

1. Turn left out of the Town Meadow, along the High Street and follow the road around to the right past Spring Corner and St Mary's Vicarage Schoolroom. Bear right along Queen Street and continue to the T-junction.

*This area is known as Lodbourne. There used to be two town fairs. One was held on Trinity Monday when cattle were sold and stonemasons sold their wares - sometimes called a 'Whetstone Fair'. The other 'Plum' fair was held on the 2 September for locals to sell their surplus fruit. Both fairs were held on the 'Town Fair Ground', later called Lodbourne Green.*

2. Turn right down Bay Road and across Bay Bridge over Shreen Water.

3. Turn right into Bay Lane

*The name Bay means 'an embankment to form a dam' and would have been part of the boundary of the Gillingham Royal Forest*

*Down to the right where the Shreen bends, was the old Grammar School swimming pool, built in 1912. When it was being built, an ancient gravel riverbed was found with a series of oak posts and other evidence of a Neolithic lake dwellers' settlement dating from about 2500BC.*

Follow the lane to the end and go through the kissing gate onto a tarmac path.

4. After a few metres turn right and continue along the tarmac path to the top of Barnaby Mead. Bear left and follow the road back to the High Street and the Town Meadow.

*Barnaby Mill Flats were built on the site of the Town Mills which were destroyed by fire.*

*There was an ancient bridge here over the Shreen called 'Barnaby's Bridge' dating pre 1300s. It was replaced by the current 'County Bridge' in 1800.*

