

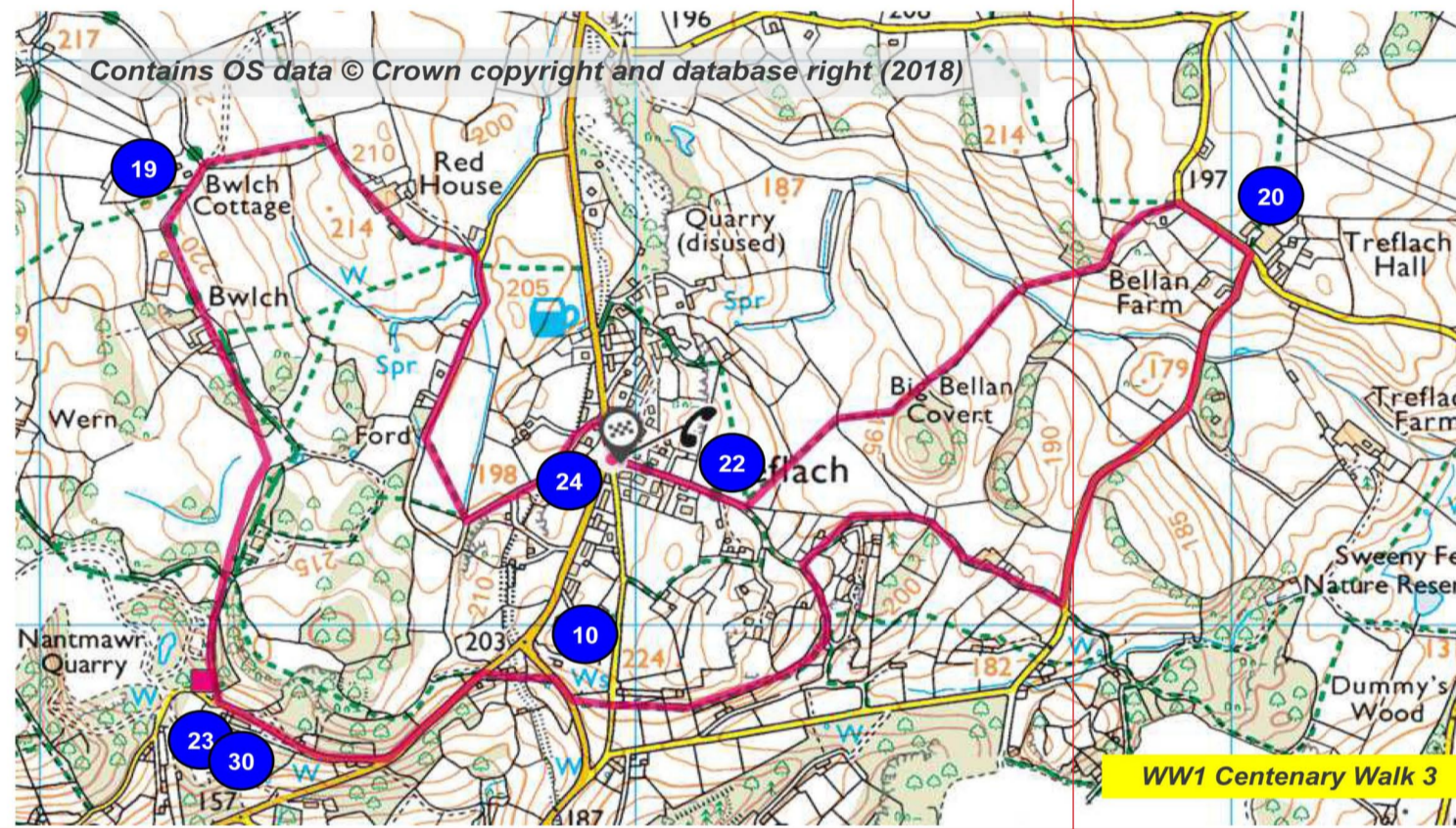
Walk 3

approx 2hrs 20 mins

Around Treflach

A plaque on Treflach Green records the site of the former 'Cocoa Rooms' where workers, including those from the local quarries, could advance themselves in the absence of alcohol. Treflach Hall dates from at least 1702. There is also a WW1 Centenary Trail Interpretation Board to view on the green.

