

WOLD RANGERS

Beating the Bounds

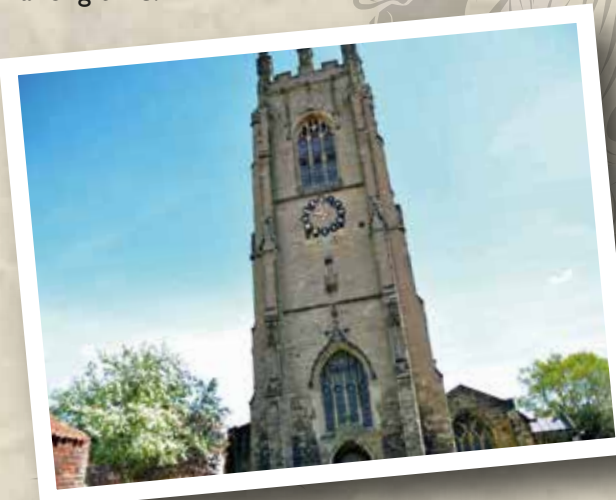
Beating the Bounds is a tradition dating back to Anglo-Saxon times. It is thought to have derived from the Roman festival Terminalia, which was celebrated on 22 February in honour of Terminus, the god of boundaries. The purpose of beating the bounds was to share the knowledge of where the parish boundaries lay, and to bless the crops and pray for protection of the parish in the coming year. The ceremony was usually performed during Rogationtide (Western Christianity) and concluded with a feast, which made it popular with local residents.



Remembering Locations

The custom involved a group of boys, led by parish clergy and officials, walking around the boundaries of their church parish and beating the boundary markers with sticks. Before the Reformation these annual processions were considered important ceremonial affairs and Lords of the Manor, their bailiffs, reeves and stewards would also attend.

The boys beat the parish boundary markers (usually a gatepost, wall, tree or boundary stone) with boughs of birch or willow. The reason for including the younger generation was to ensure that the witnesses to the boundaries survived for a long time.



Settling Disputes

In the days before maps and written title deeds, beating the bounds played an important practical purpose. Regularly checking the boundaries was also a way of maintaining their integrity and preventing encroachment by neighbouring parishes; sometimes boundary markers would be mysteriously moved, or lines obscured.

Still Lawful

Today, parish boundaries have little significance and modern surveying techniques make the ceremony obsolete, nevertheless, beating the bounds is still lawful.

BEATING THE BOUNDS: 2

Start Point



Driffield Market Place

1

From Market Place walk past the Original Keys pub and turn immediately right onto Market Walk (a covered passageway) and past the Town Council offices. Walk across Cross Hill car park towards the library until you meet St. Johns Road at which point use the pedestrian crossing to cross the road. Turn right and walk round the corner onto Mill Street. Continue straight ahead until the road bends right onto Victoria Road; at that corner, cross over to the footpath and follow Kings Mill Road past the (A) Driffield Cricket Ground (on your left). At the left hand bend, keep straight on until reaching the second entrance into (B) Driffield Millennium Green on your right. Enter the park and follow the path keeping left, until you reach the footbridge at the Keld which you cross; looking left is Kings Mill.



Keep on this path, crossing the narrow wooden bridge over the river and onto the board-walk until it opens out onto open pasture land. Follow the footpath straight across the field heading for the gateway near the bypass.

2

At the bypass, cross carefully to the gate at the opposite side and follow the footpath along the line of trees (on your left) and field (on your right) until you reach the lane, which is Church Lane connecting Little Driffield to (C) Kelleythorpe. Turn left and walk along the single-track road, passing the recycling centre (left) before the T junction (with Wadsworth Road) where you should cross over to the footpath and bear left, past the Rugby training ground (on your right). Where the footpath runs out, cross the road again (where indicated) and continue. To your right are the ex- quarters (Montgomery Square) of senior RAF officers; an indication of the area's historic linkage with (D) RAF Driffield. Stay on the footpath until you reach the roundabout, bear left and cross the road (using the centre island) and then follow the first exit of the roundabout towards (E) Driffield Rugby Club (on your left). You will then pass (F) Driffield Showground (left); home to the historic Driffield Show and venue for several other annual events. On your right you will see a small cottage (Gate Box Cottage) which was originally the gate keeper's cottage on the (G) Driffield to Malton Railway line. The track between the entrance to the Rugby Club and Showground is actually the old track bed. Continue along the combined footpath and cycleway and bear left towards Driffield as you reach the Beverley Road roundabout and cross the road. At this point, turn left (with the petrol station to your left) for a short detour.

3

Detour: Follow the footpath towards Driffield until you reach the point where the road crosses the stream (Hallimanwath Bridge).



The water course going under that bridge is (H) Driffield Beck (which you crossed previously after the Keld/Kings Mill) that flows downstream, converging with Driffield Trout Stream and on to Bell Mills where it joins the River Hull. The second, smaller stream (that you can see from the grassed area to the right of the road bridge) is the (I) Gypsy Race, which emerges here, from under the road, after being diverted underground across the Showground.

