

## Food and Accommodation

All three public houses in the parish offer food, drink and accommodation - Durant Arms; Waterman's Arms; Malsters Arms.

Several houses provide Bed and Breakfast facilities

For any further details contact:

Totnes Tourist Information Centre  
01803 863168

## Follow the Country Code

*Enjoy the countryside  
and respect its life and work*

Guard against fire

Fasten all gates

Keep your dogs under control

Keep to public paths across farmland

Use gates and stiles  
to cross fences, hedges and walls

Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone

Take your litter home

Help to keep all water clean

Protect wildlife, plants and trees

Take special care on country roads

Make no unnecessary noise

*Take your time  
and enjoy the views*

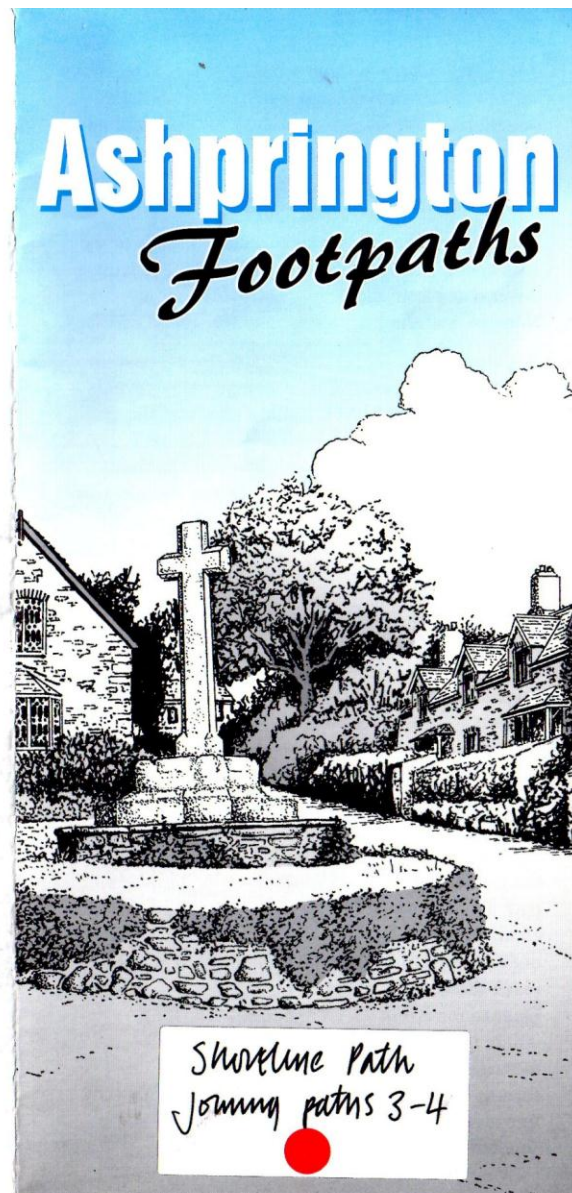
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**For further details and advice relating to  
any public path matter, please contact:**

Public Rights of Way Section,  
Environment Directorate,  
Devon County Council,  
County Hall,  
Exeter  
EX2 4QW  
Tel: 01392 382550.

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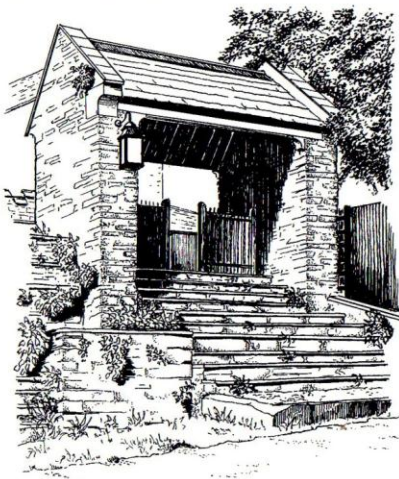




