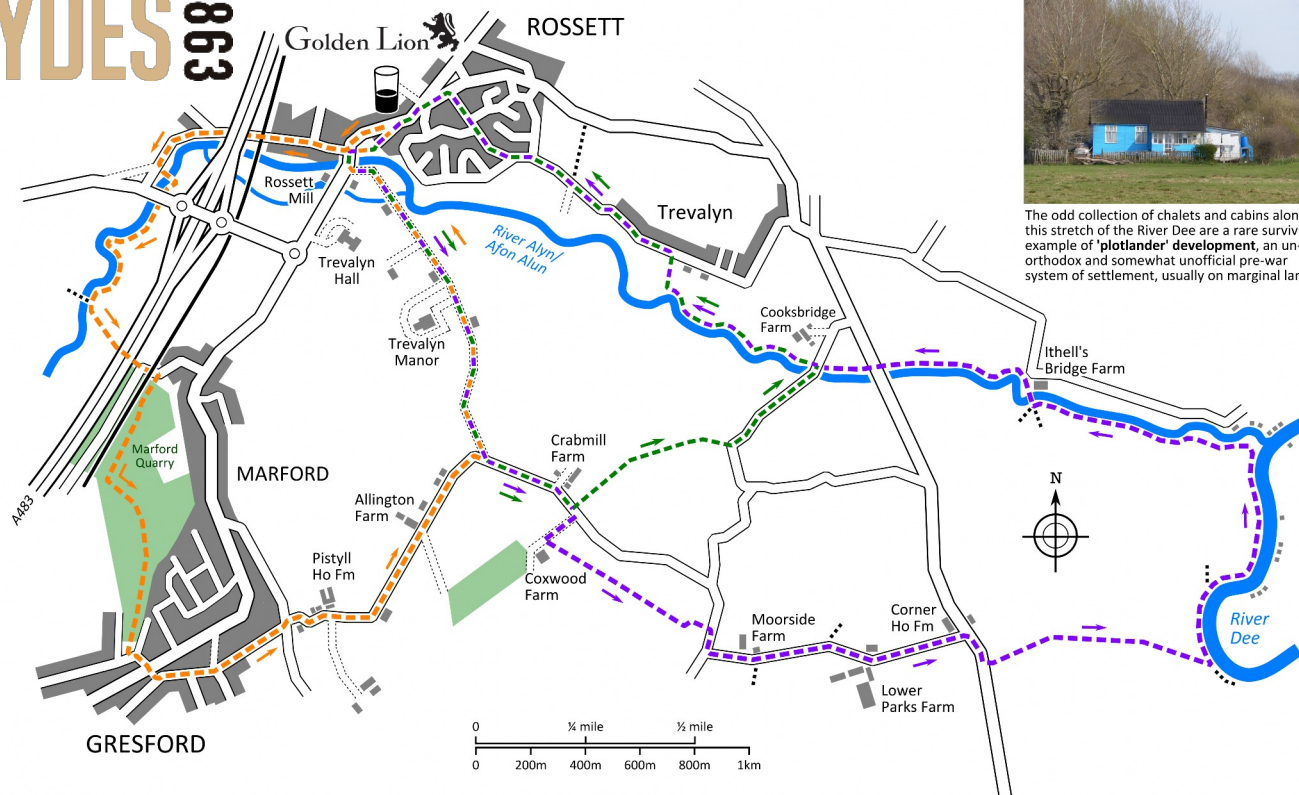


HYDES 1863



The odd collection of chalets and cabins along this stretch of the River Dee are a rare surviving example of 'plotlander' development, an unorthodox and somewhat unofficial pre-war system of settlement, usually on marginal land.

THREE WALKS FROM THE Golden Lion



Rossett, Wrexham



Rossett Mill is a striking timber-framed watermill dating back to 1588 and extended in 1661. Turner sketched the building in 1795. It is Grade II* listed; the listing describes it as an "exceptionally fine example of a 16th-century timber-framed undershot corn mill."



Marford Quarry is a nature reserve managed by the North Wales Wildlife Trust. The old quarry was the source of aggregate used in the building of the Mersey Tunnel. It is noted for its invertebrates and wildflowers, including the rare wild liquorice.



