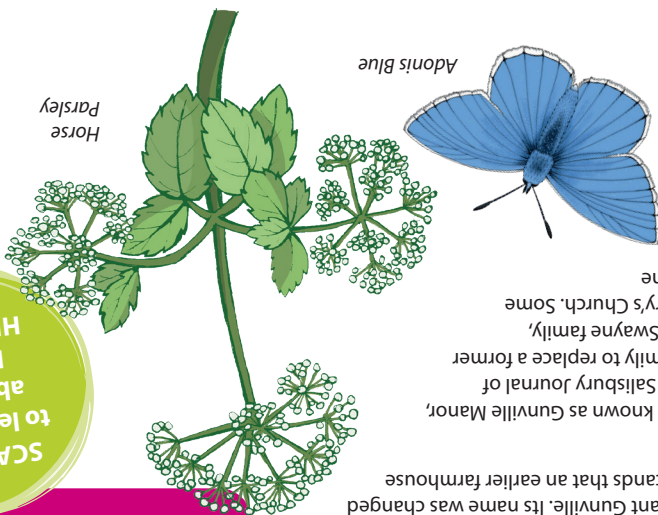




SCAN HERE
to learn more
about the
LOCAL
HERITAGE



Parsley

Adonis Blue

D Gunville Manor - Gunville House, now known as Gunville Manor, was first advertised as 'newly erected' in the Salisbury Journal of March 1798. It was built by the Chapman family to replace a former Elizabethan Manor House belonging to the Swayne family, whose memorial is in the baptistry of St Mary's Church. Some of the materials used probably came from the demolished Eastbury House. The manor was later sold to the famous ceramist Josiah Wedgwood 2nd whose brother Thomas, a scientist and pioneer in photography, moved to the remaining section of Eastbury House in 1800. The Manor is in private ownership and has no public access.

C Home Farm - An 1840 tithe map shows that Glebe Farm, now known as Home Farm, was part of the benefice of Tarrant Gunville. Its name was changed in the late 1950s. The current owner understands that an earlier farmhouse stood on the right as you enter the yard.

B Harbin's Park - Known as Tarrant Gunville Park until the 19th century, the earliest reference to this deer park is in 1279. The bailliff's accounts for the park, in 1337, included paying 4 men for 3 days' work, mending defects in the fencing around the park. A record of a dispute over its ownership, in 1649, suggests it was used as a deer park well into the 17th century. Of particular significance is the Park, a scheduled monument which surrounds the park. It was created by digging a 6' deep ditch with the spoil creating a 6' high bank. On top of this bank hazel fencing was used to create an enclosure to contain the deer that had been enticed in with apple pumice.

A Green Drove - The word 'drove' derives from the old English 'draf', which means 'beasts driven in a body'; it also applies to the routes along which the livestock were driven. The Green Drove is part of an ancient route, south from Shaftesbury (route 38 on 'The Old Roads of Dorset' by Ronald Good) and runs past Harbin's Park (F) and on towards the coast. A beautiful 'brick and flint' Drove Barn in which the animals could rest overnight, and drink from the deep well in the yard, is situated @ Westbury Farm, just east of the Green Drove.

Points of interest

According to tradition, the ghost of William Doggett still stalks Tarrant Gunville. Recognisable by his breeches tied with yellow silks, this one-time steward of Eastbury House (E) committed suicide, in 1786, because he could not repay the huge debt he owed Lord Melcombe who owned Eastbury at the time. The headless William is said to drive his spectral coach-and-four around the estate. There is talk, too, of Doggett being a vampire. Supposedly, his body, interred in St Mary's Churchyard (H), was dug up sixty years after his death and had not decomposed. Also the blood stain his suicide left on the floor of Eastbury, could never after be effaced;

The Tarrant Gunville Vampire

Did you know?



