

## Over Peover WI Ladies Walk Around Marbury Country Park Combined with Northwich Woodlands

The October walk was a relatively flat 5 mile walk around Marbury Country park and Northwich Woodlands. We were fortunate to have a dry morning before the rain set in later in the day. A group of 6 members of the WI, 2 guests and 2 very well-behaved dogs set off from the Marbury Lane car park. Following well defined paths we walked for an hour or so, crossing over the River Weaver and stopping for a quick photo;



*A quick stop by the River Weaver*

We continued our walk through splendid woodlands with gorgeous views across Budworth Mere;



*The church tower in Great Budworth can just be seen on the opposite side of the Mere*

Walking away from the Mere towards where Marbury Hall once stood, remnants of the path from the Hall to the Mere can still be seen. Marbury in the past was a grand estate with lime avenues and an arboretum, both of which still remain to this day. Marbury Hall itself changed over the years from when it was first built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Latterly it was a privately owned Georgian Mansion and was remodelled in the mid- 19<sup>th</sup> century. There was an outdoor swimming pool which remains in situ and is open to the public in the summer months. The Hall was used as a military camp and later as a prisoner-of-war camp during the Second World War. After the war Imperial Chemical Industries purchased the Hall to house Polish workers. The Hall was demolished in 1968 due to extensive woodworm;



*Plaque detailing a brief history of Marbury Hall*

After a most enjoyable and interesting walk we returned to the car park. There were two dogs on the walk – they just didn't like having their photo taken 😊.

*Interested in joining us? Check out the WI Over Peover village website. Our walks are fully inclusive and we work hard to ensure that the walk is suitable for all levels of fitness. Our walk leaders always do a recce so we understand the timings and terrain. Please note that individuals partake in the walks at their own risk.*