TUTBURY CASTLE

Silhouetted against the skyline are the ruins of Tutbury Castle, whose chequered past began with the Saxons, before passing onto the Duchy of Lancaster in 1265, to whom it still belongs. Through John of Gaunt's gateway travelled Kings, Queens and soldiers seeking glory, refuge and sanctuary. Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned here, and during the Stuart's reign, Tutbury Castle became the headquarters for hunting in the Needwood Forest. The last King to take refuge was Charles I after the battle of Naseby.

The ruins of Tutbury Castle are open to the elements and nature, and also the public between Easter and October. Wander around the grounds and the castle walks, and pop in for refreshments at the Tea Room.

Of particular interest in Tutbury is St. Mary's Church, originally a Norman Benedictine friary founded by Henry de Ferrers. The west doorway is a magnificent example of Norman architecture and the Stocks remain in the Churchyard.

ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH, HANBURY

Records show that Newborough and Marchington were originally included in the Parish, which could account for the size of St. Werburgh's Church relative to Hanbury today. After the Fauld explosion the South Aisle window was reconstructed as a memorial, using fragments of 14th century stained glass. Of particular significance is Sir John de Hanbury's monument, believed to be the earliest alabaster tomb in Staffordshire.

Deep in the annals of Hanbury's past is the story of St. Werburgh. During the 7th century, Werburgh, daughter of the pagan King Wulfere of Mercia founded nunneries at Trentham, Repton, Weedon and Hanbury - the latter believed to be sited to the east of the Church.
Werburgh's burial was a turbulent affair. Legend reveals that she was first buried in Trentham, stolen by the people of Hanbury, to be reinterred, exhumed 9 years later when she was said to be "entire and whole", before being reburied in a new shrine at Hanbury. For 150 years, Hanbury was a centre for Christianity. When the Danes invaded in 875AD. Werburgh's body was again removed to Chester for safe keeping, where it was finally laid to rest in the Cathedral.

Whilst care has been taken to ensure the routes are enjoyable, free from obstructions and easy to follow, conditions vary with the seasons. It is recommended that strong waterproof footwear is worn.

Staffordshire County Council is grateful for the assistance of Mr. G. Nutt of Swadlincote, who has provided information on the Fauld explosion from his original archive material.

Information on other walks and publications is available from **Tourist Information Centres** and **Staffordshire County Council, Shire Hall, Market Street Stafford. Tel: (01785) 277247**

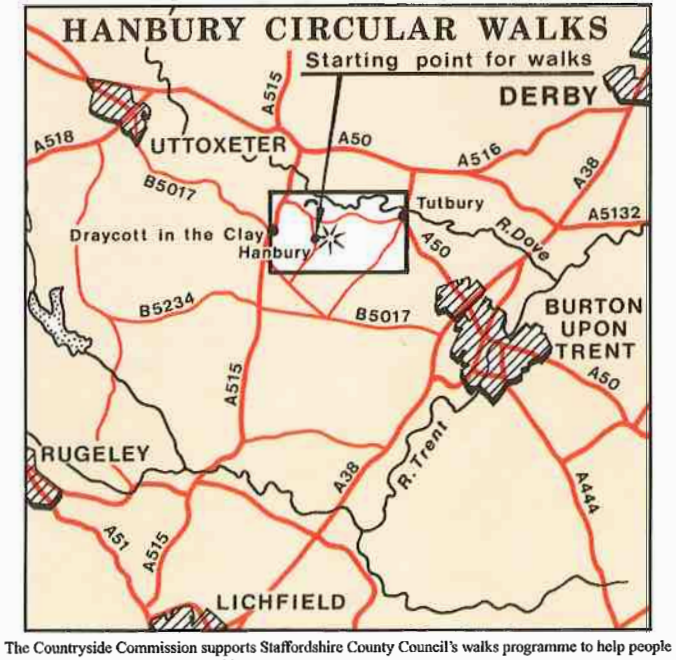
HANBURY WALKS is the 4th in a series of walks created by Staffordshire County Council with assistance from the Countryside Commission.

