



SHAVINGTON
CUM
GRESTY

FREE
TRAIL
FOR ALL
AGES

Shavington-cum-Gresty



Heritage Trail

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Can you solve
the mystery?

Explore the Parish,
discover fascinating stories
from Shavington-cum-Gresty's
past and uncover the identity
of the Heritage Champion.

Welcome to the Shavington-cum-Gresty Heritage Trail

Shavington-cum-Gresty's history stretches back almost 1,000 years. In the Domesday Book of 1086, Shavington was recorded as Santune, the earliest known written record of the settlement.

As you explore the Parish, you will discover the people, places and stories that have helped shape Shavington-cum-Gresty through the centuries. Visit each stop, read the history, answer the question and eliminate one candidate from your list on page 11 of this booklet. By the end of the trail, only one name should remain...



Can you discover Shavington-cum-Gresty's Heritage Champion?

How to Complete the Trail

- Start anywhere on the map – there is no set start point.
- Visit every heritage stop.
- Read the history.
- Answer the question.
- Eliminate one candidate at each stop.
- Continue until only one candidate remains.



Stop 1

Village Hall

History Fact

This building has stood at the heart of community life for well over a century. Originally built in 1900 as a school, generations of children learned their lessons here before it entered a new chapter as the Village Hall. Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council started in 1894 led by Mr W Healing. Today it continues to bring people together through events, clubs and community activities.

Question

Look at the Village Hall sign. In what year did the building become the Village Hall?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who was the first Chair of the Parish Council.

Stop 2

Methodist Church

History Fact

For nearly 150 years, this church has been at the centre of Methodist worship in Shavington-cum-Gresty. Originally known as St John's Methodist Church, it has welcomed generations for worship, weddings, baptisms and community events. Although its name has changed over the years, it remains one of the Parish's best-known landmarks and continues to play an important role in community life.

Question

A date can be found above the entrance. What year was the church built?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate after whom this church was originally named.

Stop 3

Old School

History Fact

As Shavington-cum-Gresty grew, a larger school was needed to educate the children. The first schoolmaster was Mr Hamley and the first schoolmistress was Miss Mason, who helped shape the education of generations of local youngsters. Many well-known Shavington-cum-Gresty residents would have passed through these school gates.

Question

Before this school was built, children were taught in another building on today's trail. What is that building used for now?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who was Shavington Schools first schoolmaster.

Stop 4

Former Butcher's Shop Site

History Fact

The local butcher John Hulse, remembered for his friendly service and the famous sign in his shop window:

"Always pleased to meet you, always meat to please you."

The shop closed in 2003 and houses now stand on the site.

Question

The butcher's famous sign used two words that sound the same but have different meanings. What are they?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who worked as the local butcher.

Stop 5

Bella Terrace

History Fact

Bella Terrace was built during the late Victorian period on what had previously been farmland. The name “Bella” is thought to have been chosen simply because it means “beautiful” in Italian and sounded fashionable when the houses were built. The terrace was also home to the village grocer’s shop, where Jack Warner and later Sammy and Brenda Lea served the community for many years.

Question

The word “Bella” means “beautiful”. Which country does the word come from?
Italy / France / Spain

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who worked as the local grocer.

Stop 6

Coronation Stone

History Fact

To mark the Coronation of King Charles III in 2023, communities across the country held celebrations and commemorative events. Shavington-cum-Gresty chose to remember the occasion with this stone, creating a permanent record of an important moment in British history. Future residents will be able to look back and remember where they were when a new monarch was crowned.

Question

Look carefully at the commemorative stone. What date was the Kings’ Coronation?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate whose Coronation was celebrated in 2023.

Stop 9

Scout Hut

History Fact

Although it is now home to Shavington Scout group, this building was originally built as Christ’s Free Gospel Chapel in 1871. Over the years it has continued to serve the community, first as a place of worship and later as a place where young people learn new skills, make friends and help others.

Question

What is the name of the scouting group that meet here now? The plaque at the side of the door will help.

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who founded the Scout Movement.

