

Welcome to Knockin

The Village

This leaflet has been provided by the Parish Paths Partnership for Knockin, together with the Shropshire Council Access Team.

The name of the village is thought to come from Welsh "Cnwcyn," a small mound or hillock.

This circular walk has no stiles, and will take you near to some of the historical places of Knockin. The village was established between 1142 and 1195 by Ralph le Strange, duke of Brittany. The Castle was built by Henry II after his defeat by Owain ap Gryffudd, and the castle became the seat of Guy le Strange. His castle mound, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, stands to the west of the church, next to the Weir Brook, which brook performed a vital service to the residents and would have been used to flood the castle moat. The vicarage stands within the bailey of the castle.

The Church is dedicated to St Mary. It is listed Grade II*. It is mostly a 19th century building but inside you will see that the north wall is a series of arches dating back to Norman times, when it was a chapel of Haughmond Abbey.

Across the road from the Church, next to the Bradford Arms, are buildings which used to be the village forge, and alongside the bridge you can see a slope down to the brook where cattle could drink. Note the clock on the Bradford Arms. Further up the main road, but off our circular route is the sheep dip, and a shelter known as the Jubilee Chair, built

The Norman arches in St. Mary's



by the Village to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubilee.

Opposite the church was one of two malt houses in the village, so we had all the ingredients for brewing beer!

In the village you will see several very old houses, many of which are listed. There are 17 listed buildings in our little Parish. The village was once the local headquarters of the Bradford Estate, which had an office and a timber yard here, and which still owns some of the properties.

The cattle drink



The Circular Walk

Starting opposite the Bradford Arms, follow Church Lane to its end, where you will find a gate into the field **A**. The footpath goes to a stile **B**. Turn left at the stile and follow the footpath back towards the village, at **C** turn right along the backs of houses and farms until you come to a gate onto an unmade lane at **D**. This is known as Rolly Lane, and it can be followed northwards amongst the fields. But turn left and you will come to the main road again. Go straight across, and in a short way there is a gate on the left **E**, which takes you back towards the village. When you come to the Kinnerley Road at **F**, you may like to take a detour to the left where you can see a handsome black and white building, Top Farm House, and, roughly opposite, the village pound, where stray animals would be locked away. Next to Top Farm House were the Bradford Estate Offices and reading room, now converted into a dwelling.

Returning to the route, turn right at **F** Kinnerley Road, and next to the medical centre is a kissing gate on your left at **G** which leads into a field. Looking down the road, you will see on your right the Knockin and Kinnerley Cricket Club – winners of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Ahead



The sheep dip

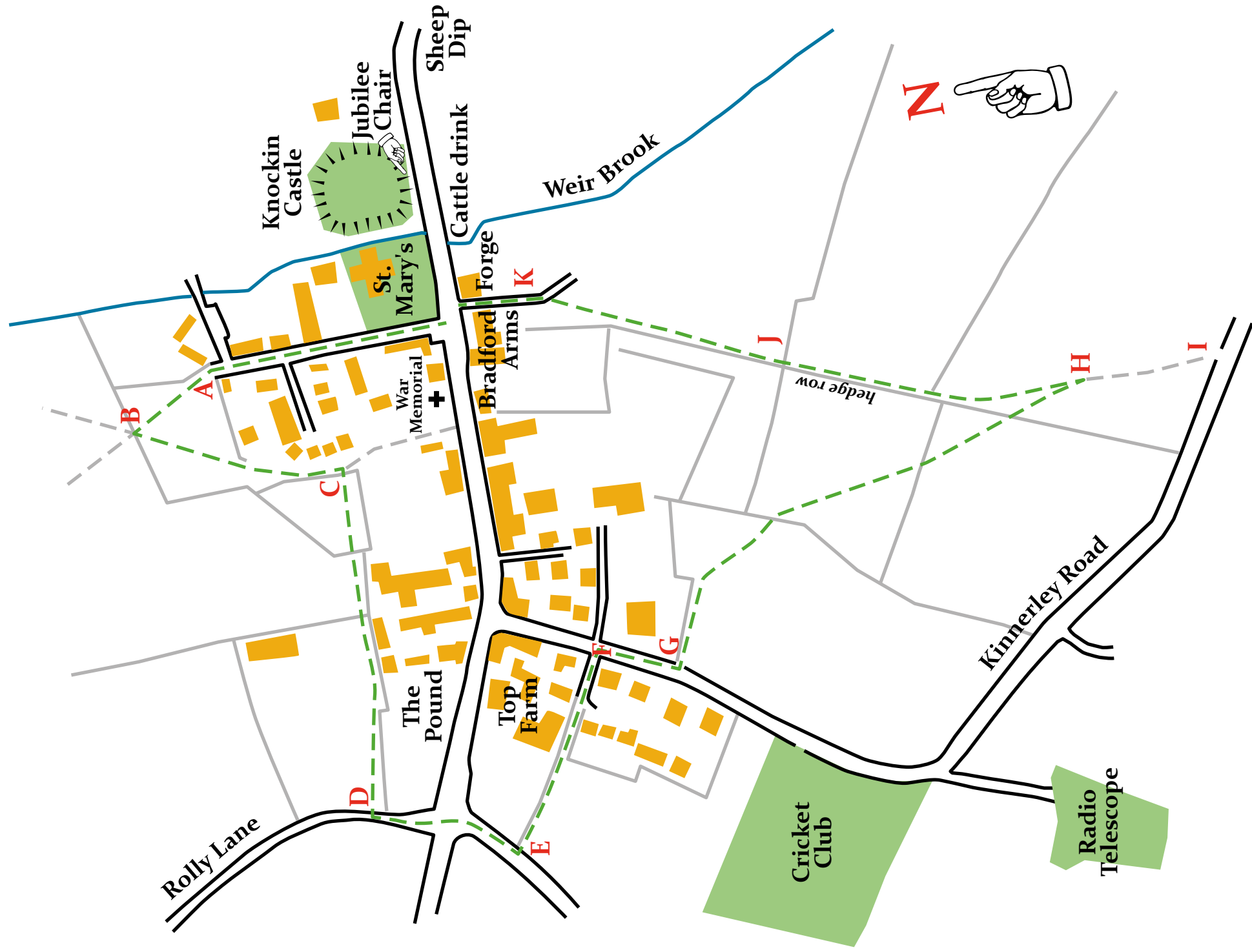
you will see The Telescope, part of a chain of seven radio-astronomy dishes across England, making up the existing Merlin network (Multi-Element Radio Linked Interferometer Network). Signals from the seven dishes are combined to create a clearer picture of the universe.

The path from **G** will cut off the corner and keep you from the traffic running between Knockin and Kinnerley.

The path joins the road again at a kissing gate **I**. Here you may cross and take the road back into Kinnerley, but our circular route turns back. Retrace your steps, staying within the field, and follow the hedge line north. Two gates **J**, **K**, will take you back to the Bradford Arms, where you can whet your whistle, or partake of an excellent meal. Next to the pub is the Parish Hall, where you may find a cup of tea and a cake on summer weekends.

The Jubilee Chair





A Walk Round Knockin