

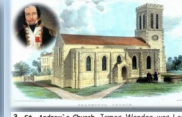
# DISCOVER CHARMOUTH OLD VILLAGE



1. **Charnoth Tennis Club.** Mad Watson MBE was an English tennis player and the first female Wimbledon champion. She lived at Hornes Hill, Charnoth, which was demolished in 1993 and was a member of the Tennis Club run by the Wintoning sisters shown here in this photo, founded in 1880.



2. **The Coach and Horses.** Jane Austen stayed here in the summer of 1803. It was then called 'The Mall Coach Inn' as it was a popular stopover for coaches between Dorchester and Exeter. The original thatched building was destroyed by fire in 1882 and rebuilt. It was later converted into apartments.



3. **St. Andrew's Church.** James Warden was Lord of the Manor in 1792 when he died in a duel with a neighbour, Norman Bond, over his dog. His large Stone Tomb is near to the door of the church. The present structure, designed by Charles Fowler in 1836, replaced a 14th century building. He was the Architect of Covent Garden Piazza, so popular today.



4. **The Elm.** Captain Harriet was the author of the famous children's novel 'Children of the New Forest'. His daughter Emily married Dr Henry Norris in 1802 and lived in The Elm where they had 3 children. Her son Ellen Harriet lived nearby at Fernhill. The elm refers to a house here in 1944. It is now the office for the Parish Council.



5. **Wistaria.** Edward Day, a famous geologist who worked with Sir John Huxtable on surveying the first Channel Tunnel and other projects, lived here from 1861-1865. It was later to be the site of the village Post Office run by George Holly. It is now a shop and private residence.



6. **Little Harst.** Florence Nightingale was a friend of Lord Harst who was to open the convalescent hospital here in 1857 which had 20 beds and a resident matron. It was later the home of James Harst one of the famous firm of printers. He was to give the name of Little Harst, in contrast to his London



7. **The Royal Oak.** The large sign above the entrance is a link in 1651 when Charnoth was the base from which King Charles attempted his escape to freedom in France. After it failed he travelled on to Bridport and the painting is of the stone commemorating it outside the town.



8. **Charnoth House.** Lucy Rossetti met Modest Brown stayed at Charnoth House in the summer of 1878 with her children. It was then run as an hotel by George Holly. Her painting shows it on the right with Portland House opposite, alongside which can be seen a standing top for the village water supply.



30. **The Jurassic Coast.** J.M.W. Turner's famous English artist visited Charnoth in 1811 and painted this beautiful view of a small looking seaside town. Regis, which now hangs in the Kelvingrove Gallery in Glasgow. There are 8 drawings in his sketchbook now held by the Tate Gallery, which records the village in that year.



29. **The Look Out.** This unusual stone shelter was built in 1804 as part of the coastal defences along the south coast in anticipation of an attack by Napoleon. It is a very rare survival from those times and still to this day sits in its original function as a coastal watch post by local volunteers. From 1853 it was rented by the Admiralty.



28. **The Heritage Centre.** George Froom a Plymouth flour mill owner purchased the Manor of Charnoth in 1864 and built the Grand Manor for his son in law Michael Morcom. Stores from the bath were created and 'Roman Coins' was obtained from them. After a decline it closed in 1872.



27. **The Old Village School.** This building formerly housed the school, which was opened by Mrs Breton, the Rectors wife in 1869. It was to be here until moving further down Lower Sea Lane to a new site in 1993. The old building has since been converted into housing.