Stop 10

Alma Buildings

History Fact

These houses were named after the Battle of Alma, fought during the Crimean War in 1854. The terrace was probably built in the late 1850s, making it one of the rare examples where local tradition appears to be correct – the houses really were built shortly after the event that gave them their name.

Question

How long after the Battle of Alma is this terrace thought to have been built?
Less than 10 years / Around 10 – 15 years / More than 50 years

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who became famous for nursing soldiers during the Crimean War.

Stop 7

Jubilee Stone

History Fact

This stone commemorates the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 1977. To celebrate the occasion, local resident Ken Jones invited village organisations to meet and plan a special celebration. Although only a few people attended, their enthusiasm led to the first Shavington Village Festival, giving local groups the opportunity to raise money and bring the community together. The Festival was such a success that it became an annual event, and it continues to be a much-loved tradition in the village today.

Question

Who does the plaque say planted the roses?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who first brought local organisations together to plan the celebrations that became the Shavington Festival.

Stop 8

Newsagents

History Fact

Although it is now a private house, this building was once one of Shavington-cum-Gresty’s best-known shops. Robert Henry Kendrick opened the newsagents in 1945. In 1964, Frank Ward and his wife Doris (née Kendrick) took over the business, which officially became Ward’s Newsagents in 1981. Their daughter, Elizabeth Davies (née Ward), later ran the shop with her husband Alan for 22 years, before it finally closed in 2003. For generations, the community called here to buy newspapers, magazines, sweets, clothing, school uniform and everyday essentials, making it a much-loved part of Parish life.

Question

Look carefully at the front of the building. How many upstairs windows face onto the road?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who worked as the local newsagent.

Stop 11

Marina Terrace

History Fact

Marina Terrace was named to celebrate the marriage of HRH Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark to HRH The Duke of Kent in 1934. Naming new streets and terraces after important royal events was common during the early twentieth century, and this terrace is a lasting reminder of that tradition in Shavington-cum-Gresty.

Question

Look carefully at Marina Terrace. How many chimney stacks can you count?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate whose marriage inspired the name of this terrace.

Stop 12

Former ABP Garage / Chester Zoo Connection

History Fact

This building was once owned by Alfred Baldwin Parton (A.B.P.), whose initials gave the shop its well-known name. It is also closely linked with George Mottershead, who began his journey to creating Chester Zoo here in Shavington before going on to establish one of the world’s most famous zoos. Today the building has a very different purpose, but its place in local history remains.

Question

Look carefully at the front of the building. How many circular windows can you spot?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who went on to create Chester Zoo.

Stop 13

Goodalls Corner Post Box

History Fact

Although the name is not shown on any sign today, local people have long known this junction as Goodalls Corner. The name comes from the Goodall family, who lived and worked in this area during the nineteenth century. Census records from 1851 show several Goodall households living close together nearby, making them one of Shavington's-cum-Gresty's well-known local families.

Question

Look carefully at the post box. Find the royal initials cast into the front. Which monarch do these initials represent?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate whose family gave this junction its name.

Stop 15

Roundabouts Nursery

History Fact

This site is now home to Roundabouts Nursery, but it once played a very different role in community life. Before Shavington Surgery moved to Rope Green, local residents came here to see Dr Trowler, who cared for generations of families in the Parish. It is a good example of how buildings can change purpose while continuing to serve the community.

Question

Look at the nursery sign. How many children are shown around the circle in the logo?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who worked as the local doctor.

Stop 14

Alfred Potts Way

History Fact

Alfred Potts attended Shavington School before serving with the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War. He was killed in action in France on 29 May 1918, aged just 23. Today, Alfred Potts Way ensures that his sacrifice continues to be remembered by future generations. His story is one of many that remind us of the impact the war had on families in Shavington-cum-Gresty.

Question

Look carefully at the street sign. What type of road was chosen to commemorate Alfred Potts?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who gave his life during the First World War.

Stop 16

TOC H / Providence Chapel

History Fact

This building has served the Parish in many different ways over the years. It was originally built as the Providence Chapel, before later becoming TOC H and then a boys' club run by Geoff Cockshott. Today it continues to be part of life, as the Methodist Church Manse, showing how buildings can adapt to meet the needs of each generation.

