Village Trail - Gnosall

GNOSALL HERITAGE GROUP

Refreshments	There are a number of Pubs and eateries in the village. For assistance on types, locations, and opening times then please ask any resident, Gnosall people are some of the friendliest you will ever meet.
Parking	There is a Public Car Park at the Grosvenor Centre in the High Street (yellow on map below) and street parking in High Street and Audmore Road. Note: High Street parking is time retricted.
Websites	For more details about Gnosall's past, church records, photographs, videos, etc. please visit: http://www.gnosallparishcouncil.org.uk/heritage/ and http://www.gnosallhistory.co.uk/



Anchor Inn, "pleasantly situated on an eminence at the junction" with Knightley Road. The inn was in existence from at least 1800 and used to be the site of timber auctions. Ceased trading in 1920. Now a private house.
Q1 - ????????????



Opposite the Post Office is the micropub **George & Dragon.** A **datestone** on the front could mark the marriage of a couple with the initials I or J & M M. By 1837 a wheelwright called Joseph Madeley was living there.
Q6 - What is the year on the datestone?



Brook House, said to have been built in the 1780s. Known as the New Inn in the 1820s and '30s, and the Union Inn in the 1840s, it had an enormous dining room that could seat nearly 100, malt house, coach house and stabling. It was also used as a private academy. It is now a private house.
Q2 - What is in the yellow box on the verge outside the house



Duke's Head Inn, now a private residence and dressmaker's. Thatched and Grade II listed, it's been dated to the 16th century and before, the Civil War, or (officially) the 18th century with an older core. Like the Horns, it was popular with the churchwardens and overseers of previous centuries (there was a rear gateway into the churchyard) and used for meetings, a gathering point for parades, and a dinner for the poor on William IV's coronation. It closed as a pub in 1953
Q7 - Opposite is a Parish Council notice board. Who is it commemorated to?



Horns Inn dating back several centuries. The churchwardens and overseers would sometimes adjourn their vestry meetings here and there's a possible mention of two ratepayers here in 1735. The inn was a major centre for meetings, auctions and social activities in the 19th century - including a dinner to celebrate the young Queen Victoria's coronation.
Q3 - ????????????.



St Lawrence Church & churchyard.
Before entering the churchyard, admire the handmade iron railings which surround it.
There must be burials here dating back to Anglo-Saxon times; however the oldest recorded burial is that of "Tho Lees of this towne" who died in 1721.
A plan and a list of burials and epitaphs can be found online at http://www.gnosallhistory.co.uk/church_records.htm
The magnificent church was originally a Saxon minster church with four prebends, each financed by a local "prebendal manor". The old church was overbuilt by the Normans and extended in the 13th century. In the 15th century the tower was heightened. The church is well worth a visit with its splendid Norman and Saxon decorated crossing arches and ancient oak chest and is usually open 11am-3pm on Tuesdays and 11am-1pm on Thursdays, as well as for services and festivals. A booklet giving a guided tour is available inside the church.
Q8 - There are two headstones to "Ezekiel Butler" (father and son) in the Churchyard clearly seen from, and right by one of the paths. What years were they buried?



The imposing **White House** at the corner of the High Street has a date on its side, but this is misleading and refers to a renovation. In 1837 it was the residence of Thomas Addison, Esq., and later of doctor and surgeon George Augustus Baddeley. It was also the doctor's surgery in the 20th century - the doctor was a bit deaf, and so those in the waiting room could hear quite clearly what was wrong with the current patient!
Q4 - What is the date above the front door?



Continue left. St Lawrence's Day Nursery buildings were previously the Parochial School built in 1875. But before that, the village **Poor House** stood on the site, the building having been bought for the purpose in 1783. It finally closed in 1855 after a new Workhouse had been built in Newport.
Q9 - What is the name of house just out of sight on the left of this photograph?

From Stafford



11-13 High Street on the west side are said to date back to the late medieval period or around 1500 from their internal construction and the smoke blackening under the roof.
Q5 - What is the building attached used for?

From Newport



The **Co-op** Another one with a misleading date on it, this building has been a food shop - usually bread or groceries, once a butcher's - since the 1770s. It was extended in the later 20th century.
Q11 - What is the date high up on the wall.



26-28 High Street to the left of the Co-op. These houses are also Grade II listed and date to the 17th century. Gnosall Free School, with a few paying boarders, was housed here until the 1820s when the pupils were removed elsewhere and the houses let.
Q10 - ??????????????????