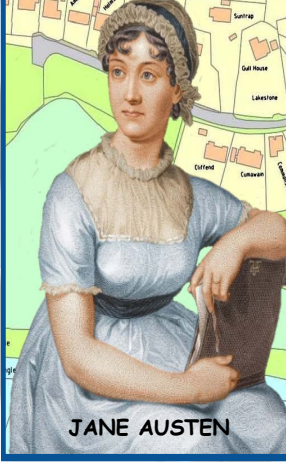
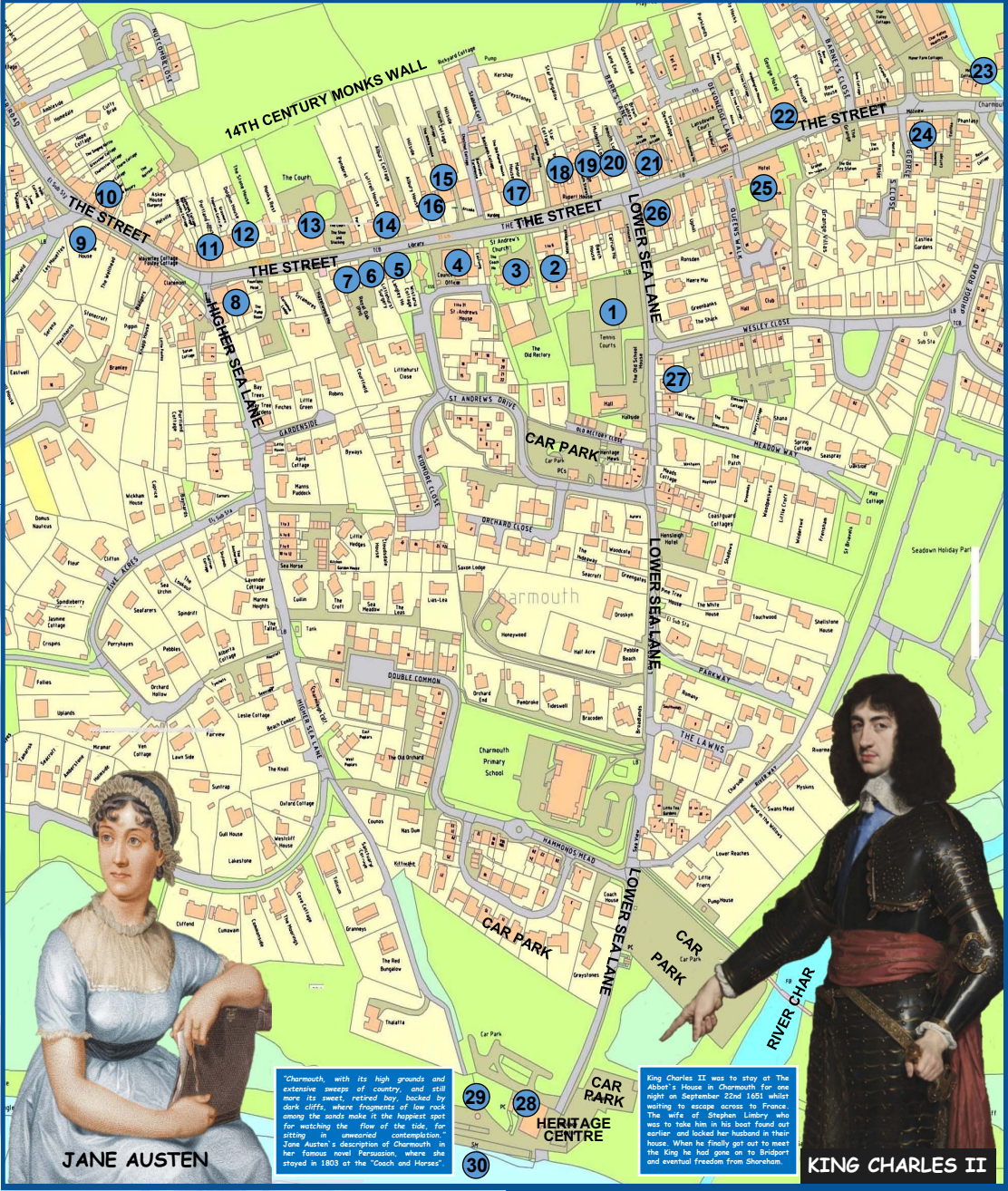
26. **The Pharmacy.** Harry Fryer, who went by the nick name of Pusey, was a successful mason and house builder who ran his business until his death in 1931 in a large yard on the corner of The Street and Lower Sea Lane known as Pear Close. His office had earlier been a carpenter's workshop and in 1776 was rented by the steward from the Lady of the Manor. Today it has survived as 'The Pharmacy'. A number of shops and garages were built on Pear Close.