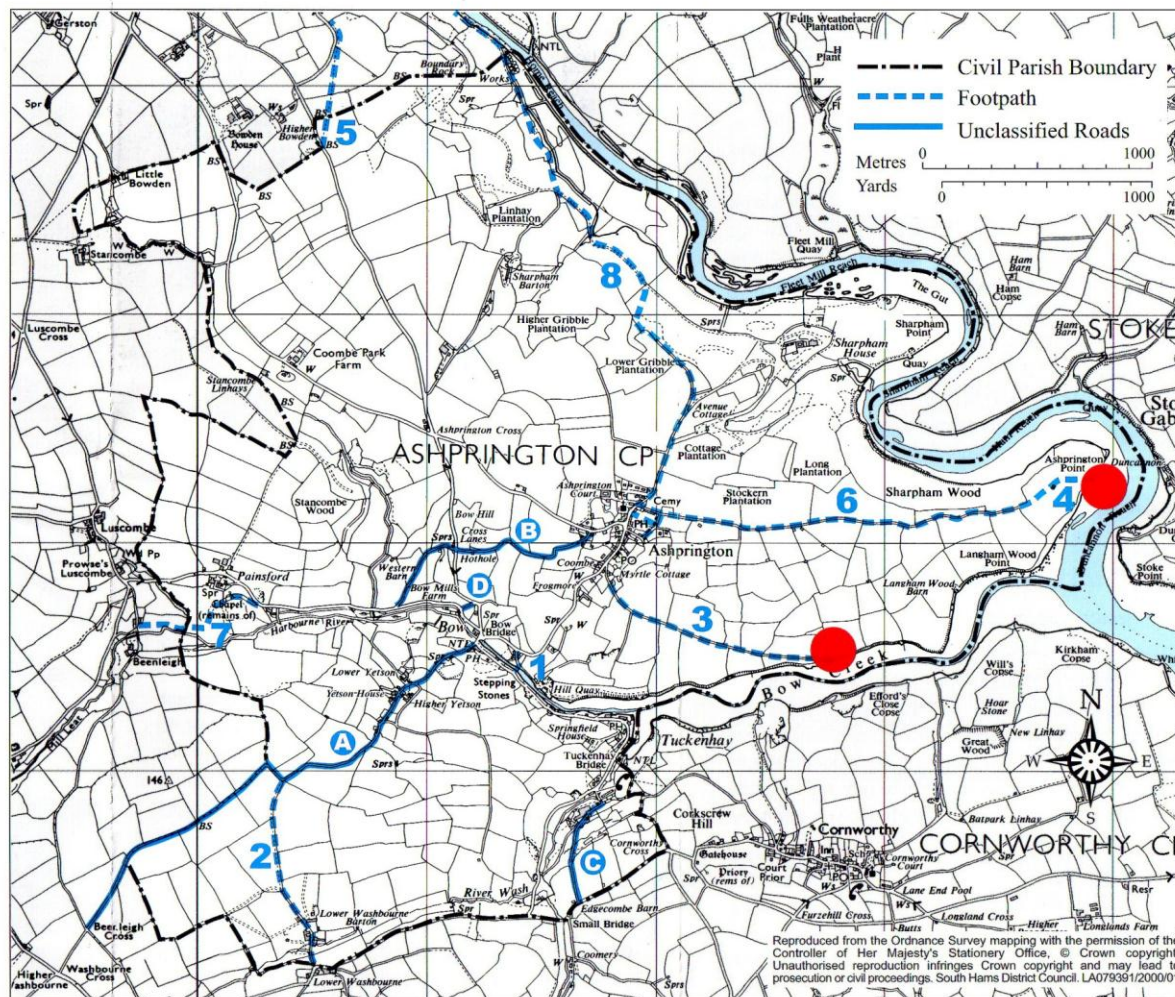
# Ashprington Footpaths

## Footpath 5: [150 metres]

Walk from the War Memorial to Ashprington Cross on the main road to Totnes. Turn right down the "back" road to Totnes; after 1,400 metres the path entrance is marked by a signpost and stone stile in the hedge on the right. The path lies diagonally across the field; beyond the parish boundary it continues into Totnes parish over a second [way-marked] stone stile. There are wide views towards Dartmoor and the River Dart.



The Lych Gate



At low tide cormorants use the shoreline to dry out their wings, and sometimes there is a grey seal. The nearby granite fish was given to villagers by the owner of Sharpham on the occasion of the Parish Council Centenary.

The official path continues uphill beside the wall until just after the gate on the left, then turns sharp right downhill to a signpost. Uphill ahead is a waymarked gate into a copse with a stile at the far end. Cross the field ahead to another stile and a





# Ashprington Footpaths

The village of Ashprington lies amid winding lanes and lush countryside in a fold of hills which sweep down to the western bank of the River Dart and south to Bow Creek. Until an auction in 1940 most of the old houses [many with lattice windows and carved bargeboards] belonged to Sharpham estate. The parish footpaths follow historic routes and allow walkers access to some of the finest scenery in the South Hams.

This leaflet tells you where they are, how to get to them and the length of each path.

