

The Pentrich Revolution Bicentenary Walk 9 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.

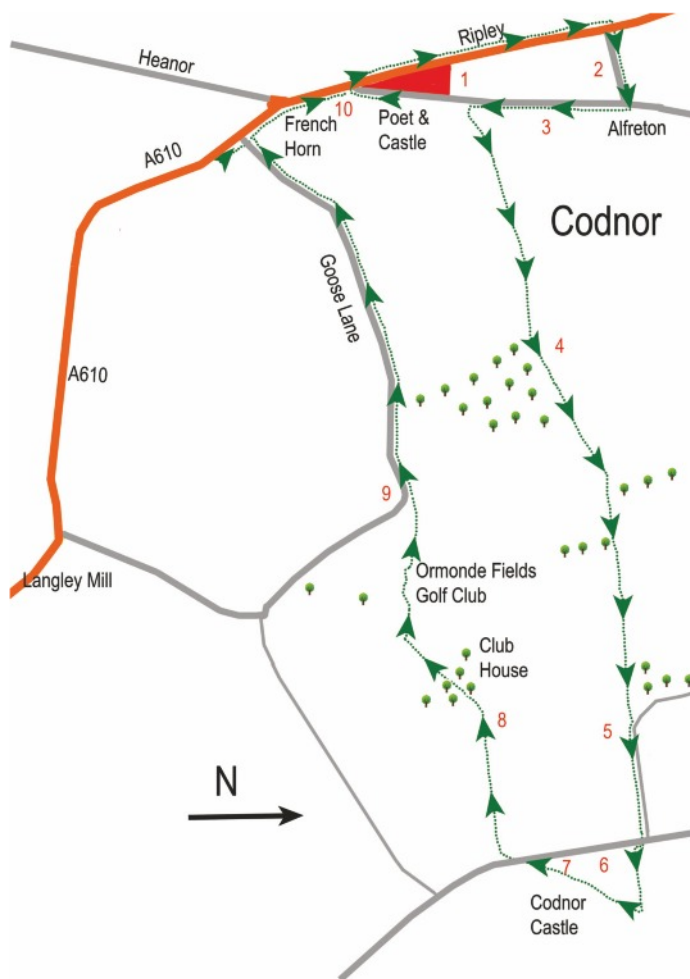
- Ambushed by troops, the marchers fled and many were arrested. At their trial in Derby, three - Brandreth, Ludlam and Turner - were sentenced to death. They were to be hanged then beheaded. Fourteen were transported to penal colonies in Australia, others imprisoned. Their families were evicted and homes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

The other walks in this series

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|--|---------------------------------|
| 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



