



Town and country walk

Greta Pennington of Mortimer Ramblers leads us through kissing gates, romantic countryside and the lovely little town of Kington

Kington, the smallest of the Herefordshire market towns was mentioned in the Domesday Book. It lies on the English/Welsh border and appears very much as a hill town, with Bradnor Hill to the north, Hergest Ridge to the west and the countryside rolling out to the Golden Valley in the south.

It is also almost surrounded by water with the River Arrow to the south and the Bach Brook on the north and east.

The original town grew up around Castle Hill but by medieval times the grid pattern

of the settlement at the bottom of the hill was well established. Many of the houses date back 300 years although sometimes this is not obvious from the facades, many of which were added at later times. As a border town it witnessed many skirmishes between the Welsh and the English.

From Kington

1. From the car park in Mill Street walk towards the town centre, passing first the primary school, originally built as the board

school for the town, then the museum on the left and the public conveniences, before turning left at the Market Hall to start up Church Road. Having passed the bookshop, after 50 yards, turn right into the square, with the Swan Inn on the corner. At the left hand corner of the square, turn left to go up to Doctors Lane, where you turn left again to take you back to Church Road. This diversion provides you with a view of a number of interesting houses and gardens. When you reach Castle Hill, have a look at the plaque on the wall, on the right, before ►