

FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work

Guard against all risk of fire

Keep to public paths across farmland

Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls

Leave livestock and machinery alone

Take your litter home

Help keep water clean

Protect wildlife, plants and trees

Take special care on country roads

Make no unnecessary noise

Please keep dogs under close control and clear up after them

This leaflet was produced with the assistance of

**ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL
and Mr J Champion**

**Vic Bates Cartographer Ltd
01624 844113
Cover photograph ©Vic Bates**

Always wear appropriate footwear and take care when walking in the town or countryside. No responsibility is accepted by the authors of this leaflet for the state or condition from time to time of the paths comprised in these walks.

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Walking in Odiham & North Warnborough

Enjoy attractive walks in this historic parish, which is rich in interesting buildings and rural countryside. The Basingstoke Canal towpath crosses and adds to a comprehensive network of footpaths that provides easy routes to neighbouring villages.

Walking shoes or Wellington boots are useful or essential during much of the year. Linear and circular walks are feasible and it is easy to pick a unique route from the many paths shown overleaf. Most footpaths run logically between residences and workplaces of yesteryear and provide interesting shortcuts or healthy excursions as well as longer rambles.

Key features to visit and enjoy

***All Saints Church
Pest House
Odiham (King John's) Castle
Odiham High Street
The Basingstoke Canal
Odiham Common
The River Whitewater
The Firs (views)***

A brief view of Odiham

Odiham is comprehensively described in the Domesday Book. Odiham's long history, from when it was a large royal manor, is admirably charted in Odiham Society publications, which may be obtained from High Street shops. Also the publication 'Family Walks Around Odiham' is particularly useful. Attractive buildings provide an enduring link to work, worship and recreation of previous centuries.

North Warnborough is the complementary village within the Parish and boasts the castle from which King John set out for Runnymede to sign the Magna Carta. North Warnborough Green, Odiham Common and the Basingstoke Canal are notable Sites of Special Scientific Interest: famed for orchids, herbs, dragonflies, aquatic diversity and other wildlife.

The enduring signs of agricultural heritage are still evident in small fields with grazing animals, whilst the many surviving public houses and High Street restaurants provide welcome respite during or after an enjoyable journey through the Parish.

Walk A The Basingstoke Canal (5 miles, 2 hrs)

This walk starts from Odiham Wharf. However, it is a figure of eight and you can start or finish anywhere on the Canal between Odiham and North Warnborough.

Take the towpath West to the Greywell Tunnel; visit King John's Castle and enjoy views of the River Whitewater on the way. Cross (left) over the Tunnel (into Greywell) and briefly follow the road East over the river. Follow FP 12 and then FP 13 until you arrive back at Swingbridge (now actually a lifting bridge). Retrace your steps along the Canal to Swan Bridge. Cross over Swan Bridge and take FP 21 back to Colt Hill and thence return to your start point.

Walk B Northern Boundaries (4 miles, 1.5 hrs)

Start at Odiham High Street. Take FP 18, which runs beside and behind The George and out into the Deer Park. Follow FP 18 over the canal and out through Lodge Farm. Continue North along FP 25 over the fields (Roman Villa buried nearby) to reach woods of Bartley Heath near the M3. Take FP 64 and FP 15 to the Gravel Pits. Follow the wooded FP 30 (West Lane) Southeast to Tunnel Lane and cross the footbridge over the River Whitewater. Take FP 10 and FP 11 to emerge on the The Street. Locate the beginning of FP 7 and continue to Odiham where FP 31 will enable you to finish in the Bury near All Saints Church.

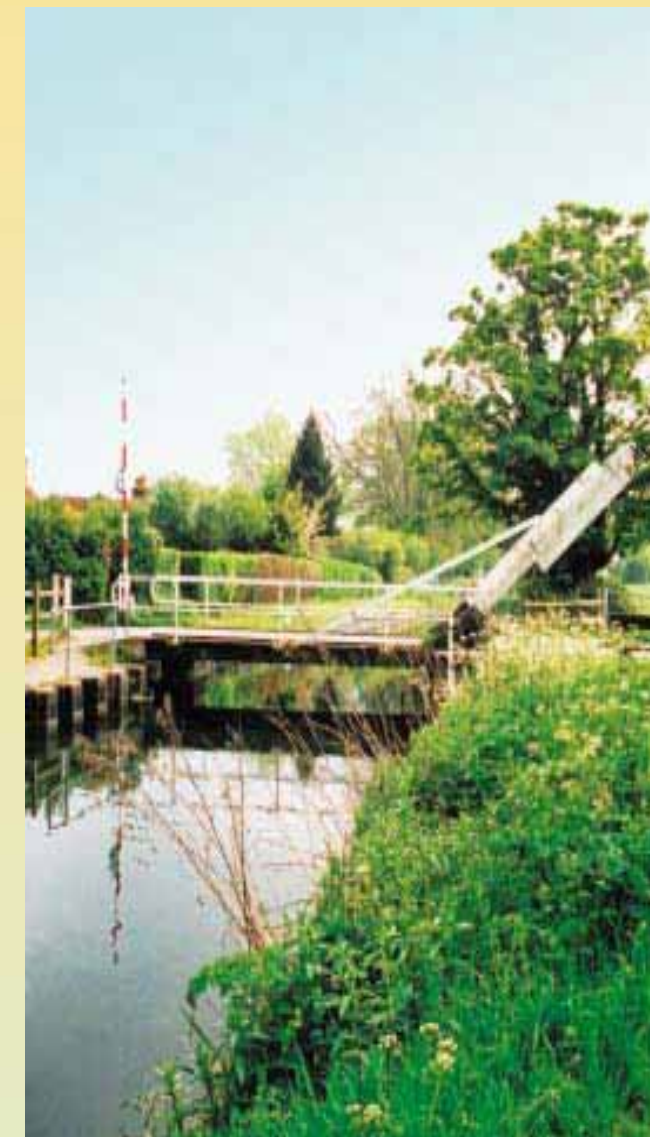
Walk C Southern Boundaries (3 miles, 1 hr)

Start at All Saints Church and walk South through the Churchyard, pausing to investigate the Pest House, and continue past the Cottage Hospital. Follow FP 37 Southeast, out across open fields, to where it crosses FP 46. Follow FP 46 North before taking FP 40 and then FP 38 and FP 39. Finish at the western end of Odiham High Street (adjacent to the Old Forge) near to the War Memorial at Gospel Green.