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Emily Gentle
2017



Walk compiled by
Rebecca Deans

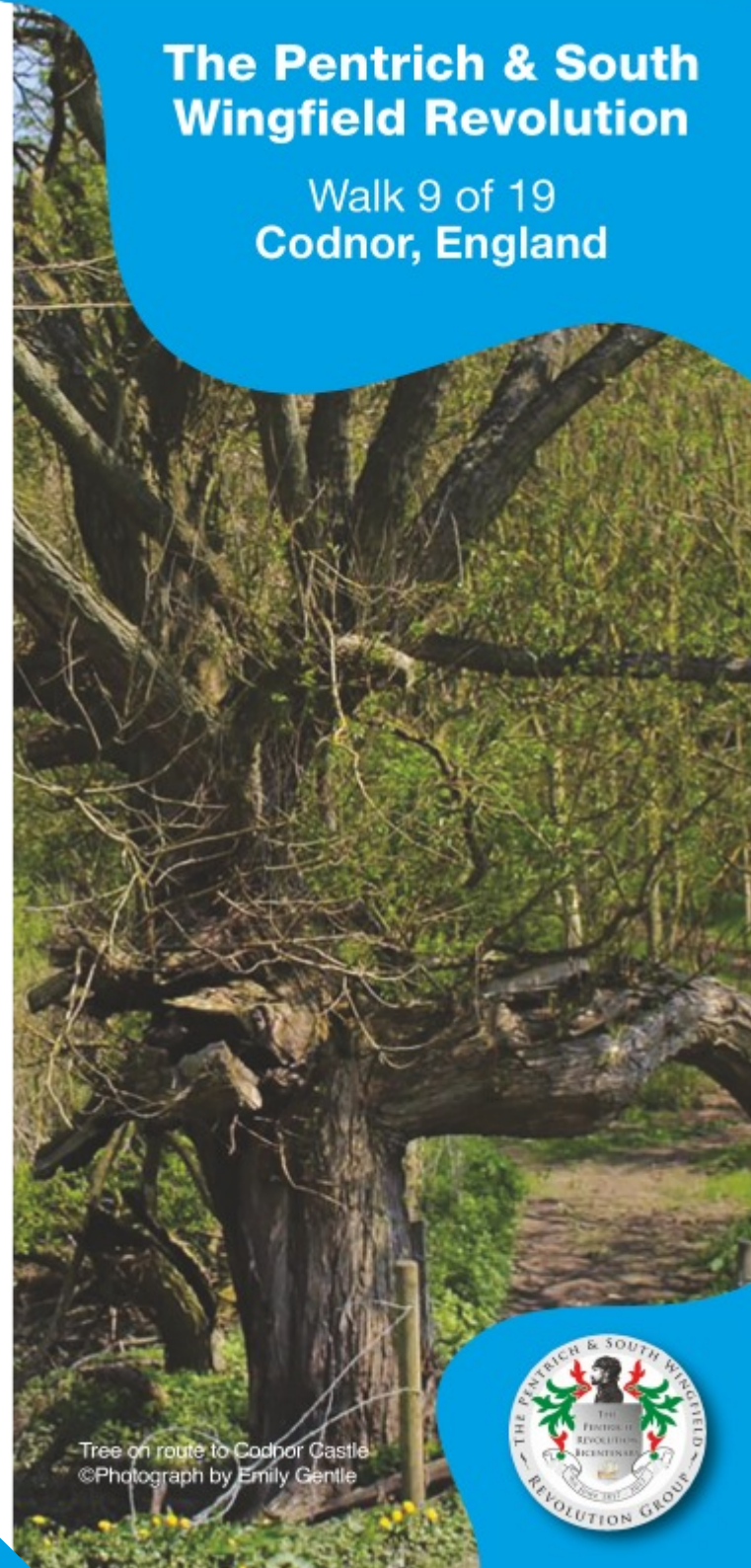


This walk is produced by:-

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The Pentrich & South Wingfield Revolution

Walk 9 of 19
Codnor, England



Tree on route to Codnor Castle
©Photograph by Emily Gentle

beckydeans
a way with words



The co-operative membership
Central England Co-operative



Distance: 3 miles. Care needed when crossing roads.
Difficulty: Undulating, footpaths, stiles, lanes and roads.
Park: Opposite the Poet and Castle Public house.
Start: The Market Place in Codnor. OS ref. Explorer 269-420 497.

After visiting the Butterley Works, the rebels continued their march through the night of the 9th June 1817 towards Nottingham. At Codnor they sought refreshment and shelter from the rain in public houses and continued their search for weapons, being joined by those from Ripley, Heage, Swanwick and Alfreton.

1. Turn right out of the car park, right in front of the clock tower, right onto High Street, the A610. Walk down Glasshouse Hill to the site of the Ce Bella restaurant, opposite Codnor Fish bar. In 1817 this was the site of the Glasshouse public house, kept by Joseph Thorp. Revolutionaries arrived demanding beer and other refreshments. It was reported that when the bill of 28 shillings was given to Jeremiah Brandreth, he told the landlord that he would be paid when they had overthrown the government. 'If I offered you a Bank of England note it will be of no use now.' John Bacon made a speech to the marchers saying that the Government had robbed the people and they must fight or starve. Isaac Ludlam stood at the door with a pike to stop any deserters slipping away.

