

# BOLSOVER TOWN TRAIL



## S START AT THE CASTLE GATES

The original central axis of the town was formed by Castle Street, Middle Street and Church Street. This linear arrangement was completed at its southern end by the parish church and High Street along the limestone ridge.

### Walk along...



## CASTLE STREET TO THE MARKET PLACE

Castle Street was lined on both sides by stone buildings until the mid 20th century. Laid out in medieval times it linked the market place directly to the castle.

For centuries the old market place was the focal point of Bolsover.

It was extended north to provide a large market area in front of the 'White Swan'. The **Cenotaph** replaced the remains of the medieval town market cross in 1921.



## 1 42 - 46 MARKET PLACE

This row of magnesian limestone shops are the earliest commercial buildings remaining in the town and represent a once larger range of 17th century buildings. They contain elements of cruck trusses in the roof and were refaced in stone in the 18th century. This later phase of rebuilding typifies how the town developed. It would have had largely timber framed houses in the medieval period.

Before leaving the Market Place notice the Italian restaurant which has a large stone mullioned staircase window at the back, typical of the 18th century Derbyshire stone houses.



The Archway

**Facing the restaurant turn left alongside the Middle Street car park.** This street was lined with houses until the 1960s when most were demolished. The car park boundary wall follows the former line of buildings.

**Go through the archway.** This was formerly an arched gateway to a group of now demolished Market Place shops and re-erected here in the 1970s.

**Go down the steps towards the post office.** Two doors to its left stands the building housing...



## 2 OLD BOLSOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Built in 1865 as a Primitive Methodist Chapel it later served as a Salvation Army Citadel, Urban District Council Offices, public library and today as Town Council

Offices. For over one hundred years this building has played a full and varied role in the civic and religious life of the town.

### Walk towards



## BOLSOVER LIBRARY

Built in 1976, of local magnesian limestone with a steeply pitched pantile roof it was designed to reflect the character of traditional buildings in the town.

### Look right towards...



## 3 15 - 19 COTTON STREET

The origin of these cottages is late 17th century although probably remodelled with sash windows in 1762. A date stone can be seen above the doors. These properties are

typical of pre industrial Bolsover when the town was a warren of such buildings. **The walk continues along Church Street.**

**Church Farm House**, just before the car park entrance, originally had farm buildings to the rear and dates from the mid 18th century.

**Go through the gates at the end and enter the graveyard to the Parish Church of St Mary and St Laurence.** This has a 13th century tower supporting a rather broad shouldered broach spire. The church was gutted by fire in 1897 and again damaged by fire in 1960. Excavations underneath the tower have revealed a large 13th century bell pit used for casting the medieval church bell in-situ.



Bolsover Parish Church

**If you wish to view the church and it is closed please enquire at the vicarage on Church Street.**

Inside the church the **Cavendish Chapel**, added to the east end of the south aisle in 1624, houses two sumptuous monuments. One to Sir Charles Cavendish and his wife, the other, dating from 1727 commemorates Henry Cavendish, second Duke of Newcastle, his wife and daughter. Charles, the younger son of Bess of Hardwick began building the Keep or 'little castle' in 1612. Just outside the chapel and still inside the church, is a memorial to mason architect Huntington Smythson and his father John. Huntington was the grandson of Robert Smythson, Elizabethan architect, who designed the houses at Wollaton, Barlborough, Hardwick and Welbeck.

The **east window** at the head of the chancel contains fine Victorian stained glass and commemorates Lady Augusta Cavendish-Bentinck, Baroness Bolsover.

**Leave the church, turn right** and in the graveyard, against the chancel wall, examine the individual **grave of Thomas Hinde**, clockmaker and humourist.

**Complete a circuit of the church and leave by the lych gate on High Street. Turn right towards the castle and cross the road.**



**Between the undertakers and 51 High Street is Surprise View.** Take this 'ginnel' to see the breathtaking view over the Vale of Scarsdale.

An interpretation panel picks out for you New Bolsover model village, Hardwick Hall and Sutton Scarsdale Hall.

**Retrace your steps to High Street, continuing towards the castle for...**

## 4 'THE PANTILES' NO. 39 HIGH STREET

Fifty yards on your left and covered in Virginia Creeper 'The Pantiles' is a Georgian house with mid 20th century alterations and built in local magnesian limestone. This house is typical of the fine Georgian and early Victorian properties which graced High Street until the mid 20th century. A further fifty yards further on and to your right is...



