

Main Walk

1. From the triangle, with your back to The Bull & Butcher go right down Wall Hill Road for about 70m, **T/R** thro' k/g, **fwd** cross field hg-right thro' k/g with s/b, 50m to join path. **V/R** for 10m then **V/L** and after 50m join ACW path. **Fwd** over moor to enter path thro' copse and then crossing many s/b's. Thro' k/g & up steps to cross over M6 Bridge, on exiting bridge go down steps on right, thro' gap, then cross-field to shortly go thro' k/g. Pick up fc-left, ignore k/g in fence, **fwd** to go over culverted stream. **Fwd** to pick up hg-right and continue over three fields via k/g's. Thro' k/g near pool. **H/L** to outward field corner, hg-left to go thro' k/g onto road.
2. **T/R** down road on pavement opposite until The Laurels is reached just before Corley Village sign. Walk thro' double gates and go thro' p/g with garden fc-left, to exit into field thro' p/g. **Fwd** cross-field to zig-zag thro' copse to corner. Thro' p/g hg-left round to left & WMP, **T/R** cross-field down to left hand end of hedge. Thro' p/g into fishing pool area, **T/R** pool left & thro' k/g onto road. (**Route A** see below).
3. **T/L** up road for 400m, over s/b and thro' k/g on right. **Fwd** hg-left to go thro' k/g ahead then k/g on left. **H/R** to k/g in opposite corner, **fwd** thro' k/g onto road (100m before farm). **T/R** along road to a high metal clad gate on right just before road junction.
4. Thro' gate (chain loose!), follow laurel hg-right to corner, x-stile, **V/R** cross-field to x-stile left of copse. **Fwd** cross-field over a f/b in hedge at bottom of field, **H/L** over culvert, **V/L** to outer field corner. X-stile, up bank to x-stile, hg-right to cross a pair of stiles adjacent to water tub. **Fwd** cross-field to x-stile, up embankment onto road. **T/L** along road to junction.
5. **T/R** & pass over motorway, follow road around (pavement left) to pass service road junction on left and junction with Rock Lane on right. **Fwd** from this junction for 250m to go thro' k/g by f/g on right. Hg-right to reach enclosed path via k/g. **Fwd** to

reach track then up track, x-stile onto road. **T/R** for 50m and then **T/L**, passing Corley Rocks on left continue up road to take right junction to main road. Continue over and walk thro' the churchyard opposite to exit into Church Lane. **T/L** up road (pavement right) towards mast.

6. **T/L** just before Brownhill Cottage, thro' k/g and follow enclosed footpath, thro' k/g into field. Hg-right, bear round right to x-stile in holly hedge. Hg/fc-left almost to drive to x-stile on left, **H/R** cross-field corner to farm drive. Note that you have left the Right of Way for a "permissive" path. **Fwd** down drive and as drive bends left, go thro' gap ahead. **T/R**, hg-right to reach boundary of wood ahead. Thro' k/g and follow wood boundary left over 2 fields via k/g's. In third field ignore k/g on left & continue hg-left up hill over another three fields to go thro' k/g to reach road.
7. **T/R** and shortly take left fork to Corley Moor. **Fwd** for approx. 250m along road, thro' second k/g on left (just past Slashpitts Farm), **H/R** cross-field to go over s/b & thro' k/g. **Fwd** cross-2-fields thro' k/g's. Enter enclosed path & go thro' 2 k/g's & p/g onto road. **T/R** along Watery Lane to return to triangle.

Route A

At the end of Note 2, **T/L** up road for 120m (Telegraph Pole No17). X-stile on right, thro' p/g into enclosed path to x-stile. **V/R** cross-field to meet hedge on right. Hg-right for a short distance x-stile & f/b & stile on right. **Fwd** to pick up hg-right and cross two stiles with f/b in between near field corner. **V/L**, (aim for pylon on hill ahead) cross-field to go thro' f/g (muddy). **H/R** cross-field to x-stile at corner of field before farm house. **T/L** along road to junction to continue with Note 5.

