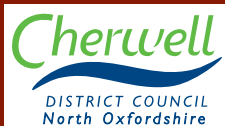


KIDLINGTON a local history

The Village of Kidlington is 4½ miles north of Oxford City and 4 miles from Woodstock and Blenheim Palace. It lies between the River Cherwell on the east and the Oxford Canal on the west. Until the enclosures of 1818 the southern part of the parish consisted of a large area of common land and the village was known as Kidlington-on-the-Green. Many of the older houses faced onto this green. There was also a 'Town Green' running along much of the present Mill Street. Compared with a population of 1,300 in 1901, Kidlington and Gosford's population is now 17,500. Kidlington Mill was mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086. The fine parish church of St. Mary the Virgin dates from 1220 and is known for its fine mediaeval glass and ancient woodwork. The slender spire, known as 'Our Lady's Needle', is a well loved landmark. Hampden Manor was the home of Sir William Morton, a Royalist officer in the Civil War and builder of the Almshouse. The Old Rectory is a fine example of 16th Century building. The dovecote is first mentioned in 1290/1. Today Kidlington has a modern shopping centre, public hall, library and market. It also has the headquarters of the County Fire Service and Thames Valley Police.

In partnership with:



Tourist Information Centres




The two Tourist Information Centres listed below provide a wealth of information, and exciting ideas on what to see and do in the area. The Centres also operate a local accommodation booking scheme, the Book a Bed Ahead service, and stock a broad range of maps, local books and souvenirs.

A warm, friendly welcome awaits you - we look forward to meeting you.

Banbury

Castle Quay Shopping Centre,
Banbury, Oxon.
Tel: (01295) 259855
Fax: (01295) 269469
Email:
banbury.tic@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Bicester

Unit 86a, Bicester Village,
Pingle Drive, Bicester.
(Look for  sign in shopping village)
Tel: (01869) 369055
Fax: (01869) 369054
Email:
bicester.vc@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

A Tourist Information Point is located in the car park of Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington.

Published by:

The Head of Leisure Services, Arts and Tourism Unit,
Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Nr. Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA.
Tel: (01295) 221725. Fax: (01295) 263155.
Email: tourism@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

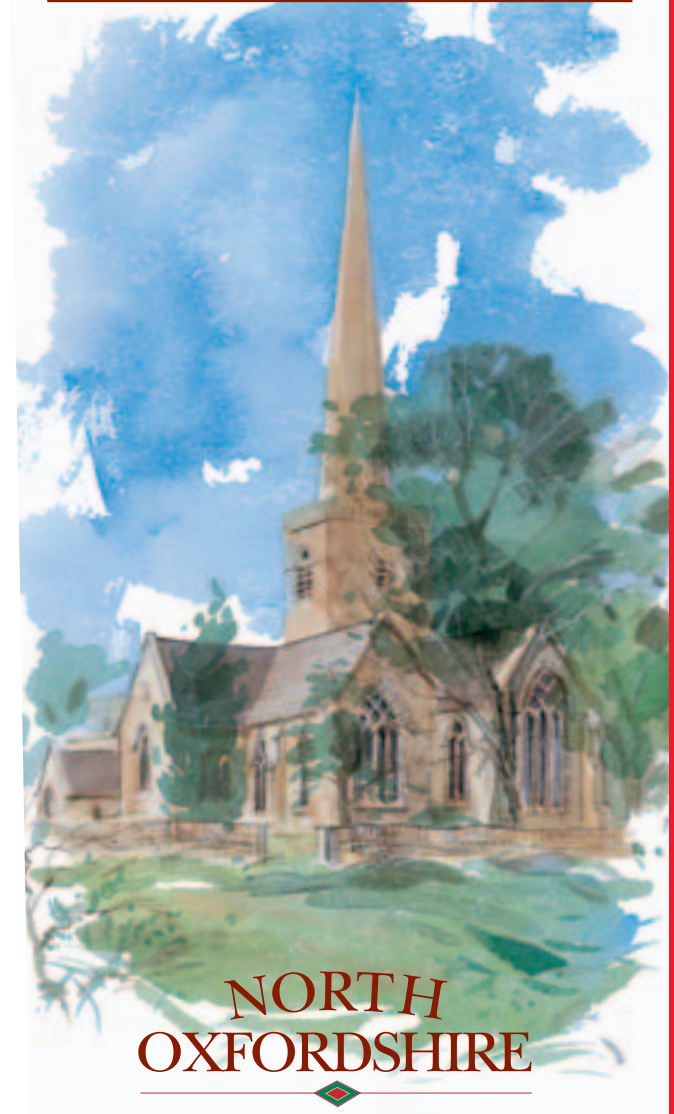
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KIDLINGTON

