

IVW SOUTH LINCS WOLDS LONG WEEKEND

Friday 5th October to Monday 8th October 2018



Lincolnshire - “The most brutal and beastly shire in the whole realm”, to quote Henry VIII. For in 1536 Henry was pretty enraged about rebels in the county demanding an end to the persecution of the church by his unpopular agents and ministers. But we hope that you will accept the Lincolnshire Wolds for what they are, a beautiful range of hills in the east of England designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Our four walks are mostly on OS Explorer Map 273 'Lincs Wolds South – Horncastle & Woodhall Spa'. The Monday walk and part of the longer walk on Sunday stray onto OS Explorer Map 282 'Lincs Wolds North – Louth & Market Rasen'. Sketch maps of each walk route will be issued separately. There is a short and long walk option on Saturday and Sunday, and an optional group meal at the White Hart Inn, Tetford on Saturday evening.

This leaflet gives information about each walk and the starting points. If anyone has difficulty in getting to the start points or is delayed, please try to contact walk leaders Antony on 07857 890829 or Martin on 07761 209981.

We hope that you enjoy the rambles, and have a comfortable and memorable stay.

WALK 1 – Friday 5th October, 2.00 p.m. start

Snipe Dales Country Park and Ashby Puerorum

Start point : Snipe Dales Country Park (not to be confused with the Nature Reserve). Large car park situated off the B1195 between Horncastle and Spilsby. Note that this is a **Pay & Display car park, cost £1.**

Grid reference : TF330680 **Walk distance** 6 ½ miles

The attractive valleys of Snipe Dales, fretted by streams, offer wonderful views of the southern Lincolnshire Wolds. The Country Park provides mixed woodland walks while the nature reserve has one of the few surviving semi-natural wet valley systems. This diversity supports a wide range of birds and other wildlife including butterflies and dragonflies. Walking through the landscape is pleasant at any time of year. In the autumn treecreepers and goldcrests forage in the woodlands, along with siskin and brambling. The eponymous snipe is normally a winter visitor, so we will be very lucky to see one wading in waters as we pass above the wet marshland.

Our outward journey takes us past Winceby High Barn where we are very close to the site of the Battle of Winceby, which took place on 11th October 1643 during the English Civil War. In this battle, which lasted no more than half an hour, followed by many hours of pursuit, the Parliamentarians headed by Oliver Cromwell and Sir Thomas Fairfax destroyed a combined force of Royalist cavalry and dragoons from Lincolnshire and Newark. This, the first significant victory of the Civil War resulted in the fall of much of the county of Lincolnshire to Parliament, and a halting of the Royalist ascendancy in the region.

Half way round our circuit we will take a break at St. Andrew's Church in the hamlet of Ashby Puerorum. Bishop Oliver Sutton (1280–1299) was responsible for the renaming of this village, coining the name Ashby Puerorum or "the Little Boys' Ashby". This came about after the bishop assigned the revenues of the vicarage of Ashby to the upkeep of the boys in the choir of Lincoln Cathedral. This Anglican church is chiefly Early English with Perpendicular windows and tower. If we can gain access inside, take time to admire the fine brass effigies to Richard Lytleburye (d.1521) and his wife Elizabeth (d.1523).

As we are about to re-enter Snipe Dales look out for a recently planted area of grape vines, and an odd and seemingly modern stone circle. Google fails to give us a clue as to why it is there, so its existence will have to remain a mystery.

Next time...



Group evening meal, Saturday 6th October

At the White Hart Inn, East Road, Tetford, LN9 6QQ

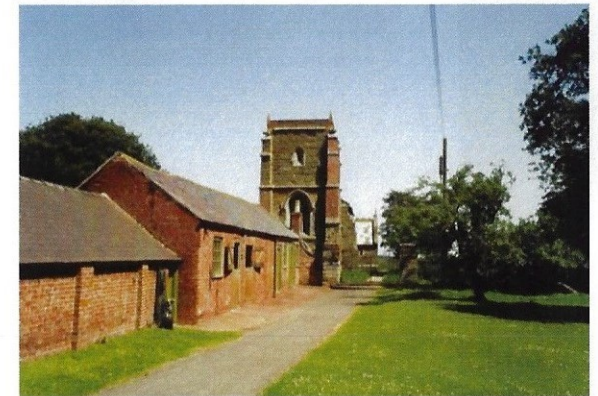
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Please park at the Village (Hamilton) Hall car park, East Road, Tetford, post code and grid reference as for the White Hart Inn.



The White Hart Inn is situated in the picturesque Lincs Wolds village of Tetford. This traditional droving inn has been the centre of rural life since around 1520. It was frequented by local born poet Alfred Lord Tennyson and Dr. Samuel Johnson, a great character who wrote the first English dictionary. It is a family run business encouraging a warm, relaxed friendly atmosphere.

Please arrive around 7.00 p.m. We will be seated in the pub's function room, and dinner will be served at 7.30 p.m.



WALK 2 – Saturday 6th October, long walk 10.00 a.m. start,
short walk ~~11.00~~ a.m. start
10.45

The Alfred Lord Tennyson trail – Bag Enderby and Somersby

Start point : The Village (Hamilton) Hall car park, East Road, Tetford, LN9 6QQ

Grid reference : TF333746

Long Walk 9 ½ miles : **Short Walk** 7 miles

Note the staggered start times of long and short walkers. The plan is that both groups will meet up at Bag Enderby's St.Margaret's Church by 12.30 p.m., where we will take a lunch break and hopefully some light refreshment will be laid on.