## 5 'THE OLD MEETING HOUSE'

This former Presbyterian Church dates from 1662 and constructed in handmade bricks. It is one of the oldest non conformist chapel buildings in Derbyshire.

**Continue towards the castle** and at High Street's junction with Castle Lane and Castle Street stands...



## 6 ST MARY'S HOUSE

A pretty 'Gothic' house with projecting bays it sits at the entrance to the carriage drive to the castle which passes below the Terrace range. Built as the residence of the

school master it was later used by the curates to the Parish Church.

**Take a detour down Castle Lane on your left.** As the road swings sharp right, stroll left onto the landscaped area known as the Backhills. Just above the pathway is one of four **Conduit Houses.**

These are spaced out along the ridge and were built on the line of the castle water supply and were connected in 1626. Perhaps their 'watchtower' design is to give a defensive appearance to the setting of the castle.

**Return to Castle Street and the castle entrance.** Turn left alongside the boundary wall, through the black bollards, towards the main road. **Before crossing look ahead to the building...**



## 7 1A STATION ROAD

A good example of early cottage/workshop premises in locally quarried magnesian limestone with pantiled roof.

Former uses include a tailor's premises, printing workshop and today it serves as a joinery business.

**Cross the A632 and at the side of this property pass through a further 'brek'.** As you emerge onto Hill Top (take care on the road at this point) notice the fine **Methodist Church** opened in 1897.

**Turn right for a small detour to view...**



## 8 BOLSOVER ASSEMBLY HALL

Built in 1866 as a Methodist Chapel and the predecessor of the 1897 chapel it is a handsome example of its kind. Today, sympathetically restored and extended it acts as the

main community centre for the town.

**Bolsover Assembly Hall** acts as the main community centre for the town.

**Turn right back into the Market Place. Situated on the left by the pedestrian crossing is.....**



## 9 THE CAVENDISH HOTEL

This mock Tudor building is a fine example of a late 19th century public house. Sited in the heart of the Market Place it was built to serve a growing mining town. **Cross the road**

**and go in the direction of the castle** and the start of your Bolsover tour.

**This is the end of the trail. We hope you have enjoyed it.**

## THE BOLSOVER CIVIC SOCIETY

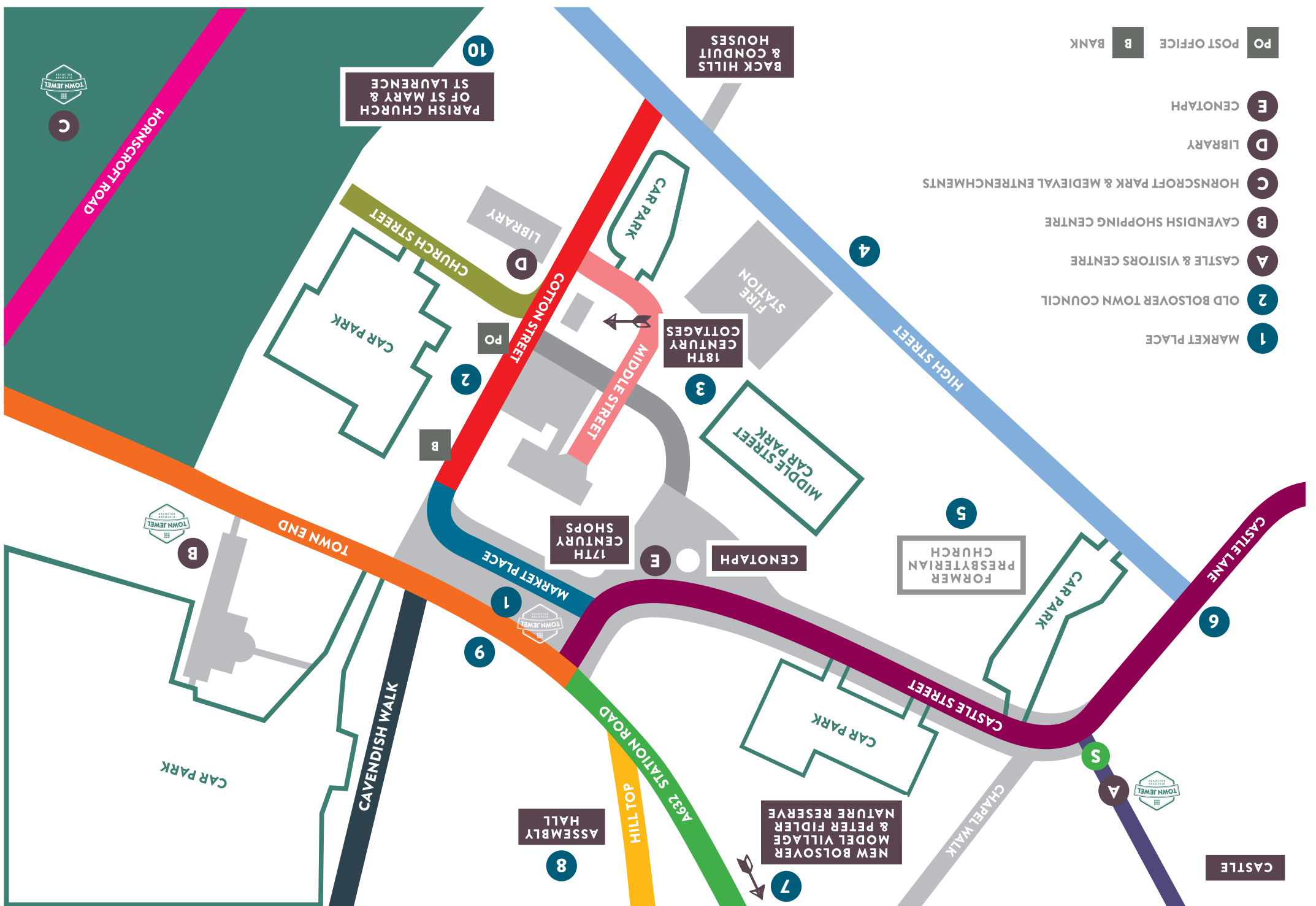
The Bolsover Civic Society was established in 1979. It aims to stimulate public interest in the town, encourage high standards of planning and architecture and secure the preservation, protection and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Bolsover. In addition, it records the historical life of Bolsover.

