Tolethorpe Hall has origins going back to the 11th Century when it is believed that the first Manor House was built on the site of the present hall by a Norman family. In 1503 the property was acquired by the Brownes. Robert Browne was the founder and leading campaigner of the religious Separatist movement, also known as Brownists, seeking a separate church from the Church of England. Shakespeare referred to the Brownists in "Twelfth Night" and the Pilgrim Fathers were Separatists. In 1977 the near derelict Tolethorpe Hall was acquired by the Stamford Shakespeare Company, who created one of Europe's finest open air theatres in the grounds.

Tolethorpe Hall

monks there. It is said that she used to bathe at the spring on Tibba's Well Hill, this being on the hill from Tolethorpe to Belinsford Bridge.

Legend of St. Tibba

The Church is traditionally associated with the legend of St. Tibba, the patron saint of falconers. She was the niece of King Penda of Mercia, and is said to have lived here in the 7th century. Originally buried in the churchyard, her remains were removed to Peterborough Monastery in 963 by Abbot Elgin because of the jealousy of the

St John's Church

in this window near the bottom left hand corner. personal mark, the Wheatsheat, which can be seen in 1900. Kempe's windows can be recognised by the east end of the South arcade was made by Kempe windows in the Church. The Gann window in the over 700 years old. There are three stained glass Font and Sedilia (priests' seats in the Chancel) are of St. Christopher, the Patron Saint of Travellers. The schoolroom. On the North arcade is a large figure as the Parvis room, which was once used as a has over it a priest's chamber, known nowadays lived here nearly 900 years ago! The South doorway portrait gallery of some of the Ryhall worthies who known to the sculptor, so perhaps we have here a figures. Many of the human faces would have been au ontdoor string course runs a host of grotesque being made through subsequent centuries. Along and tower arches with various other additions enlarged in 1250 with the addition of the chancel of Barnack and Ketton stone in around 1200. It was oldest remaining building in the village, constructed The Norman church of St. John the Evangelist is the



Road: Ryhall is situated approximately 2 miles north of Stamford on the A6121.

Bus: Services 4 and 202 from Stamford.

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killed at the battle of Evesham in 1256. He was a close ally of Simon de Montfort and was Manor House built by Hugh Despenser around 1250. almost certainly stand upon the former site of the first cellar. Both Church Farm and The Green Dragon church which has a splendid 13th Century vaulted

that have now closed. Inn closed in 1914, one of the five pubs in the village has been removed and the root raised. The Five Bells to the five bells in the church. Since it was built thatch Originally it was the Five Bells Inn, possibly a reference Anne house, one of the oldest houses in Ryhall. Directly opposite the Green Dragon Inn is a Queen

Village Hall. was closed in 1963 and the building is now used as the which the National School was built in 1857. The School Pierrepont in 1800. It was he who gave the land on from the original Elizabethan house by Michael The present Hall is Georgian and was reconstructed The Hall at Ryhall was first mentioned in 1587.

it. He was thus able to see the tunnel entrance. cap down the well, and had to be allowed to retrieve owner of the Hall, whereupon the villager threw his villager was forbidden from entering the well by the Hall to the cellar of the Green Dragon Inn. In 1950, a House), the other from a well in the garden of the one from the Hall to Manor Farm (now Hemgate Two tunnels are thought to run beneath the village;

Introduction

under control. the flow of the river through Ryhall has been However, since the creation of Rutland Water in 1972 Knossington, was a regular occurrence in the village. the Gwash, a tributary of the River Welland rising near falling from Ryhall Heath to the Gwash. Flooding of causeway built in 1650. The land is mostly low lying river are linked by a three arched stone bridge and road. The areas of the village north and south of the the road from Stamford to Bourne, a former turnpike in the little river Gwash and is bordered on its west by The village does indeed lay either side of a meander 'a nook on the bend of a river with rye growing there'. Domesday Book. The name Ryhall derives from the north of Stamford and is first mentioned in the Ryhall is a parish of irregular shape lying 3 miles to

estate at that time. John Wallett and his wife Elizabeth who owned the initials and date "J W E 1685". The initials are those of On the chimney of the farmhouse can be seen the church standing against the churchyard boundary. remain, including Church Farm to the north of the Despite this a number of Grade 2 listed buildings do limestone buildings having long since disappeared. Ryhall is a beautiful village despite many of the older

standing a short distance to the north east of the Another fine building is The Green Dragon Inn



T: 0871 2002233 E: www.traveline.org.uk

Rail: The nearest railway station is Stamford.