Both groups of walkers leave Tetford along a long straight track known as Clay Lane, with extensive views of Wolds hills on either side. After a dogleg in the track long walkers continue in an easterly direction through the pleasant parkland of Ormsby Hall to South Ormsby. From here typical Lincolnshire mixed farmland is crossed to reach the village of Brinkhill, after which a wide green lane leads eventually to Bag Enderby. Short walkers miss out South Ormsby and Brinkhill, but have the hillock of Snake Holt to climb before they descend to the aforementioned green lane taking them likewise to Bag Enderby.

For the afternoon walk we will be joined by local historian Debbie Jenner, who will lead us on an Alfred Lord Tennyson trail and will impart her considerable knowledge on the famous Victorian Poet Laureate's association with this area. Expect to learn much about :

- ☞ The 'Poet's Tree' at the top of Bag Enderby village, now a hollow tree stump where the Tennyson children allegedly played on its long, low branch.
- ☞ George Clayton Tennyson, Alfred's father who was rector of both Bag Enderby and Somersby.
- ☞ Somersby House, home of the Tennyson family from 1808 to 1837, where Alfred was born on August 6th 1809.

No written test afterwards! Once we have explored the Tennyson trail we will return as one group to Tetford, entering the village from the south and passing some impressive fishing lakes.

We hope that most of you will return to Tetford in the evening for the group meal which we have arranged at the historic White Hart Inn in the village. See page 10 for details.



WALK 4 – Monday 8th October , 10.30 a.m. start

Willingham Woods and Tealby

Start point : Willingham Woods free car park, off the A631 approx. 2 miles east of Market Rasen, LN8 3RQ

Grid reference : TF138883 **Walk distance :** 6 miles

Our last walk of the long weekend is predominantly flat, but we are surrounded by the hills of the Wolds to the north and east that make a stunning backdrop, especially in autumn colours.

Our start point Willingham Woods is part of a large complex of pinewoods that are located to the east of Market Rasen. This central section provides a wide range of recreational opportunities as well being an important source of timber. There is a large car park and picnic site, with a café and toilets in the adjacent layby, all owned and run by Lincolnshire County Council.

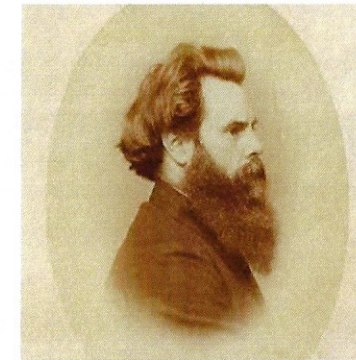
After traversing a good mile of woodland, we emerge onto open farmland, passing through the village of North Willingham en route to Tealby. Until recently North Willingham used to boast its own ice cream parlour (an offshoot of a dairy) and tearooms, sadly now closed.

Tealby is one of Lincolnshire's prettiest villages, and has a rich history that can be seen in its many fine buildings, 31 of which are listed. The 'Tevelsbi' of the Domesday Book was quite an industrial centre, for there were 14 mills powered by local streams. At one time paper was produced here, and there is still a Papermill Lane. We pass by the Kings Head, which is the oldest thatched pub in Lincolnshire, dating from c.1367.

After leaving Tealby we encounter pretty cottages at Tealby Thorpe, no more than a small hamlet. The stream forded here is the River Rase, which rises a mile or so to the north of Tealby. This tiny river passes through Market Rasen before becoming the River Ancholme, then flowing in a northerly direction to join the mighty River Humber close to the Humber Bridge.

We cross more open fields (hopefully not ploughed!) and after passing by aptly named Dairy Farm we re-enter the cover of Willingham Woods.

Have a safe journey home, when you return to your cars at the end of this walk.



WALK 3 – Sunday 7th October, 10.00 a.m. start

The Viking Way, Belchford, Scamblesby (and beyond)

Long Walk Start point : The Village Hall, Main Road, Belchford, LN9 6LJ
Grid reference : TF293754 **Walk distance :** 14 miles

Short Walk Start point : The Green Man PH car park, Old Main Road, Scamblesby, LN11 9XG
Grid reference : TF276789 **Walk distance :** 7 ½ miles

Note : The walk start points shown above are correct at the time of going to press. If we cannot obtain permission to park at the Green Man, then we will advise you of the alternative parking arrangement at the start of Saturday's walks.

The Viking Way is a long distance footpath which starts on the banks of the Humber in the north and winds its way through Lincolnshire to finish on the shores of Rutland Water, a total distance of 147 miles. Established in 1976, the name of the route was suggested by the Ramblers Association to reflect the influence of the Danelaw in the eastern counties of Britain. The route is way-marked throughout its length with a Viking helmet. The short walk covers the Goulceby to Belchford section of the Viking Way, the long walk extends a bit further, almost back to Donington-on-Bain.

On both walks you may catch glimpses of the Belmont mast. This is the key feature of the Belmont transmitting station and telecommunications facility next to the B1225. It has a guyed tubular steel mast with a lattice upper section, and until April 2010 (when it was shortened from 1272 to 1154 feet in height) it was considered to be the tallest structure of its kind in the world. By comparison the Sandy Heath transmitter is just 801 feet tall.

Long walkers will reach the small hamlet of Market Stainton, and from here will pass over the extensive lawns of Market Stainton Hall, a Grade II listed brick-built country house, before descending into the lush valley of the River Bain. This river is a tributary of the River Witham, and rises in the village of Ludford before passing through Donington and Goulceby on its way to Horncastle. On the Viking Way from Goulceby to Scamblesby all walkers closely follow a pleasant stream that flows into it, walking upstream.

On the final approach to Belchford, we will pass prominent Juicetrump Hill (406 feet above sea level) to our left. This is no more than a limestone outcrop, we have been unable to establish why it is so named. A Google search only came up with some scathing anti-Republican articles about the Donald Trump administration!

