The Mancetter Parish Walk

The Mancetter Parish walk is a waymarked route off the North Arden Heritage Trail. This is a project which has worked with local communities to establish a 25 mile circular heritage trail through North Warwickshire. The project was funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and supported by the North Warwickshire Community Partnership and Parish Councils.

The Trail passes through the parishes of Atherstone, Mancetter, Hartshill, Ansley, Arley, Astley, Fillongley, Maxstoke, Shustoke, Nether Whitacre, Kingsbury, Baddesley Ensor and Merevale.

This major walking route promotes the area’s fascinating local heritage and distinctive landscapes. Where possible, the route has been developed to make it accessible for all.

Enjoy your Walk!

Points of Interest
1. At the start of this walk, there are fine views across the Anker Valley from the top of the hill. In clear conditions, there is a panoramic view of four counties, including Bradgate Park in Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire, formed of volcanic rock at the same time as the hills around Mancetter and Atherstone. It’s a good place to get an overview of Mancetter’s history and place in the world.

2. Hartshill Hayes Country Park covers 137 acres of ancient woodland and open hilltop.

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4. Look for the different rockface strata at Mancetter Quarry - here you can literally see the layers of our landscape’s history. There is an information panel near to the Mancetter Heritage Feature.

5. The Mancetter Heritage Feature. Mancetter’s Jubilee Quarry has an exciting feature for walkers to enjoy, to stop for a bite to eat and a well-earned rest or just to pause and enjoy the surroundings. The six stones that make up the sculpture were carved by artist Ant Beetlestone and each stone represents Mancetter’s Roman history and the story of Queen Boudicca. Visit the piece and you’ll see carvings of Celtic trumpet blowers announcing the charge into battle, Boudicca taking up arms against the oppression of the Romans, and faces representing the spirits of the dead... the ghosts that are said to march up the track, past the benches themselves. The artist used the volcanic rock diorite which is mined at Mancetter Quarry. It is known as ‘salt and pepper’ because of its colouring, and was donated by the quarry owners, Tarmac.

Enjoying your Visit
We want you to enjoy your visit, so please remember you will be sharing the countryside with:

- Other visitors enjoying themselves
- People who live in the countryside
- Wildlife and farm animals

Walkers Please:-
- Wear suitable footwear and clothes
- Keep your dog under close control
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Be safe, plan ahead and always give yourself enough time to finish the route before it gets dark

For More Information
For more walks and information visit:-
www.northardenheritagetrail.co.uk

Acknowledgements

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The Mancetter Parish Walk

Alternative Route:-
4 miles starting from Coventry Canal, taking approximately 2 hours.

A challenging walk encompassing the rural nature of North Warwickshire, with panoramic views across the Anker Valley and interesting geological features.

Leaving Mancetter Church, turn right into Quarry Lane (signposted Purley Chase Golf Club) going past Mancetter Manor. Follow Quarry Lane over the railway and through the traffic lights to Mancetter Bridge (No. 36) over the Coventry Canal [1] taking care as there is no footpath in places.

(If you parked by the Coventry Canal, start from here).

Cross over the canal and after a few yards, turn left on the waymarked path towards Stoneleigh Quarry Farm. Continue along this track until you reach a waymarker on the right before a stable block. Passing through two gates, continue to follow the waymarked path keeping to the left of the field boundary hedge as you head uphill. At the top of the hill, enjoy the views behind you of the countryside of Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and on a clear day, parts of Derbyshire (1 & 2).

Follow the hedge, continue along the waymarked path, with Mancetter Quarry in the distance to the right. At the bottom of the hill, take the path to the left for a short distance and then turn right through the hedge into the adjoining field. Follow the boundaries before eventually entering woodland over a footbridge.

Continue along the main path, climbing steeply up, ignoring any side paths until you come to a clearing at the top of the hill. This is part of Hartshill Hayes Country Park (3), with the path to the left heading in towards the Park.

Continue along the main path to the right, adjacent to the wooded area, passing through a gateway and onto Oldbury Lane [4]. Turn right down Oldbury Lane [5], passing Oldbury Grange on the left. After passing The Lodge on the right, take the next waymarked path on the right, which leads you back to Mancetter Quarry (4).

Continue along this path, through a gate, and with the quarry on your right you reach a waymark sign and gate. Go straight on and do not turn left. (At this point you join part of the Atherstone Parish Loop).

On the left is the Mancetter Heritage Feature (5). Follow the path as far as the gate leading out to Purley Chase Lane [1], turn right and continue downhill, joining the waymarked path into the woods on the left. Follow a wide path through the woods and at the end go through a tall gate, over a footbridge, and across a field to another footbridge. Cross the bridge and follow a narrow steep path up to another tall gate. Go through the gate to a meeting of paths and then take the track to your right, crossing the Coventry Canal at Outwoods Bridge (No.38).

To return to your starting point, bear to your right down the steps to the canal towpath, then turn left and walk along the towpath until you reach Mancetter Bridge (No. 36). Bear left immediately after passing under the bridge and climb up to Quarry Lane.

To return to Mancetter Church, turn right along Quarry Lane.

To learn more about Mancetter visit:-
www.northardenheritagetrail.co.uk