

Follow the green lane right down into Fownhope where you come to Church Croft. Bear left and then right at the T-junction to the cross-roads by the church where you go straight over into Capler Lane. In 150m turn right into the recreation field and the car park.

After your walk you can find food and drink at The New Inn or The Green Man and accommodation at The Bowens or The Green Man. The village also has a general store, post office, butcher and craft shop.

GENERAL NOTES ABOUT WALKING

The map displayed next to The Shop at Coe Corner and by the pavilion on the recreation field shows all of the public rights of way in Fownhope parish. In addition, you have a legal right to walk anywhere on the common land on Common Hill, in Rudge Wood and in Haugh Wood under Open Access legislation. There are permissive walking rights in Fownhope Park and Cherry Hill. You are welcome to walk in the various Nature Reserves. You have no roaming right in West Wood, Nover Wood and Capler Wood but you may, of course, use the rights of way, if any, in these areas.

**TAKE NOTHING BUT PHOTOGRAPHS,
LEAVE NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS**

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HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1832 footpaths allowed people to get to work, shops, ferries, church and neighbours and were used by postmen from the 1890s. But these were not public rights of way and permission to use them could be withdrawn by the landowner. There were voluntary waywardens, as today, but the footpaths didn't become legal rights of way until the 1950s.

Try not to walk along the B4224, the main road through the parish. It is narrow and dangerous for walkers and it has no footway.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

Stay on the public rights of way unless you are on open access land or where there are permissive roaming rights.

Be safe: plan ahead and follow waymarkers. Leave gates and property as you find them.

Protect plants and animals.

Take your litter home.

Keep dogs under close control.

Be considerate to other people.



MORE FOWNHOPE INFORMATION

Visit the parish website www.fownhope.org.uk or find us on Facebook. Leaflets are available for the other Fownhope walks on the website and in the shops.

Published by the Fownhope Local History Group. Leaflet and map design by Nick Kingsford.

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Fownhope Parish Council

Serving the community



Fownhope Walk 6 Tom Spring Memorial



This walk takes you to the memorial of Tom Spring the undefeated bare-knuckle boxing champion of all England 1821 - 1824 and Fownhope's most illustrious son.

Distance: 2.2 miles (3.5 km).

Duration: allow 1.5 hours

From the recreation field car park walk back along the access road (the way you came in) to Capler Lane and turn left to reach the crossroads at the church. Note the 1907 milestone in the corner of the churchyard. Take great care crossing the main road and go straight across into Common Hill Lane. Stay on this road for a kilometre until you come to the pump house at Common Hill.

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The pump house here was erected in 1916 to provide water for the residents of Common Hill. It was originally thatched. Go straight ahead up the steep pitch to arrive on the ridge at Common Hill Fiveways. Here you will see the white fingerpost pointing the way to the Tom Spring Memorial.

Take the path indicated by the fingerpost down the side of the garden of Keel Cottage for 50m until you come to a gate on the right. Go through the gate and in 15m another gate. Here you have an extensive view of the houses at Rudge End with Haugh Wood in the background.



From here there is a permissive path to the Tom Spring Memorial. The landowner has permitted access on this line which is shown as a red dotted line on the map. It is not a legal public right of way so please don't stray from the line. Turn left at the gate and follow along the field edge. 25m along and off to the right is the site of the cottage where Tom Spring was born. In 150m from the gate you come to a stile, which you don't cross, but turn sharp right downhill following the fence.

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At the end of the fence, before it becomes a hedge, there is a gateway. Go through this and turn right to follow the hedge as far as the stream. The Memorial is now in view and you go to it across the bottom of the field where there is also an information board and a picnic table. Here is a typical Hereford apple press with a vertical millstone which was pulled by a donkey around the circular trough which held the apples.

The central monolith has inscriptions on both sides.

From here you should go through the adjacent gate and across the corner of the field to the road gate where there is a fingerpost. Step onto the road with great care as there is nowhere to escape the traffic.

