

**How to get there** Claybrooke Parva (SatNav – LE17 5RN) is ten miles south west of Leicester. Take the Narborough Road to the A5 then turn south on B577 and follow signs to Claybrooke.

**Car parking** There is a small lay-bye near Claybrook school, but this requires care and consideration for school use. Tidy and considerate roadside parking elsewhere, please.

**Public transport** Service 8 (hourly) Hinckley to Lutterworth See <http://traveline.info/> or phone 0871 200 22 33

**Map** Ordnance Survey Explorer 233 Leicester and Hinckley.

**Route** From the beautifully proportioned 14th century church at Claybrook Parva our route takes us through gently undulating countryside for a tranquil walk in the footsteps of the Romans from High Cross for one and a half miles along the pleasant hedged green track of the old Fosse Way, then across pasture fields to return via Claybrook Magna. Flat and easy walking.

**Refreshment** The Pig in Muck pub at Claybrook Magna and The Woodcutters on Bell Street.

**Items of interest** High Cross, the centre of Roman England, is at the junction of two important Roman Roads, the Fosse Way and Watling Street (now the busy A5). Our route takes the quiet Fosse Way. The High Cross monument, erected in 1712, is near the information board at the entrance to the Fosse Way. Claybrooke Parva has a beautiful church (c.1340) in a lovely setting.

**The walk** *From Claybrooke Parva pass the church on your left. Follow the road towards Claybrooke Magna to reach the school. (Ignore the road to Monks Kirby and Brinklow on your left.)*

*The route now passes to the left of the school grounds to reach the field behind it. At the footpath sign enter the field. Turn immediately right to pass the school. Go through a wide hedge gap and continue in the same direction. (NB The headland here is practically non-existent.) Keep the hedge on your left.*

*Pass a barn on your left and then move slightly right in a big open field where the hedge bends away from you. Go downhill to cross the footbridge and then walk uphill, slightly away from the hedge over to your left.*

*Make for the conifer trees of High Cross Grange on the hill ahead. Pass a protruding field corner on your right. The Grange is now in front of you. Go diagonally left into a narrow sharp corner of the field. Turn left at the road and walk to High Cross.*

*From the information board at the start of the Fosse Way follow the red Leicestershire Round waymarks along the green track for about 7 and a half miles. When the surface changes to a metalled surface, look out for Claybrooke Lodge farm over to your right.*

Turn right, into the drive to Claybrooke Lodge Farm for about 20 yards and then go diagonally right, across the field. (The waymarks on this part of the route were missing when we last walked it.) Go through the gap in the hedge. Continue with the next hedge on your right. At the end of the field turn left for 10 yards then right to cross the stile and footbridge. Continue close to the hedge on your right and cross the stile and footbridge ahead.

Bear slightly left uphill, heading for a large tree slightly to the left of Manor Farm buildings. Cross two stiles into a hedged path leading into Manor Road, Claybrooke Magna, by the Pig in the Muck pub.

Cross the road and go through the gap by the footpath sign in the very tall hedge 10 yards to your right. Go up the stone steps to cross the stile and go diagonally down the field to cross the stile and footbridge in the far right hand corner.

Walk straight across the narrow strip of meadow and over the footbridge and stream into the grounds of the timber merchants. Walk carefully, close to the hedge and fence on your right.