An annual programme of lectures and visits is arranged. Guided tours of the town centre and of New Bolsover colliery model village may be organised for visiting groups. Membership is open to all. Further details from the Secretary: Bernard Haigh, 21 Castle Lane, Bolsover, Derbyshire S44 6PS. Tel: 01246 822793.



www.bolsovercivicsociety.org.uk





## BOLSOVER SHOPS

### CAFES, RESTAURANTS AND PUBS

- The Black Bull, Hill Top
- Beans Coffee Shop, Station Road
- The Little Cafe, Town End
- Courtyard Cafe, Cavendish Walk
- Pillar of Rock, Castle St
- Castle Way Cafe, Castle St
- The Cavendish Hotel, Market Place
- Anchor Inn, Market Place
- Bella Blu, Market Place
- English Heritage Cafe, Bolsover Castle

### TAKEAWAYS AND BAKERIES

- Bolsover Fisheries, Town End
- Jade Palace, Cotton St
- Castle Oven, Cotton St
- Oven Door, Market Place
- Julie's Sandwich Shop, Market Place

### SHOPS

- Bolsover Fruit and Veg, Town End
- Happy Thoughts Cards and Gifts, Town End
- The Cooperative, Town End
- Cornerstone Jewellers, Cotton St
- Bargain Box, Town End
- Purr Fect Pets, Cavendish Walk
- Wild Rose Flowers, Cavendish Walk
- George's Fashions and Footwear, Market Place
- Robert Bowring Butchers, Market Place
- Elliott Meats, Market Place
- Scarcliffe Nurseries Fruit, Veg and Flowers, Market Place

### BANKS

- Lloyds TSB, Cotton St

## SPECIALIST SHOPS AND SERVICES

- Castle Cycles, Cavendish Walk
- Veritek Global, Market Place
- Wheelbase Models, Market Place
- Bolsover Antiques Centre, Castle St

### HAIR & BEAUTY

- Ultima Hair & Beauty, Cavendish Walk
- Castle Barbers, Market Place
- Beauty Within, Market Place
- Elsee Fitness, Market Place
- The Hair & Beauty Studio, Market Place
- Hair Team, Middle St
- Dollies Hair Salon, Castle St

### CHURCHES AND OTHER COMMUNITY VENUES

- Bolsover Assembly Rooms, Hill Top
- Church of St Mary and St Laurence, High St
- Old Bolsover Town Council offices, Cotton St
- Bolsover Library, Church St
- Parish Rooms, Hornscroft Road

This is a small selection of what is available in Bolsover. Head into the town to find out more.

**KEEP IN TOUCH**  
[DISCOVERBOLSOVER.CO.UK](http://DISCOVERBOLSOVER.CO.UK)  
 @ALLOVERBOLSOVER

SUPPORTED BY

