

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ON THE AREA, VISIT -

lovelincolnshirewolds.com

Love Lincolnshire Wolds

@LoveLincsWolds

LoveLincsWolds



### Acknowledgements

Compiled by  
Horncastle Walkers are Welcome

Photographs by kind permission of the  
Horncastle History and Heritage Society

Produced by East Lindsey District Council © 2020  
Designed by Public Sector Partnership Services 2020



### HISTORY MATTERS

## HORNCASTLE HERITAGE TRAIL

Horncastle is an attractive market town lying at the south-west foot of the Lincolnshire Wolds.

## ROMAN HORNCASTLE

The confluence of the Rivers Waring and Bain has provided ideal land for settlement for centuries. During the first and second centuries AD Horncastle became a substantial civilian settlement. Burial grounds with lead coffins and cremation urns indicate that it was an area of some wealth. Roman Horncastle is now known to have had two main elements of settlement, firstly the walled enclosure of about five acres at the junction of the two rivers, and secondly an unwalled settlement covering up to 135 acres situated on a higher gravel terrace with its centre located around the town hall area.



2

## THE KING'S CHAMPION

The Dymoke family of the Manor of Scrivelsby in Horncastle parish holds the feudal hereditary office of King's Champion. The function of the Champion was to ride into Westminster Hall at the coronation banquet and challenge all comers who might impugn the King's title. The earliest record of the ceremony dates from the accession of King Richard II (1377-1399). On that occasion, the Champion was Sir John Dymoke (died 1381).

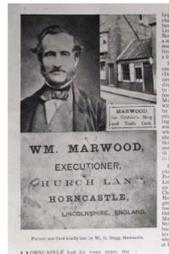


Sir Robert Dymoke was Champion at the coronations of Kings Richard III (1483-1485), Henry VII (1485-1509) and Henry VIII (1509-1547), and became the King's Treasurer. His descendants acted as Champions at successive coronations. His son Sir Lionel Dymoke was knighted in 1513 at the Siege of Tournai by King Henry VIII. Legend has it that a suit of armour formerly belonging to Sir Lionel which 'kept guard' over his remains in St. Mary's Church, Horncastle, was taken in 1536 and worn by Phillip Trotter, one of the leaders of the Lincolnshire Rebellion. The church contains monumental brasses depicting Sir Lionel Dymoke clad in armour and kneeling on a cushion with plates showing his three daughters and two step-sons.

Jane Dymoke (died 1743) wife of the Hon Charles Dymoke, who was Champion at the coronation of William III and Mary II] is buried alongside Sir Lionel Dymoke in the church's chancel. Her hatchment in the form of a lozenge, the usual shape for a female, displays the arms of Dymoke.

The last time the traditional ritual was enacted was in 1821 by Sir Henry Dymoke, 1st Baronet (1801-1865), at the coronation of King George IV. At the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, Lt.Col. John Dymoke carried the Union Standard at the head of the coronation procession.

## WILLIAM MARWOOD



At the age of 54, William Marwood (1820-1883) a cobbler of Church Lane, Horncastle, persuaded the governor of Lincoln prison to allow him to conduct an execution.

The efficient way in which he conducted the hanging of William Frederick Harry (or Horry) without a hitch in April 1872 helped him to get appointed as hangman by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, for which he was paid a retainer of £20 a year plus £10 per execution.

Marwood developed the more humane 'long drop' technique of hanging, which ensured that the prisoner's neck was broken instantly at the end of the drop, rather than the slow death by strangulation caused by the 'short drop' method, which was particularly distressing to prison governors and staff who were required to witness executions at a close distance following the abolition of public executions in 1868.

In his nine years as a hangman, Marwood executed 178 people. Some of his better known victims included Charles Peace, the archetypal Victorian burglar and murderer, Kate Webster, an Irish servant girl who murdered her mistress with an axe, and Joe Brady and four other members of the Irish National Invincibles gang who murdered Lord Frederick Cavendish, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Thomas Henry Burke, Permanent Undersecretary for Ireland, in Dublin in 1883.

