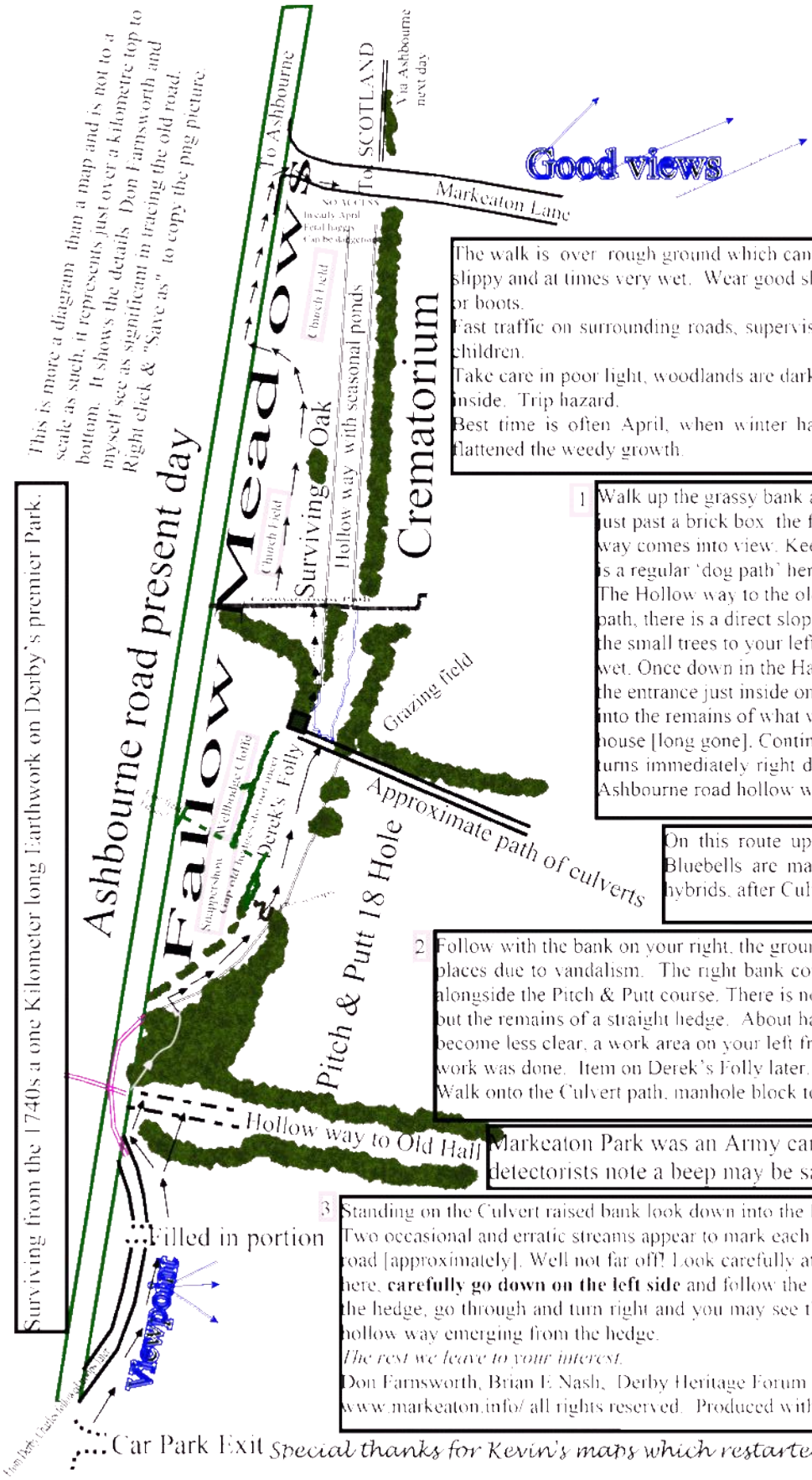

If Nettle sting or Bramble scratch or bruise from a bump spoil your day DO NOT DO THIS WALK!

'Bonnie' Prince Charlie's Retreat 1745

The walk is over rough ground which can be slippy and at times very wet. Wear good shoes or boots.
Fast traffic on surrounding roads, supervise children.
Take care in poor light, woodlands are darker inside. Trip hazard.
Best time is often April, when winter has flattened the weedy growth.

1 Walk up the grassy bank above car park exit, just past a brick box the fissure of the Hollow way comes into view. Keep to the right there is a regular 'dog path' here. Walk on that path. The Hollow way to the old Hall crosses your path, there is a direct slope also one through the small trees to your left, which I use in the wet. Once down in the Hall's hollow way face the entrance just inside on your left is a path into the remains of what was a back yard of a house [long gone]. Continue on, a short slope turns immediately right drops you into the Ashbourne road hollow way again.

On this route up to the Culvert Bluebells are mainly Spanish and hybrids, after Culvert mainly English

2 Follow with the bank on your right, the ground became uneven in places due to vandalism. The right bank continues until it runs alongside the Pitch & Putt course. There is no extant left bank here but the remains of a straight hedge. About half way down things become less clear, a work area on your left from when the Culvert work was done. Item on Derek's Folly later.
Walk onto the Culvert path, manhole block to your left.

Markeaton Park was an Army camp in WWII, metal detectorists note a beep may be safer left un-dug.

3 Standing on the Culvert raised bank look down into the Hollow way road Two occasional and erratic streams appear to mark each side of the old road [approximately]. Well not far off? Look carefully at the diagram map here, **carefully go down on the left side** and follow the stream to a gap in the hedge, go through and turn right and you may see the bank of the hollow way emerging from the hedge.
The rest we leave to your interest.

Don Farnsworth, Brian E Nash, Derby Heritage Forum July 2012
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Special thanks for Kevin's maps which restarted a serious quest.