

● **1. Admiral Sir William Cornwallis**

As Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet in the early years of the 19th century, it was Cornwallis' blockade of the French fleet at Brest that stopped Napoleon's invasion plans. This action, in the face of major



logistical and strategic difficulties and through two winters of severe weather, secured his reputation as one of the greatest admirals of the Royal Navy. Already a distinguished admiral he was respected by his fellow officers, loved by his men, and revered by Nelson.

● **2. Captain John Whitby, RN**

Captain John Whitby joined the Navy at the age of 12, serving under Cornwallis two years later. This prompted a long friendship between the two men and by 1795 Whitby was serving on his 4th ship under Cornwallis. Whitby married Mary Anne Theresa Symonds in 1802 and they lived at Newlands with Cornwallis. War with France resumed in 1803 and Whitby and then Cornwallis returned to sea, leaving Mrs Whitby in charge of Newlands. In 1805 the Whitby's daughter Theresa John Cornwallis Whitby, was born. Whitby returned to Newlands in 1806, dying a few days later.

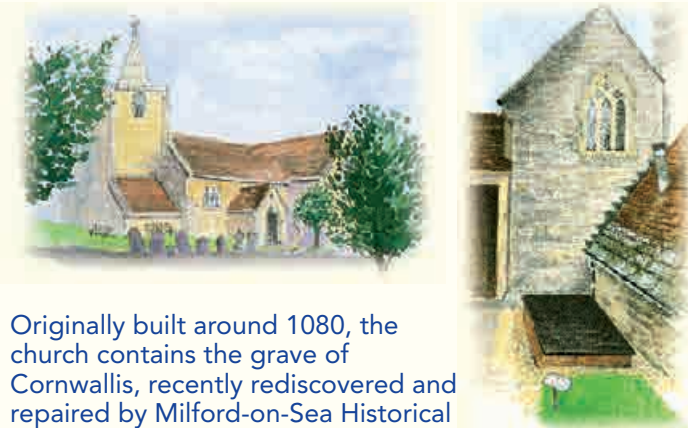


● **3. Mary Anne Theresa Whitby**

After the death of her husband Theresa (as she was known) Whitby returned to Newlands. The strong relationship between Cornwallis and Whitby extended to Mrs Whitby and Cornwallis left his entire estate to her and her daughter. Mrs Whitby managed the estate and developed it considerably - by the time of her death, she owned about a third of the village. She was a talented artist and conducted scientific experiments with silk production at Newlands. See also No 6.



● **4. All Saints' Church, Church Hill, Milford-on-Sea**



Originally built around 1080, the church contains the grave of Cornwallis, recently rediscovered and repaired by Milford-on-Sea Historical Record Society, adjacent to the Tower. Inside you will find the graves of Admiral John Peyton - indicated by a brass plaque on the floor left of the centre aisle, along with Admiral Robert Man - in the lobby between the main church and the Choir Vestry. There is a memorial to Admiral Sir William Cornwallis and John and Mary Anne Theresa Whitby. In addition, there is a memorial plaque to Admiral John Peyton and the three Admirals and Captain Whitby are commemorated in a new stained-glass window.

*The church is open daily; services may be in progress*

● **5. Milford House, Milford-on-Sea**

Built in the 1730s for William Rickman, a rich merchant in Portsmouth. The two bow-fronted wings were added in the Adam style in the 1790s for the then owner Edmund Reynolds who owned sugar plantations in Jamaica. The house and Manor of Milford Baddesley were added to the Newlands estate by Mrs Whitby in 1829, although she never lived there.

*Private housing not open to the public. It can be viewed from the north side of Lymington Road.*



● **6. Newlands, Milford-on-Sea**



In 1800 Admiral Cornwallis leased Newlands and two years later purchased it outright. The estate was enlarged over the years until it amounted to almost 2,000 acres. He left the estate to Mrs Whitby and her daughter. South Lawn Hotel is located on part of the Newlands estate.

*The house is now private residences; there is no public access and the house is not visible from the road.*

● **7. Hawker's Cottage, Keyhaven**

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Hawker (1786 – 1853) entered the army in the Royal Dragoons in 1801 and served under the Duke of Wellington. He is best known as a sportsman and excelled at wildfowl shooting. Arguably his most visible legacy, still in existence today is "Hawker's Lake". To enable a quicker route from Keyhaven to Pennington marshes, Hawker cut a shortcut through the marsh, originally named Hawker's Leak.



*The house is a private residence; there is no public access although the facade which has been added since Hawkers time, is clearly visible from the road.*

● **8. Hurst Castle, Keyhaven**

Built by Henry VIII in 1544 and held Charles I on his way from Carisbrooke Castle to the scaffold in London. Hurst was in constant use until just after the end of World War II. The castle was modernised during the Napoleonic wars and again from 1850 - 1870 when the two armoured wings were constructed around the original fort.



