



## How to reach Monks Wood (This version 30<sup>th</sup> July 2011)

*We would be grateful for comments from any users of these prototype notes, especially if you get lost!!*

### OS Landranger Map Sheet 121(Lincoln & Newark)

**Grid reference:** 044793

#### **A. On Foot to Monks Wood**

There are good Public Footpath links to Ashing Lane Nature Reserve from Scothern, Welton/Dunholme and the hamlet of Reasby.

##### **A.1 From Nettleham**

Use the footpath to Scothern!

##### **A.2 From Scothern**

From Scothern, start Bottle & Glass Inn.

You have two start choices, both lead to Northing Lane on the eastern outskirts of the village.

**A.2.1 First Choice** : Cross over the road from the pub, turn right and enter the village hall car park, pass through the gate into the playing field and join the public footpath at the corner of the end house on the right.

This takes you diagonally across the field to a small young woodland, pass through it and continue through next two fields to Northing Lane ( a farm track at this point)

Turn left along the lane and continue for approx 500 metres to a metal barrier and farm rubbish dump. Continue straight ahead on the grassy track and then over the field to the small wooden hedge crossing.

Turn Right along the hedge side for approx 100 metres to the southern corner of Watts Wood.

Turn left and follow the edge of the wood to Ashing Lane and Watts Wood car park.

Monks Wood is on the eastern side of Watts Wood ( approx 75 metres) and can be accessed by the hard surfaced trail from the car park or by Ashing Lane.

**A.2.2 Second Choice**: Instead of entering playing field follow the village footpath out of Scothern towards Langworth.

At the end of the village, approx 700 metres, after the last house, turn left into Northing Lane.

Follow this, and after approx 500 metres, you will join the footpath described above.

#### **B 1 By road – all users**

The wood is reached off the A46 on the 'Dunholme' bypass. From Lincoln the route is as follows:

- head north on A46 towards Grimsby past Nettleham, Nettleham Heath and the Welton turning at the Polish car-cleaning garage;
- continue on A46. Go over the Dunholme - Scothern crossroads. If you have lived in the area for some time, you will know that 'The Four Seasons' hotel used to be here. There is now new housing on the left;
- the road begins to bend to the left. Ashing Lane is about 200 metres from here. Ashing Lane is the first junction on the right. There is no sign-post to the wood, although in due course this will become necessary;
- start signalling quite early when you come off the bend and pass the speed camera sign. Some motorists see the end of the bend as an excuse to accelerate without due care and attention;
- turn right onto Ashing Lane and follow it to the end. The lane is not of good quality in places. You will pass the following features:
  - a sharp bend to the left;
  - a large house with many outbuildings on your right;
  - a new house on your right;
  - a turning point for combine-harvesters on your right;
  - many potholes ahead – we would emphasise that the lane can be quite difficult in the winter months due to standing water in the pot-holes and mud;
  - the edge of the wood in front of you:
    - left of the lane - Pickerings Meadow - managed by Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
    - right of the lane - Watts Wood - managed by Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- the well-established LWT car park is at the edge of Watts Wood on the right of the track. It is also the starting point for the All Abilities Area,
- we would ask visitors to park in this car park unless they need wheelchair access

## **B. 2 By road – users of wheelchairs and others with less mobility ONLY**

**We must emphasise that the All Abilities Area is not yet complete and that we have a lot to do make it completely suitable for users with less mobility. We must also emphasise that access to Monks Wood is very seasonal and that the walks, even where there is a hard surface, may be challenging in the winter months to anyone using a wheeled conveyance.**

Follow instructions in B1 as far as the edge of wood.

- do NOT enter the existing LWT carpark because access for wheel-chair users through the gate and onto the hard-surfaced path hasn't yet been constructed (30<sup>th</sup> July 2011)
  - the new carpark dedicated to all ability access and funded by the Lottery is further down the lane in Monks Wood which is being managed by Nettleham Woodland Trust:
    - go past the main threshold which was based on a design by local school children who envisaged it as a sort of Lincoln cathedral lookalike . Please to not park here
    - stay on the lane until the next gap on the hedge on the right-hand side which is the entrance to a hard-surfaced parking and turning area for minibuses (e.g. St Francis School) and other users

**We would expect that anyone parking in the new car park has a vehicle with a blue disabled sticker or a school minibus with appropriate identification. This is not a base for a family picnic or dog-walkers to unload their animal(s) who should park in the LWT. Thank you for your co-operation on this.**

- once you have parked, the hard-surfaced routes are obvious

- the path from/to the Oak Tree Theatre, the Monk Oak, the main threshold and the old carpark
- the two ends of a loop around which most of the new, very sensory and accessible planting will take place over the next two/three years

This is a work in progress. Enjoy your visit!

