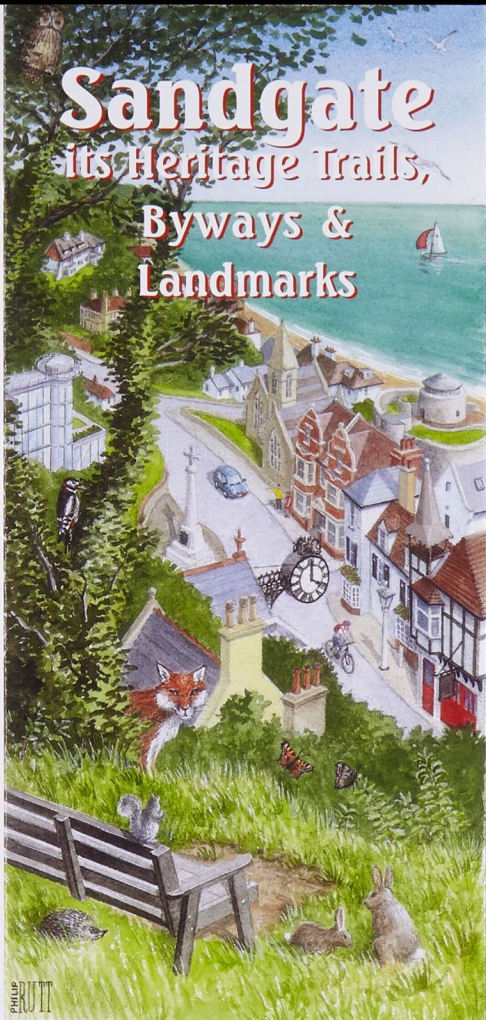


Sandgate

its Heritage Trails,

Byways &

Landmarks



7 Napoleonic Defences

Poised to repel a possible invasion, six Martello Towers stand guard above Sandgate. Footpaths skirting Shorncliffe Camp (est.1794) pass nos 6–9. Moving west along Sandgate Esplanade (A259), read the memorial to General Sir John Moore (d.1809), pioneer of Light Infantry training, then pass the massive Battery walls and view the strategic start of the 27-mile Royal Military Canal and Redoubt remains on the Seabrook border. All are Scheduled Ancient Monuments.



8 Sir John Moore Statue

Erected in 1909, this marks the centenary of the hero's valiant stand and death in the Peninsula Wars at Corunna. From 1803–



1805 General Moore was in command of the South East Region, based at Shorncliffe Camp, and a pioneer of Light Infantry training, notably the 43rd, 52nd and 95th Regiments. The memorial is near the old Coastguard Terrace. Close by are two wall mounted 'Windows into the Past' boards that pay tribute to his fame, his 'sentiments of honour as exalted as his practice' and devotion from all who served under him.

9 Coastguard Terrace 1896

In the lawless days of smuggling and privateering, the bay was a hotbed of daring gangs of smugglers, out to defy the Excise. Here, the Board of Customs erected a permanent Coastguard Station in 1864, the aim being to protect the Revenue, save life, salvage wrecks and patrol the shore.

Badly damaged in the 1893 landslip, the station was rebuilt in 1896 with a Chief Officer's house and 16 cottages for the men. Over the years the complement was reduced, the last five leaving in 1961. The row is now in private hands.



Walks and Wildlife

From pebble shore to wooded escarpment, Sandgate is rich in marine, botanical and wildlife interest. Recent beach replenishment not only protects the coastline but has also encouraged many plants to get a hold above the normal high tide mark once the winter storms are over. Sea Knotgrass, Sea Kale, Seastock, and Sea Lavender may then return. The Yellow-horned Poppy, a Dungeness native, is well established in some areas.



Yellow horned Poppy

SEASHORE: Birdlife flourishes and seagulls, of course are commonplace – Herring Gulls and Black-headed Gulls among them. Walking along the Esplanade you may catch sight of Cormorants and Guillemots and even Oystercatchers where patches of sand become exposed. Wagtails scratch hopefully for crumbs.