2. Continue down Glasshouse Hill, until you reach Ashmere Care Home. Turn right on the footpath to reach Alfreton Road. Turn right



again up the hill. On your left you will pass Home Farm, one of the older buildings in Codnor this would have been here when the men passed this way.

3. Continue up Alfreton Road until you see a public footpath on the left. Passing this footpath, continue until you reach a second footpath, marked Codnor Castle. Take this footpath, an un-tarmaced road between houses, until you reach a stile.

4. Cross the stile into a field, continue down the side of the field, with the hedge on your left. When the footpath splits at woodland, follow the green lane on the left side of the wood.

5. The pathway comes to another stile. Cross this, keep straight ahead crossing one field and into the next. 50 yards down the hedge on your left is a stile. Cross the stile into the road and turn right. As you walk down the road enjoy the views of the Erewash Valley.



6. The road turns to the right immediately after this turning there is a stile in the hedge on the left at a footpath sign. Follow this into the field with the remains of Codnor Castle ahead of you. Codnor Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, was the seat of the De Grey family, important supporters of kings from Richard I, John and Edward I, to Henry VII, and fighting at important battles like Crecy and Agincourt, and in the Wars of the Roses. The Castle was in ruins by the 18th century, its stone used to build neighbouring Castle Farm. In June 2007, Channel 4's Time Team programme carried out an archaeological dig here.

7. Walk towards the remains of the castle, turn right on the path before reaching the old walls and on to drive to Castle Farm. On summer weekends you may be able to get refreshments at Castle Farm and ask about a guided tour of the Castle remains.



8. Turn right out of the farm entrance, and rejoin the road. Facing you is a gate in the hedge. Go through the gate, continue straight ahead across the field. With Farm buildings and a hedge to your right, continue to the stile, cross the stile, follow the path, directly across a track, which is marked with red/orange posts that will take you across the Ormonde Fields golf course. In 1817 Ormonde Fields house was owned by the Marquis of Ormonde, an Irish Peer and politician, who sat for Kilkenny County in the Irish House of Commons and lived an extravagant life style. He owned over 1000 acres around Codnor and Hearnor.

9. The path across the golf course will take you around the edge of the greens-for your safety, go behind the Club House, until you reach a road. Cross the road and follow the signs to the right, going around the edge of the green, with trees on your right. You will reach a gate, ahead of you, at the bottom of the hill. Here you leave the golf course, walk across the field to the right until you reach a stile in the hedge. Walk left up the lane, passing Codnor's former Miners Welfare. This becomes Goose Lane. This road will meet the A610. Turn left and walk down the hill until you reach 20b on the opposite side of the. The site of the original French Horn was on the opposite side of the road, further down Nottingham Road, just below Goose Lane. There is a bungalow there now which has the French Horn emblem above the door. Revolutionaries came here and again demanded ale from the landlord, Stephen Tissington. Tissington said that he drew five gallons of beer, but the bill of £1 3s 4d was left unpaid. He reported the men were boisterous and fired out of the windows, saying they needed to test their guns as they were wet with rain. A farm fork was taken, as was one of the customers. On the site of the present French Horn was Hall's Farm. Here the rebels took some pitchforks from the farmer, Mr Stirland, and two or three men were forced to join the march.

10. Go back up the hill, staying on the same side. To reach the present French Horn pub and the Poet and Castle public house, the starting point of the walk.



The Poet and Castle was called the New Inn when the revolutionaries called there on the night of 9th June 1817. Here they also demanded refreshment from the landlord, Thomas Clarke.

He drew two gallons and the unpaid bill was 4s 6d. The rebels also took a gun and several forks from outbuildings. After getting refreshment, weapons and men at Codnor, the rebels now continued their march through the night towards Langley Mill and Eastwood.