

THE DOG GEORDIE TROD



THE WOLD RANGERS WAY

WALKING MAPS OF THE YORKSHIRE WOLDS

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Dedicated to the Wold Rangers and the memory of Angela Antrim, whose book 'The Yorkshire Wold Rangers' so inspired the trustees and extracts of which feature in our leaflet.

We hope the Wold Rangers Way will as Angela wished, 'keep their memory green'.



ramblers
at the heart of walking



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THE WOLD RANGERS WAY STEP BY STEP

DOG GEORDIE

Living in the open since childhood, taught the ancient ways of the green lanes and chalk pits by an old man of the Wolds named Thackery, Dog Geordie was the last of the Wold Rangers. His tales both those passed down to him from his fellow Rangers now long gone and his own experiences have evolved into rural folklore, creating an indelible, unique and lasting mark on the history of the beautiful and wild landscape that is the Yorkshire Wolds.

A true gentleman of the Wolds, he lived this life through choice, choosing the freedom of the lanes and a warm loose box for shelter in summer and visiting the 'Spike' or workhouses of Driffield, Malton and York for a bit of respite in the winter months. An accomplished countryman, he would bring pheasant to the drumming up, the communal feast regularly enjoyed by the Rangers, without having fired a shot...using the hair from a horses tail coiled on the land and covered in grain, it wasn't long before a hungry pheasant would approach and find its long claws knotted up and trapped in the horse hair.

Accompanied by his lurcher, Dog Geordie was a familiar site on Market Place in Driffield, the starting and finishing place of all the Wold Ranger Trods.

Other than a nine year interlude from 1939 to 1948, joining up at the start of the Second World War, Dog Geordie had lived and breathed the green lanes of the Wolds, side by side with his fellow Rangers until by 1987 and residing in a caravan near the chalk pit at Sledmere, he was the last of his kind.

Start Point



Driffield Market Place

From the Market Place set off west along Mill Street, continuing straight ahead on Kings Mill Road until reaching the first entrance into Driffield Millennium Green on your right. Enter the park and follow the path keeping right, passing a bench on your right before bearing right between the two more benches and follow the path.

Keep on this path through the canopy of trees to a kissing gate at the A614 road. Turn right, walking along the pavement and on reaching the roundabout, turn left, crossing towards a metal gate into York Road. This is a very busy road so please take care and use the roundabout pedestrian crossing points.

3

Continue along York Road straight through Little Driffield past the pond on your left and where the road bends right, go straight ahead between the trees and hedge onto a broad grass track. This soon reaches the road. Remain on the footpath until you reach the broad grass verge (do not cross the road). Walk on the broad grass verge for approximately 0.2 mile and turn left onto the service road (3a) and passing Elmswell Hall Farm. Follow this rough road, walking between two stone pillars onto the 'green lane' until it reaches a junction with Garton Balk green lane.

At this point you leave the main Wold Rangers Way and follow the Dog Geordie Trod

4

Turn left on the green lane and follow the track that in 1 mile bends sharp right in a wooded area (4a). Heading west it continues in a straight line for 2.7 miles, crossing Station Road (4b) and passing Sand Pit Cottage (4c). Turn right (4d - before Little Grange) and follow the Dog Geordie Trod way marker arrows, following the path along the field edge until you reach the A166 road (4e). The path crosses the road slightly to the right (take care crossing this road).

5

Follow the Dog Geordie way marker arrows along the path keeping the hedge on your left. Walk down hill and then follow the track uphill, through some old iron farm gates and bear left continuing up through the woods skirting Garton Field Farm on your right.

6

Head northwards towards Black Wood and the old Roman Road. By now, you will see Sykes Monument which is where you are heading. At the gate, turn right onto the green lane and walk to the Monument where it's nice to rest a while, take a look at the magnificent building and take-in the views.

7

Cross the road from Garton to Sledmere at Monument Cottage and follow the tarmac track (York Road) past Sledmere Grange (on your left) eventually dropping down onto Garton Bottom (7a) at the road. Cross the road and climb steeply. Continue on this path which becomes concrete – the remains of the old Cottam airfield. Where the paths cross (7b) you have a near 360 degree view of the area with the site of the mediaeval village of Cottam to the North (worth a short excursion). Continue in the same direction (East) until you meet the B1249 Driffield to Langtoft road (7c). Cross the road with care and walk through Kilham Westfield Farm.

Return to the Wold Rangers Way

8

Head south east for 1.5 miles, initially on a minor road and then green lane, passing Westfield Farm and Danes' Graves Plantation to reach Garton Balk. Turn right and follow the bridleway until it meets a broad unsurfaced road near Clitheroe Farm. Turn left.

9

This is Long Lane, aptly named, being approximately 2.5 miles in length and the route back to Driffield. It has a changing surface, in part road, green lane and bridleway. Heading south follow it, taking care crossing the Kilham road and especially A614 Bridlington Road. The track follows a pleasant wooded area and emerges between houses at the junction with Scarborough Road in Driffield.

10

On Scarborough Road, turn left and where the road forks, keep right with the high brick wall of Highfield House on your right. On North Street, cross the road and walk through Remembrance Gardens turning right over the footbridge into Northfield Park. Walk through the park (with the stream on your left) and bear left over a footbridge. Turn right onto Laundry Lane and pass the old water pump on your right. Turn right onto Bridge Street and at the Church, turn left onto Middle Street North for the final 500 yards to Driffield Market Place.

Finish Point