Other villages easily accessible from Odiham

Greywell, Hook, Upton Grey, South Warnborough, Long Sutton, Crondall, Winchfield, Dogmersfield.

Public Rights of Way within the Parish of ODIHAM



Odiham Parish Council



TO HARTLEY WINTNEY

TO LONDON

ODIHAM PARISH



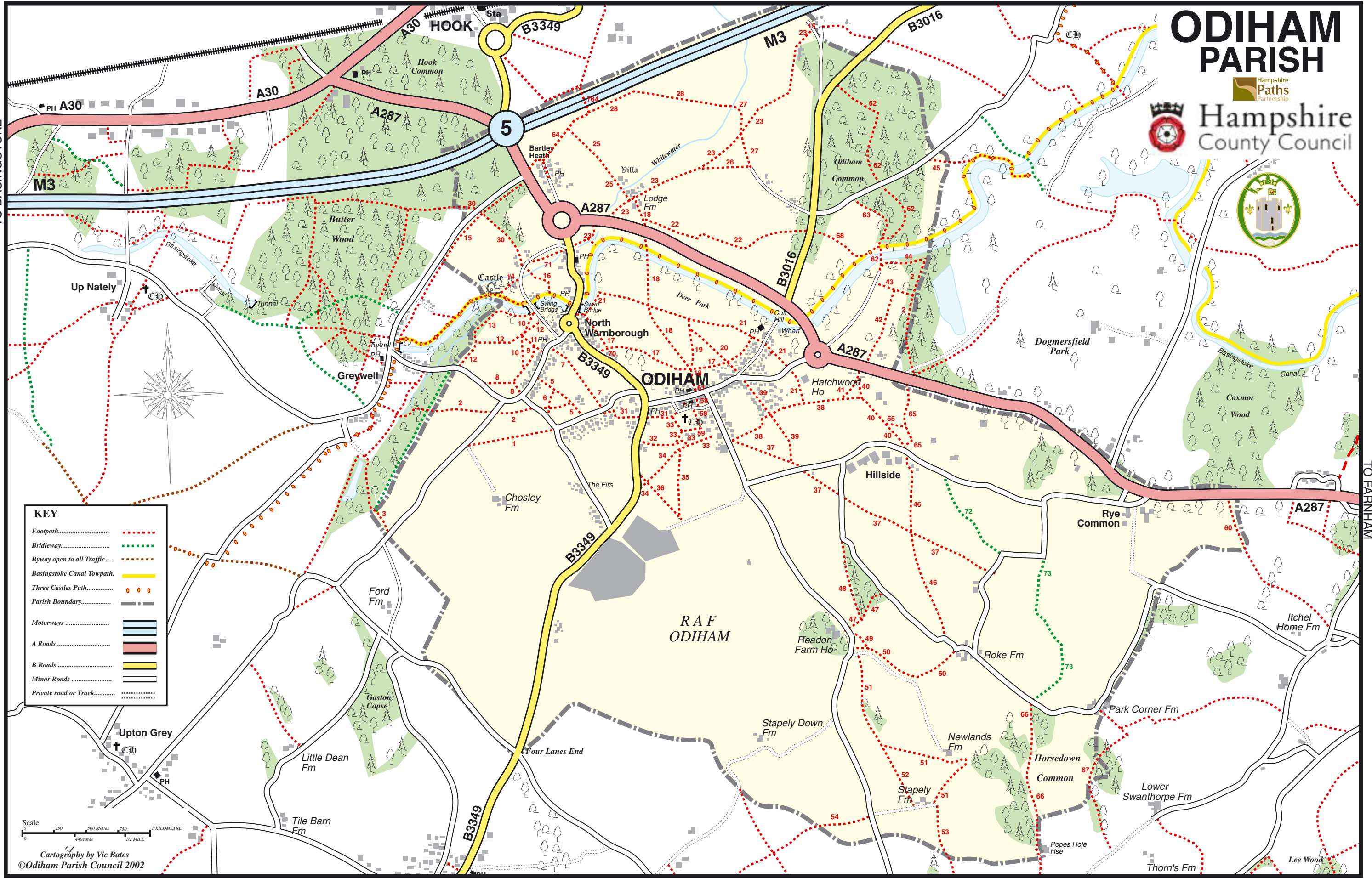
Hampshire County Council



TO BASINGSTOKE

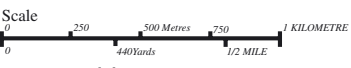
TO FARNHAM

TO ALTON



KEY

- Footpath.....
- Bridleway.....
- Byway open to all Traffic.....
- Basingstoke Canal Towpath.....
- Three Castles Path.....
- Parish Boundary.....
- Motorways.....
- A Roads.....
- B Roads.....
- Minor Roads.....
- Private road or Track.....



Cartography by Vic Bates
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