



# British Walking Federation

## National Memorial Arboretum Armistice Trail – PT 286



### Organised By The **ROYAL AIR FORCE WALKING AND ROAD MARCHING ASSOCIATION**

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**Distance:** 11km

**Entry Fee:** £1.00 (Cheques made payable to RAFWARMA).

**Award:** Award is not available yet

**Start Venue:** Car Park, National Memorial Arboretum, Croxall Road, Alrewas, DE13 7AR.  
OS Explorer 245, GR SK182145.

**Car Parking:** At start venue, pay and display, £3.00 all day.

**Public Transport:** Details of train stations and taxis can be found on the National Memorial Arboretum website. A daily bus service operates from Burton upon Trent and Lichfield via Alrewas village, where the walk can start at Q3.

**Refreshments:** At the Arboretum and in Alrewas village.

**Terrain:** BWF Grade 2 – Minor roads, tracks, parkland and canal/river path.

### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION (Updated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018)**

TR – Turn Right TL – Turn Left BR – Bear Right BL – Bear Left SO – Straight On  
RH – Right Hand LH – Left Hand SP – Signpost FP – Footpath BW – Bridleway  
RHS – Right Hand Side LHS – Left Hand Side PH – Public House

1. The walk starts to the right of the car park and visitor centre. Pass to the left of the Dunkirk Memorial and the Berlin Air Lift Memorial and to the right of the staff car park to reach the small gate at the start of the dog walk. Pass through the gate and BR at the Normandy Campaign Memorial (SP – Dog Walk), continue SO on the track following the signs of the dog walking route to reach the river. BL and follow the riverside path with the river on the RHS, passing the posts of the Shot At Dawn Memorial. The riverside path becomes a hardened path (*The wall of the Armed Forces Memorial is on the mound over to the left, you will be visiting this later*), SO passing the impressive Railway Industry Memorial. Continue to follow the riverside on the hardened path and just before the railway bridge TL to the wooden hut (Christmas Truce Shelter). (2.1 km)

**Q1. There is an information board for the Western Front Association Memorial in the shelter. Towards the bottom there are the words of Remembrance dedicated to the British Empire men and women who lost their lives. How many?**

2. Head back to the river and TL under the railway bridge. Follow the grass path around the copse, passing the picnic benches on the corner, with the river on the RHS to reach a grey FB. Cross the river using the FB and TL on the track, follow the track for approx 1100m to reach the barriers by the quarry machinery (Take care – quarry HGV vehicles may be using the track). TL and cross the stile by the barrier, SO over the railway bridge, following the track/lane to reach a junction just before the green metal fence ahead on the RHS. TL (SP–FP) on the tarmac lane and follow as it bends right to the junction and Give Way sign. TL (Take Care), to cross the bridge over the dual carriageway. Immediately after the bridge TR on Efflinch Lane and follow for approx 400m (Extreme Care on bends of road). Just before the 30 mph signs and where the crash barrier ends on the RHS, TR on the path to cross over the canal bridge. TR on the canal towpath with the canal on the RHS. At bridge number 43, cross over the canal and continue on the towpath with canal now on the LHS towards a white footbridge (6.4 km).

**Q2. Just before the white FB ahead, there is a mile marker on the towpath. How many miles is it to Shardlow?**

3. Continue to follow the canal towpath, keeping the canal on the LHS. Crossing several footbridges to reach bridge number 46. Exit the towpath and TL on the lane, crossing over the bridge. TR on Post Office Road, passing the Crown PH and SO to the junction with the WW1 War Memorial in the grass triangle surrounded by a fence. (8.4 km)

**Q3. The tree in the triangle was planted to commemorate the coronation of which royal?**

4. From the War Memorial, cross the road and TL passing the George and Dragon PH. TR at Wellfield Road, passing the village hall on the LHS. At the end of the road, TR and follow the path up the slope to the roundabout. TL (SP – National Memorial Arboretum) crossing the bridge over the dual carriageway to the next roundabout. Cross the slip road and continue SO following the signs for the Arboretum, crossing over the railway bridge. Keep to the LH grass verge (With Care) to eventually reach another roundabout. TL on Croxall Road (SP – National Memorial Arboretum). Cross the road and at the left bend, continue SO over the small stile to the right of the green barrier ahead. Pass the Dog Walk sign and head for the mound of the Armed Forces Memorial. At the steps, TL on the path towards the visitor centre, passing the memorial plaques set in the paving on the RHS and dedicated to the servicemen born overseas who were awarded the VC during WW1. Enter the visitor centre and exit through the gift shop to the car park and finish (11 km).

*The National Memorial Arboretum is free to enter, with payment only required to enter the various exhibitions. There are many more memorials around the parkland to explore.*

When you have finished this trail please use the [Permanent Trail Entry Form](#)  
Send your entry to the contact name above.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

This trail is open until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.