

SHILSTONE HOUSE

The Local History Group are planning a visit to Shilstone House and Gardens in June. Shilstone House is the site of the Devon Rural Archive near Modbury which is well worth a visit if you are interested in researching local history. It houses an extensive collection of old Devon photographs. The House itself has undergone a recent restoration and regular tours are arranged which help visitors to appreciate the site of this ancient Devon Manor House and its surrounding gardens and landscape.

VILLAGE TRAIL

As I have mentioned previously one of our current projects is updating our village trail. When complete we will aim to make it more accessible so that when you are out and about taking some healthy exercise you will have all the information about the village at your fingertips.

Here are some further extracts from the current trail which might serve to whet your appetite for more.

River Creedy

When you turn into Dornafield Road you are crossing over what used to be a ford which is roughly where Brook Road is today. Like the other open brooks which ran through the village it now passes under the road through a culvert. On the right-hand side there is the imposing Methodist Church completed in 1866 and originally called the Wesley Chapel. This building is the site of the old village school which did not move to its current site until 1970. At the corner of Dornafield Road there was for many years a corner shop which was founded in 1826 and for many years was known as Gribbles Store. You can still see the original cobbles in front of what was the old shop.

The Blacksmith's Shop

The Dornafield Estate was built in the 1980s. There are a number of underground springs in this area and there used to be ponds in the fields. From the Dornafield estate you turn right into East Street. The main road into Ipplepen used to be very narrow. On the left you will see a stone-built garage. This used to be the smithy belonging to Nicholas Cowling. Whilst Mr. Cowling dealt with the horses his family provided teas and refreshments.

