

LINCS WOLD WAY

Day 4 – Nettleton to Wold Newton

Walking time is 4 hours and 45 minutes.

Distance is 21.5 km or 13.4 miles



This northern section of the route follows for the most part the Lindsey Loop for which walkers will see markers at various points along the way. It follows the high ground thereby giving good views to the north and later to the east. The undulating and rolling landscape of the Wolds is also very evident. The route requires the use of tarmac roads in some places. However these are either so quiet that you will be unlucky to see more than 1 or 2 cars or they are farmers estate roads which are also bridleways, Most have wide grass verges to walk on if that surface is preferred to tarmac.

Section 1 – Nettleton to Cuxwold

Walking time is 2 hours

Distance is 9.0 km or 5.6 miles

The church of St John the Baptist at Nettleton was rebuilt in 1874 and consists of a nave, chancel, south porch and a tower. There are three bells in the tower which is of an early date and has a doorway that is said to be late Saxon. The tower is suffering from extreme weathering of the ironstone used in its construction. The church clock was made by the son of James Harrison of Barton upon Humber in 1837. James' famous brother John made marine chronometers as described in the book 'Longitude'. It was given to the Parish of Nettleton by Sir Culling-Eardly so the Parish Council is responsible for its upkeep. There are three bells in the tower dated 1480, 1617 and 1672, unfortunately they are not in a ringable condition.

The first part of this section retraces the final steps from day 3, but for walkers who are doing the walk in differing sections; this walk is described in full. Start at the Salvation Arms (A) and following the village road eastwards past the church. At the T junction bear right, but take time to

have a look at the village notice board (B). Continue ahead through the village for 400 m. before heading left down a farmers road following a sign for the Viking Way. Just as you reach the farm head left over a small bridge. If the farmer's gate is close walkers can go over the stile dedicated to Nev Cole (C), the founder of the Wanderlust Rambling club of Grimsby which he founded in 1932. The Viking Way then turns sharp right, but this route heads up the hill on a bridleway. It is worth stopping for a moment or two halfway up at the disused barns and then again at the top to take in the views back down to Nettleton, Caistor and beyond to the Humber Estuary. Our path continues ahead over gently rising land for 900 m. until the B1225 which is known locally at the High St. as it runs from Caistor in the north to Horncastle in the south in a generally straight line keeping to the high ground. Take the bridleway directly across the road (D) and continue to the Rothwell Road some 500 m. ahead. The most direct route to Rothwell is to turn right and follow the road for 1.5 Km but walkers are encouraged to follow the bridleway straight ahead for 1.5 Km and then at the cross roads of the bridleways turn right and head south with excellent views into the Wolds. The path heads downhill into the village of Rothwell (E).

At the centre of the village is The Blacksmith's Arms which is steeped in history, set as it is at the heart of the community on Sir Joseph Nickerson's Rothwell estate. It was formerly known as the Nickerson Arms and served as the local hostelry for all those that worked for the local landowner, Joseph Nickerson, the owner of Nickerson Seeds who widely regarded as one of the finest shots and countrymen of his generation. He was a great agriculturalist and his innovations in that field especially in the genetics of cereals through the labs at Nickerson Seeds, are thought to have benefited the nation. The history of the pub doesn't stop there however. Like all good pubs, of course it has a ghost, which has haunted the place since the '60s or '70s, or maybe even earlier. The figure that walks about is said to be the ghost of one of the old blacksmith's who worked on the premises in the smithy, which is now the function room.