Directions to most footpaths start at the War Memorial [a Cornish granite cross] in the centre of the village.

Most footpaths are used by tractors and livestock and mud is inevitable, so sturdy footwear is advised.

Please prevent your dog fouling a footpath, or clear up after them.

## Footpath 1: [130 metres]

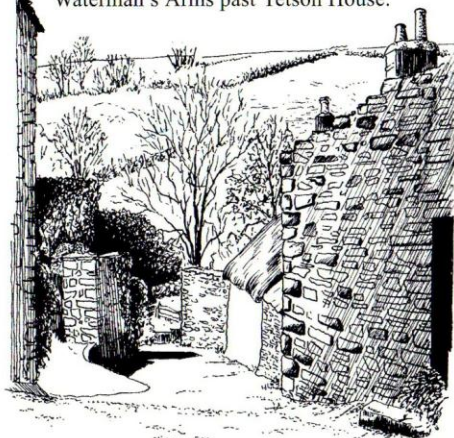
- part of the Dart Valley Trail

Take the road downhill from the War Memorial, towards Bow Bridge. After 900 metres, turn left at the signpost marking the footpath. Stepps Cottage to the right is said to stand on the site of an old saltwork, and Domesday Book records a fishery here. At the river keep a sharp lookout for kingfishers!

At low tide, cross the River Harbourne by the stepping stones to the Tuckenhay bank. Built into the facing hill are old lime kilns which once turned limestone, brought up river by boat, into lime to spread on the fields or for mortar and limewash for buildings. Dittisham plums, grown in local orchards, also came up river to be transported in wheelbarrows for sale in Harbertonford. When the tide is up and the stones covered, use the 18th century pack-horse bridge beside the Waterman's Arms.

## Footpath 2: [900 metres]

From the War Memorial walk downhill to Bow Bridge. Take the road uphill on the right of the Waterman's Arms past Yetson House.



The path to the stepping stones

Follow the very steep unclassified road to the crest of the hill. There are spectacular views all round.

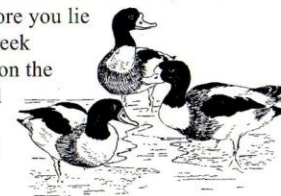
Footpath 2 begins at the signed farm gate on the left. Follow alongside the hedge downhill to the farmyard [this is a working farm so please close gates behind you and keep dogs on a lead]. The path leads straight through the yard of Granary Farm, past Washbourne House to end on the far side of the River Wash. Turn left along the road to return to Tuckenhay and Ashprington.

An alternative route after Millpond Cross is to carry on for 200 metres towards Cornworthy. Turn left at Edgecombe Barn and follow the unclassified road through the woods down to Tuckenhay Mill. It was once a mill where rags were turned into paper for bank notes, today it is an award-winning holiday complex. Turn right for Ashprington alongside the Wash and Bow Creek.

## Footpath 3: [1,100 metres]

Walk from the War Memorial downhill through the village towards Tuckenhay. After 200 metres turn left at the signpost. Pass Myrtle Cottage on the left, and beyond there are glorious views down to Bow Creek. Drovers once used the path to take their cattle to market after fording the Creek below Cornworthy. Snowdrops, primroses, bluebells, stichwort, garlic, campion, spindle berries, hazelnuts and holly berries mark the seasons; and there are usually buzzards overhead.

Follow the path to the stile at the bottom, where Footpath 3 ends. Before you lie the waters of Bow Creek where shelduck feed on the muddy shoreline, and you may see an occasional heron and an egret or two.



Shelducks

## Footpath 4:

[a continuation of Footpath 6 - see below]



### Footpath 6: [2,250 metres]

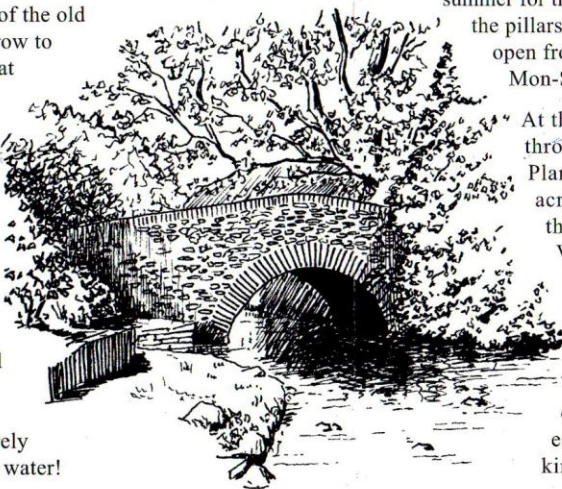
Footpath 6 begins in three separate paths [from Greys above the church lych gate; between the gardens behind Holly Villas, opposite the lych gate; and up Hill Park] which all converge at the Cemetery gates in Duncannon Lane. The path through the gardens is reputed to run close to the old village cockpit!

