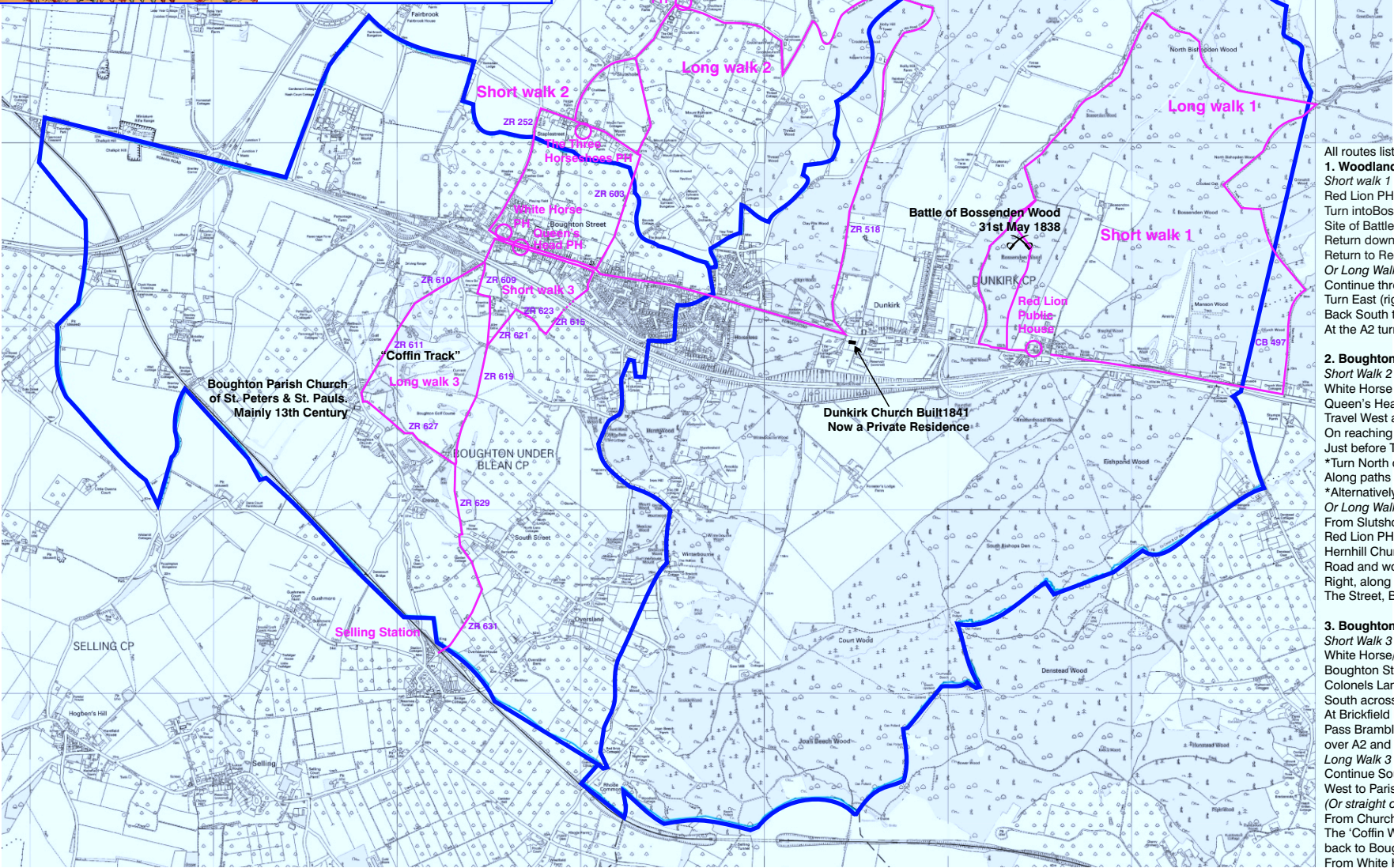


# Walks and trails for Heritage and Health.



When ended was the lif of seynt Cecile,  
 Ere we had fully riden fyve myle,  
 At Boughtoun under Blec us gan oertake  
 A man, that clothed was in clothes blake,  
 And under that he ware a white array,  
 His hackney, that was a dapple grey,  
 So swet, that it was wonder for to see,  
 It semed he hadde pricked myles three.

When Saint Cecilia's Life was done, and whiles  
 We had not farther gone a good five miles,  
 At Boughtoun-under-Bleas us did o'ertake  
 A man, who was clothed all in clothes of black,  
 And underneath he had a surplice white.  
 His hackney was of dappled-grey, so bright  
 With sweat that it was marvelous to see;  
 It seemed that he had spurred him for miles three.



Battle of **Bossenden Wood** took place on 31st May 1838, and was the last armed uprising on English soil. The leader called himself 'Sir William Courtenay'. His real name was John Nichols Tom (or Thom), and he was originally from Cornwall. He led a protest against the new Poor Law to assisting poor local agricultural workers in the area. Having killed the constable sent to arrest him, he & his band, were pursued into **Bossenden Wood** by soldiers of the 45th Foot. During the battle, many were killed. **Either spelling OK.**



On the same day an inquest at the White Horse, Boughton, (ancient coaching inn noted in Canterbury Tales) returned verdicts of "justifiable homicide" on the deaths of Courtenay and his followers. 'Sir William' and 7 others are buried in Hernhill Church - but under his real name of John Tom. Two other rebels buried in Boughton Churchyard.

- All routes listed clockwise.
- 1. Woodlands Walks.**  
**Short walk 1 (1.8 km)** - woodland loop  
 Red Lion PH (18th Century). West along London Road  
 Turn into Bossenden Wood  
 Site of Battle of Bossenden Wood (marked ✕)  
 Return down left-hand path back to London Road  
 Return to Red Lion PH.  
 Or **Long Walk 1 (Approx. 6.5Km)**.  
 Continue through Bossenden Wood to North Bishopsden Wood  
 Turn East (right) towards Bleas Wood  
 Back South through Ancient Woodlands  
 At the A2 turn West back towards the Red Lion PH
  - 2. Boughton-Hernhill-Dunkirk Circuit.**  
**Short Walk 2 (Approx. 2.6Km)**.  
 White Horse PH (15th Century) Boughton Street or  
 Queen's Head PH Boughton Street (16th Century)  
 Travel West and turn North into Bull Lane  
 On reaching Staplestreet Road turn East  
 Just before The Three Horseshoe PH (17th Century)  
 \*Turn North on the road to Slutshole, Right to Mount Ephraim  
 Along paths and through orchards back to The Street.  
 \*Alternatively straight on, through orchards back to The Street.  
 Or **Long Walk 2 (Approx. 7.5Km)**.  
 From Slutshole, continue to Hernhill  
 Red Lion PH (14th Century).  
 Hernhill Church \*\*\*burials  
 Road and woods through to Dunkirk  
 Right, along Roman Road back to  
 The Street, Boughton-under-Bleas
  - 3. Boughton - Boughton or onward to Selling Station.**  
**Short Walk 3 (Approx. 1.9Km)**.  
 White Horse/Queens Head  
 Boughton Street (East)  
 Colonels Lane path under A2  
 South across Golf Course  
 At Brickfield Lane Turn North  
 Pass Bramble Hall (Grade II listed)  
 over A2 and back to The Street.  
**Long Walk 3 (Approx. 3.9Km)**.  
 Continue South and then  
 West to Parish Church  
 (Or straight on to Selling Station see 3A)  
 From Church, North along  
 The 'Coffin Walk', over A2 and  
 back to Boughton Street.  
 From White Horse to Selling Station *Approx. 2.5Km*).