Fig. 4.1 Rothwell village

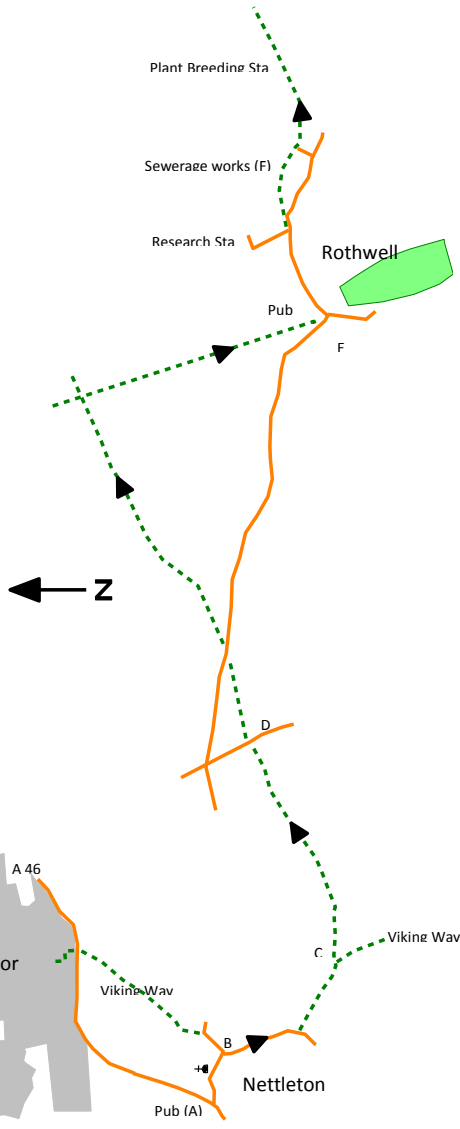
The route turns left at the junction following the road through the village. At the fork in the road you will find a footpath sign in the centre which directs walker straight ahead. Follow this around the sewage works (F) and then join the minor road that leads to the Plant Breeding Station. This is linked to the village through Joseph Nickerson referred to in the text box. At the end of the road there are older farm style buildings and the path heads off to the right of them crossing a small bridge and then turning directly left. Follow the

field edge path until you come to a footbridge (G). The footbridge was erected in memory of Jim Cook, a Rambler who initiated the recreational route called the Lindsey Loop. Head diagonally uphill to the corner of the woods and then continue ahead in the same line until the small village of Cuxwold comes into view. A slight detour up the road from the route will take you to the church of St. Nicholas, which like many churches of this area originate from Anglo-Saxon times but fell into disrepair until the second half of the 19th. Century when local architect James Fowler was commissioned to virtually re-build them.



Fig. 4.2 St. Nicholas's at Cuxwold

Map 1 of 3 – Day 4



Section 2 – Cuxwold to Hatcliffe

Walking time is 1 hour, 20 mins

Distance is 5.6 km or 3.5 miles

Leave the village in a south easterly direction heading along the road and up the hill. At the top take the bridleway to the right (H) but not before pausing to take in the views back down to the village and across to the south and west.. This next 1 Km. is fairly level along a tarmac road & then an unmade track past Cocked Hall Plantation and a pig farm. At a cross roads of tracks keep ahead for 0.4 km then go through the field boundary

hedge and bear left at a sign for another bridleway heading gently downhill past Lake Farm (I) to the road where the route turns left. There is no public right of way through Croxby Pond plantation so a road walking detour is required.

Continue uphill for 500 m. and bear right downhill at the crossroads until you meet level ground with the road higher than

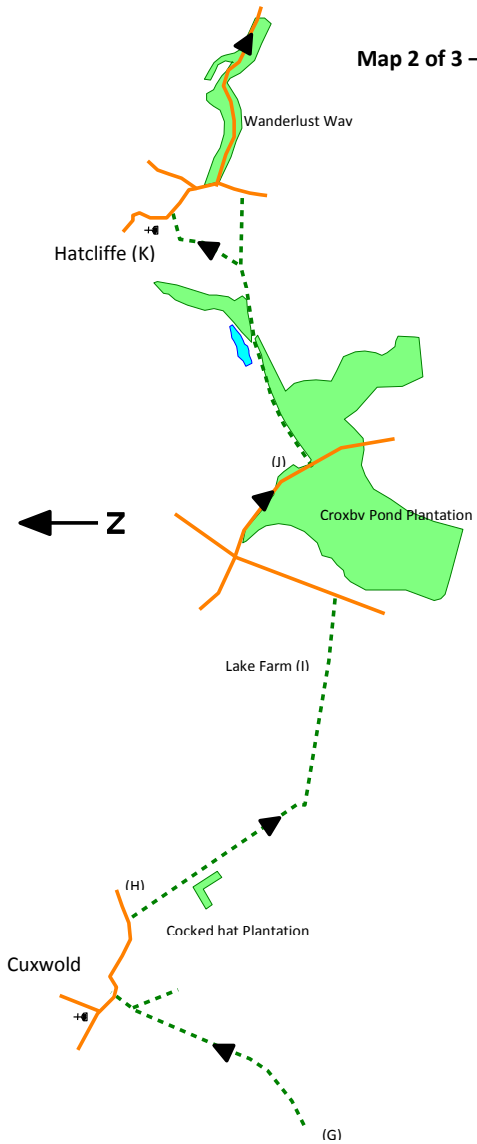
the surrounding woods and fields. As the woods appear on the left look for a bridleway sign (J) just before the woods head eastwards keeping the wood on your right. Follow this track over a wooden sleeper bridge and across field until you see a footbridge and gate in the top left hand corner of a field. Go over the bridge and head straight ahead uphill to Hatcliffe (K).



