

**GSIA visit to Tetbury: 15 September 2024**

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September, a party of around 20 of us were treated to a fascinating walk around Tetbury, focusing on its industrial and commercial past. Our guide was Jane Haines who provided us with an in-depth commentary on many of the town's beautiful buildings that ranged from a huge former brewery to small blacksmiths shops.

We heard how much of Tetbury avoided major industrialisation as it lacked waterpower, vital for driving many areas of the industrial revolution.

The town's history and prosperity were originally rooted in wool stapling and the wool trade in general, later replaced mainly by a focus on agriculture, malting, and brewing. The arrival of the branch railway line later provided an important link to the outside world and was used heavily to bring goods in and out of the town, as well as moving livestock from its thriving market.

Jane took us to some fascinating hidden corners of the town, places that would be easily overlooked without a knowledgeable guide. An excellent and informative way to spend an afternoon!



*Cooks Brewery before partial demolition conversion to flats*



*Former Tetbury goods shed, now a community arts and centre and café – our meeting point*