Locals recall shock, horror and disbelief when one day during World War II a familiar landscape was transformed in the space of seconds. 4,000 tons of high explosive bombs stored underground exploded - to be heard in London and recorded in Geneva as an earthquake. The blast gouged a crater 400 feet deep, covering an area of 12 acres.

Now almost unheard of, the **Fauld Crater** is the scene of the biggest explosion in the United Kingdom.
Looking down into the chasm of the crater, it is difficult to imagine the devastation or the landscape prior to destruction. Nature has healed the scars, as larch, silver birch and hawthorn have gradually recolonised an area, to become the habitat of birds, wild flowers and a vast rabbit colony. Apart from the awesome sight which is testimony to the powers of destruction, the crude gypsum cross is a poignant reminder that here lives were also lost in a bid to terminate world-wide atrocities.

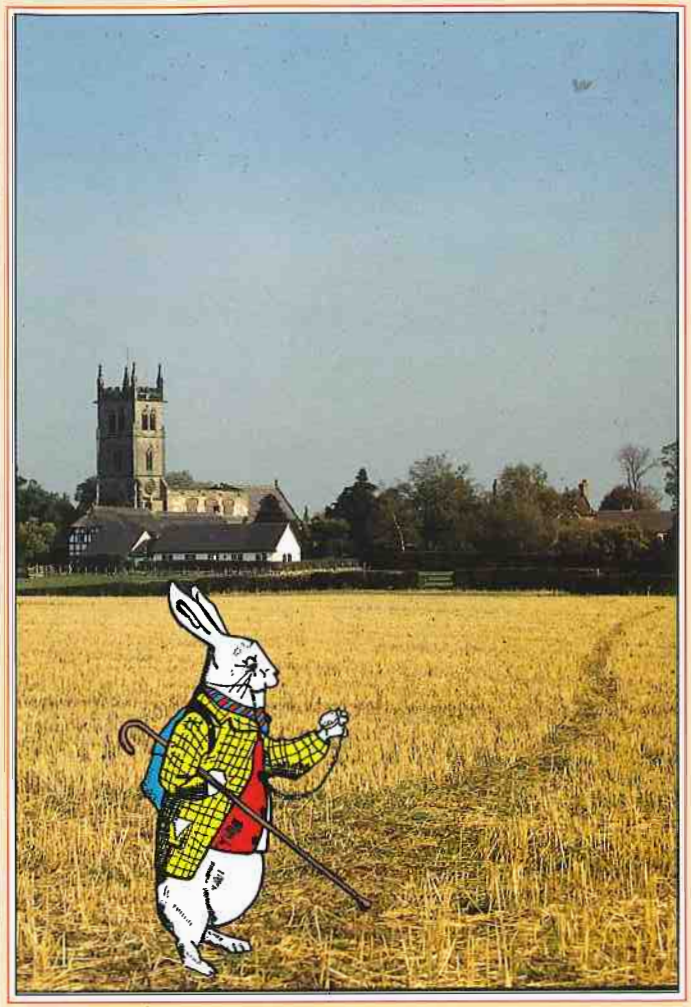
Why not follow the **red waymarked paths** and see the crater for yourself! Whet your appetite by calling into the **Cock Inn** for refreshments and read the newspaper reports lining the walls.
Other waymarked walks are available: **Green to historic Tutbury; Blue to Draycott in the Clay.**

Downhill from the Cock Inn is **Hanbury Common Picnic Place,** enjoying panoramic views over the Dove Valley, and the Peak District beyond.



The Countryside Commission supports Staffordshire County Council's walks programme to help people use and enjoy their local countryside.

