

THE CHURCH INN WALK

A *Little* History

Prior to the Romans invading Britain, Mobberley was part of a huge forest which stretched from Delamere to Macclesfield. During the Roman invasion, a large section of forest was cut down and Mobberley was first created.

The first records of Mobberley Parish appeared in the Domesday Book in 1086 as Motburlege, an Anglo-Saxon spelling with a hidden meaning. 'Mot' means a meeting, 'burgh' a town or village and 'lege' an open tract of country. Since then the village was known as Moberlehe until 1170 and later as Malberley in 1550.

The main landowners in the 1600s were the families Leigh, Leycester and Egerton, but for many years the Mallory family were the Lords of the Manor.

Records suggest that during the seventeenth and eighteenth century the Church Inn was known as The Bull's Head and The Wright Arms respectively. It is thought that there was a tavern on the site of the Church Inn prior to the present building.

In 1753 the Inn had been rebuilt and was known as the Bull's Head. During 1803 John and Hannah Wright came to live here. At this time there were two Bull's Heads in Mobberley, consequently in 1813 it was decided that this site should be renamed The Church House. In 1815 The Church House became The Wright Arms, named after this local predominate family in the village. Hannah Wright died in this building on 28th June 1825 and her 'presence' can be felt today within the old walls of the pub!



How to Get there...

Address for SatNavs: The Church Inn, Church Lane, Mobberley, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 7RD TEL. 01565 873178

Local Directions: Mobberley straddles the B5085 between Knutsford and Wilmslow. The road dips through a hollow on the Wilmslow side of the village you turn at the well positioned Brown signs marked Church Inn. Drive 800 meters up Church Lane and we are opposite St. Wilfred's Church. Be aware of the bend in the road as it can be dangerous when you pull in to the car park.

Parking: The Church Inn has a large car park.

Length of our Pub Walk: Approximately four miles.

The *Walk*

- 1 Enter the field through the gate directly off the Church Inn's car park. Cross the field until you reach two metal kissing gates and take the gate on your right into the next field. Continue walking through the field, keeping the hedge on your left, until you reach a rickety kissing gate - go through this. Keep walking along the hedgerow until you reach the track, go through the kissing gate onto the track and carry on along here until it reaches a road. On reaching the road cross and turn left - be careful when you cross. You are now walking on Newton Hall Lane. After approximately 600m, turn right at the sign for 'Graveyard Farm'. This tree lined track leads to the drive of Graveyard Farm.
- 2 When you are 10 meters back from the 'No Through Road' sign, the graveyard is on your left. Did you know, this graveyard is very significant to a religious society of friends called the Quakers. The graveyard is known as the 'burying yard' at Mobberley. The first known person to be buried here was Robert Peirson of Wilmslow who died 16th August 1656. It is now thought that the total number of burials is near 500.



Take the footpath over the stile to your right into the field; continue to the stile directly ahead. Climb over into the next field, walk to the stile diagonally left from where you entered. Climb over the stile and turn directly left and continue walking with the hedge on your immediate left. Continue straight until you reach a country lane called Moss Lane. Turn right and continue to the end of the lane.

Turn right you are now walking on Paddock Hill Lane, when Orchard Barn is to your right take the stile to your left. Continue straight keeping the fence to your right, cross the stile and continue diagonally right, crossing another stile, then continue walking keeping the hedge to your left until you reach the main road. Carefully cross Knutsford Road, enter a brick building through what looks like an open doorway at Sunny Bank Farm. Follow the footpath until you reach a stile, continue until you reach two stiles together and go over both, you will now be in a field. Cross the field diagonally to the stile which leads to a bridge over 'Swim Brook'. Once over the bridge stay right past the stables until reaching the main road. Turn left onto the road continue over the bridge and then turn right onto the gravel driveway to the right of the two pathways. After about 30 yards turn right through a metal gate into a field, continue over the stile and follow the path until you reach the next stile. Go over this stile and turn right. Continue to follow the fence until you reach a path to the left of the house, take this. You will now walk past a row of farm houses within a complex, having past the houses turn right so you are walking across the car park towards the kissing gate then enter the field. Walk with the hedge on your immediate right until you reach a wooden bridge and some stepping stones, cross these. Once over the stile head diagonally to your right until you reach a kissing gate. Pass through the gate and continue straight down a track you will pass Mobberley's old bird sanctuary. You have then arrived at the Bull's Head Pub. Get yourself a well earned drink!



Turn left out of the Bull's Head onto Mill Lane. At the end of Mill Lane cross the road carefully and enter the field opposite over the stile, cross the second stile to your left and diagonally cross the field heading slightly left until you reach the next stile. Carry on walking next to the fence until you reach a little bridge. Once you have crossed the bridge you will be walking around to Mobberley Cricket Club, please keep by the fence. Exit the field through a kissing gate and turn left onto the path leading to the graveyard of St Wilfred's Church. Have a walk around the graveyard. Exit the graveyard through the lych gate and turn right then continue until you reach the Church Inn! Definitely time to eat as a reward to yourself!



Circa 1715

The Church Inn
Church Lane, Mobberley, Knutsford,
Cheshire WA16 7RD

Tel: 01565 873178