

King Sedgemoor Drain (KSD) Trail

(green) designed to highlight the importance of the KSD, the landscape, its wildlife and history.

The interpretation board at the Environmental Agency Depot marks the start of the trail. The pictures and captions give an insight into the areas rich heritage. KSD plays a key role in preventing flooding in Bridgwater and Taunton with fields upstream used as water harvesters in times of heavy rain.

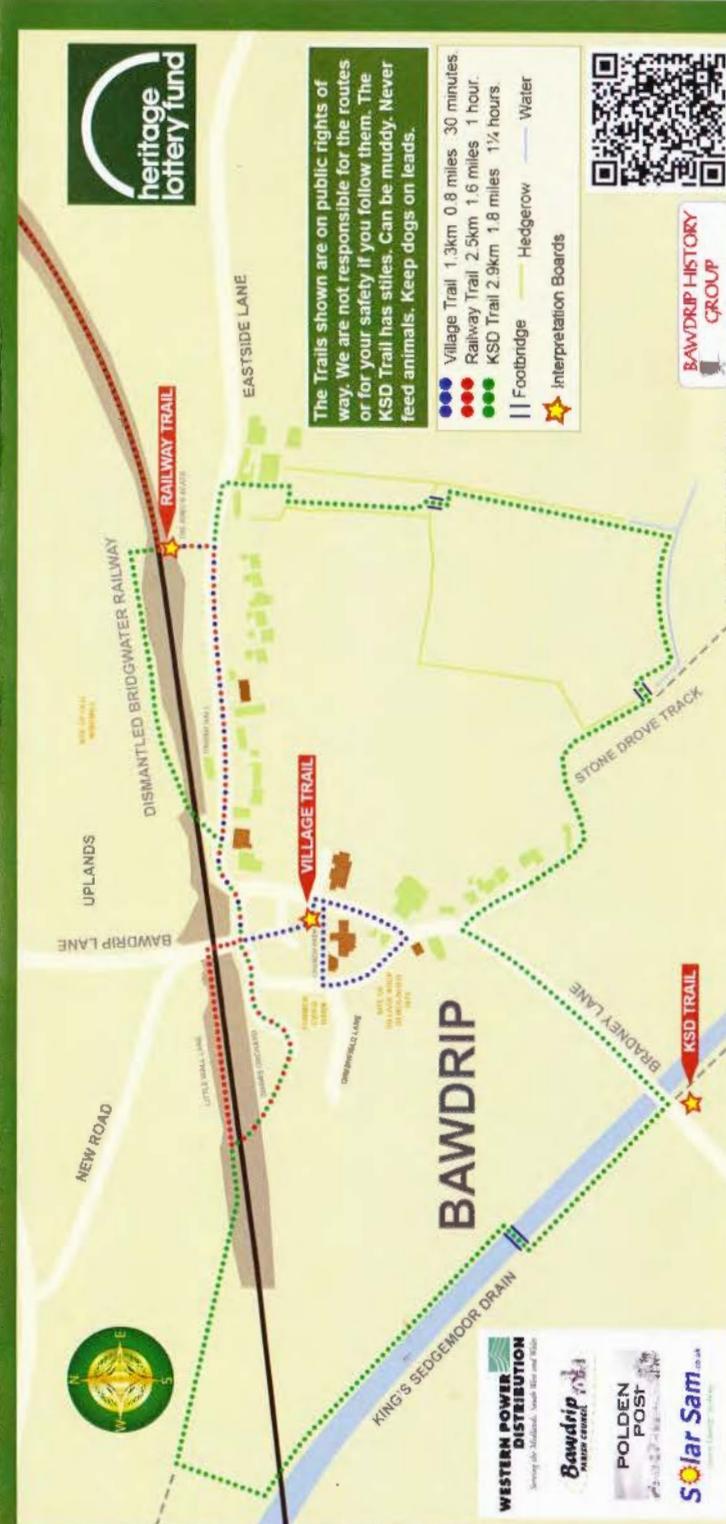
GREAT CARE walking up Bradney Lane towards the village.

- **First right** into Stone Drove. Follow to a bridge and stile on the left. *You could extend the walk here into Skylark Meadow by going straight ahead.*
- **Cross the bridge** to walk alongside the rhyne on the right. Keep to the field boundary. Left at the corner. Continue to the next field corner, cross the footbridge keeping to the left edge of the field. Right at the end keeping to the field edge to go through two gates into King's Farm.
- **Left on Eastside Lane** and turn right up to the old railway line passing the interpretation board at the top. **NOTE the next section can be avoided by staying on the Lane and walking towards the village. Re-join at ****Go straight ahead and down through a gate into a field. Go straight ahead to go through another gate. Turn left. Follow the field boundary to a stile and path that leads back to Eastside Lane.

******Go straight ahead and into Church Road. Pass by the railway bridge. Bear right into Shaw's Orchard following the road to the far end. Take the path up the slope to the old railway embankment and down the steps on the far side.