WOODLAND: Minutes from the main road, a haven of wildlife awaits you. Signposted footpaths weave their way up through Encombe Woods west to Brewer's Hill, or to the escarpment. Stunning views appear as you head east, past the 'Nick's View' bench and Martello Tower No. 6, down to Military Road before crossing into Enbrook Park behind the ragstone wall.

Owls, Woodpeckers, Jays and Tits are at home here, Kestrels hover in search of prey, and Foxes are a familiar sight. Throughout your walk, you may spot Celandine, Violets, Foxgloves, Red Campion, Wild Iris, Cuckoo-Pint and Harts Tongue Fern amid the usual ground cover.



Harts Tongue Fern

Wildlife and Workplace

Enbrook Park itself, owned by SAGA Group Ltd, is an ornament and amenity to Sandgate. It covers 11 hectares and borders on Enbrook and Military Roads, the High Street and the Church of St Paul's (4). Surrounding the ultra-modern office complex (2) a network of footpaths winds through woodland, informal parkland and cultivated



Enbrook stream

areas, generously made open for public enjoyment. Wildlife is protected and interpretive panels will help to guide you. Within the park, first planted by John 4th Earl of Darnley in 1806,

you will find a carefully tended mix of trees and shrubs that have adapted to the salt winds. They include Irish Yew and Common Yew, London Plane, Mature Beech, Oak, Sweet Chestnut and Horse Chestnut; also an abundance of Holly, Rowan, Elm, Ash and Willow. Some quite large Bay Trees and fine specimens of Holme Oak are, perhaps, a legacy of the Park's early glory. Sycamores thrive happily but need firm control.

In Spring, banks alongside the Enbrook stream are bright with drifts of Snowdrops, Daffodils and Wood Anemone. Fronting the Leisure Pavilion, formal lawns and terraces descend to the High Street. Spiky Yuccas, Acanthus, Red-hot Pokers and other brightly coloured plants lend a Mediterranean feel. Slow-worms are plentiful and lizards and Grass Snakes have been seen.



Gardens fronting the Leisure Pavilion

Sandgate Yesterday and Today

Sandgate spans 2 ½ kms of Kent coastline between Folkestone and Hythe.

CHARACTER: Here you will find an area teeming with naval, military and social history and a village with a fascinating mix of architectural styles. Sandgate Castle (1539) pre-dates the village, which grew around 1773 with the arrival of the shipbuilders. Dwellings and inns were needed for the men, who built frigates and sloops on beachy ground for George III's navy.

DEFENCES: Strategically, Sandgate is ringed with fortifications to repel a Napoleonic invasion; 5 Martello Towers on the heights, Sandgate Castle on the seafront, the Battery walls along the Esplanade and the start of the 27-mile long Royal Military Canal on the Seabrook border. The establishment of Shorncliffe Camp, 1794, (now a Gurkha base) brought life and trade to the village.

RESORT AREA: In the early 19th century, with the vaunted benefits of sea bathing, mild air and pure water, Sandgate flowered as a serene, select resort. Notable visitors included Sarah Siddons, William Wilberforce and members of the Burney family. It was home to H.G. Wells for 12 years and, later, Jocelyn Brooke among other writers.

CONSERVATION: In 1851, the Sandgate Local Board of Health, set up to improve and regulate a burgeoning village, was held as a model of its kind. Despite a later merger with Folkestone and then Shepway District Council, Sandgate proudly guards its identity and sense of history, due mainly to The Sandgate Society (formed 1962) and the two large Conservation Areas, designated in 1972. In the shape of SAGA Group's ultra modern H.Q. in Enbrook Park, Sandgate looks to the future. The Sandgate Parish council was re-established in 2007 and in 2013 produced the only Village Design Statement in Shepway. This supplementary planning document will ensure Sandgate's heritage is preserved and enhanced.