Historic Village Trail



NORTH
OXFORDSHIRE

THE CHERWELL VALLEY

www.visit-northoxfordshire.co.uk



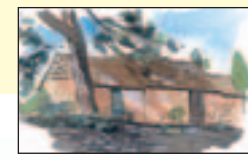
2 St. Mary's Church. Built c1220 and extended in the 14th and 15th Centuries. Noted for its Mediaeval glass in the east window and its ancient misericords and bench ends.



1 Lady Ann Morton's Almshouse. Founded in 1671 by Sir William Morton. Notice his wife Anne's and his children's names above the windows.

KIDLINGTON

Historic Village Trail



16 Mill House. Built on a screens-passage plan in the later 17th century. Opposite is Miller's Cottage, probably the site of the first mill built in 1086. Alongside is the second mill built in 1390 and used until the 1914/18 war. Notice the dove holes in the old barn. The footpath is mentioned in 1534.



3 The Old Priests House. Thought to be built at the same time as the church, possibly for the mason. It later became three cottages.



15 Hales Croft. Parts of the house date from the 1700s. From 1925 to 1955 it was the home of Lionel Curtis, a famous diplomat. Villagers still remember he received many well known visitors including T.E. Lawrence on his motorcycle. This was where Essex's Parliamentary troops entered Kidlington after the battle of Gosford Bridge in 1644.



4 Cherwell Croft & Wychwood. Wychwood is thought to have been the home of Alexander Reinagle who composed the well known hymn tune 'St Peter'. Kidlington was once famous for its apricots and one of the few remaining trees is on the side of the house. In the mid 19th century the forerunner of Fishpond Training College was here.



14 Burnt Oak. A late 17th century true cross passage former farm house. French prisoners are said to have been held here during the Napoleonic Wars. It was named Burnt Oak after its new owner moved from the London district of that name in 1925.



5 St. Mary's Lodge. Early in the 19th Century the house was a girls' school run by Mary Allen. Her brother John's 100 pupil boys' residential school was opposite.

8 High Street. Once known as Kidlington Green Road, it now leads to the modern centre of the village with the Library, Exeter Hall, market and shops.

Please respect the privacy of properties on this trail.



13 Hampden Manor. This was the home of the Hampden family from 1395 to 1553. Sir William Morton, Royalist Commander of Sudeley Castle lived here. After the Civil War he became a famous judge. The tower was a water closet thought to have been designed by Sir John Vanbrugh.



6 Grove House. One of the oldest houses in the village. Roger Almont who died here in 1710 left money to teach two boys to read, write and cast accounts. The charity is now administered by the Parish Council.



7 Manor Farm House. Rebuilt in the early 19th Century but retains in its garden wall a mid 18th Century stone archway entrance in classical style. Together with the now converted barn, it belonged to the Manor House that stood nearby. The barn was built in 1695.



9 The Old Rectory. Known to be in a ruinous state in c1520, it was probably rebuilt in 1578 using 13th/14th century timbers. The building is notable for its paired diagonal stone chimney stacks and the 16th century stone mullioned windows.



10 Dovecote. Mentioned in 1290/91, the circular dovecote has 400 holes in 13 rows. It supplied fresh meat and manure.



11 The Old Vicarage. Thought to have been built about 1445, it was reduced in size in the early 1800s. It was used by students from Oxford to escape from the plague.



12 The Six Bells. Built about 1840 and named after the six bells of the great Osney Abbey that owned so much of Kidlington until the Reformation. An earlier building stood on the opposite side of the road.