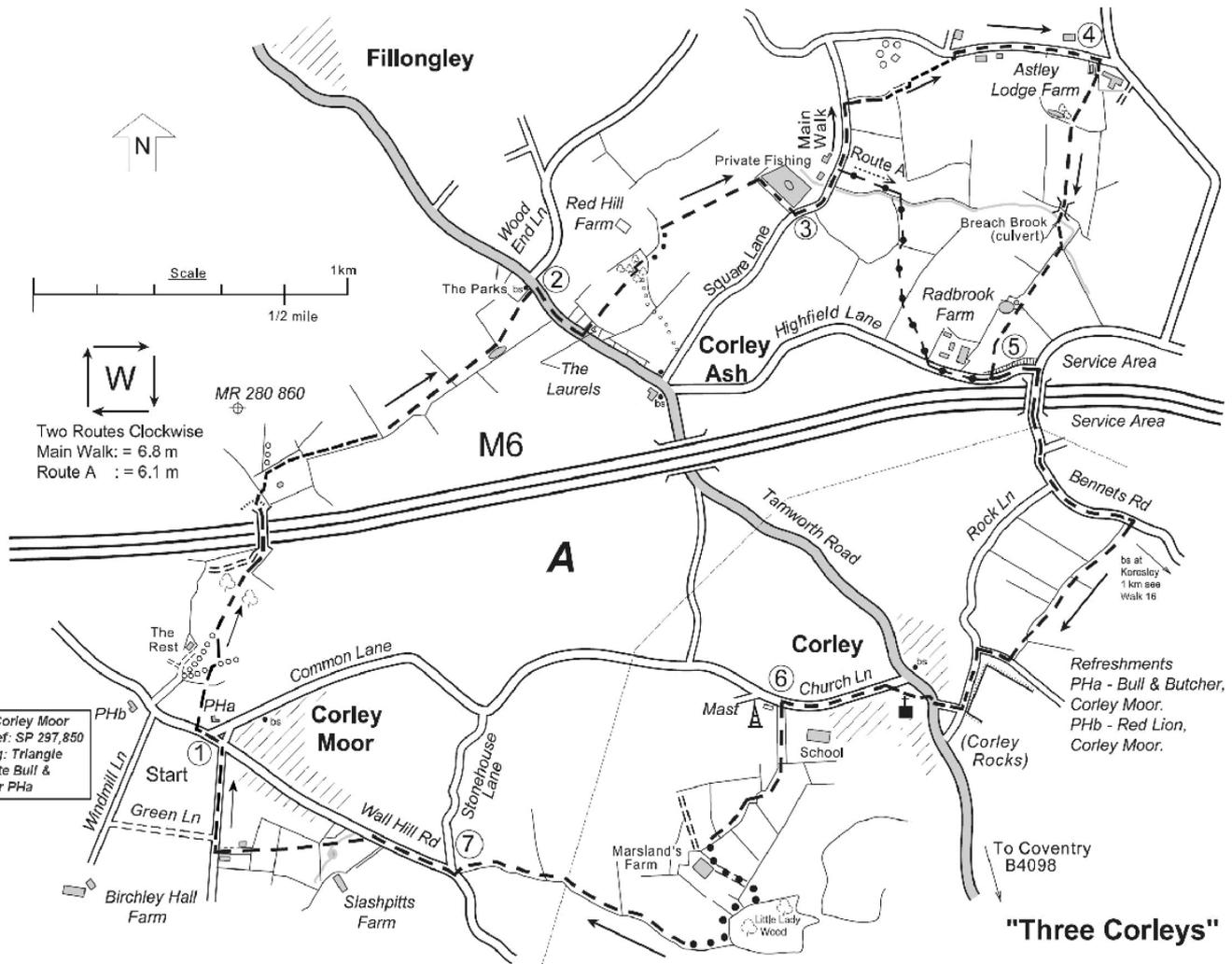
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A Coventry Way 21 Walks

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Last updated 19-Mar-2017



"Three Corleys"

WALK 18 "THREE CORLEYS"

Start: Corley Moor
Grid Ref: SP 279,850
Direction: Clockwise
Main Walk: 7.5 miles
Route A: 6.5 miles
OS Maps: Landranger 140
Pathfinder 935
Explorer 221
Parking: Triangle opposite Bull and Butcher.

In a survey of the area in 1411, and again in 1765, a windmill is noted as being in the *Wyndemulnefeld*.

