



BODMIN



BEATING OF THE TOWN BOUNDS

WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2015

COUNCILLOR A J COPPIN
TOWN MAYOR

All participating should assemble at Priory Park Car Park before 8.45am to leave by coach to proceed to Callywith Gate or be at Callywith Gate by 9.00am.

All Beaters to register with Rotary Stewards at the start and receive refreshment ticket.

ROUTE

Leave Callywith Gate 9.15am Commencing the Beat at Salting Pool, near Racecourse Farm House, we proceed to the former Bodmin – Launceston Road (A30), and thence towards Bodmin to its junction with Old Callywith Road. Near this spot, the CALLYWITH TURNPIKE GATE formerly stood. Leaving the A30 at this point the boundary runs in the direction of Callywith Farm, crossing the slip roads to the Bodmin by-pass, the service road leading to Callybarrett Farm and the by-pass itself. Proceeding to Callywith Farm, the first object that meets our view is the old Granite Cornish Cross which, it is believed, stands in its original position on the ancient track from Cardinham to Bodmin when the land here was unenclosed. The wide hedge at the back was built at a very much later date. We follow the boundary mostly downhill and along a rivulet until it joins the Margate River, below Margate Wood. 'Margate' is a contraction of 'Margaret', an ancient Chapel in the neighbourhood, having been dedicated to a Saint of that name. We now follow the Margate River as far as FLETCHER'S BRIDGE. Here the Town Mayor will perform the old custom of 'hurling' coins into the river.

Leave 10.30am

We now go uphill across the fields and along a deep gully crossing the Bodmin and Wenford Railway steam operated passenger and freight line (originally the GWR) to the boundary post on the main road to Liskeard, at Turfdown. Turfdown was a large, unenclosed Common from which the people of Bodmin used to take their turf for fuel and Turf Street probably took its name as being the place where the turf was stacked or the neighbourhood where 'The Turvers' or Turf Cutters lived.

Leaving the A38 trunk road our route is now due south for a short distance and up to this point we have had the parish of Cardinham on the other side of the boundary, but turning due west across the fields we are against the Parish of Lanhydrock. Leaving the northern boundary of Bazley's plantation we cross the home ground of Bodmin Rugby Football Club, then over the slip road for south bound traffic joining the by-pass, through the railway cutting to the former site of Carminnow Cross. The former site of Carminnow Cross is marked by a modern Granite Stone, put there when the Cross-head itself was removed to the nearby roundabout where it now stands on a modern shaft. This is a good specimen of an ancient four-holed cross.

Leave 11.45am

Our next point is Sheeps-All-Hnn, where the Halgavor River takes its rise and from whence we follow the river to HALGAVOR BRIDGE, carrying on the road to Lostwithiel and thence on the Halgavor Moor.

'Halgavor' means 'Goats' Moor' and, no doubt the people of Bodmin pastured goats here in times gone by. The Moor was also the rendezvous for young Bodmin people when they elected the 'Mayor of Halgavor' and held their mock trials and the prisoners were committed to the 'Dragon Pit' (now filled). To the right can be seen the Dragon Leisure Centre.

About 550 yards from the Lostwithiel main road, deviating in a southerly direction, we follow the boundary dividing Bodmin from Lanivet. After crossing the road to Little Kirland and part of the Lanhydrock Golf Club course, we take a sharp turn west and follow the stream dividing us from Tregullan Moor and proceed first to Sunny Corner and then to BLOWING HOUSE.

- Arrive** At Blowing House the Town Mayor will hurl coins into the river.
- Approx**
1.15pm This place no doubt has its name owing to the district being in years gone by noted for smelting tin and there were many such Blowing Houses in Cornwall. Probably water power was used for working the bellows and blast. The mill leat for Laveddon and St Lawrence Mills was taken here and these two mills, as well as the mill at Hawkes Halgavor, were worked as corn mills.
- Leave** Leaving Blowing House, the boundary follows the stream and the next place of
1.30pm interest we come to is Laveddon where refreshments will be available for the 'Beaters'.
- The present bridge was reconstructed in 1903 after the disastrous flood which washed away the old bridge on the 27th October of that year, and was extended in connection with improvements to the old A30 trunk road which it carries. Since the opening of the Bodmin bypass in 1977 the road has been downgraded and is now the A389.
- Leave** Leaving Laveddon we next come to St Lawrence, which takes its name from the
2.15pm Saint to whom the Chapel was dedicated in connection with the Leper Hospital, and whose Seal of Office is at present in the Truro Museum, having been handed to that Museum by the late John Bassett Collins.
- Following the St Lawrence River we reach Stoney Lane Bridge on the road to Nanstallon.
- Continuing downstream we reach the River Camel and then take the left bank of the river up to DUNMERE BRIDGE, crossing on the way the former Great Western and South Western Railways, the latter being originally constructed about the year 1834 and being the second authorised railway in the United Kingdom. Both lines were closed to British Rail passenger traffic in January 1967 and freight in 1983. The former GWR section is operated by the Bodmin and Wenford Railway and the Southern Line is now the popular Camel Trail.
- Leave** From Dunmere we proceed up Tanwood Lane. Tanwood is St Anne's Wood, there
3.00pm having been formerly a Chapel of St Anne's here. Scarlett's Well is next reached and it was to this well that people flocked in the hope of being cured by the supposed properties of the water.
- Arrive** From Scarlett's Well we proceed to Bodiniel, once an important Manor. On reaching
Approx
4.20pm and crossing Copshorne Road, we reach Rogation Lane and strike the Helland Road just below PENBUGLE Farm Gate.
- Leave** At Penbugle light refreshments for the 'Beaters' will be available.
4.45pm
- Arrive** Passing Penbugle town-place we reach Penbugle Lane and from thence in a north-
Approx
5.30pm easterly direction we reach SALTING POOL.

At various halts the Town Crier will make the time-honoured announcements as follows:

*'Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! Thus far extends the Ancient borough of Bodmin
Oller! Boys Oller!'*

At the end of the 'Beat' the Silver Ball will be thrown in the Salting Pool by the Town Mayor. The person recovering it from the Pool and delivering it to the Town Mayor will receive £10.00.

This is followed by 'Hurling' from the Salting Pool to the Turret Clock.

The President of Bodmin Lions Club, Bill May, will 'throw up' the Silver Ball to start the Hurl.

The Rules are as follows:

1. The route must be via the old A30, Old Callywith Road, Castle Street, Church Square, Honey Street and the Ball must NOT be taken off the highway.
2. The concealment of the Ball by any participant will disqualify that person.
3. The Ball must be passed if the holder is touched by another participant in the Hurl.
4. The appointed referees have the power to call off Hurling if any of these rules are broken.
5. The Silver Ball is to be delivered to the Town Mayor at the door of the Turret Clock.

The person delivering the Silver Ball to the Town Mayor will receive £10.00.

Bodmin Rotary Club and the Lions Club invite local organisations to use this Beating of the Town Bounds as a basis for sponsorship to raise funds for their own organisations, Rotary or Lions' Charities.

The organisers, the Rotary and Lions Clubs of Bodmin, wish to thank those persons who have given their permission so that the 'Beat' can take place and ask that the Beaters respect the fact that they are, for the most part, passing over private land. Participants are especially asked to take care not to damage property or crops over which they pass and not leave any litter.

Smoking is prohibited whilst passing through Forestry Commission sections.

The organisers do not hold themselves responsible for any injuries or loss sustained by any persons participating.

Thanks are also expressed to everyone who has assisted in any way and especially to Bodmin Town Council.