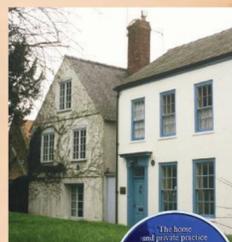
In Marwood's time there was a popular rhyme which went: 'If Pa killed Ma, who'd kill Pa? Marwood!'

## DR EDWARD HARRISON

The pioneering physician Edward Harrison (1766-1838) practiced for thirty years in Horncastle in Lincolnshire, where he founded, among other things, a dispensary, the Medical Society of Horncastle, and the Lincolnshire Benevolent Medical Society. In December 1789 the citizens of Horncastle welcomed the opening of Lincolnshire's first Dispensary at No.2, St. Mary's Churchyard. This was the first of many beneficial projects instigated by his friend and patient Sir Joseph Banks.

8

Harrison was an advocate of medical reform, reporting on the lack of regulation of physicians, surgeons, 'quacks' and apothecaries, and suggesting that regulation of education and licensing was needed. His crusade to implement a Medical Reform Bill was to last 12 years before being defeated by the Royal College of Physicians in London, who feared they would lose some of their power and influence.



The home and practice of Dr. EDWARD HARRISON M.D. the founder of the HORNCASTLE DISPENSARY (1789). Medical reformer and pioneer in curing spinal deformities.

Despite this setback to his ambitions, he expanded his interests by caring for the insane in his private asylum at 30 West Street, Horncastle. Harrison also became the highly regarded physician to the father and uncle of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, at nearby Somersby.

His wife Charlotte's cousin was suffering from a spinal deformity which roused his compassion and curiosity. He cured her spinal deformity within a year and developed a new method involving the massage and manipulation of individual vertebrae that he concentrated on for the rest of his life, and this led to his worldwide fame, or notoriety. Harrison resigned from the Dispensary in 1821 to pursue and promote his new cure in London, by which time over 10,000 patients from all over the county had received treatment in this small market town.

His remaining years in London were to bring even more conflict with the Royal College of Physicians, who took him to court for practising without license. Harrison went on to cure patients with extreme deformities and restore the use of previously paralysed limbs. His attempts to promote his new method within the more conservative and staid medical community was generally met with scorn and derision.

His ambition to establish a charitable spinal infirmary for the poor in London was finally achieved in 1837, one year before his death, at the age of 78. Casts of his patient's backs, before and after his treatment, were distributed throughout the world to practitioners who admired his methods.

Harrison was buried in Horncastle not far from the dispensary and a white marble memorial commissioned in St. Mary's Church. A further memorial plaque was positioned above the entrance to the second dispensary in North Street, built in

9

## THE WHELPTON ALMSHOUSES

The Whelpton Alms Houses are six small residences situated on the east side of Queen Street 'for the reception of deserving poor persons, natives of the town'. They were established in 1861 by George Whelpton who was a shoemaker with a small shop in the Market

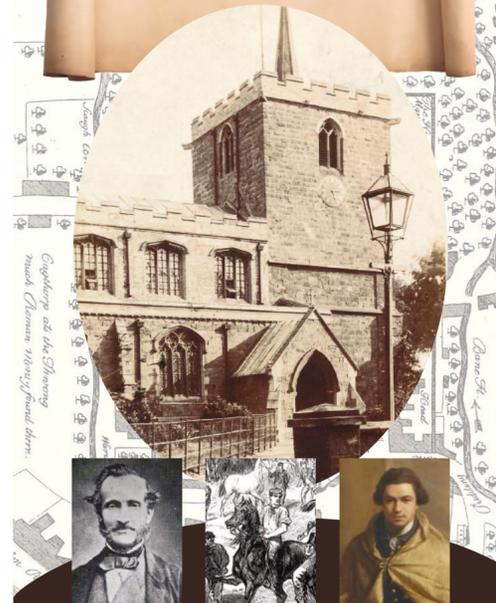


Place, near the site of the present Stanhope Memorial. He lived in a small house in Stonewell Row, but later moved to a larger property in Queen Street. While living in Stonewell Row he purchased some furniture at an auction, and in a drawer found a recipe for the medicine eventually to become known universally as 'Whelpton's Pills', a powerful remedy for stomach and kidney diseases.

