

## **From Woodbridge Brook to Oaklands**

the pastoral responsibility of All Saints Lydiard Millicent,  
our parish neighbours being St Michael & All Angels, Brinkworth (part of the  
Woodbridge group of churches)

At [SU036857] the civil parish boundary goes north up Wood Lane then heads east again. Our boundary continues west following the line of Woodbridge Brook. Home Farm and the fields to the North of the stream are within our ecclesiastical parish. As access to the field to the west of the lane was not feasible at the stream, we walked south along the lane to a gate into the



field at [SU036856] and walked back down inside the field edge. This is private property managed as a nature reserve and with no public access. We walked with permission.

From [SU036857] the bank of the stream, we followed all the meanders of Woodbridge Brook, to the west.

There are many old trees, including some rather straggly and “interesting” specimens that clearly mark the boundary.





We scrambled through a couple of field boundaries next to the stream, where the last users had clearly been deer, and reached a public footpath and bridge over the stream at [SU033858]. The next field boundary to the west was crossed at a stile on the public footpath just to the south of the stream, and we walked back to the bank of the stream, following it west. We climbed a gate into a managed bird reserve with many new trees and

continued to follow the stream west. Apart from the stream and lots of old trees there is nothing to mark the boundary. This is private property; we walked off the public footpaths with permission.

At [SU028857] the boundary turns north along a tributary stream that flows south from Somerford Common. We scaled an electric fence and turned right (north) along a farm track behind Woodside Farm, crossing the line of another electric fence with the assistance of the owner.



We followed the line of the stream and entered a wide hedgerow behind the land-owner's aviary.

At [SU028858] we reached the westerly extent of our parish and turned right (east) for home. The wide hedgerow here is clearly managed as a wildlife reserve with many wild flowers and splendid trees. There's a delightful path too. This is private property, we walked with permission.



The boundary follows this hedgerow northeast then east, though there is nothing to mark it. We walked inside the hedgerow and through a couple of gates, back to the public footpath which crosses the hedgerow at [SU033860] at a double stile.



We walked to the north side of the hedge and continued on the public footpath to the west. The boundary here follows the hedge to the west but there is nothing to mark it.



At [SU038862] the boundary, the hedge and the public footpath all reach Wood Lane again. There is nothing to mark the boundary here. The boundary crosses the road just south of the bend and heads into the woods to the south of Wood Lane. This is a wide hedgerow with a distinct ditch and bank with many mature trees, the boundary running about 5 metres south of the existing road way. It is on private property and managed as a wildlife reserve. There is no public access here. It was not convenient for the landowner to allow us access at the time we were there, so we made do with walking west along the south side of Wood Lane and observing the hedgerow which is mostly visible. Apart from the hedge, bank and ditch on the boundary line there is nothing to indicate the boundary here.



At [SU040862] Queen Street Braydon joins Wood Lane from the left, our parish neighbours change here from St Michael & All Angels, Brinkworth (part of the Woodbridge group of churches) to the North of and including Wood Lane and to the West of Queen Street, to Purton Evangelical Group of St Mary's Purton and Purton Methodist Church to the North of and including Wood Lane, and to the East of Queen Street There is a boundary stone here.

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