LEISURE: Enjoy a stroll along the sea wall, or explore the network of byways and woodland paths with panoramic views across the Channel. Rowing, fishing, bathing and cycling are also popular. Sandgate also welcomes you to rest and savour its pubs, cafés, fish and chip or gourmet restaurants and the Tower Theatre. Sandgate's charm is much as Cobbett saw it on his Rural Ride Through Kent in 1823 – 'A beautiful little place upon the beach itself'.

6a Former Volunteer Fire Station and Reading Room 1884

Bright red double doors and a fish-scale bell-cote proclaim the days when fire control depended on local support. Today the Sandgate Heritage Trust owns and maintains the building and The Sandgate Society rents the street-level Engine Room as its HQ, and guards the fire bell. Above, a beautiful pine-panelled Reading Room with Oriel window overlooks the High Street. This served as the Council Chamber for the Sandgate Urban District Council until its merger, in 1934, with Folkestone Borough Council. This room, a Public Library until 1982, is designated of County-wide importance.



THE SANDGATE SOCIETY was founded in 1962 to preserve, maintain and enhance the character and amenity of the area. It offers an Information Centre, a well stocked archive and a focus on village life.

A WELCOME AWAITS YOU on a Saturday morning from 10.30am. Meet local people, enjoy a coffee, browse among the pictorial displays and memorabilia and discover Sandgate's fascinating past. In 2012 the Society celebrated its 50th year.

Sandgate invites tourists, walkers and cyclists to explore this lovely Kent village and its environs

Sponsored by

SAGA, SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL, THE SANDGATE SOCIETY,
SANDGATE COMMUNITY TRUST

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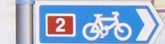


The Sandgate Society, 51 High Street, Sandgate, Kent CT20 3AH
(Reg. Charity 280497)

Welcome to Sandgate

Walks with views: The panorama of the Channel and the curving bay to Dungeness greet your descent from The Leas in Folkestone down to Radnor Cliff Crescent. Conifers give shade and the banks are bushy with Gorse, Broom, Honeysuckle, Mallow and Viburnum. Before Spade House take Vicarage Road down to the village or return to the escarpment path (follow blue dots). As you pass through the village, find several 'Windows into the Past' boards that enable you to get a glimpse of Sandgate life in years gone by.

Blue plaques, made by a local potter, remember scientists, authors, artists, actors and others whose life and work will always be remembered. Sandgate Esplanade offers a gentle stroll west to Seabrook and Hythe. Branching off behind the petrol station, join the scenic walk along Princes Parade or choose the grassy banks of the Royal Military Canal (Scheduled Ancient Monument) where history and wildlife mingle. Interpretative panels are in place.



Sandgate by Bike: Route 2 of the National Cycle Network runs along the South Coast of England through Sandgate village. It enters Kent at Romney Marsh and passes through Hythe and Folkestone finishing at Dover. From there, Route 1 heads on to Canterbury and via the North Kent coast to Greenwich.

For further information on the National Cycle Network go to www.sustrans.org.uk

Oystercatcher

In the summer, you may spot these birds probing with their bright orange bills for food, where patches of sand appear along the shoreline.



Black-headed gull

These birds are often seen feeding along the edge of the incoming tide. See them, too, in flight and inshore, where there are people and so food is easily found.



Sandgate Castle 1539: Built on the orders of Henry VIII at a cost of around £5,587, as part of a defensive coastal chain against a possible French or Spanish invasion.

The Napoleonic era saw its conversion to a giant Martello-style structure. Later, one of its three bastions was ravaged by the sea. Still with Tudor traces, its former owners made herculean efforts, from 1974, to restore this Scheduled Ancient Monument. Since 1999, monitored by English Heritage, it became a private residence.



1 Spade House (Radnor Cliff Crescent)

H.G. Wells reached Sandgate in 1898. After renting Beach Cottage on Granville Parade and then Arnold House, no. 20 Castle Road, he set up permanent home on one of the finest sites in Sandgate. He employed C.F.A. Voysey to design it. During his 12-year stay in the area, Wells raised a family and wrote 17 novels, papers and stories, including the little known *Sea Lady* – a fantasy that opens on Sandgate beach. Spade House is now a state-registered Nursing Home.



