

# “HOW ABOUT A DOG SHOW FOR THE MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS?”

*“There are enough dogs in the village! But who would we get to judge it? How about Dave Winder, he’s a real countryman and knows a lot about dogs?”*

That’s how the conversation began which culminated in a most successful and enjoyable Family Pet Show held at the Village Hall on Saturday 31st July 1999, one of the hottest days of the summer amidst a pack of panting dogs!

Plans were made and Dave Winder was approached, although at the time it was not appreciated just what a professional judge he is! The previous year he’d been invited to judge in the U.S.A. Dave promised not to be looking for a Crufts competitor and his approach helped make the Ibberton 200 Family Pet Show lots of fun without being too serious!



Apart from all the dogs there were rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters and ferrets. Dave took each animal out of its cage or hutch, and sat down on the grass with its young owner and asked questions about its upkeep.



In one corner of the field Nick Old had designed and built an Agility Course which was fun for dogs and owners alike! Rosettes were awarded to the winners and Pascoes and Woodrow Feeds donated quantities of dog and pet food for prizes.

On the day we had a straw bale arena, stewards to help and all the publicity and entry forms were designed by Philip Mott.





Special memories of the Day were of Bob Courage and Tyke winning the Dog or Bitch most like its Owner, Jack Yeatman's Terrier was the dog Dave would most like to take home, and The Obedience Class judged finally on 'style' - so many perfectly behaved gun dogs amongst the contenders of 'also rans' and 'also ran off'!

At the end of a memorable day every animal and owner went home hot and tired but with a rosette in the sure knowledge that their pet was special!



# VILLAGERS ASSEMBLE BY THE VILLAGE HALL FOR THE OPENING OF THE MILLENNIUM FOOTPATHS.



The Ibberton Millennium Path was the brainchild of John Kirtley, a long-time rambler and resident of Ibberton, and the Parish Council's Footpaths Officer from June 1997 until February 2000.

John's vision for the Millennium Path was that it should be level and easily accessible for the less able-bodied, that it should form an interesting route around the village using the existing rights of way, and that it should be a decent length for a good walk.

To this end he selected a network of footpaths embracing the main features of the parish and then set about improving their walkability by replacing many of the old gates and stiles with the new pedestrian gates or kissing gates, an exercise which was funded largely by voluntary donations from generous residents.

John then ensured that the Millennium Path was easy to find and follow, by fixing distinctive pink waymarks along its route, and he helped to produce a small information leaflet and map to publicise the project.

Finally on Sunday 2nd April 2000 the Ibberton Millennium Path was officially declared to be open by the former Footpath's Officer Miss Priscilla Houston, and an inaugural walk followed, ending up with tea for everyone in the Village Hall. Quiz sheets with questions pertaining to the walk were distributed and Kevin Abbott proved to be the most knowledgeable.



# MILLENNIUM FOOTPATH MAP

**Suggested Route - 2 1/4 miles**  
1 hour plus sight seeing time.

From parking place go to Old Johns Cottage, (A) and follow lane to Washing Pool. Immediately after gate fork right to (B) leading up to Chapel (C).

Turn left into Leigh Lane and left again at Leigh Cross.

Just before Marsh Farm go left through Pedestrian Gate (D) and cross two fields towards Kissing Gate (E).


Turn right before gate and aim for Hunting Gate in the corner of the Cricket Field.

Exit into Blacklands Lane via Kissing Gate (F) and turn left.

Continue up lane and go to Kissing Gate left of Shoemakers Cottage, then straight across two fields to Cross Farm (G).


Turn right and follow road as far as junction, then turn left towards Bulbarrow, at second opening on left go through Pedestrian Gate (H) across field to Church (I).

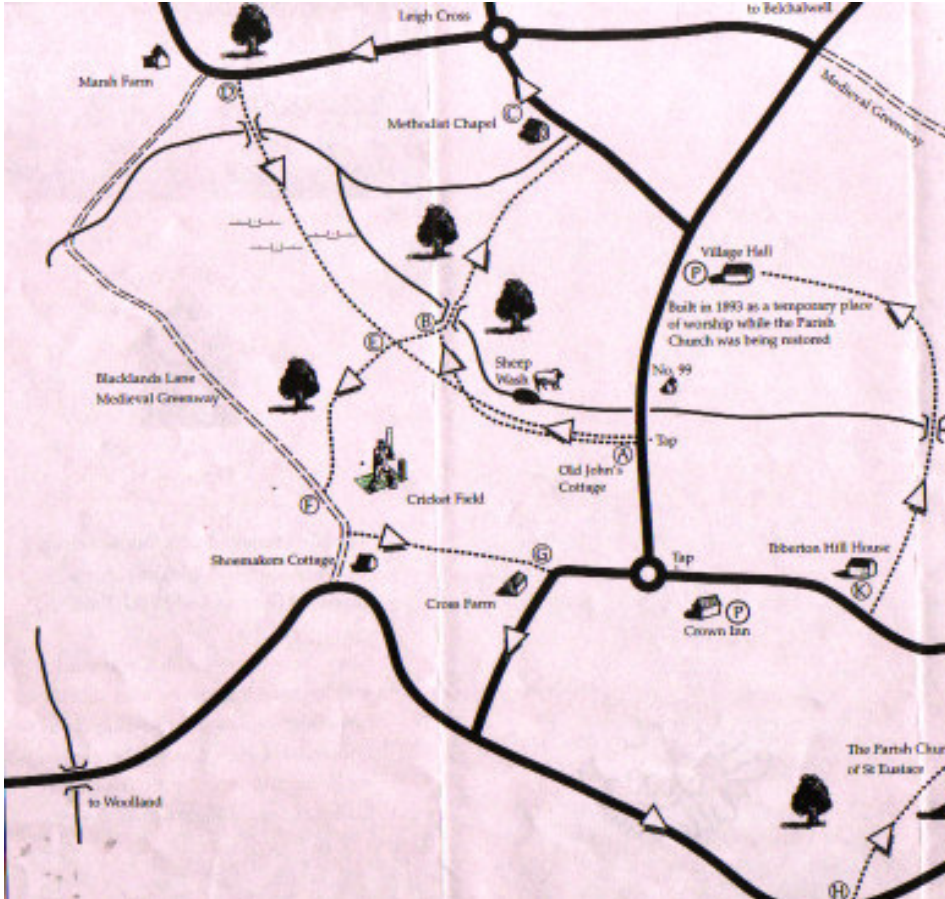
Go down hill to Ibberton Hill House (K) turn right into driveway and follow path through two fields to Village Hall.



The Millennium Paths follow existing rights of way and take in various points of interest within the Parish.

They carry a special pink waymark, and to make the route easier, all stiles have been replaced by Kissing Gates or Pedestrian Gates, donated by generous residents and installed by the Dorset County Council Rights of Way Team.





## Ibberton

**Key**

- Ibberton Millennium Paths
- Suggested route
- Marshes
- Parking

Small parties	Crown Inn
Large parties	Village Hall tel. Mrs Smith 01258 817555