Turn back towards the roundabout now and retrace your steps. Re-join main route: At the roundabout follow the path towards Beverley. At the point where the path stops (just after the speed camera sign) you can either cross the road (to continue on the path) or walk straight-on on the grass verge. (If you cross the road here, you have to cross back again further up!). The footpath goes over a the picturesque (J) Driffield Trout Stream at Sunderlandwick Bridge and (K) Driffield Golf Club grounds are to your right.



Just after the 2nd bridge, turn left onto the Green Lane (signposted Public Footpath). Follow the grassy path on to the wide track. Where the track turns sharp right, go to the left of the hedge which is straight ahead of you. Follow this grassy path (keeping the hedge on your right) until it goes up a short incline through some trees to the railway line. Cross the railway line with caution and continue on the grass path to a 'T' junction with a track; turning left at this point (which is towards Skerne Leys Farm; to the right is a private road).

4

Walk through the yard of Skerne Leys Farm (farmhouse and buildings on your left) to exit via the gateway onto Skerne Road. Turn left and you can see the tower of (L) Bell Mills – Bradshaws Flour Mill in the distance and walk along the side of the road (on the

righthand side facing oncoming traffic) towards Driffield.



As you get to the mill, Bell Mills Garden Centre and Café are on your left. Adjacent to the mill are the mill pond and sluice. This is almost the end of the journey for the Driffield Trout Stream before it joins the (M) River Hull beyond the Mill. Continue along Skerne Road past the Great Driffield gateway sign and the Twydale and Skerne business parks. Eventually, you will reach the railway crossing, with a converted warehouse called (N) The Maltings on your left. Cross the railway and come to the T junction with Beverley Road.

5

Turn right towards the (O) Railway Station. At the railway crossing, bear left (do not cross over the railway lines) and at the petrol station cross Albion Street to join the main shopping Street in Driffield (Middle Street South) which leads up to (P) Market Place and your finishing point at the Wold Rangers Way Map.



Along the way there are many lovely independent shops, cafes, pubs and businesses to explore along with a few interesting buildings – like No.16 Middle Street South which were the offices of (Q) Mortimer Corn Merchants from 1869-1920s

Finish Point

Version 1 (March 2022)
4.5 mile Circular Walk
OF DRIFFIELD
SOUTH & WEST
BEATING THE BOUNDS (2)



THE
WOLD RANGERS
WAY

WALKING MAPS OF THE YORKSHIRE WOLDS

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Website: www.woldrangersway.org

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(B) Millennium Green
Driffield Millennium Green is one of many Millennium Green projects established around the country.



(P) Market Place
You are standing at the commercial "heart" of Driffield.

(O) Driffield Railway Station
The Station was opened by the York and North Midland Railway on 6 October 1846, at the same time as the line from Hull to Bridlington.



(Q) Mortimer Corn Merchants
John Robert Mortimer founded James Mortimer Ltd Corn Merchants and its offices were located at 16 Middle Street South from 1869 until the 1920's.

(L) Bell Mills
Operated by Bradshaws can trace their milling heritage back to William Bradshaw, who was apprenticed to a miller in the 1790's.

(M) River Hull
The River Hull is a navigable river which rises from a series of springs to the west of Driffield, and enters the Humber Estuary at Kingston upon Hull.



(C) Driffield to Malton Railway
The railway has been instrumental in the prosperity of Driffield since it arrived here in October 1846.



(I) Gypsy Race
These are Wolds streams which flow intermittently or are occasional water courses.



(J) Driffield Trout Stream
Known as West Beck, is a world-famous chalk stream with its crystal clear water and is a site of Special Scientific Interest.



(F) Driffield Showground
In 1851 the Driffield Farmers Club was formed and in 1854 the first agricultural show was held. Held in July every year it is now recognised as one of the leading one-day agricultural shows in the country).



(E) Driffield Rugby Club
Driffield Rugby Union Football Club was formed in 1926. In 2002 the clubhouse that you see today was completed.



(C) Kellaythorpe
Is a hamlet on the outskirts of Driffield and forms part of the civil parish of Kirkburn.



(D) RAF Driffield
The airfield at Driffield was first built in 1916 as a base for the Royal Flying Corps who were tasked with intercepting German Zeppelin airships.



(K) Driffield Golf Club
Driffield Golf Club was founded in 1923 and relocated to the current site on the Sunderlandwick estate in 1934.



**WOLD
RANGERS**



Copyright Wold Rangers Way 2022. This map is for guidance and we recommend that you always take with you a detailed map of the area. The following Ordnance Survey map covers the Beating the Bounds walks: OS Map 295 (Bridlington, Driffield & Hornsea). For safety we recommend you download What3Words to your smartphone (www.what3words.com). Please always follow the Countryside Code www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code.