



Buggy Walks in West Wight

PLAYING FIELDS
Information Sheet

See if you can spot these points of interest as you walk around the Playing Fields route . Can you answer the questions too? * Answers at the bottom of the page

1 The metal ring now on the pavement of Brookside Road was originally in the road; this was the site of Mr Cooper's smithy.

Q What is a smithy? What would be made there? Why would Mr Cooper need a ring?

3 On footpath F39 a very old Ash tree appears to have a hole through the trunk; this is thought probably to be due to coppicing.

Q What is coppicing?

4 No 1 Stroud Cottage was once a shop.

Q Can you see where the entrance was by looking at the bricks and stonework?



2 **Q** Do you know what this building was used for?

1. A smithy or forge is a blacksmith's workshop. A blacksmith would make all sorts of things from metal, such as gates and farm equipment, and often horse shoes too. Mr. Cooper may have needed the ring for horses to be tied up whilst they were having their shoes fitted.

2. The building was originally the Fire Station and later the ambulance garage.

3. Coppicing is when a tree is cut hard so that the new growth makes long, straight poles. These could then be used for building, weaving, fencing or fuel.

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