as being wide enough for two persons to pass with their yoke and pails. The pump at the end of the path is a replica and has been included in this walk to mark the Diamond Jubilee—the original pump was stolen some years ago.



The Green Lung

As you walk back to the centre of the village you pass through an area of *protected village amenity* and *protected village frontage*. Locally this is often referred to as the green lung of the village and frequently livestock can be seen grazing.

17. The Old Village Pump is owned and maintained by the parish council and is sited on a small cobbled triangle near the crossroads. This pump provided water for residents until mains water arrived in the village in 1950s.

