



This trail has been compiled by The Deal Society to show a selection of plaques and memorials within a small area of central Deal. This trail can also be followed using an online map if you prefer using the link below.

There are other plaques in Deal and Walmer which form a longer walk for those who would like to make a further exploration of the heritage of the area. These are:

- Dornford Yates - novelist
- G. P. R. James - novelist and historical writer
- Harold Truscott - composer, pianist & broadcaster
- Joseph Lister - pioneer of antiseptic surgery
- Richard Aldington - writer and poet
- Robert Bridges - Poet Laureate
- Sir Vivian Dunn - Military musician
- Julius Caesar - Roman emperor
- Royal Marines - Memorials to their presence

To follow this trail online, download the longer walk, or find more detail about the plaques please visit:

www.dealheritage.org.uk/plaques

The Deal Heritage website also contains details of historic places to visit in Deal and Walmer and events such as the Heritage Open Days.

Founded in 1964, The Deal Society continues to maintain the appeal of Deal and Walmer. To find out more about the work of the society, visit our website at www.thedealsociety.org.uk.

THE BLUE PLAQUE TRAIL

A guided walk around Deal featuring plaques to many of the fascinating residents of the town



www.thedealsociety.org.uk

This is a 3 ¼ km (2 ¼ mile) walk around the streets of Deal, which should take you about an hour to complete. There are plenty of options to opt out if you run out of time.

The walk will guide you to plaques and memorials to people who have had a significant impact on the town and, in many cases, nationally and internationally.

It starts and finishes at the Astor Community Theatre on Stanhope Road just off Deal's High Street. You should find tea and coffee available in the theatre bar or in many shops in the town.

The text will describe our suggested route round the plaques, and numbers in brackets refer to places marked on the map. See the back page for online resources.

Along the route you will see information panels which will give you more history of the area.

The Astor Theatre **(1)** has a plaque to **The Deal Society**, the civic society for Deal and Walmer, recording the meeting which founded the society in 1964. Head east (away from the High Street), then right into West Street and enter the gardens on your right.

Just inside the gardens, on your right, is a Deal Society metal plaque **(2)** to **Captain Edward Parker** who died of his wounds in Deal following an abortive attack on Boulogne in 1801. Nelson, a close friend of his, attended the funeral and contributed towards the cost. Next to the plaque is Captain Parker's tomb.

Resume the path to the High Street, turn left and shortly on your right will be 'Comarques', 122 High Street, **(3)** with a plaque to the composer **John Ireland** who stayed and composed many pieces here in the 1930's.

Continue along the High Street, turn right into Farrier Street and at the crossroads with Middle Street the house on the southwest corner, 117 Middle Street **(4)**, has a blue plaque to the actor **Charles Hawtrey**, most famous for his role in the 'Carry on' films.

Walk north along the historic Middle Street and next right to 4 Golden Street **(5)** which has a plaque to **Edward Ardizzone**, an official war artist during the Second World War, author & illustrator who was regarded as the father of the modern children's book for his 'Little Tim' series.

Return to Middle Street and continue to the corner of Griffin Street where 'Kingfishers' **(6)** has the name of **Stephen Phillips**, 1864-1915, in his time a highly famed poet and dramatist. Mr Phillips lodged and died here.

Continue along Middle Street, then diagonally across Alfred Square and along College Road to the junction with Sydenham Road where 61 College Road **(7)** has a plaque to **Richard Roberts** (1838-1933), a boatman and lifeboat coxswain. He served for 42 years in an era when the lifeboats were powered only by sail or oars and was known as the 'Hero of the Goodwin Sands'.

Go up Sydenham Road then Hengist Road to the seafront and cross to the promenade. Turn left to head northward to 47 The Marina **(8)** where **J.B. Priestley** lived in 1929 whilst writing his breakthrough novel 'The Good Companions'. He went on to become a respected novelist, playwright, broadcaster and campaigner for social welfare and nuclear disarmament.

If you have a few minutes, you can walk 500 m further along the promenade to visit the remains of **Sandown Castle**, now maintained as a community garden.

Retrace your steps along the promenade to the corner with Exchange Street where The Boatman's Rooms **(9)** are now a private residence. The plaque points out that **Reverend Thomas Treanor** was Chaplain from 1878 to his death in 1910. He wrote books about the seafarers of Deal, including the famous 'Heroes of the Goodwin Sands', conducted services on the boats moored off Deal and went out on rescue missions with the lifeboat.

The same building has a concrete plaque for **Arnold Cawthrow** (1913-1993), author and the second 'Big Chief I Spy'. He lived in Deal until his death in 1993.

Continuing along the promenade, the third road brings us back to Golden Street **(10)** where number 9 bears a plaque to **Edith Appleton**, a nurse in the First World War who wrote a poignant diary of her work at the front line.

Return to the promenade and further on 109 Beach Street **(11)** was the home of **Nathaniel Gubbins** (1893–1976), a journalist known as 'The War's Leading Humorist' who campaigned to save Deal from redevelopment in 1947 and 1964.

As you pass the 'Royal Hotel' **(12)**, note the plaque by the door indicating that **Lord Nelson & Lady Hamilton** visited the hotel in 1801.

Continue past the pier, right into Broad Street then immediately left into Middle Street where a 'Historic Building of Kent' plaque is displayed on the beautiful 'Queen Anne House'.

Shortly afterwards, on your left, is 8 Middle Street **(13)** which was one of the houses from which **Catherine Boys** (1808-1872) ran an orphanage and lived until her death.

At the end of Middle Street is another notable house on the corner of South Street **(14)**. A large plaque announces the home from 1762 to her death in 1806 of a famous daughter of Deal, **Elizabeth Carter**, poet, classicist, writer, translator and member of the 'Bluestocking Circle'. A friend of Samuel Johnson, her translation of all the works of Epictetus – the first translation of this Greek Philosopher made her name.

Go up to the seafront then right past the historic **Timeball Tower**, right down Stanley Road and left into Victoria Road which is full of handsome houses, none more so than 19 Victoria Road **(15)** where **Thomas Hughes** resided in 1857, the very year his most famous work, 'Tom Browns School Days' was published.

Go back along Victoria Road which leads into the High Street, Stanhope Road will be on your left to return to the starting point at the Astor Community Theatre.