

Bourne Society Blue Plaques in Coulsdon

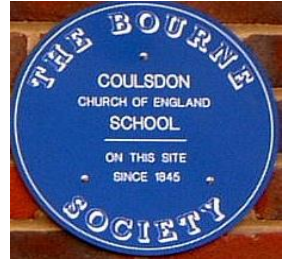
by Charles King

The Bourne Society, our local history society, has put nine of their blue plaques on historic sites or sites of interest in and around Coulsdon and Old Coulsdon. This is a suggested walk starting in Old Coulsdon and ending at Coulsdon South station via Coulsdon Town centre which will enable you to see all of them.



Plaque no 1 is at Coulsdon Church of England School Jubilee Way. It commemorates the first local school in Coulsdon.

Plaque no.2 is on Coulsdon Manor Hotel and commemorates the Manor house of the Byron Families.



After leaving plaque number 2 you can walk down Byron Avenue, named after the family, then through Hillars Heath and over the recently decorated footbridge, showing other parts of Coulsdon's history.



Plaque no.3 is on the flats in Station Approach Road and commemorates the site of the Old Coulsdon North Station and the train crash of 1912

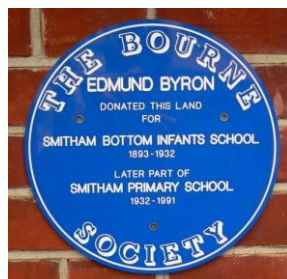
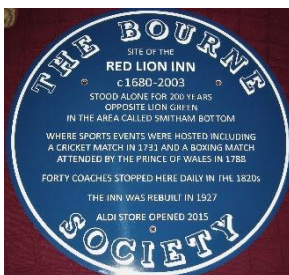
Plaque no 4 is on Coulsdon Town Station and commemorates the change of name from Smitham to Coulsdon Town some 100 years after the town changed its name

from Smitham Bottom to Coulsdon



Plaque no 5 is on the side of Aldi's supermarket and commemorates the Red Lion Pub which stood on this site for over 300 years.

Plaque no 6 is on the old flint stone building which is now the site of Bright Horizon's nursery. This commemorates the first purpose-built school in Smitham Bottom



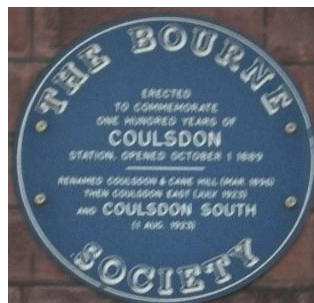
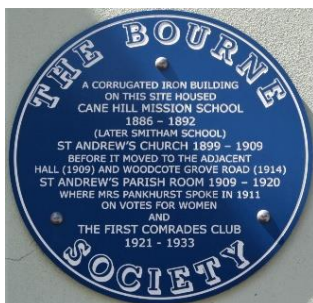
Bourne Society Blue Plaques in Coulsdon

Plaques 7 and 8 are both on the front of the Comrades club.

Plaque no.7 commemorates Gordon Pirie holder of 5 world records and Olympic silver medallist in the 1956. He lived in Mead Way and was a member of the South London Harriers situated behind the Comrades club. It also commemorates Ralph Dunkley, who was a former lecturer and amateur athlete. He ran with Gordon Pirie in the team that set a 15.27.2 minute world record for the 1500m relay in 1953.

Plaque no. 8 commemorates Smitham Parish Hall which was used as a school and church prior to the building of Smitham School and St Andrew's church. Emily Pankhurst spoke there in 1911 in support of votes for women.

Plaque No. 9 is at Coulsdon South Station and commemorates the opening of Coulsdon station on Brighton Line.in 1889 then renamed Coulsdon & Cane Hill station in 1896.



The Bourne Society has 23 historic Blue Plaques within their area if you would like to know where other can be found they are on the following web page: <http://bournesoc.org.uk/blue-plaques-locations>

A couple of other Blue Plaques you might see when out and about



This Blue Plaque was placed on the front of the **Fox** to commemorate the site of the joint services Linguistic School the precursor to GCHQ. Unfortunately, it was removed during redecoration and was not replaced.



This TfL Blue Plaque at the northern end of Farthing Way the Coulsdon Bypass

Blue Plaques Walk Map