The River Dee rises in Snowdonia and runs for around 70 miles through Bala Lake and Llangollen to Chester and the Irish Sea. For much of its lower reaches (as here between Rossett and Churton, Cheshire) it forms the boundary between England and Wales.

THE GOLDEN LION
Chester Road, Rossett, Wrexham LL12 0HN
Tel: 01244 571020
Website: www.thegoldenlionrossett.co.uk

OPEN: Mon to Sat 12 noon–11pm
Sun: 12 noon–10.30pm

FOOD SERVED: Mon to Sat: 12 noon–9.30pm
Sun: 12 noon–9pm

Cook's Bridge and Trevalyn 3 miles: Easy

A short level stroll on lanes and footpaths, with a couple of stretches along the pretty River Alyn.

Marford Quarry 4 miles: Fairly easy

Walk through a wooded nature reserve, with good views across the Dee valley on the return journey.

Along the Dee and Alyn 6 miles: Moderate

A pleasant level walk through meadows, with stretches alongside the rivers Dee and Alyn.

Cook's Bridge and Trevalyn

3 miles: Easy

Allow 2 hours. Wet grass and muddy/boggy sections after rain.

1 Cross the road in front of the pub and turn right. Take the first left (Gun Street). **2** At the end of the road, continue straight on along a footpath. When you reach the river, swing right and walk out to the road. **3** Turn left and cross the bridge. **4** Turn left into Manor Lane (*though you may wish to walk a short way further along the main road to view Rossett Mill before continuing*). **5** Follow Manor Lane across a field and over the mill stream, passing a white-painted house called The Mill House. **6** Continue along the lane past the entrances to Trevalyn Manor to a last house on the left. **7** When the lane ends, continue along a track that swings right and left across fields. **8** On reaching a lane (Cox Lane), turn left. **9** After 400 yards, shortly after passing Crabmill Farm, turn left onto a signposted footpath (*in wet weather you may decide to follow the road to Cook's Bridge – see map – as these fields can be boggy*). **10** Walk straight across the field (initially parallel to a hedge on your left) to a stile and footbridge, then bear half-right to a further stile. Continue in a similar direction to yet another stile, beside a farm gate, then cross the last field to a similar stile and gate leading into a lane. **11** Turn left and walk down the lane to Cook's Bridge. **12** Having crossed the river, descend a flight of steps on your left and climb the stile beyond onto a riverside path. **13** After a couple of stiles the path briefly enters a small wood, then swings right, leaving the river, to reach a stile into the road in the village of Trevalyn. Turn left. **14** Walk along the road with cottages on the right, passing the old village pump on the left. **15** Beyond the village, keep on along the road (no verges) back to Rossett, continuing through modern housing until you meet Holt Road (the B5102) opposite a children's playground. **16** Turn left to reach the main road through Rossett, then turn left to return to the Golden Lion.

Marford Quarry

4 miles: Fairly easy

Allow 2½ hours. Some paths may be under crops, and muddy after heavy rain. The route crosses a busy dual carriageway.

1 From the front door, turn right and walk past the church. **2** Turn right into Station Road. **3** At the end of the road, cross the railway and walk under the A483 underpass. **4** Follow the road to a junction by a weir; cross over and turn left along the pavement, with the River Alyn beyond the road to your left. **5** Just after a house on the left, take a signposted footpath to cross the river via a footbridge. **6** Turn right along the river, and pass under a road bridge (*the official right of way leads up to and over the road and then diagonally left across the two fields beyond, but a well-used path follows the riverbank*). **7** Keep alongside the river until you reach a footbridge and then a farm