The lych gate has a slate coffin rest and leads to the 15th century parish church of St. David. The west tower dates from the 12th century, the font is Norman, and there are some very fine wood carvings.

A waymark at the Cemetery gates points east up Duncannon Lane. Almost every gateway reveals glimpses of Bow Creek, rolling countryside, and finally the broad River Dart itself. The path descends to a stile and continues into the field beyond, to the waymark on the left of the old barn. Up river to the left is a fine view of Sharpham House, a Georgian mansion, built after 1770 for a naval captain with Spanish prize money. Footpath 4 continues across the field to the foreshore.

### Footpath 4: [200 metres]

From the left side of the old barn follow the arrow to the waymark post at the riverside. The field may be planted with an organic crop, but the line of the path should be clear. Villagers once used it to reach the ferry to Duncannon, from where they walked to Paignton. To summon the ferryman they merely shouted across the water!



### Footpath 7: [400 metres]

To reach Footpath 7 walk downhill from the War Memorial to Bow Bridge. Take the road alongside Bow Bridge House towards Harbertonford for 1,100 metres to Painsford Mill. Just beyond this on the left, a signpost shows the start of the path skirting inside the field edge to the next waymarked gateway [please do not feed the horses].

Cross the ditch over railway sleepers towards a clump of trees and a waymarked stile beside the Harbourne River. The farmhouse to the right stands on the site of historic Painsford Manor, which once had its own chapel.

The parish boundary is at the next wooden footbridge, but the footpath continues along the wooded course of the Harbourne past quiet pools and stony rapids to emerge through a field on to the road at Beenleigh.

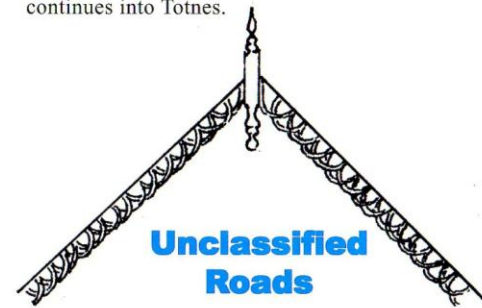
### Footpath 8: [2,500 metres]

*- part of the Dart Valley Trail*

Walk north uphill from the Durant Arms past the old pump at Askew Cottage which used to supply the village. After Avenue Cottage gardens [open in the summer for the National Gardens Scheme] are the pillars of Sharpham House [its Winery is open from 1st March to 30th November, Mon-Sat, and there are Vineyard Trails].

At the pillars, take the lane to the left through wooded Lower Gribble Plantation to a stile; go downhill across the field to a second stile on the old Sharpham Drive to Totnes. Views of the Dart upstream to Totnes, with Dartmoor beyond, are breathtaking! Walk left [the drive to the right is private] for 400 metres to two farm gates with a stile, beneath a massive oak tree. To the right are extensive reed beds, home to kingfishers and warblers.

Right of steps down to a courtyard. Leave the swampy copse for a field alongside the river bank. A signpost near the old sewage works marks the end of the footpath within the parish. The walk continues into Totnes.



**See map above for location**

- A** Yetson towards Beenleigh Cross [2,140 metres]. Walk downhill from the War Memorial to Bow Bridge. To the right of the Waterman's Arms walk uphill past Yetson House where the road begins in a steep rise to the crest of the hill and some fine views. Straight ahead the green lane leads to the parish boundary and Beenleigh Cross.
- B** Smallwell lane [1,060 metres]. The road begins at a left turn, 150 metres uphill from the War Memorial on the Totnes road. Pass the cattle barns [dogs on a lead please]. Cross the valley past Hothole and over Bow Hill in front of Crosslanes Cottage. Walk downhill to the Harbertonford Road. Turn left for Bow Bridge.
- C** Tuckenhay to Edgcombe Barn [500 metres]. At Coronation Cross in Tuckenhay turn left over the River Wash. Pass the entrance to Tuckenhay Mill on your right. The road rises steeply past an old quarry on the left emerging from the woods at Edgcombe Barn on the road to Cornworthy.
- D** [70 metres]. This cuts off a corner from Bow Hill to the Harbertonford Road.