Start at Treflach Green, which is at the junction of Gibraltar Lane with the Nantmawr to Trefonen road. Walk along this road in the direction of Trefonen for about 50m. Cross the road carefully after passing over Offas Close. 'Caythorpe' (24 Edward Probert) is opposite, and is the site of 'Blacksmith's Cottage'. Before the Bus stop, turn left up Fields Lane and continue along a track which can be muddy in places.



This track runs along Offa's Dyke for a short stretch, though it is difficult to spot. Ignore the track on the left by a house and stables and continue straight ahead for about 50m then cross the stile leading into a field on your right.

Two footpaths cross this field, neither is obvious, but the remains of an old hedge line take the shortest route across the field. Head about 45° to the right of this line, then cross a stile by a gate and turn right onto an old lane. Follow this lane and continue along it as it becomes tarmac. After about 300m, just before a new bungalow, cross a stile on your left and bear slightly right and uphill, passing close to the large buildings of Red House Farm. Having crossed the next stile, turn immediately left, heading for a gate and stile in the hedge. Cross the stile and turn left on the lane at 'Bwlch Cottage' (19 Humphrey Jones).

Follow this lane for about 450m passing Bwlch Farm, through a gate along a wooded path. Ignore a stile on the left just before emerging through a gate into a field. Another wood is opposite, with a fence boundary. Bear slightly right to cross the field and keep the wood and fence on your left. Enter a compound containing machinery through a small metal gate and exit the compound on the far side.

Continue on the track almost opposite for about 200m downhill to join Quarry Lane by the Old Engine House. Turn left on Quarry Lane and pass 'Lilleshall Cottages' (old quarry workers' cottages, 23 James Platt, 30 Aaron Scott) on your right. 200m after the cottages the lane joins the Nantmawr to Treflach road.

Cross the road carefully and walk with caution up the right side of the road for about 150m where a footpath leads right, through a gate (re-fasten the gate please), below a house. Follow this path, crossing Offa's Dyke, past a damp spring, over a stile, then up to a stile emerging onto Blodwel Bank.

Take great care as this road can be very busy. 'Glanaber' (10 Thomas John Ellis) is opposite and slightly left. (it can be visited by walking uphill for a short way, then returning). Turn right to walk about 40m downhill. It is probably best to walk on the left side of the road to a footpath crossing the ditch and stile on the left. Follow this path uphill to a stile, cross Stoney Road and over the stile directly opposite.

Continue up the path, it is easy to miss as it bears slightly right away from the farm track, but then is waymarked obviously as it crosses stiles and twists through woods eventually emerging as a 'T' junction with a more major path (the 'cat path'). Turn left and follow this major path to Gibraltar Lane. Turn right and follow the lane as it deteriorates then recovers, eventually passing the stables and house of 'Ty Tegwch' At the T junction with the tarmac lane, turn left.

Follow the lane for about 600m up and down past the entrance to Treflach Farm, then up to a T junction; turn right to view the impressive 'Treflach Hall' (20 John Thomas Jones & Charley Edward Jones) and views over Shropshire. Retrace your steps to the T junction but continue straight on uphill for about 150m. Take the footpath on the left, immediately after the bungalow. Stay close to the fence on your left and cross the stile on your left after about 80m.

This pleasant path takes you through woods, downhill to a gate and up again over the side of Big Bellan Covert. At the next gate bear 45° left aiming for a stile and then to the right-hand side of the fenced compound which usually contains bales and/or farm machinery. Make your way through this small compound and turn right. Follow Gibraltar Lane past the entrance to Moreton House (22 Peter George Morris) to Treflach Green.



A 120 page book outlining the impact of World War One on the local communities of Trefonen, Treflach, Nantmawr and the town of Oswestry with further details on those whose names appear on the Trefonen War Memorial is available from Trefonen shop or Chris Woods at lightsouttrefonen@gmail.com



Lights Out Trefonen