

Ellesmere Circular Walk

9

Up the spout and back to a water-filled kettle hole



The Sun Inn at Welshampton

Having negotiated your way northwards out of Ellesmere from the starting point in the Cross Street car park **1** and across a number of increasingly irregular fields you will eventually enter the pheasant filled Spout Wood **2** and then Mill Wood.

The route then takes you upstream along a pretty and wriggly brook which you will cross and re-cross several times. Inevitably you may find some parts quite muddy.

After a sharpish rise the path crosses an impressive bridge **3** over the former Ellesmere to Whitchurch railway line and drops down to Welshampton where the Sun (01948 710847) welcomes thirsty walkers.

If you take short diversion to the church **4** and search carefully you will find the grave of Moshushoe, son of the King of Basutoland, who died in Welshampton

in 1863 while taking a break from theological studies in Canterbury.

The attractive stroll eastwards from Welshampton towards Crimps Farm **5** eventually reveals an excellent view of the Mere and behind it the town of Ellesmere and St Mary's church.

The Mere is a water filled 'kettle hole' formed by a retreating glacier. However there is an appealing legend that it is a lake formed after a woman refused her neighbour water and was later drowned by a massive overflow.

The path comes down to the Mere and through Cremorne Gardens **6** (gifted by Lord Brownlow in 1953) before re-entering the built up part of the town, crossing Church Street, down Watergate Street and back into the main car park.



From The Crimps across The Mere

