

The Pentrich Revolution Bicentenary Walk 12 of 19

- On 9th June 1817, over 300 men set out for Nottingham from villages on the Derbyshire-Nottinghamshire border.

- They thought they were part of a 'general rising' to bring down an unjust and oppressive government. Motivated by poverty and hunger, all efforts to gain a hearing suppressed, and having no vote, many saw an armed revolt as the only alternative.

- Unbeknown to them, the Government 'agent provocateur', William J Oliver had encouraged the armed revolt. Rebel leaders had already been arrested and only a handful would take up arms in Huddersfield and Nottingham. The Derbyshire men were to be used as an 'example' to others.

- Ambushed by troops, the marchers fled and many were arrested. At their trial in Derby, three - Brandreth, Ludlam and Turner - were sentenced to death. They were to be hanged then beheaded. Fourteen were transported to penal colonies in Australia, others imprisoned. Their families were evicted and homes destroyed.

The other walks in this series

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Nottingham, England | 10. Heanor, England |
| 2. South Wingfield, England | 11. Langley Mill, England |
| 3. Fritchley, England | 12. Eastwood, England |
| 4. Heage, England | 13. Giltbrook, England |
| 5. Pentrich, England | 14. Sutton in Ashfield, England |
| 6. Alfreton, England | 15. Derby, England |
| 7. Swanwick, England | 16. Sydney, Australia |
| 8. Ripley, England | 17. Parramatta, Australia |
| 9. Codnor, England | 18. Kiama, Australia |
| 19. The full route of the march, England | |



THE PENTRICH
& SOUTH WINGFIELD
REVOLUTION GROUP



©Photographs by
Emily Gentle &
Roger Tanner
2017



Walk compiled by
Roger Tanner

This walk is produced by:-

© Pentrich & South Wingfield Revolution Group
Website: www.pentrichrevolution.org
Charity Incorporated Organisation Number 1166940
Printed by George & Gagg, Nottingham, England

The **co-operative** membership
Central England Co-operative

The Pentrich & South Wingfield Revolution

Walk 12 of 19
Eastwood, England



Colliers Wood
©Photograph by Roger Tanner



Distance: 5 miles. Take care crossing all roads.
Difficulty: Moderate, footpaths, pavements and fields. Gates but no stiles.
Park: Car park behind the Sun Inn.
Start: The Sun Inn, Mansfield Road, Eastwood. OS ref. Explorer 260-465 470.

The walk takes you to places associated with the rebels' march on the morning of 10th June 1817.

1. Facing the front of the Sun Inn take the road to its right, Mansfield Road (A608), continue down the hill as it leaves the town. Continue on the right hand side of the road, crossing minor roads to the right, until reaching the bridleway sign. Opposite Eastwood

Hall. At least 200 rebels reached the Sun Inn early in the morning and stopped for refreshment and shelter from the continuing rain. Local witnesses described them as a "ragged band of men, dressed in tattered clothing." Morale was low and there was disappointment that others were not



©Photograph by Emily Gentle



©Photograph by Emily Gentle

waiting to join them. Recognising Isaac Ludlam, a well known and respected preacher, Mrs Godber, the landlady, pleaded with him to leave the rebels and offered to hide him in her cellar. He refused, saying "Many men are out because I am here. It is too late to return, I must and will, go on." As they reformed their ranks outside, Henry Hole of Pentrich, who had been pressed to join the march, refused. Jeremiah Brandreth threatened to shoot him but was stopped by Thomas Turner. Hole left towards Langley Mill and the rebels march continued along the Nottingham Road. See the information boards on your right, on Princes Street and in the park before Durbar House, on the heritage of Eastwood and the writer D.H. Lawrence.

2. Turn right off the road onto the bridleway. Continue along this until you reach a T-junction; turn right. Walk on until the junction of paths. Here turn left, continuing along the path and going under the former railway bridge. You are now on the site of Moorgreen Colliery, one of ten pits around Eastwood from the 1850s. 800 were employed at Moorgreen in the 1890s.

3. Coming to a junction of paths, follow the path to the right. The path becomes a road (Phoenix Road) as it enters the industrial estate. Follow this as it bends to the right. Come out onto a road. Here you turn left and walk up the hill. Before the brow of the hill cross and turn right into the park at Colliers Wood.

4. You face a lake. Walk around the lake on the left side and follow the path to the right until you reach a T-junction (do not turn into the car park). Here turn left and follow the path around. You come to an information board; continue straight ahead, come out at a road (B600) at Moorgreen.

5. Turn right and walk up the roadside past the Garden Centre. Cross the road to continue on a pavement. Between Moorgreen village and Moorgreen Reservoir is High Park Wood. (An extension to the walk can be taken, turning left out of Colliers Wood and walking up to the reservoir. The wood is on its right.) Many from Eastwood hid in these woods when they heard that the 'insurrectionists' were coming leaving the village nearly deserted and houses barred and shuttered.

6. Continue to walk along the B600, passing the Horse and Groom on your left. Do not turn right towards Eastwood.

Cross the road after passing the pub, continue to Greasley Church ahead. Turn right into the Church car park and follow the sign to the church, initially right, then to the left to the front of the church. Read the interesting information board in front of the church, about the long history of the church, Beauvale Priory and Greasley Castle.



©Photograph by Roger Tanner

7. Continue past the front of the church, going through a gate into a field. Walk straight ahead across the next five fields, going through the gates, towards a row of housing. The path eventually follows to the right of a row of trees. Walk on to a T-junction and, unable to go ahead further, turn right. Follow this path ahead, turning left, through a gate, behind houses, then quickly right onto a footpath

between houses, to reach a road. Crossing these fields look over the lovely view of the Gilt Brook valley to your left. As the march approached Eastwood Colonel Rolleston, a county magistrate and local landowner, had ridden to Nottingham and warned of their approach. He returned with the 18 mounted soldiers, coming down Gilt Hill, just across the valley, to disperse the rebels, who fled.

8. Turn right down the road, Main Street, continue to the bend on the road to the left. At this point turn right at the footpath just past number 202. Follow the path to the end to exit onto Salcombe Close. Cross the road to a footpath a few yards to your right. Follow this path between houses onto Peters Close. Walk ahead to Dunster Road and a playing field facing you. Access to the field is on your right. Follow the path at the side of the playing field to exit into Dovecote Road. The school on the opposite side of the road was attended by D.H. Lawrence. This group of streets was known historically as Beggarlee and here were the main cluster of buildings at Newthorpe in 1817. Turn left to follow Dovecote Road to the junction with Nottingham Road, looking at the dates on some of the houses indicating a period of expansion during the late 19th century.

9. At the Nottingham Road, turn right and follow the road on to Eastwood. On your right you will pass the War Memorial on the corner with Edward Road. Continue to the Sun Inn.

You are now retracing the route of the rebel's march across Eastwood Common towards Gilt Brook. Still marching through rain and with dwindling numbers they stopped by the tanyard (today behind IKEA). They were to flee across Newthorpe Common pursued by the soldiers. One account states that the soldiers also met a second body of marchers near today's Edward Road, who were also dispersed. At Hill Top there were a few houses along the road in 1817 but there is no record that the marchers stopped here. As you enter Eastwood watch for the D.H. Lawrence Literary Plaques. Before the Sun Inn you will come to Victoria Street on your right. Here is D.H. Lawrence's birthplace and museum.



©Photograph by Emily Gentle