From the sale of these pills he amassed a large fortune which allowed him to purchase a house in Regent's Park, London. He later built his son a church, and decided to erect the almshouses, and an endowment of £1000, as a memorial to his wife for 'persons who were fit and deserving subjects of the charity, indigent, but of good character, not recipients of parish relief, and not under 45 years of age. The weekly allowance to the inmates was to be 3s. 6d.'

10

## HORNCASTLE HERITAGE TRAIL



### WALKING THROUGH HISTORY

retreat luring the Royalists onto poor ground. Colonel Oliver Cromwell, then relatively unknown, had his horse shot from under him and he only narrowly avoided death.

A misunderstood order led the Royalists to retreat and they were quickly routed into a boggy valley known where they were cut down in droves. The scattering Royalists were pursued on through Horncastle where the killing continued.

The Royalist officer Sir Ingram Hopton who had unhorsed Cromwell was himself killed in the chaos, and his memorial hangs to this day in St Mary's Church. Perhaps the scythes were placed here in memory of more humble casualties who fought to keep Lincolnshire for the King?

## THE STANHOPE HALL



By 1900 the existing drill hall on South Street, on the corner of the Wong, was no longer able to accommodate growing numbers of army volunteers coming forward to enlist with the local 'G' company of the Lincolnshire Regiment.

The Local Board applied for permission to build a new much larger drill hall on the south east corner of the Wong as 'G' company already had the right to drill and exercise there as long as they did not interfere with the market and fairs. The project was funded by public subscription as a dual purpose building for both army training and public entertainment.



During WW1 the British Red Cross turned the new drill hall into a military hospital which treated over 1000 soldiers. In the 1960s the building was used as council offices until boarded up ready for demolition in 1999. A community group rallied round and saved the building, renaming it The Stanhope Hall. It is now a self-sustaining community hub and in times of flooding has been used as an emergency centre.



6

stone facing of the town's Roman walls is the church. So much free green sandstone was no doubt too much of a temptation when the inhabitants of the town were looking to improve on their Saxon building!

The church has played a major part in the history of Horncastle, being a focus for the Lincolnshire Rising, the eventual Pilgrimage of Grace and the burial place of Sir Ingram Hopton, on Cromwell's orders, during the English Civil War.

In 2009 the church underwent a major restoration after death watch beetle damage was discovered in the nave roof. Since 1997 a total of £500,000 has been raised and invested in the church to ensure that Horncastle's oldest building will live on for future generations.

## THE LINCOLNSHIRE RISING

On Tuesday, October 3rd 1536 the flames of the insurrection, which would rock King Henry VIII's throne, smouldered in deeply Catholic Horncastle. Louth's god-fearing folk had already gathered at mass in their parish church of St James two days before. They were told by the vicar, Thomas Kendall, who would meet a gruesome death at Tyburn six months later, the valuables of St James' were in danger of being taken by the King's henchmen, already in the area checking resources of monasteries they would suppress.

The blood thirsty act of vengeance which Horncastle would now witness would dramatically ignite the Lincolnshire Rising. Horncastle's commons had dithered since Sunday, until a parson named Nicholas Leache persuaded them to head for Scrivelsby Court, the home of the locally influential Dymoke family, who had been hereditary Champions of England since the time of Richard II. There, Edward

Dymoke, the Sheriff of Lincolnshire, allowed himself to be bullied into action by Nicholas Leache's brother, William. The Bishop of Lincoln's chancellor, John Rayne, who had been one of Henry's lawyers when he tried to obtain divorce was hauled before the rebels at Horncastle. He was pulled down by his horse and done to death with staves, after pathetically trying to buy them off with twenty shillings for drink. Edward Dymoke did nothing to stop the brutal act, nor the hanging of Thomas Wolsey - accused of being a spy by William Leache.