Question

Look carefully at the stone set into the brickwork. What year is carved into it?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who ran the local boys club.

Stop 17

Wesley Terrace

History Fact

Wesley Terrace is thought to have been named after John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, reflecting the strong Methodist heritage of the Parish. Although the exact reason for the name has been lost over time, it stands alongside the nearby Methodist Church as a reminder of the influence Methodism had on Shavington-cum-Gresty's history.

Question

Look carefully at Wesley Terrace. How many houses make up the terrace?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who founded the Methodist movement.

Stop 19

Sugar Loaf Corner

History Fact

This junction became known locally as Sugar Loaf Corner after two sisters who lived in a nearby cottage sold half-penny sugar loaf cake to local children. The cake became so well known that people began referring to the junction as Sugar Loaf Corner, a name that has remained part of Shavington-cum-Gresty's history for generations.

Question

Look carefully at the cottage where the sisters lived. What is the house number?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who became famous for selling Sugar Loaf cake from their cottage.

Stop 18

St Mark's Church

History Fact

St Mark's Church was built to serve the growing community. The first wooden church, opened in 1886, was sadly destroyed by fire. The present church was intended to be a temporary building, but it has now served the people of the Parish for over fifty years and remains an important part of community life.

Question

How many pointed Gothic-style windows can you spot around the church?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate after whom the church is named.

Stop 20

Milestone

History Fact

Before modern road signs and satellite navigation, milestones helped travellers find their way and judge how far they still had to travel. This milestone records the distances to nearby towns and reminds us of a time when journeys were made by horse, carriage or on foot. Local tradition also tells that the famous actress Lillie Langtry travelled through the Parish to Shavington Hall, where she was said to have met the future King Edward VII. Lillie Barns, next to the hall, are said to be named after her.

Question

The milestone shows the distance to three places. Which destination is farthest away?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who was an actress and was said to have travelled through Shavington-cum-Gresty to visit the future King.

Stop 21

Swill Brook

History Fact

Brook Avenue takes its name from the nearby watercourse known as Swill Brook, a name thought to come from the old word swell, meaning to overflow. The brook is also known locally as Galley's Brook, a name believed to come from the Galley family, who lived in this part of Shavington-cum-Gresty during the nineteenth century.

Question

Look at the road sign. What type of road is Brook ...?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate whose family lived close to this brook during the nineteenth century.

Stop 22

Shavington Social Club

History Fact

This site was originally home to a corn mill, reflecting Shavington-cum-Gresty's agricultural past. In 1921 it became Shavington Social Club, giving local people somewhere to meet, celebrate and enjoy community life. The land on which it stands is thought to have formed part of the Woodnoth family's manorial estate, as they owned much of the surrounding land for many generations. The Woodnoth name can still be found around the Parish today, including Woodnoth Avenue and the Woodnoth cum Shavington Women's Institute. Look carefully behind the Social Club and you can still see part of the original mill building.

Question

What colour are the bricks of the original mill that you can still see at the side of the Social Club?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate whose family were Lords of the Manor of Shavington.

Stop 25

Osborne Grove

History Fact

Osborne Grove was once known locally as Bag Street because it was a dead-end road, or "bag end", where the road simply stopped. As the Parish grew and the road was extended, it was renamed Osborne Grove. Although nobody knows for certain where the new name came from, some historians believe it may refer to Osborne House, Queen Victoria's residence on the Isle of Wight, while others suggest it could commemorate Lieutenant Colonel Osborne, a Victorian military officer.

Question

What was the original name of Osborne Grove?

Bag Street / Mill Bank / Queen Street

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who is thought to have inspired the name of Osborne Grove.

Stop 26

The Vine

History Fact

The Vine has been at the heart of Parish life for generations. First licensed in the early 1900s, it began as a small beerhouse before becoming a well known local pub. One of its best known landlords was Ernie Tagg, also manager of Crewe Alexandra Football Club.

Question

Look carefully at the pub sign. What climbing plant is shown growing around the words The Vine?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who was both a publican and football manager.