*Open to the public [entry fee payable] April - November, winter months weekends only. Ferry from Keyhaven every 20 minutes April - October, weather and tides permitting, or walk along the shingle spit from Keyhaven. For more information visit [www.hurstcastle.co.uk](http://www.hurstcastle.co.uk)*

● **9. Saltmaking**

This area was one of the largest salt-producing areas of the country from medieval times until the 19th century. The remains of the salt pans can still be seen from the sea wall footpath between Keyhaven and Lymington.



● **10. Admiral Robert Man at Pennington House**

Robert Man was one of the three Milford Admirals who fought the French during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, moving to Pennington House in 1789. He served under Cornwallis and commanded Nelson in battle. He was a friend of Admiral Cornwallis and an



active member of Milford church and society. As a Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty from 1797 to 1801, he helped direct operations in the Revolutionary War. In 1821 he became Admiral of the Red, the most senior naval rank at the time.

*The house is a private residence; there is no public access.*

● **11. Rear Admiral John Peyton at Priestlands, Lymington**

Nelson's Band of Brothers were the 15 captains in his fleet at the Battle of The Nile in August 1798. One of these was John Peyton, who returned home 3 months later through illness. He then moved to Priestlands in Pennington 18 months later. Peyton served Nelson well, taking the surrender of the French ship Franklin after three hours of fighting. George III presented him with a gold medal in recognition of his conduct in command of his ship at The Nile in 1799. In 1805 he was promoted to Rear Admiral.

*Priestlands is now part of Priestlands School; there is no public access.*



● **12. St Barbe Museum + Art Gallery, New Street, Lymington**

St Barbe Museum explores the history of Lymington and the New Forest coast through colourful, hands-on displays, which offer a fascinating insight into the area for all ages. The Art Gallery hosts a changing programme of exhibitions that showcase art and history from regional, national and private collections.

*Open to the public daily. For more information visit [www.stbarbe-museum.org.uk](http://www.stbarbe-museum.org.uk)*



● **13. Bellevue House, High Street, Lymington**

Bellevue House was built in 1765 and for many years was the home of Charles St Barbe (1750-1826) – banker, saltern owner and five times mayor of the Borough.

He owned fifteen salt works and forty-eight pans, making a profit of £25,000 (£2.2 million in today's money). Francis Walsingham St. Barbe was an early partner in the law firm Moore Blatch, founded 1797 and the present owners.



● **14. St Thomas' Church, High Street, Lymington**

Originally built in the 15th century, the church was remodelled in the 18th century, with the addition of the cupola at the top of the tower, which houses its eight bells. It contains a memorial to Sir Harry Burrard Neale (see 17 and 18) and memorials to the naval Rogers family. Also visible is the

magnificent stained-glass window commemorating Sir George Rose Sartorius – see Nos 15 & 19.

● **15. Sir George Rose Sartorius at East Grove, Lymington**

A fine example of a Georgian house on the south side of Grove Road, it then stood in two acres of land with outbuildings, a coach house and stabling. Admiral Sir George Rose Sartorius and his wife Sophia lived there from 1880 to his death in 1885. In 1801, aged 11, George Rose Sartorius was introduced to the Royal Navy by Captain Sir Harry Burrard Neale, RN. He served at Trafalgar, had an eventful career in South America and the Mediterranean, including the siege of Cadiz in 1810. He was present when Napoleon surrendered in 1815 on the Bellerophon. From 1831-3 he commanded the fleet in the Portuguese Civil War against Don Miguel. He was knighted in 1841 and promoted to Admiral of the Fleet in 1869. He is buried at South Baddesley – see No 19.





The Admirals' Heritage Trail was created to commemorate the bicentenary of the death of Milford-on-Sea resident Admiral Sir William Cornwallis. At his own request he was largely forgotten over the 200 years since his death in 1819 but he achieved several significant naval achievements over his career which altered the course of British History. This trail retraces aspects of Cornwallis' life and highlights the people and places he knew. Follow the trail and discover a world of conflict, intrigue and endeavour right in the heart of the New Forest.

For further descriptions and historical information, scan QR Code



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Illustrations for The Admirals' Heritage Trail Map by Shaun Stevens, New Forest Artist.  
[www.sh ShaunStevensArt.com](http://www.sh ShaunStevensArt.com)



● **16. Press Gang Cottage, Bath Road, formerly the Harlequin Inn, Lymington**

Reported as being the headquarters of the Press Gang, which was employed to "press" men for service in the Royal Navy and was much feared by ordinary sailors and residents. At the end of the 18th century, there was a good view from here across the river so the gang could watch the ship movements on the river and target seamen who they could recruit into the Navy.