The effect was extraordinary - bells rang and beacons were lit along the Humber. At Cistercian Kirkstead Abbey a gang of men told the

4

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The church consists of a nave and chancel, each with a clerestory, a north and south aisle, north and south porch, and a low massive square tower containing a clock and six bells, surmounted by a small spirelet which is completely out of proportion with the rest of the building.

The oldest remaining part of the church is the heavy west tower arch of the Early English period almost certainly built during the late 12th or early 13th century. The two lancet windows in the west wall are typical of Early English work. The four-bay nave arcades are of the Early English decorated transitional period, although they were renovated during the 1861 restoration. The best place in Horncastle to see the



3

Coin finds from the unwalled area show settlement dating from the 1st century, however evidence of earlier Iron Age occupation has also been found, possibly indicating a smooth transition during the occupation. The walled circuit has been shown to be a 3rd or 4th century military construction with no evidence of earlier settlement.

Various theories have been suggested to explain why a military fort needed to be built at Horncastle. However, it is likely that the site was in closer contact with the sea than it is now, giving it a strategic defensive position similar to other coastal fortifications.

The walls are constructed from local Spilsby sandstone quarried from nearby Holbeck Manor. Both the east and west walls do not have walls that meet in the centre, indicating a rare clavicular type of gate where the walls overlap, possibly protected by towers.

Roman Horncastle has become known more recently as Banovallum, that is 'Wall on the River Bain'. This name has been adopted by several local businesses and by one of the town's senior schools, but the Roman name for the town is not known. Banovallum was suggested in the 19th century through an interpretation of the Ravenna Cosmography, a 7th century list of Roman towns and road-stations.

The Roman walls remain clearly visible in places. One impressive section is on display in the town library, which was built on top of the wall. The Saxons called the town 'Hyrnecastre', from which the modern name derives.

## SIR JOSEPH BANKS

Sir Joseph Banks (1743-1820) was a British explorer and botanist who became world famous as a patron of the natural sciences. He grew up in Lincolnshire and developed his passion for nature on his family's nearby Revesby Abbey estate, which he inherited in 1761. After graduating from Oxford he travelled to Newfoundland and Labrador in 1766, collecting plant and other specimens.

In 1768 he travelled with Captain James Cook on his first great voyage across the Pacific to Brazil, Tahiti, New Zealand and Australia and collected many thousands of plant specimens, including 1400 new discoveries. He wrote detailed descriptions of the Maori people of New Zealand, mapped the eastern coastline



2



# HORNCASTLE HERITAGE TRAIL

This leaflet will guide you around the town on a three mile heritage trail.

## 1 Start the walk in the Market Place at THE STANHOPE MEMORIAL.

The local benefactor Edward Stanhope MP represented Horncastle from 1874 to 1893. His memorial was erected in 1899, at a huge cost of £552 12s 3d raised by public subscription, in the presence of a vast crowd filling the entire Market Place.

The buildings here are a mix of late Georgian and Victorian and it is worth looking above the shop frontages to appreciate them. In particular look out for the former George Inn, with the archway, where the coaches from Lincoln, Boston and Louth stopped. It is said that the author George Borrow stayed here and wrote of his experiences at the Horse Fair in 'Romany Rye'. The corner of Church Lane features an Italian-style curved façade of shops.

Cross the road at the zebra crossing and walk into St. Mary's Churchyard.

## 2 ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD

St. Mary's Church dates from the 13th century and is built from local green sandstone, much of which is thought to have been reused from Horncastle's Roman wall. Visit the church and have a look at the memorials and famous scythes, reputedly from the Civil War.

On the right of the church is the National School (now the Community Centre) built on land donated by Sir Joseph Banks with timber from his Revesby Estate. The school, which consisted of just one classroom, opened in 1814.

Horncastle can also boast that it was home to the first dispensary in Lincolnshire, which was opened in 1789 at 2 St Mary's Churchyard.

On leaving St. Mary's churchyard, emerge onto Manor House Street and turn left along the front of the old school to view the Manor House opposite and its plaque. Continue past the old school building and on your left you will see how it has been built directly on top of the ruins of the town's Roman wall. Retrace your steps, the modern shop building on your left, currently Heron, was built on the site of the Sellwood family house. Emily Sellwood married the poet Alfred Tennyson. Turn left towards Bridge Street.