Now the lane opens: sudden on the right Rich-sanded Corley Rocks come into sight, Red Indian paradise for feet to scramble Through lacing palisades of fern and bramble"

From Corley 1901, collected poems and epigrams of George Rostrevor Hamilton.

The Bull and Butcher at Corley Moor incorporated a butcher's shop in the 1890s. The Tin Tabernacle has been in the past the subject of a planning application. If approved, it would have been removed. It is still there in 2002. Above the porch was a wooden spire with a single bell. Apparently christenings, but not marriages, were held here until recently.

Brief Information and Outline of the Route

Start at the triangle opposite the Bull & Butcher at **Corley Moor**. Go towards the Red Lion and turn right pass the Rest Cottage to go across Corley Moor. Over the M6 and across fields to Tamworth Road. Tamworth Road, dating back to the 14th century, runs along the ridge and was originally an ancient carriageway leading from Lichfield to Warwick. Turn right to go through a garden on left, cross fields to private fishing pool area at Savage's Square.

Left up Square Lane, cross fields on right. Turn right along Breach Oak Lane and turn right past Astley Lodge Farm. Over Breach Brook and onto Highfield Lane, left and then right over the M6 again and past Corley Service Area.

Along Bennett's Road, turn right over fields to an outcrop of Red Sandstone to what is almost the highest point (560ft above sea level) in the area. Here stands Burrow Hill, the site of an Iron Age Fort excavated in 1926. Right at the top of Rock Lane to **Corley**, (*Cornelie* in DB, clearing frequented by cranes or herons) walk through the churchyard. The parish church was runner up (September 2001) in the best kept churchyard section in Warwickshire's best kept village competition.

Left at Church Lane and left again down to Marslands Farm, (possibly the *Maisterlonde* in 1403) and skirt round Little Lady Wood bearing round right to cross fields to Wall Hill Road. Turn left past Slashpitts Farm and across the fields to come out to Watery Lane near the Mission Church (The Tin Tabernacle).



Right and then left to Windmill Lane past the old windmill now a private residence, right along Wall Hill Road back to the triangle.

Wildlife

Although a walk that can be enjoyed all year round the Three Corleys is particularly pleasant in the later part of the summer and especially during August. On leaving the Bull and Butcher you will encounter an aspen woodland which contain some scattered oak and ash. The Latin for aspen is *Populus tremula* and this describes the shimmering effect the roundish, stiff leaves of the tree produce in a light breeze. Lords and ladies (or cuckoo pint) occur in the wood and are particularly noticeable during the late autumn when the plant's poisonous berries turn bright red.

You may wish to take a moment to consider the area of common opposite the wood. This grassland is particularly noted for its population of sneezewort and heath bedstraw, which were once common in the Coventry area. Knapweed is also present and with the rush dominated areas the wetland loving lesser stitchwort can be found.

Once over the motorway you'll encounter a pond with a good deal of emergent vegetation such as branched bur-reed, good for damselflies and dragonflies in the late summer. Following down from Astley Lodge Farm you encounter a small copse with a shaded pool. The margins of this woodland contain foxglove which steal the show when in full bloom. To the south of the pool you'll cross Breach Brook, a canalised watercourse, which at first glance looks to be of little wildlife interest. Fool's watercress occurs in abundance, whose name suggests that it is easily confused with the edible watercress (although it is more closely related to hogweed). If lucky you may also see the small, deep blue flowers of brooklime which supports the impressive Latin title of *Veronica beccabunga*. It is worth approaching the brook as quietly as you can as it is home to the now rare water vole which, if you are very fortunate, can be seen grazing on the aquatic vegetation. Ratty has been the subject of considerable concern after its population crash in the 1970s and 80s, which has been largely due to predation by mink.

Having passed through Corley itself you may wish to linger along the edge of Little Lady Wood, a birch woodland with occasional oak and ash and an abundance of holly. Hazel, rowan and other fruiting

shrubs also occur and these provide an autumnal feast for birds and woodland mammals. However, during the spring the show of bluebell provides a deep luxuriant hue into the depths of the wood.

On the final section of the walk you may wish to rest a while and take in the pleasant surrounds of Green Lane. Here you'll find bush vetch and meadow vetchling in abundance alongside lofty stands of hogweed. The blaze of colour attracts many insects, including butterflies, which can be seen feeding on warm still days.