HANBURY WALKS



Staffordshire County Council
Cultural & Recreational Services

30p

No. 4 in a series of country walks

HANBURY WALKS

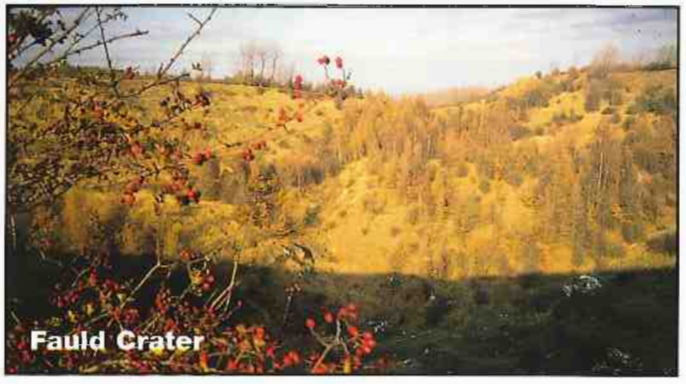
RED WALK — **Fauld Crater** - 1.5. miles - 0.75 hour Clockwise

Follow the **Red** waymarkers across the fields towards Brown's Coppice. Before the track descends turn right and follow the perimeter fence. At this point, the Green Walk continues to Tutbury. Prepare yourself for the most incredible sight as the view of the crater unfolds to your left!

This little known drama was reported in local newspapers alongside offensives in Europe as World War II was reaching its climax. It is believed that as the pressure for bombs increased, carelessness, inexperience and short cuts resulted in a catastrophic accident.

The area of Hanbury and Fauld is rich in gypsum and alabaster, and it was here that the chambers of exhausted underground mines became a huge store for high explosive bombs. RAF personnel and Italian prisoners of war received and despatched the lethal arsenal with increasing speed and urgency.

There was nothing significant about that fateful November morning. Villagers were going about their every day tasks - thoughts of war being far away in Europe. At 11.00 a.m. on 27th November, 1944, a distant rumble gathered momentum to reach a deafening crescendo culminating in a violent explosion! The sky blackened as huge boulders of earth and rock were disgorged into the surrounding countryside. There was disbelief and disorientation as a whole farm, its occupants and livestock vanished into a smouldering gaping chasm. Underground munitions personnel were killed, as were factory workers at Fauld.
In all, the death toll rose to 70 - the landscape resembled the battle grounds of France rather than a tranquil village in East Staffordshire.


Fauld Crater

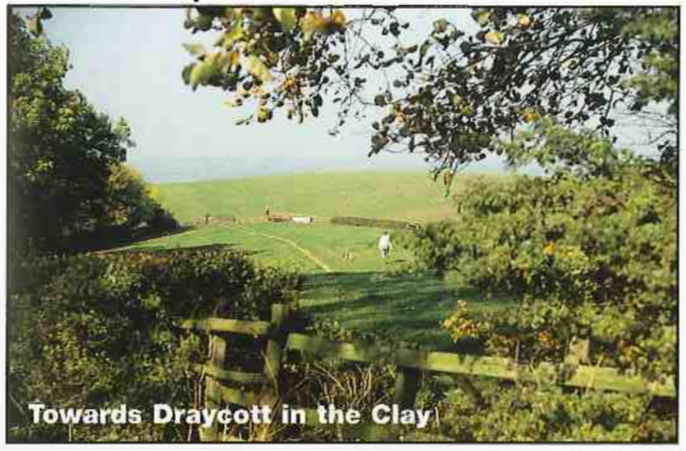
The path goes approximately half way round the crater. Note the memorial erected by Hanbury Parish Council, dedicated to the seventy lives lost in the explosion. By following the **Red** waymarkers, the route passes the disused escape shaft, and moves uphill towards Hanbury via the Memorial Hall, rebuilt after the explosion destroyed the original. Turn right and follow the road back to the Cock Inn to complete the walk.

BLUE WALK — **Draycott in the Clay** - 3.5. miles - 1.5 hours Anti-Clockwise

This walk takes you into the heart of Hanbury and beyond to Draycott in the Clay. Unlike the area to the east of Hanbury, little has changed over the centuries, with St. Werburgh's Church high on the scarp overlooking the Valley below.