25. **The Abbots House.** King Charles II was to stay here for one night in September 1651 whilst waiting to escape across to France. The wife of Stephen Limbry who was to take him in his boat found out earlier and locked him in their house. When he finally got out to meet the King he had gone on to Bridport and eventual freedom. The ancient house was built by Thomas Chand, Abbot of Exeter, whose initials can be seen above the doorway.



24. **Mill View.** John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, has a link with Charnoth. His great grandfather was the Rector here from 1645 until 1660. He and his son John lived in a house where Mill View is today until they sold it in 1668. It was rebuilt after a fire in 1850 and rented by the Courtards.



**JANE AUSTEN**

"Charnoth, with its high grounds and extensive sweeps of country, and still more its sweet, retired bay, backed by dark cliffs, where fragments of low rock among the sands make fit the hop-pole spot for watching the flow of the tide, for sitting in amorous contemplation." Jane Austen's description of Charnoth in her famous novel Persuasion, where she stayed in 1803 at the "Coach and Horses".

King Charles II was to stay at the Abbots' House in Charnoth for one night on September 22nd 1651 whilst waiting to escape across to France. The wife of Stephen Limbry who was to take him in his boat found out earlier and locked her husband in their house. When he finally got out to meet the King he had gone on to Bridport and eventual freedom from Charnoth.

**KING CHARLES II**



23. **The Mill.** The photographs show the ancient mill in its heyday when it was operated by Mr. John Tait since here by the water. The adjoining bridge was widened in 1767, but still has its sign recording that 'Any person wilfully opening the bridge will be liable to be transported for life by the Court'.



22. **The George Inn.** Charnoth is very fortunate in having today one of the oldest continuously run inns in the country. It has a remarkable history stretching back to the Middle Ages when the village was owned by the monks of Exeter Abbey. By the 18th century it was a coaching inn and signs of this can be seen with its entrance that projects out into the street as customers could see the incoming coaches.



21. **The Parade of Shops.** In 1804 Conon Doyle, author of the Sherlock Holmes stories, and two companions visited a haunted house in Charnoth when the corner shop is today. The family who lived there were plagued by unexplained noises and activity on the second night a baritone voice came out, but they were unable to find the cause. Doyle went on to write that a year later the house burnt down and an old skeleton of a child was found buried in the garden.



20. **Charnoth Lodge.** Dick Whittington is remembered today as a politician, although the origins go back to the middle ages. He was famous as a Mayor of London. In 1900 Richard Whittington who was a direct descendant purchased the house, which was then called 'The Lincolns'. His family were to live there for nearly 70 years.



19. **The Little Lodge.** The original house on this site dating back to the 14th century was called Yewdown. In the 18th century it was to be the site of a sail cloth factory. After Jacob Bidley King went bankrupt in 1835, his daughter briefly opened a shop there. In time it was used as a school room which was run by the Whittington sisters.



18. **Charnoth Stores (New).** G.K. Cherterton of Father Brown fame was a frequent customer. One of the verses he was famous for was 'The Wicked Grocer', which reflects badly on the trade. As a recompense to the Dispensary he penned a new verse in 1929 which he dedicated to William called 'The Good Grocer' that is full of his praise.



17. **The Manor House.** William Elsdon, whose family memorials are in the church opposite, bought the Manor and his house in 1649. It was he who attempted to secure the escape of King Charles II from Charnoth. As a reward he was given a pension of £200 a year. His son Anthony was to live there for nearly 80 years until his death in 1734.



16. **No. 3 Hillside.** In 1858 James Harrison, living at no. 3, found fossils from the cliffs of Black Ven that were queried for an exhibition at the Century Works owned by George Froom. Amongst them were bones from the first dinosaur found in England which he sent to Professor Richard Owen. He named it Sceliosaurus Harrisoni after him.