Stop 23

Dodds Bank

History Fact

This area was originally known as Mill Bank, linking it to Shavington cum-Gresty's farming and milling past. It later became known as Dodds Bank after Alfred Dodd, a well-known poultry breeder who lived nearby. He became famous for breeding Black Minorca hens, showing how even a small Parish could have links to wider agricultural fame.

Question

Alfred Dodd became famous for breeding a particular type of poultry. Was this:

Ducks / Hens / Geese

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who became famous for breeding Black Minorca hens.

Stop 24

Shavington Primary School

History Fact

The current Shavington Primary School first opened as a new Infant School in April 1972. The first Headteacher was Mrs Yvonne Williams, and its pioneering approach to open-plan learning made it one of only two schools of its kind in Cheshire attracting visitors from across the county. As the Parish grew, the Infant and Junior Schools were brought together in 1986/87, creating the Shavington Primary School we know today, with Mr Tom Weston becoming the first Headteacher of the newly unified school. Many of the staff from both schools continued to teach together, helping to create the thriving community school that remains at the heart of Shavington-cum-Gresty today.

Question

Look carefully at the school crest. It comes from the Woodnoth coat of arms, a reminder of the family who were Lords of the Manor of Shavington for centuries. Which animal is shown standing at the top of the shield?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who became the first Headteacher of the unified Shavington Primary School.

Stop 27

Shavington Villa

History Fact

Hugh Mills Bunbury lived at Shavington Villa. In 1825 his daughter Lydia married the famous French poet Alfred de Vigny, who stayed here and signed one of his works "written at Shavington", giving it an unexpected place in European literary history.

Question

What nationality was the famous poet who stayed at Shavington Villa?

French / Italian / German

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who stayed at Shavington Villa and was a French poet.

Stop 28

Queen Street

History Fact

Queen Street is one of the oldest roads in Shavington-cum-Gresty. Although no records survive to confirm exactly which queen it was named after, it is widely believed to honour Queen Victoria, as many roads created during the nineteenth century were given royal names..

Question

Can you name another road in Shavington-cum-Gresty that has "Street" in its name?

Elimination Clue

Cross off the candidate who is believed to have inspired the name of Queen Street.

Congratulations!

If only one candidate remains, you have solved the mystery! Scan the QR code on the next page or visit the Heritage Trail webpage to check your answers and enter the prize draw.

Have you solved the mystery?

Once you have identified Shavington-cum-Gresty's Heritage Champion, visit our Heritage Trail webpage to:

- ✓ Check your answers
- ✓ Discover extra heritage facts and photographs
- ✓ Enter the prize draw

Choose the easiest way for you:



Scan the QR Code
Or visit
www.shavingtononline.co.uk/heritagetrail

Both will take you to the same Heritage Trail webpage.



Everyone who submits the correct answer will be entered into a prize draw to win **one of five £10 Amazon Gift Vouchers.**

Closing Date: 31st August

Prize Draw

Thank you for taking part in the Shavington-cum-Gresty Heritage Trail!