Walk past the school, now silent and empty, but still a fine mock Tudor symmetrical building, built in 1848 and financed by Queen Victoria. Nearby in Martin's Lane stands the water tower, a prominent landmark, which according to the Tithe map of 1839 is close to the site of a windmill.
Take the track past the Church and follow the directions carefully. Note the views over the Dove Valley and proceed downhill towards Draycott in the Clay, recorded in Domesday as consisting of four villages and four smallholders with one plough. In the distance to the left is the ancient woodland of Needwood Forest.

At Riddings Lane turn left. Alternatively cross the field ahead to the Swan Inn and the remains of the Klondyke Mill. Today, steam engines are stored here, with occasional exhibition weekends. For further details, telephone 01283 820302. Note the dismantled tramway running up to the mill from mines by the airshaft. From here, the gradient was sufficient for loaded wagons to gather enough speed and momentum to reach the mill, unload and return by the same means. Amongst other uses, a high quality fine gypsum was produced for use in the cosmetics industry.


Towards Draycott in the Clay

Continue along Riddings Lane, Pipe Hay Lane and past the school. A detour to the right brings you into Draycott village where you can find a Grade II Listed drinking fountain built in 1871. Note the inscription and the notice underneath! The **Blue Walk** crosses over a stile, into a meadow and across a stream, to re-emerge in Greaves Lane. Greaves Wood on the right is part of the Needwood Forest, and it was here in 1848 that an early Iron Age gold torc was found circ 200BC - now on permanent loan to the British Museum. A torc is an Eastern style neck ring denoting high rank, and it is believed that a minor tribe survived in the Trent area from the Iron Age throughout the Roman period and into the Middle Ages.

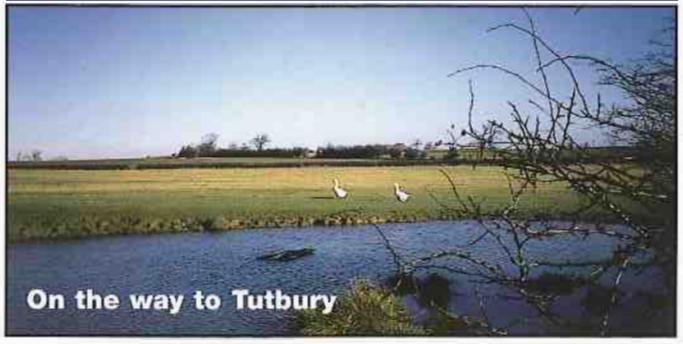
At Foxholes where Greaves Lane forms a right angle, walk straight ahead past Foxholes House, diagonally across a field, and uphill towards Hanbury. A backward glance reveals superb views of the Needwood Forest.
At the brow of the hill you can see the familiar landmarks of Hanbury. Cross over the field and follow the trail back towards the Cock Inn.

GREEN WALK — **Tutbury** - 6.5. miles - 3 hours Clockwise

Follow the **Red Walk** to Brown's Coppice and descend through the wood on the Green trail. Take care as this section can be very muddy and slippery. This area was completely devastated by the explosion when the reservoir serving the plaster works burst the dam walls, cascading six million gallons of water, mud, boulders and trees on to the factory below, where 27 lives were lost. Walk to the crest of the hill, from which vantage point can be seen the Staffordshire Moorlands to the left, Peak Park, and the Derbyshire hills to the right. Ahead lies Scropton with its Norman Church Tower, and below in Fauld and Coton is a scattering of farms and houses, some Elizabethan, contrasting sharply with British Gypsum works, the only visible sign of the vast underground mines extending to approximately 10 square miles. Dominating the view and bisecting the valley meanders the beautiful River Dove, dividing Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and in the distance to the right you catch a glimpse of the ruins of Tutbury Castle on the skyline. Walk downhill, past the old RAF camp and cross the main road. Take great care crossing this busy road.