bridge. **8** Turn left here, leaving the river, and strike out across the field to a stile in the hedge. **9** Cross the busy A483 through a gap in the crash barrier. **10** Go under the railway arch beyond, and turn right along a bridleway into Marford Quarry Nature Reserve. **11** Beyond the disabled parking, keep along the main track, ignoring paths to left and right. **12** Beyond a prominent bank, swing left, still on the main track, with the main quarry to your left. **13** The track narrows and leads uphill through the woods to emerge in Pant village. **14** Turn left and follow the road right to a T-junction. **15** Cross via the zebra crossing and follow the short road beyond the barriers opposite. **16** At the next junction, turn left and follow the narrowing lane until it bends right. **17** Take the lane straight ahead (Pistyll Hill), which descends to another road junction. **18** Turn left then right into Cox Lane. **19** Follow the lane for a little over half a mile, passing a series of farms and isolated houses. **20** At a right-hand bend, with the impressive frontage of Trevalyn Manor visible to your left, turn left onto a bridleway signposted to Rossett. **21** The bridleway winds across a field to meet the end of Manor Lane by a house. **22** Continue along the lane, passing the entrances to Trevalyn Manor and then the Mill House, to emerge on the main street in Rossett. **23** Turn right over the bridge, then immediately right down some steps and along a riverside path. **24** Follow the path to the left when it leaves the riverside, to reach the end of Gun Street. **25** Follow Gun Street to emerge opposite the Golden Lion.

Along the Dee and Alyn

6 miles: Moderate

Allow 3–4 hours. Wet grass and muddy sections, and after prolonged rain some of the low-lying meadows may be impassably flooded.

1 Cross the road in front of the pub and turn right. Take the first left (Gun Street). **2** At the end of the road, continue straight on along a footpath. When you reach the river, swing right and walk out to the road. **3** Turn left and cross the bridge. **4** Turn left into Manor Lane (*though you may wish to walk a short way further along the main road to view Rossett Mill before continuing*). **5** Follow Manor Lane across a field and over the mill stream, passing a white-painted house called The Mill House. **6** Continue along the lane past the entrances to Trevalyn Manor to a last house on the left. **7** When the lane ends, continue along a track that swings right and left across fields. **8** On reaching a lane (Cox Lane), turn left. **9** Beyond Crabmill Farm, turn right into the driveway to Coxwood Farm. **10** Before you reach the farm buildings, turn left over a stile and continue over two more, passing to the right of a pond in the second field. **11** Walk along the left-hand edge of two more fields, then cross a stile on your left and bear right to emerge in a lane, where you turn right. **12** Take the next left and follow this lane for half a mile to the B5102. **13** Turn right along this road for a short distance, then take a footpath on the left. **14** Walk down the field to a kissing gate beyond a water trough, then bear half-right to the far corner of the second field. **15** Cross the third

field to the River Dee, and turn left (downstream), passing some cabins on the opposite bank. **16** On meeting the River Alyn, which enters the Dee from the left, bear left and follow the embankment upstream for a pleasant ½ mile to a footbridge by a farmhouse. **17** Cross the river and keep left of the house to a stile by the river. **18** Turn left, now with the river on your left, and follow it until you reach a stile and steps to a road. **19** Cross straight over, descend the steps to a second stile and continue along the riverside path beyond. **20** At the next bridge (Cook's Bridge), cross the stile and road and then descend another flight of steps and climb the stile beyond. Keep on along the riverside. **21** After a couple of stiles the path briefly enters a small wood, then swings right, leaving the river, to reach a stile into the road in the village of Trevalyn. Turn left. **22** Walk along the road with cottages on the right, passing the old village pump on the left. **23** Beyond the village, keep on along the road (no verges) back to Rossett, continuing through modern housing until you meet Holt Road (the B5102) opposite a children's playground. **24** Turn left to reach the main road through Rossett, then turn left to return to the Golden Lion.

Golden Lion

The Golden Lion is situated in the heart of the picturesque Welsh village of Rossett. As renowned for its ghost stories as it is for food, the Golden Lion has its own special guest, Old Jeffrey.

Legend has it that Jeffrey, a ploughman, was hanged in Ruthin for the murder of a local farmer. His body was transferred and displayed on a gibbet at Rossett as a deterrent to other would-be criminals. A wooden pallet that was used to transport poor Jeffrey's body was used in the construction of the pub. Jeffrey now lives quite contentedly in bedroom 2 upstairs and though still inclined to mischief, is perfectly harmless. Indeed, he has been known to have a sneaky drink on occasion, moving bottles from behind the bar and leaving glasses and chairs upturned.

Inside the pub, the eclectic mix of old and new bring together a comforting homely appeal that is matched by the adventurous menu. The wine list boasts a generous selection of well-known varietals with some little-known treasures to tell your friends about.



Text, mapping and photography
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www.walksfromthedoors.co.uk