

**5** Otherwise to continue the walk, turn right and right again to go over the disused railway bridge. To the right of the bridge the old station and engine shed have been converted to dwellings.

**This was the passing point for the single track from Whitchurch to Oswestry.**

Cross the stiles at the top and bottom of the footpath on left just after the bridge. Head towards the barn across the field, keeping the pool on the left. Cross the stile and turn left along tarmac road. Just after barn where road bends cross field diagonally right towards canal bridge 47. Pass through gate and turn right along towpath. Do not cross over bridge.



**Canal opened 1801**

**6** Carry on along canal until reaching point where road runs alongside. Go through white gate and turn right along road and at second house on left take the footpath along left hand edge of the garden. (A more direct route is to continue along road and take the bridle path on left opposite farm. This leads directly to the metal gate.) Once in the field follow the hedge to the right, following hedge until reaching stile in corner. Cross stile then walk diagonally left to marker post, heading towards satellite tower in distance. At marker post turn left to metal gate (now back on bridle path). Go through gate and follow the path, passing house on right, all the way to the road. Take care as no pavement. Turn right passing a small Methodist church.

**A Primitive Methodist Chapel opened in 1843. The Chapel House is joined to it.**

The Sun Inn comes into view – a good excuse for a beverage!

**Horseracing used to take place here in the early 19th century.**

## **The Nature Improvement Area and Landscape Partnership Scheme**

The Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme is working to preserve, enhance and raise awareness of this precious landscape. The Partnership is mainly funded by a combination of money from Heritage Lottery Fund and a Government funded Nature Improvement Area; this project area covers the heartland of the wider Meres and Mosses region.

This work is being delivered by a wide partnership comprising:

Butterfly Conservation  
Canal and River Trust  
Cheshire Wildlife Trust  
Environment Agency  
Harper Adams University  
Natural England  
RSPB

Shropshire Rural Community Council  
Shropshire Council  
Shropshire Wildlife Trust



Please note that while the publishers take every care to be accurate, no liability or responsibility will be accepted in any circumstances whatsoever, should anyone experience any inaccuracies, loss, damage or injury. This leaflet/map should be

# **WALK 3**

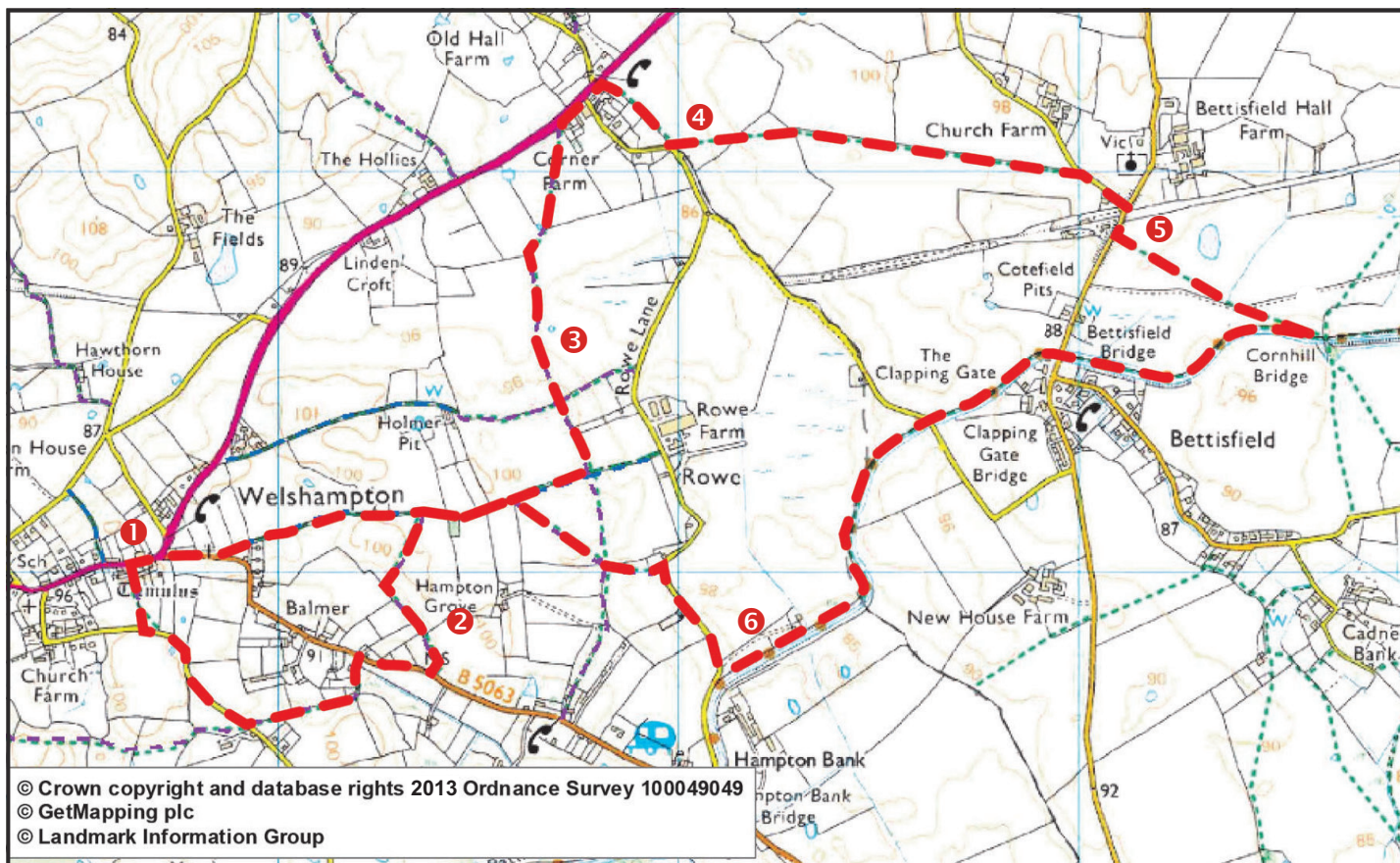
Circular route from Welshampton via Bettisfield  
Parking available at Parish Hall, adjacent side road on A495 and at Sun Inn with proprietors' consent