2 Shipbuilders' Cottages c.1773

Situated at the foot of Sandgate Hill and featured in early engravings, two pairs of cottages survive from the shipbuilding days on Sandgate beach when Fabian Clayton Wilson (and others) built seven frigates, four sloops and two fireships for George III's navy. The weatherboarding typifies many of Sandgate's



earliest dwellings. Behind lies Enbrook Park, site of SAGA Group's ultra-modern office complex for 750 staff, designed by Michael Hopkins and Partners. Here you may enjoy the wooded, landscaped grounds, a leafy stroll beside the Enbrook stream, and breathtaking views across the Channel.

3 Former Primary School (1866–1972)

Sandgate's former Church of England Primary School has been sensitively converted to residential use. Designed in neo-Gothic style by P.C. Hardwick (1822–1892) an eminent Victorian architect, it was built as a National School, at the sole expense of James Morris of Encombe, one of three serving Governors of the Bank of England. To educate 350 boys and girls, it replaced the small first National School (1845), now site of 'Beaufort Apartments' in Castle Road. Typically, quarters for a school master and schoolmistress flank the school itself. Note the symbols of the four Evangelists peering from the corners of the tower.



4 Parish Church of St Paul 1849

Designed by S.S. Teulon, eminent proponent of the Gothic Revival, to hold 890 people, this church replaced Repton's Chapel of Ease (1822) on the edge of Lord Darley's Enbrook estate. Lacking a bell tower, St Pauls seems austere, but climb the steps and, through the War Memorial Porch (C. Oldrid-Scott, 1919), pass into a sanctuary flooded with light. The gallery, held by cast iron piers, was removed in 1920. The barrel-vaulted ceiling was beautifully patterned by Charles Powell, with emblems of resurrection and eternal life. Among 20th century additions, the east and west windows and the reredos painting of the Nativity are the work of Robert Anning Bell RA (1863–1933). The church forms part of the United Benefice now with Holy Trinity and St George's, Folkestone.



5 War Memorial

Standing where Military Road joins the High Street the memorial lists Sandgate's fallen in the two World Wars. It honours L/Cpl William Cotter, awarded a posthumous VC. The ragstone wall behind bears a tablet recording that Queen Elizabeth I rested at the Castle, and that Queen



Victoria passed here on her way to inspect the troops at Shorncliffe Camp. A Millennium plaque, nearby, is dedicated to the people of Sandgate. In 1877 Colonel Wheatley gifted the drinking fountain set in the wall, and the granite cattle trough standing beside the approach to SAGA Group's Headquarters.

