

## **G1 Walk 17 Higher Dodbrooke - Dodbrooke Church**

Dodbrooke is mentioned in the Doomsday book whereas Kingsbridge is not. It is the land to the east of the Dod Brook and stretches from above the Church to High House and New Bridge. It maybe named after the De brooke family. This walk will concentrate on the Church, ***Go past McCall and up Church Street, Enter the Church Yard at 1st entrance and turn left to view 'war memorial'***

The plinth on which the War memorial at the western edge of the churchyard stands is thought to date from around 900AD and originally had a Saxon Cross mounted on it. Any associated chapel would have been made of wood and has disappeared.

***Walk on and past another gate and at the next***, note the 'Saxon Cross' on granite posts. Were these originally on the plinth as a saxon wayside cross???

The Church itself dates from the 15th century but the bell tower could have been earlier and was probably built on the foundations of an even earlier building. The tower had a steeple once but this was removed in 1785. The tower houses 6 bells from the 19th century, some of which were cast locally. Originally the Church was one large area and was the only communal building in the village.

The porch was used a Courtroom.

Enter another time maybe??

The 2 chapels were added later. In the 17th century the north aisle fell into disrepair and was pulled down to be rebuilt as part of the Victorian renovation. The oldest part of the interior is the square Font which is 12th century. The rood screens are beautiful and some of them are original and are hand carved and decorated with biblical scenes. The barrel roof in the main aisle may be original and the bosses in the roof of the south aisle contain the faces of "little green men".

The major renovation in the 1880s used materials and windows from other churches in the area and made the Church as it is today.

***Turn right and walk to south of Church. Note the massive graveyard. Return via Church St***





Ancient Wayside Cross?



THE ABOVE BLOCK OF STONE BELONGS TO THE CHURCH  
THE TOP PART OF THE PART OF AN ANCIENT WAYSIDE CROSS