**Fields and canal using paths, tracks and lanes with 13 stiles**

**6¼ miles**  
**3 hours**



**Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council** **W L C**



1

Cross A495 road at The Sun Inn car park to footpath which runs along left side of hairdressers, Williams of Welshampton. Cross two stiles to reach Lyneal lane. Turn left along lane and then left again where the next footpath crosses the lane.

Walk along edge of field, keeping hedge to the left. Cross a stile at end of path and pass three houses on left. At road turn right along grass verge until next footpath sign across road on left.

This is in a dip in the road known as 'Coffin's Valley'; a family named 'Coffin' once owned land and probably lived here.

2

Cross stile and walking along hedge on right cross a second stile on right. Turn left and walk along hedge until a directional post is reached just before a left hand bend in hedge. From here turn diagonally right and cross field at a 45 degree angle making for the far right of a row of trees. (These are to the right of a house). On reaching this point you are now on a bridle path.

Cope's Lane – at least three generations of the Cope family were Parish Clerks in the 18th century.

Turn right and follow bridle path to a metal gate painted green. From here you can see Bettisfield Church in the distance.

3

Follow path and look for an electricity post on right. Once level with this, turn left 90 degrees across field to fence and keeping to the left hand side walk along fence to wicket gate. Carry on in same direction down field, keeping right of lone oak tree, to next stile. It is through here that the old Cambrian Railway Line ran and looking to the far right a railway bridge can be seen on Rowe Lane.

The largest railway disaster on the Cambrian Railways in the nineteenth century occurred near here. Eleven were killed and many injured. National safety rules were put in place as a result.

Bear slightly right and heading towards a house in the distance climb over a metal gate, (small pool on left), and carry on towards house and through wooden gate to main road.

4

Turn right past the house and entrance to Rowe Lane and take footpath on right. You have now crossed the border into Wales and the footpath signs have changed from wood to metal. Walk in same direction along field hedge on right to footpath sign.

Follow direction of sign diagonally left to stile in hedge cutting across the corner of field. Once over the stile turn left and follow hedge. On reaching a set of double metal five bar gates pass through these. The view straight ahead is of Bettisfield Church.

Keep to the right of the fence and walk along field verge towards church. Turn right along lane and then left at road if you wish to visit church.



Looking from the old railway bridge the Gospel Meadow with the Gospel Pool can be seen. It is supposed to be an ancient Christian site associated with Saint Chad of Lichfield.