## **POINTS OF INTEREST**

- 1. The **Wansdyke**, an important ancient earthwork, runs through the village (roughly NW to SE); parts of it are just visible in fields to the left of Bathford Hill.
- 2. **St Mary's Church** is of C14 origin. The strange weather vane was erected in 1757 and has been called a 'Dando bird'.
- 3. The restored **village pound**, originally used to pen straying animals.
- 4. The listed **medieval bridge** over the river Chew.
- 5. There are 10 listed houses in the village including **Court Hill House** with its ornate room where the old church courts were held, and the **Old School House** built in 1857.
- 6. In the 1840s **Manor Farm** was the home of Joseph Harding, who pioneered a standardised, hygienic method of production that led to the making of Cheddar cheese all over the world.
- 7. The **War Memorial** is unusual as it records the names of all the local men who fought in the wars.

## **About Compton Dando**

The name 'Compton' comes from 'Cumb tun' meaning 'settlement in a valley'. In the 12th century 'de Aunou' (which in time became Dando) was added. In 1086 the Domesday Book lists meadow, pasture, woodland and two mills, all valued at £10.

Although now a quiet and peaceful place, in the past it was much busier and noisier. There were several water mills along the river, used over time for grinding corn, battering brass, tucking woolen cloth or treating leather. One of these mills (now a private house) can be found behind the church.

Compton Dando has always been, until quite recent times, mainly an agricultural community. In 1878 it was described as 'an out of the way place with no thoroughfare'; a location that has helped the village retain its peaceful character.

Refreshments: The Compton Inn, in the centre of the village. Bar: opens 12 noon Food: Mon to Sat: 12.15 - 2.15pm & 6.15 - 9.15pm Sunday: 12.15 - 5.00pm

## Compton Dando Footpaths