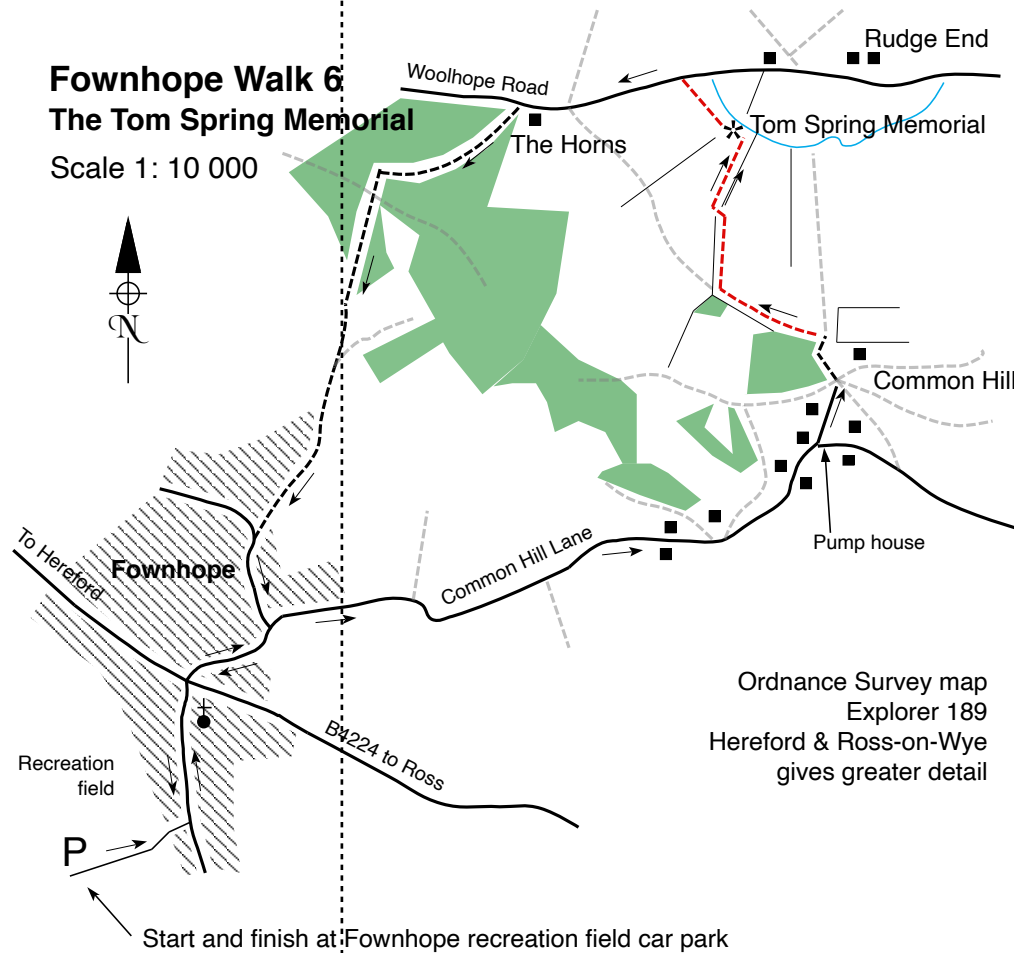
Now you can either turn right along the road to join Walk 2 at Hillview (at point 6) and do Walk 2 in reverse or you can turn left and walk 200m along the road to 'The Horns' which used to be an ale house.

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Just beyond 'The Horns' is a public footpath on the left. Take this path through a plantation to another gate into mature woodland. Continue uphill to Sheers Hill where the path meets the Wye Valley Walk. Go straight over down through the trees to a stile that leads into a field. Go diagonally across the field to the next stile which leads onto a green lane where you turn right.

Fownhope Walk 6 The Tom Spring Memorial

Scale 1: 10 000



Ordnance Survey map
Explorer 189
Hereford & Ross-on-Wye
gives greater detail

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