Ordnance Survey Maps

Landranger 130 Explorer 234

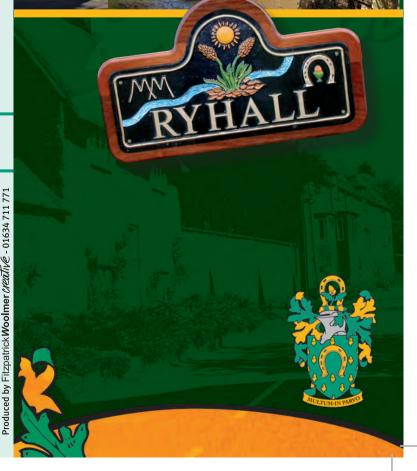
Travel

If you require further information regarding this leaflet or require it in an alternative format please contact Rutland County Council Highways at the address below:

Rutland County Council Highways 28 - 34 Station Approach, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6QW T: 01572 771117 E: rightsofway@rutland.gov.uk W: www.rutland.gov.uk/row







Ryhall Walk Number 1

Start from the Village Hall.

• Stand outside the village hall facing the library. Turn left and walk downhill, passing the church on your left, towards the village square. On arriving in the square, with the Green Dragon Inn ahead and on your left, take a right on to Bridge Street.



2 Cross the bridge over the river Gwash and turn left on to Mill Street. Continue to the junction with Turnpike Road. Cross the road with care, turn left and after a short distance you will find a footpath signposted on your right. Follow the footpath and bear left as it opens out into a large arable field.

At the top of the hill is a field gate at the junction with the Careby Road. Cross over the road to the entrance to Top Farm. Climb the stile on your right and continue in this direction, passing over a second stile and through a gap in a hedge, until you reach the junction with a farm track.

• Turn left and take the track past Ryhall Grange to its end at the top of a large arable field. Walk diagonally across the field heading for gate that will be visible in the hedgerow ahead. Pass through the gate and continue in the same direction. As you reach the end of the next field you will find a stone bench with "Joe's Corner" carved in to it.

• Continue in the same direction up the hill to a stile in the opposite corner of the field. Climb the stile and turn right on to an old tarmac byway known as The Drift. Follow The Drift to its junction with the Careby Road and turn right. After a short distance you will see a bridleway on your left.

6 Follow the bridleway around the fields edge, through a small spinney, and then up a hill. On reaching the top of the hill a row of trees will be visible in the distance which marks the bridleways junction with the Essendine Road.

Cross over the road and turn right. After around 10 minutes, as the path starts to head down hill, you will find a footpath on your left. Climb over the stile and follow the footpath to a kissing gate on the opposite side of the field. Continue down the hill, passing through a number of gates on your way, until you emerge on to a byway called 'Back Lane'.

8 Cross over the lane, climb over a stile and then follow the path around the edge of a garden and down to its junction with Foundry Road. Looking ahead and to the right you will see the white bridge over the river Gwash again. Cross over the bridge and retrace your steps through the village and back to the village hall.



Ryhall Walk Number 2

Start from the Village Hall.

• Standing outside the village hall facing the library, turn right and follow Balk Road, passing the entrance to the old Manor House on your right. When you reach the junction with the Stamford Road, cross with care and follow the farm track straight ahead of you.

2 Follow the track for five minutes or so, with the river Gwash on your right, until you find a footpath branching off to the left across an arable field. At the top of the hill is a gap in the hedge and a stile. Climb over the stile and cross a small enclosed area of grazing land, before meeting another stile at the junction with Salters Lane.

3 Follow the lane down the hill, past the entrance to the old Mill and over the river Gwash. Stay on the lane as it bends sharply to the right and continue to its junction with the Casterton Road. 4 Turn left and after a short distance you will find a signpost on your right pointing towards a wooden gate. Pass through the gate proceed along a track enclosed by tall hedges on either side. When you reach a junction with another track cross straight over.

S Continue along the edge of a large arable field past a number of waymark posts. Before too long a short wooden sign post will become visible pointing to a footpath on your right.

Pass between the wooden posts and over the ditch then make your way across an arable field, heading towards a gap in the hedge at the top of the hill. Pass through the gap and over a shallow ditch. Cut across the corner of the next field and then continue in the same direction, heading for the corner of this much larger arable field where a waymark post marks the boundary. Continue across yet another arable field and in the distance Ryhall now becomes visible. Walk downhill towards the village until you reach a stile at the footpaths junction with Turnpike Road and Careby Road. Bear slightly to the left and follow Turnpike Road until you reach the junction with Mill Street on your right.

8 Following Mill Street with the River Gwash on your right you will soon reach a white bridge. Turn right over the bridge and you will soon arrive in Ryhall village square. Walk straight ahead, taking the path past the Green Dragon Inn that leads you into the Church Yard. Follow the path through the churchyard and onto to Church Street, which leads you back to the village hall.