GREAT CARE no hand rail.

- **Left at the bottom of the steps.** Walk to a stile on your left which you cross. Straight ahead to cross another stile to King's Sedgemoor Drain. Turn left and follow parallel to the water to another stile and a footbridge. Cross, looking right to try to see where the railway bridge crossed. Look out for cormorants, kingfishers, otters and herons. Turn left at the end of the bridge, through the gate back to the start.



WELCOME TO BAWDRIP HERITAGE TRAIL



Bawdrip lies nestled under the southern slopes of the Poldens, a village rich in history.



Wander with us on our Heritage Trails.

Visit the 14th Century church.

Find clues to trace the ancestors...

Walk on ground where Sedgemoor rebels marched,

where trains came, went and stopped,
where cows grazed and walked to be milked.

Find one of the smallest houses in England.

Spot where owls, otters and skylarks live.

The Village Trail (blue) designed to highlight historic buildings in the village centre. It starts at the interpretation board on the green by the church.

- **Go through the gate into the churchyard.**
- **Bear left** to the front entrance of the church. St Michael and All Angels is one of the few churches in Somerset with a central tower. Notice the Blue Lias stone work with dressings of Ham Stone. It has been suggested this was brought here by boat across the Somerset Levels.

Inside the church there is information to help you find out about its history.

- **Turn right on leaving the church.** At the back is a very old door (the one on the right). It is rumoured that stocks were once stored inside here to be brought out when needed. Turn back to go through the gate in the north west corner to Church Path. On your left is the back of Church Villa. It has a fine porch on the front which you will be able to see later in the walk. The large window of the outbuilding suggests this was the tailor's workshop, when he lived here.

Next door was Lynham Cottage; now St. Michael's.

Jane Lynham in the back garden of Lynham Cottage drawing water from the well



On the right there used to be farm buildings, at various times a slaughter house and a wash house. The buildings at the end of Church Path were once a butcher's and a bakery.

- **Turn left.** Opposite Greenfield Lane was a communal well.

The converted barn in Greenfield Lane on the right was a cider barn. The blind weaver lived next door.

- **Return to Church Road. Turn right.** Millstone Cottage was once a creamery. The road bends left and on your right was where the village shop was located - still operating in the 1960s selling basic goods.
- **Keep walking looking diagonally left** for a view of the front of Church Cottage (listed as a poor house in the 1841 Tithe). It is now partially obscured by a garage and wall.

On the right, next to the Little House was where the Old Smithy stood, demolished, along with the shop in the 1970s. Inside the Little House is a fireplace and staircase. Present owners have lovingly restored it.

- **Turn left.** The school was renewed and extended to become a joint primary school with Chedzoy school in 1995.



The Little House before it was restored

Sunny View on the left, was originally two dwellings. Owners have been shoemakers, a thatcher and a 'letter receiver'. The little yard on the right of the alley was listed as a pound. Lean on the churchyard wall to see over the churchyard to view the porch on the back of Church Villa.

- **Go through the gate into the churchyard.** As you walk look to the Rectory over the road. The high wall denotes a home of some status. The converted barn next door and the land now occupied by three new houses at the back were once part of the Rectory 'estate'.
- **Go through the gate back to the village interpretation board** to continue the second part of the trail:
- **Cross the green.** Here used to be farm buildings, mainly storage barns. Go through the gap into the access road. Church Farm once stood near here with its orchard.
- **Walk straight ahead towards the railway bridge.**

GREAT CARE when turning right. NO PAVEMENT.

- **Cross at the corner into Eastside Lane.** See the notice board on the left. Tudor Court is opposite, the old manorial house where the Manor Courts were held. When a farm its land stretched both sides and to the Rectory.



Tudor Court as it looked in the 1970's

Further on Combe Cottage was once a small holding. Next is Barker's Farm, which covered land on both sides of the lane. A recent owner travelled as a child on the train that trundled along opposite. She looked at the date on the wall - never dreaming she would live there one day. Notice the stand where milk churns were collected. Retrace or continue to follow the railway trail accessed at the Sustrans Cycle path further along the lane.

The Railway Trail (red) designed to highlight the legacy of the Bridgwater Railway.

The interpretation board on the former Bridgwater Railway at the King's seats marks the starting point of the railway trail. Read about George Chilwell, who died in an accident in August 1888 whilst digging out the cutting. Give a thought to him as you walk up the cycle path and pass through the cutting. The accident happened just before the waterfall and Bridge No. 305 carrying the A39 road over the railway.

- **Retrace your steps** towards Bawdrip and go along Eastside Lane towards the village. As you pass Barker's Farm (left) try to visualise Bawdrip Halt next to the Parish Hall on your right. A little further on notice the huge stone and brick retaining wall beside the road.
- **Continue to Bridge No. 306 and pass under it. Turn left** and follow the bridle path through the gate (Little Wall Lane).

In several hundred yards you will discover steps to take you over the line connecting the route to Shaw's Orchard and back into the village.