At Boundary House, follow the signs towards the weir and walk towards Tutbury Castle, which is reached by following the uphill track to the east of the ruins. The walk continues to Owens Bank, crosses the road and continues to Castle Hayes Park Farm.

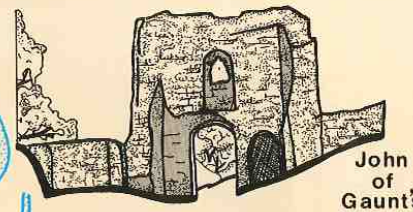
This area was formerly a medieval Deer Park, one of eight associated with Tutbury Castle, and stocked with deer until the Civil War. Hayes means deer park, and the area was a popular hunting ground during the Stuart era. The next farm en route is Hare Holes, where horses roam freely and the ponds are a haven for wildlife. Turn left after the ponds and walk back up the hill towards the crater. Where the **Green** and **Red** routes meet, either go straight back to Hanbury via the Memorial hall or take a look at the crater before re-tracing your steps to the Cock Inn.


On the way to Tutbury

Hanbury Circular Walks



School House, Hanbury



John of Gaunt's Gateway

Coton in the Clay

Site of Klondyke Mill

Tramway

Riddings Lane

Swan Inn

A515

Row Hill

Tramway

Staffordshire County Council Hanbury Common Picnic Place

River Dove

Fauld Hall

Fauld Cottage Farm

Hurst Farm

Weir

Mill Fleam

Tutbury Castle

St. Mary's Church

Cock Inn Start of Walks

Fauld House

Fauld Lane

Fauld

Fauld Manor

Queen's Purse Wood

British Gypsum

Stonepit Hills

Owen's Bank

Tutbury

Hanbury Hill

Draycott in the Clay

Ch.

Fountain

Greaves Lane

Hanbury

St.Werburgh's Church

Cock Inn

School

Foxholes Farm

Foxholes

Greaves Wood

Memorial Hall

Memorial

Fauld Crater

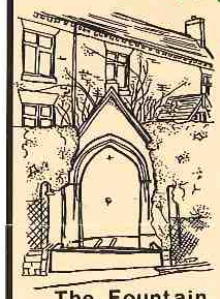
St. Mary's Church Tutbury

Castle Hayes Lane

Castle Hayes Park Farm

Belmot Road

Ye Olde Dog and Partridge Hotel, High St., Tutbury



The Fountain Draycott in the Clay

Wood Lane

Hare Holes Farm

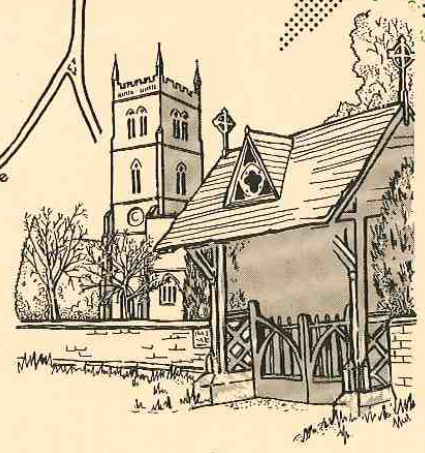
Hare Holes Rough

Capertition Wood

Knightsfield Road

Hanbury Woodend

Chapel Lane



St. Werburgh's Church Hanbury

Key

- Staffordshire County Council Land
- Red Walk (1·5 miles)
- Blue Walk (3·5 miles)
- Green Walk (6·25 miles)
- Viewpoints
- Danger - Busy Road

0 0.25 0.50 0.75 1ml

0 0.25 0.50 0.75 1km

HAPPY WALKING AND, WHEREVER YOU GO, FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
Guard against all risk of fire
Fasten all gates
Keep your dogs under control
Keep to public paths across farmland
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
Take your litter home
Help to keep all water clean
Protect wildlife, plants and trees
Take special care on country roads
Make no unnecessary noise



Take "Time Out" for a Country Walk