## 3 BRIDGE STREET - The tall three storied building with the decorated front was the home and business of the grocer Henry Lunn, whose son Sir Henry established the travel company later known as Lunn Poly.

Next door is the Sir Joseph Banks Centre with its Tribute Garden to the rear. This 18th century building was extensively restored at the beginning of the century by Heritage Lincolnshire, preserving much of the original timber and brickwork.

The bridge marks the limit of the canal for larger barges. Smaller lighters would have been used to reach the North Basin and watermill. The large warehouse was one of the last to be built on the canal and was used for the storage of wool.

Continue to walk out of the town centre and bear left to enter West Street

## 4 WEST STREET - There are a number of fine buildings along West Street, including an impressive Georgian town house at no. 2. Despite its grandeur it stands cheek-by-jowl with the Fighting Cocks, where a cockpit in the yard drew spectators until outlawed in 1849. Another reminder that this was once the town's busy main road is the Crown Inn, and towards the end of the street the former Reindeer Hotel. On your right beside the Crown, at no.30, is the home of the physician Edward Harrison. It also served as a private asylum. Further on an archway in a little, low 17th century cottage marks the entrance to Watson's Infant School (1786-1918), which stands in a pretty courtyard behind.

On the left-hand side towards the junction you will see the towering 18th century brick granaries, preserving the hatches where grain was once unloaded. Look out for the modern stone sculpture next to the junction erected as a tribute to Sir Joseph Banks. This area at the junction with Lincoln Road is known as Maypole Hill, as it was here that the maypole stood and people once danced to celebrate the arrival of spring, an ancient pagan custom that lasted until the 1780s.

On reaching the traffic lights, bear left to cross the A158 Jubilee Way using the pelican crossing. West Street continues on the other side of this 1970s relief road, so stay on the pavement curving with it around to the left into a footpath. Keep Bush Tyres to your right then cross the bridge in front of the swimming pool and enter Coronation Walk.

## 5 CORONATION WALK NEAR SWIMMING POOL - Little of Horncastle railway station remains other than the name 'Sidings'. In its day it was the busy terminus of the Kirkstead to Horncastle railway line, which opened in 1855. The last passenger train left in 1954 though freight continued until 1971. It is now designated as the Spa Trail and is a busy route for both walkers and cyclists.

The swimming pool is of interest in that it was originally the dry dock for the canal and as such still retains sloping sides.

To the rear of the swimming pool is the supposed site of the Julian Bower, this would have been an elaborate turf maze similar to the now almost unique example at Alkborough in North Lincolnshire.

The road bridge crosses the Old River Bain and is on the site of the 'Staunch' where gates raised the height of the water in through the town for barges. If there was a storm, the staunch keeper who lived on the site had to react quickly before the town flooded.

## 6 CORONATION WALK - Walk alongside the River Waring back towards the town. In Georgian times the banks would have been lined with barges loading and unloading. The north bank had several warehouses.

The River Waring is a relatively short river draining the steep slopes of the Southern Wolds. After the most serious flood in 1960 when the water reached 1.7m in Wharf Road, the river was canalised and the present concrete channel formed. Look out for the bricks along the river bank which were the foundations of the warehouses.

At the end of Coronation Walk, turn right into Cagthorpe.

## 7 CAGTHORPE - This area south of the River Waring, adjacent to where the youth club now stands, was once a separate hamlet. It is the site of the British School and the original Baptist Chapel, later to become the Salvation Army Citadel. Two centuries ago Horncastle had five non-conformist religious communities - Wesleyan, Congregational, Primitive Methodist, Baptist, and New Church or Swedenborgian, each having substantial chapels and resident ministers.

## 8 THE WONG - To the south of Cagthorpe is the area known as The Wong, a meadow or open space near the town centre.

In 1229 the Lordship of the Manor was granted to the Bishop of Carlisle by King Henry III who also granted a charter allowing an annual fair, and subsequently weekly markets, to be held on The Wong.