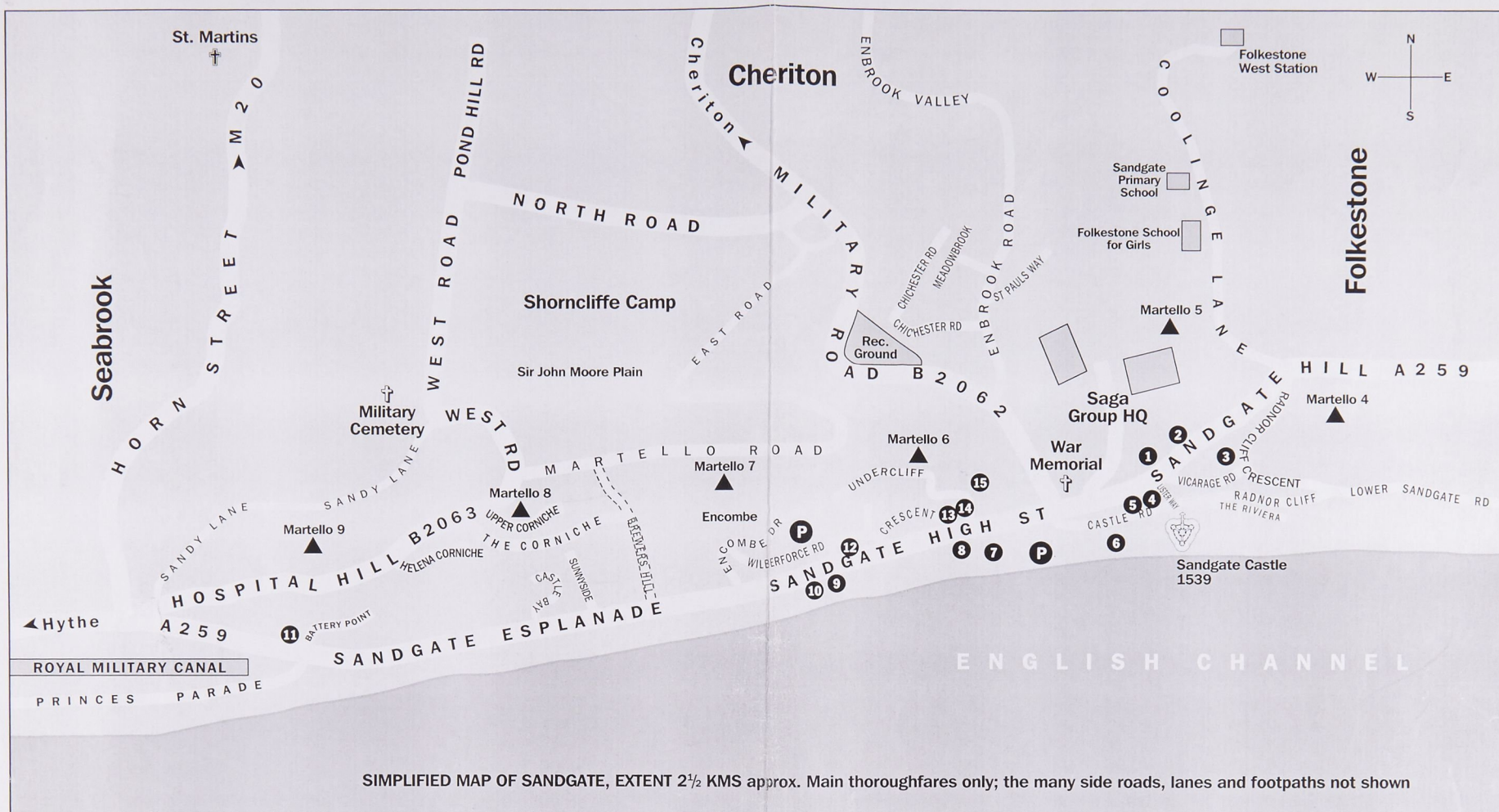
6 Jubilee Clock 1897

Fronting the Chichester Hall, it celebrates Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Initially, it adorned the Gough Coffee Tavern and Soldiers' Institute nearby, named after John Bartholomew Gough (b.1917). He was a local boy who emigrated to the USA, became a reformed alcoholic and a world famous temperance orator. The Freemasons' Hall and an antique shop now occupy the site. The clock was later moved to the Village Hall, (now the Chichester Memorial Hall) built in memory of the Countess of Chichester (of Enbrook). Here, Sir Squire Bancroft, famous actor/manager, laid the foundation stone in 1913. As you enter, a memorial plaque recounts the heroism of L/Cpl William Cotter, awarded a posthumous VC in 1916.





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|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 Church of St Paul (1850) | 6 T/S Invicta, Sea Cadets, Castle Rd | 11 Battery Point c.1800 Scheduled Ancient Monument |
| 2 Shipwrights Cottages (c.1773) | 7 Folkestone Rowing Club, Granville Parade | 12 Little Theatre (FHODS) |
| 3 Spade House, H.G. Wells (1901-1910) | 8 Old Fire Station (1884) Sandgate Soc. HQ | 13 Post Office |
| 4 Former National School (1866) | 9 Old Coastguard Station (1896) | 14 Chichester Hall (1913) |
| 5 KCC Public Library | 10 Sir John Moore Statue, Esplanade | 15 2nd Sandgate Scouts Centre, Undercliff |