A walk from **32 Short Circular Walks** based on The Leicestershire Round  
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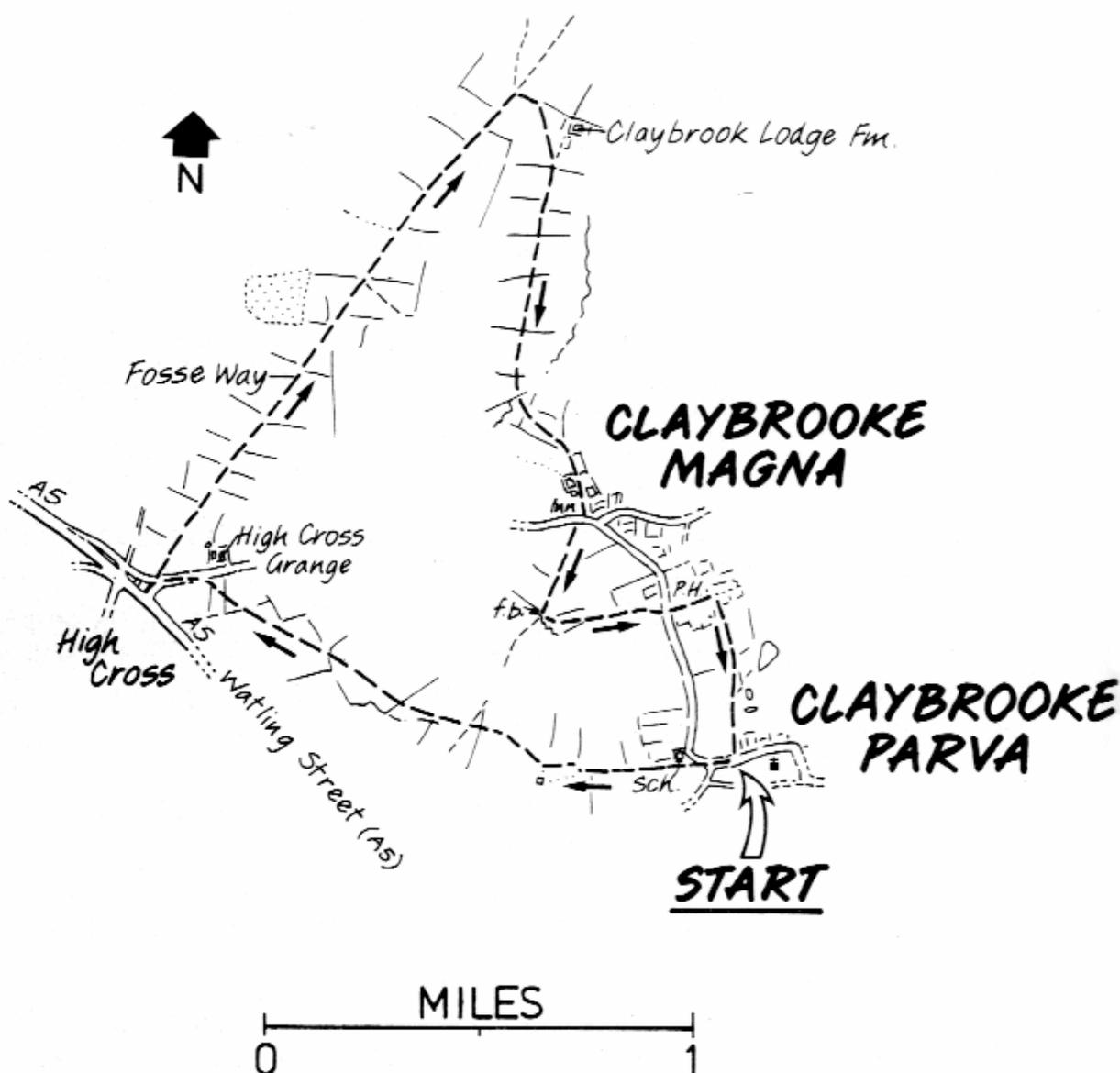


Leave the timber yard over the (very awkward) stile and footbridge and turn left to follow the yard boundary. At the end of the yard boundary negotiate three stiles and enter the village of Claybrooke Magna. Cross the road bearing slightly right into Bell Street. (The Woodcutter pub is on your left.)

Towards the end of Bell Street, turn right at the footpath sign by house number 16. Follow the path to Claybrooke Parva, well used by local churchgoers. Keep the hedge on your left and follow the well kept route (part of the Leicestershire Round) over two fields, passing Claybrooke Hall in its beautiful parkland over to your left.

Meet the road opposite Claybrooke rectory. The beautiful church of Claybrooke Parva, where the walk began, lies to your left.

Chris and Jack Ingham.



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