The Wong played a part in the Lincolnshire Rising against Henry VIII's reforms and lays claim to be one of the starting points for the Pilgrimage of Grace and the place where the Bishop's Chancellor, Doctor Raynes, was dragged from his sickbed and brought to the Wong where he was killed by a mob in 1536.

The Manor was held by a number of different Bishops until 1714 when Joseph Banks bought Revesby Estate on 17th March 1714 for £14,000. Then with the Enclosure Act the Commissioners allotted land to Sir Joseph Banks which included the Wong.

In 1885 Sir Joseph Banks' heir, James Banks-Stanhope gave the Revesby Estate and Lordship of the Manor to Edward Stanhope who was an MP for Horncastle. In 1892 Edward Stanhope offered the Wong, Pig Market Weigh House, Market Place and the rights to charge Tolls to the then Board of Health.

The weekly Cattle Market on the Wong continued until 1999 - the 4 acres that was transferred to the Town has slowly diminished

Cagthorpe was also the original site of the town's oldest business. Crowders was established in the early 19th century as a nursery supplying hedging for the new field boundaries being created at the time of field enclosures.

At the end of Cagthorpe turn left into The Wong. Enter the car park on your right and you will see the pig pens on your left.

Across the car park stands Stanhope Hall.

## 9 STANHOPE HALL - The old Drill Hall, the building to right of the pig pens, served for many years as the Drill Hall for the Volunteer Corps (forerunner to the Territorial Army). The wall that encloses the pig pens was the old parade ground. In 1901 a new Drill Hall was built for the TA Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment. During WWI the hall served as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) hospital. In time the hall became the Town Hall before being handed to a local committee and renamed the Stanhope Hall. The hall is today used for a wide range of community activities.

Leave Stanhope Hall and cross the A153 Boston Road using the zebra crossing. Turn left and immediately right onto Marcham Road.

Cross the road and take the second left turning onto Foundry Street. Walk along the street until you reach the fire station on the right. Walk down the drive.

## 10 FOUNDRY STREET near fire station - At the end of the avenue stands the Union Workhouse designed by Sir George Gilbert-Scott and built in 1838. It was a large building capable of accommodating 260 residents. It became known as "The Union" when 69 parishes joined together. Not always as grim as depicted by Dickens, the

workhouse did provide a safety net for the poor and infirm until well into the 1930s. During this period Homeleigh was built on the adjacent site as a purpose-built children's home. The ten residential houses were designed as individual cottages each with a housemother. Homeleigh was closed in 1957.

Retrace your steps onto Foundry Street. Turn right and then left onto Cross Street. Turn right at Queen Street and then left onto Croft Street. This will eventually bring you back to the A153 Boston Road. Turn right and you will reach the Hamerton Gardens on your right.

## 11 HAMERTON GARDENS - Hamerton Gardens were originally the garden of the large house now occupied by Chattertons Solicitors. The house was originally built by the Hamertons who were a wealthy family of tanners. In the 1920s Stafford Walter opened his garden to the public, with its bowling green and 'mousery', a row of houses containing white and common mice with an amusement park for the mice consisting of spinning-wheels with figures attached that worked as the wheels rotated. The gardens are now home to a memorial dedicated to Korean War veterans.

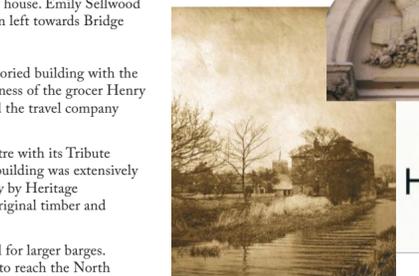
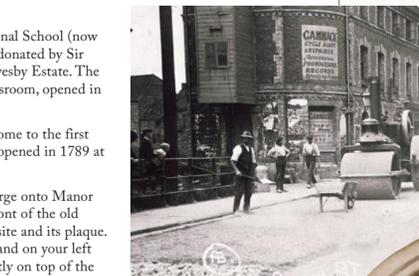
Take a look across the road. Above the door of the house next to The Mermaid fish and chip shop is the unusual death mask of Tiger Tim hanged in 1830 for his part in a burglary at Halstead Hall near Stixwold.