● **17. Burrard Neale Gas Lamp, Bath Street, Lymington**

Erected in 1832, this restored gas light column with two gas lamps commemorates the gift of street lighting to Lymington by Sir Harry and his brother George Burrard.



● **18. Burrard Neale Monument, Monument Lane, Walhampton**

This Monument commemorates the life and achievements of Admiral Sir Harry Burrard Neale Bt. GCB GCMG. The plaques on the sides of the Monument recall different aspects of Sir Harry's life (1765-1840): his outstanding naval career (including his role in the 1797 Mutiny at the Nore), his contribution to civic life (he was an MP for the town for 25 years), his Walhampton estate and his great character.



● **19. Sir George Rose Sartorius' Grave, St Mary's Church, South Baddesley**

Sartorius died at East Grove House, Lymington in 1885 aged 94 and was buried in the churchyard of St Mary's South Baddesley, under a white marble grave monument in the form of an anchor. He is also remembered on the stained-glass east window of St Thomas' Church - see Nos. 14 and 15 for further information.



● **20. St John the Baptist Church, Boldre**

Built in about 1070, Boldre Church lies a mile from the village of Boldre, mentioned in the Domesday book. Famous for its simple beauty, the church contains many monuments and is notably the resting place of Admiral Thomas Edward Symonds, husband of Lucinde Touzi and brother to Mrs. Whitby - see Nos 3 and 21.



● **21. The Touzi Twins, Tweed House, Boldre**

Mrs Whitby's brother Thomas Edward Symonds (later an Admiral) brought back orphaned twins from a naval operation in San Domingo in 1809. The Touzi twins landed in England the following year and, for the next five years during Thomas Edward's absence at sea, Mrs. Whitby and her sister Juliana looked after them during school holidays. Thomas Edward's interest became more than paternal, however, and, when the twins



● **22. Tree Marks**

Across the New Forest there are fine examples of ancient trees and if you are lucky you might find a few with a rather distinct marking; a King's Mark or Broad Arrow. It was used to mark trees deemed suitable for ship construction. Marks can be found just outside the North west corner of Wooson's Hill Inclosure - Lat: 50.86831 Lon: -1.64181 and East of Knightwood Inclosure accessible from the Ornamental Drive - Lat: 50.86171 Lon: -1.64202



● **23. Buckler's Hard**

This unspoilt and beautiful village once was a major centre for shipbuilding from 1745 - 1820. 43 ships were built on contract for the Royal Navy including Admiral Nelson's favourite ship HMS Agamemnon in 1781. 4 ships at the Battle of Trafalgar were built here and played important roles in Royal Navy history. The village had up to 200 people working at the height of



reached the age of sixteen, he announced to his startled sisters his decision to marry the younger one, Lucinde. This led to a family rift - later healed - but Mrs. Whitby refused to go to the wedding which took place in 1815. The house is a private residence; there is no public access.

the business. Ships were launched and rowed to Portsmouth for final fitting out.

Please visit the Maritime Museum in the village for more information or online at [bucklershard.co.uk](http://bucklershard.co.uk)



Henry Adams, Master Shipbuilder



● **24. Calshot Castle**

This artillery fort, built by Henry VIII to defend the sea passage to Southampton, was upgraded in the 1770s and was then used as a base by the coastguard to combat smuggling. It was used in WW1 as a base for RAF seaplanes and was upgraded further in WW2.



# The Admirals' Heritage Trail

Discover The New Forest's Forgotten Georgian Naval History



Follow in the footsteps of Admiral Cornwallis



# The Admirals' Heritage Trail

**HERITAGE TRAIL SITES**

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- 2. Captain John Whitby RN
- 3. Mary Anne Theresa Whitby
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- 5. Milford House, Milford-on-Sea
- 6. Newlands, Milford-on-Sea
- 7. Hawker's Cottage, Keyhaven
- 8. Hurst Castle, Keyhaven
- 9. Saltmaking
- 10. Admiral Man at Pennington House
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- 12. St Barbe Museum + Art Gallery, Lymington
- 13. Bellevue House, High Street, Lymington
- 14. St Thomas' Church, High Street, Lymington
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- 16. Press Gang Cottage - Bath Road, Lymington
- 17. Burrard Neale Gas Lamp, Bath Road, Lymington
- 18. Burrard Neale Monument, Monument Lane, Walhampton
- 19. Sir George Rose Sartorius' Grave, St Mary's Church, South Baddesley
- 20. St John the Baptist Church, Boldre
- 21. The Touzi Twins at Tweed House, Boldre
- 22. Tree Marks
- 23. Buckler's Hard
- 24. Calshot Castle

Lymington seawall Footpath

Road

**New Forest Tour Bus Routes**

[www.thenewforesttour.info](http://www.thenewforesttour.info)  
July - September

For further descriptions and historical information scan the QR Code