Created with the local community of Tarrant Gunville and Stubhampton for their 'Coronation Pathways' as part of the Ancient Ways project. This is part of the Chase & Chalke Landscape Partnership Scheme, with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Tag us @chaseandchalke @heritagefunduk

Tarrant Gunville & Stubhampton Coronation Pathways Skylark Loop

WALK #
46

Start Point: Tarrant Gunville Village Hall, DT11 8JN

W3W: wide.waffle.inhabited

Parking: Tarrant Gunville Village Hall, DT11 8JN. Parking is available in the road by the village hall. Please park considerately.

Terrain: Fields, grassy paths with gradual inclines and wide accesses. 'No stiles or kissing gates, suitable for pushchairs and trampers. **This is classed as an easy route.**

Length: 6km / 3.75 miles

Approx time: 1½ hours

Dogs: Must be on leads due to livestock and nesting birds.

Refreshments: Available at Home Farm café/bar with delicious home-made meals with locally grown produce.

The information is only intended as a general guide. Please check local arrangements.



Cover photo: Kathleen Child



Respect everyone
Protect the environment
Enjoy the outdoors
Follow advice and local signs



cranbornechase.org.uk



The River Tarrant is a 'winterbourne' i.e. a river or stream that is dry in the summer months. Rising from springs breaking through the chalk at Tarrant Head, just south of Stubhampton Bottom, it flows down the valley past the seven other Tarrant villages; Hinton, Launceston, Monkton, Rawston, Rushton, Keyneston and Crawford. Some 10 miles long, it joins the River Stour at Spetsisbury.



Kingfisher

Did you know?

Eastbury House (E) was designed by John Vanbrugh and completed in 1738. Vastly expensive and taking over 20 years to complete, it was only used for about 20 years before standing empty for another 20. It was then mostly dynamited leaving only the service wing remaining because no-one could be found who wanted to live in it! Originally commissioned in 1716 by George Doddington it was exceeded in size only by Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard. All that remains now is the north wing and the stables. It is in private ownership and there is no public access.



Directions

- 1 With the village hall behind you, turn left along the Valley Road. At the thatched house, turn right up the hill signposted 'Everley Hill 2.5 miles' and 'Church'.
- 2 Opposite the turning into the church on the left, take the footpath through the gate on your right signposted 'Stubhampton Bottom 1.25 miles'. This is the route traditionally taken when the Valley Road is flooded. It is known as Church Path.
- 3 Follow along the grassy path, through several gates, keeping the village of Tarrant Gunville on your right.
- 4 At the end of the grassy path, go down the steps through the gap in the hedge and turn left, or take the easier short permissive path to the left which joins the same path higher up. Follow up this gently sloping track for about 1½ km, across a gravel track and past a farm on your right, until you reach a T junction.
- 5 Right in front of you is Harbin's Park (B). Turn left at this junction, onto a wide grassy track. Follow this to a crossing in the road and onto a bridleway across open fields with views of Hod and Hambledon Hills to the South West.
- 6 At the green metal barrier turn left onto May Lane, a stony track which is thought to have been the road to Blandford Forum, from Shaftesbury, until the mid-18th century. It is now part of the Jubilee Trail. On the right is Pimperne Woods which is carpeted with Bluebells in the Spring.
- 7 Follow the track down past Home Farm café/bar which offers welcome respite to weary walkers (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays). (C)
- 8 The track becomes a road. Keep straight on at the T junction, down the hill, past the church and turn left at the T junction back towards the village hall.

The names of Tarrant Gunville and Stubhampton...

Did you know?

There is evidence of the area being inhabited by Mesolithic hunter gathers over 5500 years ago, by Iron Age people (from about 750BC) and later by the Romans. The area is recorded in the Domesday Book (1086), when the parish was held by Ailfus Camerius. The name Gunville comes from the de Gonvilles (various spellings) who were supporters of the Norman Kings. The Tarrant part of the name could be derived from 'trent', an ancient Celtic word meaning 'river liable to flood', or it could simply be a different spelling of 'torrent'.

Stubhampton, a hamlet within the parish, is equally ancient. In the Domesday Book it was Stibementune. The name is thought to mean 'in the tree-stump village' or 'farmers of the tree-stump village'.



Skylark illustration by Ayla Horsfall (Age 12)