Walk back towards the town centre. On reaching the cross roads, cross to the horse statues on the other side of the A153.

## 12 HORSE STATUES - Horncastle Horse Fair, once the largest in Europe, was held between 1231 and 1948, under a Charter granted by King Henry III. The mid 1800s saw the peak of the Fair, held during the first two weeks of August. Hundreds of horses were traded, and visitors to the town came from all over England, Ireland

# HISTORY MATTERS

# HORNCASTLE HERITAGE TRAIL



## HORNCASTLE

© Crown copyright and database rights (2020) OS (East Lindsey District Council licence number 100019809). You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

TF2569

Scale 1:7000

Horse Fair in Bull Ring from outside The Ship



and Europe, bringing with them suppliers of every type of horse accessory. Some of the horses used in the 'Charge of the Light Brigade' were purchased at Horncastle Horse fair. The fair also boasts two Grand National winners. Such was the success of the Horse Fair that many local landowners were engaged in breeding horses, while others took to growing oats, solely to meet the demand of feeding the huge number of horses. Many of the working horses were likely to have been local Wildmore Tit ponies or the larger Lincolnshire Black, both popular for ploughing as well as a cavalry horse.

The sculptures were designed by three members of the local community David Birchall, David Lawrence and Bob Wayne.

Cross the road and walk towards the library on the other side of the River Waring.

## 13 LIBRARY WALL - The Town's library was built in the 1960s on the site of a large grain warehouse. It was in this warehouse that the town's famous hangman, William Marwood, carried out experiments and perfected the 'long drop', a more humane way of hanging criminals. On display inside the building is one of the best preserved sections of the town's Roman wall. Set in the pavement to the right (east) of the building is the outline of the wall and its south-eastern bastion.

At the end of the estate agent's wall one can just discern the remains of a historic town amenity. Men drinking beer at the Horse Fair required a public urinal...

Walk from the library towards the Market Place via Lindsey Court. On reaching the Market Place, cross the road using the zebra crossing and turn right. Walk along towards the Bull Ring. On your left you will see the Red Lion public house.

## 14 RED LION ENTRANCE - One of the remarkable features of Horncastle is the number of its public houses, which was far greater in the time of the horse fairs. The public houses were generally attached to large yards, and extensive stabling, where the best horses were shown. Many of these have now disappeared.

At the rear of the Red Lion is the base of the Horncastle Theatre Company.

Stay on the pavement, walking out of town along North Street. You will cross the junction of Conging Street. Travel a little further and you will see the War Memorial Hospital on your right. Straight ahead is the Courthouse (now converted into flats) built in 1865 on the site of the former parish stocks.

## 15 WAR MEMORIAL CENTRE - The original Dispensary was built in 1867 by Sir Henry Dymoke. It was developed into a cottage hospital after the Great War as the Horncastle War Memorial Hospital, and became the War Memorial Centre in 2002.

Return to the town centre via Dovecote Alley situated alongside Kemp's hardware shop. On emerging from Dovecote Alley, you will see Tesco's store in front of you. Bear left towards the bridge.

## 16 BRIDGE - The 17th and 18th centuries in Horncastle were characterised by hardship and lawlessness, with civil war, risings and the plague to name but a few of its problems! Most of the cottages were 'mud and stud' with thatched roofs and earthen floors. Before piped water, earth privies polluted rivers off lanes such as Pudding Lane, Cow Lane, Church Lane and Dovecote Alley. Every street had inns and beer-houses with brothels and prostitutes. The larger brothels were in Dog Kennel Yard, Foundry Street, Millstone Street, St. Mary's Square, Far Street and St. Lawrence Street. The brothel keepers, often called 'polls', with names such as Nottingham Nell, Yorkshire Sall, and Dutch Doll were referred to in the Stamford Mercury as 'Ladies of the Pavé'.

Walk up St. Lawrence Street and you will return to the Market Place. We hope you have enjoyed your walk!