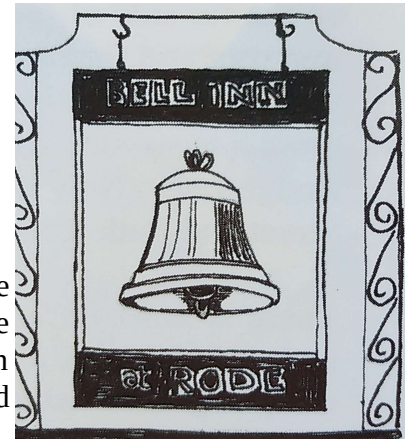


Rode Circular Walk

Approximately 5.8 kms. or 3.5 miles

This walk consists of farmland with only gentle slopes. The first part of the walk from Beckington to Rode follows the route of the Macmillan Way; a long distance path from Boston to Abbotsbury.

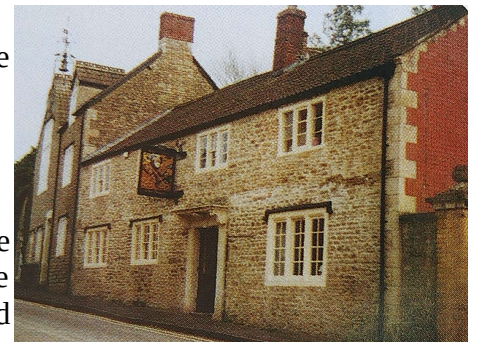
Start at the Woolpack and walk northwards along Bath Road to the village hall. Now cross the sports field to the right of the hall going towards the right hand of two stiles and then cross the next field towards the stile in the far right hand corner. The path now follows the right hand held boundary to another stile at the side of the main A36 road.



A flight of steps climbs the bank to a crash barrier at the roadside. Do not attempt to cross the road here but follow the barrier to the left. At the end of the barrier the road may be crossed when there is a safe gap in the traffic. Now follow the barrier on the other side as far as the footpath finger post and then descend the steps to the foot of the embankment again.



Climb the stile and walk along the right hand side of the field which follows the line of a gully occupied by an old trackway and at times by a stream. By a large oak tree, negotiate the stile on the right where the path crosses the stream and joins the trackway. It now follows a broad ride between the fields until it reaches a waymark at the side of Parkgate Lane. Cross the road and continue straight ahead on Crooked Lane. On reaching a T-junction on the edge of Rode, turn right and follow the road towards the centre of the village passing the school on the right. Shortly after the Cross Keys turn right into Church Lane and follow it to the A361 where you turn right to reach the Bell. At the time of writing this pub is closed.



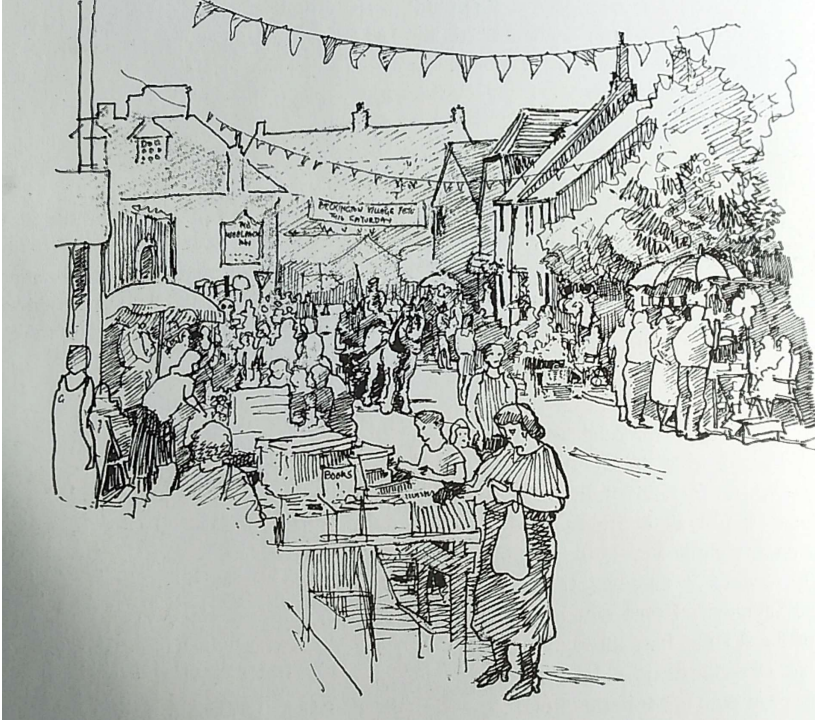
With care, cross the A361, and climb the stile on the other side of the road which leads to a grassy ride between two bungalows. At the far end of the ride cross another stile to enter fields once more. Here turn right and cross the field diagonally towards a gateway in the hedge and Seymour's Court, which can be seen on the skyline. Pass through the gateway and cross the next field towards another gateway next to Moberley Pond. Here turn half right and cross the field, heading towards the right hand corner of the farm outbuildings, Once through the gate continue straight ahead to reach a stile and a finger post on Green Park Lane.

Cross the road and climb the stile on the far side. Now walk directly ahead towards another stile on the far side of the field, and then cross the next field towards buildings, Go over the stile and walk between the holiday lets on your left and the pond on your right. At the end of the holiday lets turn left along the drive and



then over the stone slab stile on the right. Here turn left and follow the fence to a stile onto Rudge Lane. Now turn right and, passing under the bypass, return to the Woolpack via Goose Street and Bath Road.

There is however an alternative route back to the Woolpack via the parish church. After the underpass there is a finger post on the left hand side of Rudge Lane. This points to a large area of open ground between Beckington and the bypass, much used by dog walkers and crossed by a



number of unofficial paths. The public right of way however, is found by turning sharp left at the gateway and climbing the bank to the side of the bypass. Here turn right and follow the track until the path diverges to the right and crosses the open space towards the hedge corner opposite. Now follow the path, keeping the hedge on your right, to reach a finger post on the side of Warminster Road.

Turn right and follow the Warminster Road towards the centre of Beckington. However, at Michaelmas Cottage opposite Sandy Lane, turn left and follow the tarmac path through two

gates to enter St. George's churchyard. Here take one of the paths on either side of the church to arrive at the church gate opposite the school. Here turn right and descend Church Hill to arrive back at the Woolpack.

