

QS Walking Buddies - Walk 72 - Alford Mill Rundle, Well - 26/9/2025

Distance: 4 miles, easy flat terrain (level 2)

10am - Meet at The Manor House, Alford, LN13 9HT

We last did this walk 2 years ago in June. You may find this link interesting!

https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=d262380f444288af&rlz=1C9BKJA_enGB1068GB1068&hl=en-GB&q=alford%20manor%20house



10am - Park at the Manor House (meet together there to start our walk.) We turn left out of the car park and go along the street, turn right into the Market Square and then cross to the other side and right again. There are some interesting streets and shops, as well as the library and dentist. We continue through winding streets and along to the large new Bridgeways housing estate. At the far end the path takes us through a designated gap in the hedge and we'll be at the start of the Mill Rundle walk. (*"Rundle" is a word with multiple meanings, most commonly referring to a rung of a ladder or a rotating object, such as a wheel. It can*

*also refer to the drum of a capstan or part of a lantern pinion. **The word is a variant of the Middle English word "roundel," meaning "circle".***)

The views here are open and the area is flat, with some tracks through ancient woodland and open field-side paths. By now we will be facing Well village. (Unfortunately the Well Vale estate land, despite having well trodden **official** paths, isn't as welcoming as it used to be, so we have chosen the lovely Mill Rundle instead.)

Walk through mature woodland toward the narrow road that leads to the village. Passing by an isolated cottage, where the train line once crossed the road. Here we may dream of the delightful countryside we're passing through as we chug along on a steam train!

After a mile or so, we're in the village and turn right onto Well Low Road, by the red telephone kiosk (now a library.) Continuing through the remaining rows of houses on either side until we head out of Well village, continue along the quiet winding lane by the edge of woodland and Well Grange lower entrance, onto the path alongside the busy main road, the A1104.

Back to the outskirts of Alford, remark about the Toll Cottage and walk by the road end of Beechings Way. As you'll expect, the old railway station (now a building factors) was here! Dr Beeching (the then chairman of British Railways) had *his* way in the 1960s! We may ponder again on how good it would be for the rails to still be usable. Note the building's attractive facade. Continue along the pavement toward the town, see the buildings and items of interest along the way.



The path takes us in front of the Methodist Chapel, next door to the Manor House, where we join the 'after walkers'.

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*\*An unusual connection - Stewart had an original portrait, in an oval frame, of an 18th century lady, Lucy Sherard who was the granddaughter of the Bennetts whose effigies are in Alford church yard, laying on their tombs. She later became the Duchess of Rutland/Haddon.*

### **Notes...**

*This walk follows permissive footpaths created and managed by Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board and with the kind cooperation of Willoughby Farms Limited. With support from the Lincolnshire Wolds Small Grant Scheme. The Mill Rundle's current route dates from the mid 1970's when the Drainage Board and the District Council re-routed the watercourse. Prior to the re-routing of the Mill Rundle, localised flooding occurred in Alford and development was limited by the existing surface water systems, many of which are now culverted.*