Investigation Sheet

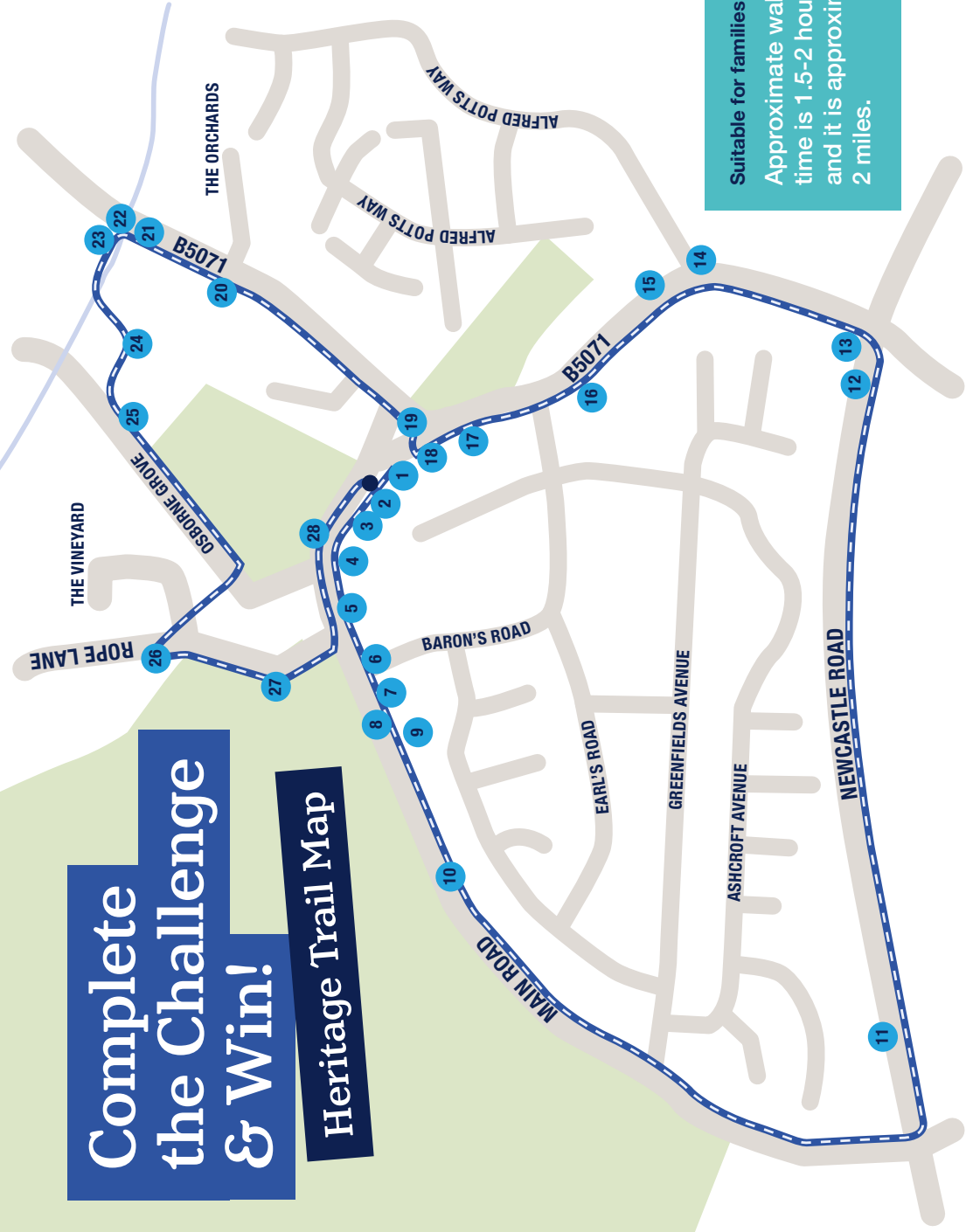
Who is Shavington-cum-Gresty's Heritage Champion?

Cross off one candidate after each stop.
When only one candidate remains, you have solved the mystery!

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Sugar Loaf Sisters | ☐ Thomas Goodall |
| ☐ Tom Weston | ☐ Lieutenant Colonel Osborne |
| ☐ Ken Jones | ☐ Lord Robert Baden Powell |
| ☐ Ernie Tagg | ☐ Lillie Langtry |
| ☐ Queen Victoria | ☐ Joseph Galley |
| ☐ Mr W Healing | ☐ Saint Mark |
| ☐ Jack Warner | ☐ Mr Hamley |
| ☐ Saint John | ☐ Florence Nightingale |
| ☐ John Hulse | ☐ King Charles III |
| ☐ Jessie Kendrick | ☐ George Mottershead |
| ☐ Alfred Potts | ☐ Alfred Dodd |
| ☐ Alfred de Vigny | ☐ Princess Marina |
| ☐ John Wesley | ☐ Lawrence Woodnoth |
| ☐ Richard Pryce Hughes | ☐ Geoff Cockshott |
| ☐ Dr Trowler | |

Complete the Challenge & Win!

Heritage Trail Map



Suitable for families.

Approximate walking
time is 1.5-2 hours,
and it is approximately
2 miles.