Fig. 4.2 House at Hatcliffe

The parish church of St. Mary's is 13th century and contains memorial stones dedicated to the Hatcliffe family (it is probable that the Hatcliffe family takes its name from the name of the village dating back to 1525. The former post office (now converted to a house) in the centre of the village stands by a small stream with stone bridges crossing it at regular intervals.

Map 2 of 3 – Day 4



Section 3 – Hatcliffe to Wold Newton

Walking time is 1 hour, 25 mins

Distance is 6.9 km or 4.3 miles

Return your footsteps back through the village on the road for 300 m. ignoring the first road on your left, but taking the second. This is a very minor road and starts with a cattle grid (L). It is a pleasant walk as for the first part, the road gently rises through a wooded valley. The road is also part of the Wanderlust Way referred to earlier; indeed the route all the way to Wold Newton follows this path. Open fields and views are had for the remainder of this road walk passing on your right the remains of a priory which is now the site of Priory farm. This stage is ended with the entrance to East Ravendale at a cross roads. Take care when crossing ahead into the

Surprisingly, for a small village the school is still open, likewise the church of St. Martins, both designed and rebuilt by James Fowler. The village also boast 3 other listed buildings including the 17th. thatched cottage (M) you will pass shortly.



Fig. 4.3 Cottage at East Ravendale

no through road of School Lane.

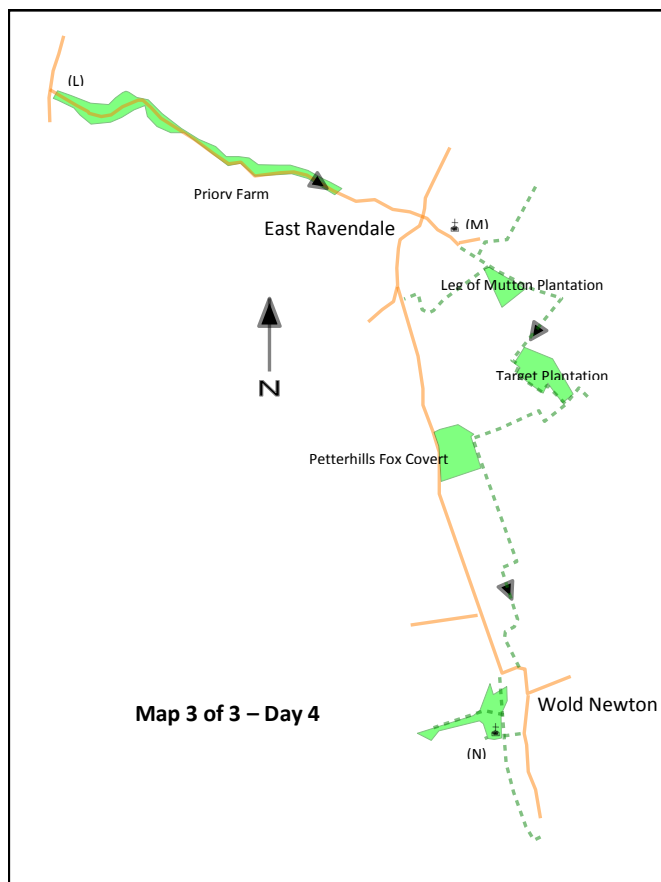
Just after the cottage the road bears left uphill but the route continues straight ahead. Keep Leg of Mutton Plantation on your right and then at a T junction of paths turn right towards Target Plantation where the path goes around the back of it. Once again excellent views across the Wolds can be seen. The route continues

around field edges past Petterhills Fox Covert (wood), eventually going down and around a disused pit and onto Wold Newton, your final destination.

If you are not continuing your walk the next day you are well advised to walk onto the church of All Hallows (N), another built by James Fowler. Walk up the road to the bend where you will find a footpath signs pointing to the left. Go through the concreted yard to the woods and follow the path to the church. This is



Fig. 4.4 All Hallows at Wold Newton



strange in that there is no road at all to it and it is reached from the village via a footpath up hill from the east. Depending where your vehicle is or where you are being collected, you can either retrace your steps or walk downhill along the footpath to the road and return to the end point by turning left.