

The WILBERFORCE WAY

Wilberforce Way Fact File

Route Description - From The Deep, Hull the route heads to Beverley in the East Riding of Yorkshire passing the historic Beverley Minster. The route then takes in Cherry Burton a fair trade village, Goodmanham, Market Weighton, Nunburnholme, Pocklington and finishes at York Minster.

Distance - 60 miles

Terrain - Generally the route is mostly easy walking for the seasoned walker, however there are more strenuous climbs in the section after Market Weighton.

Walk Highlights

The Deep on the River Humber waterfront at Kingston upon Hull. From here there is a fine panoramic view of the Humber as well as the opportunity to visit The Deep, claimed to be the world's only sub-marium.

Wilberforce House Museum is the birthplace of the man whose tireless efforts led to the abolition of the slave trade is now a museum.

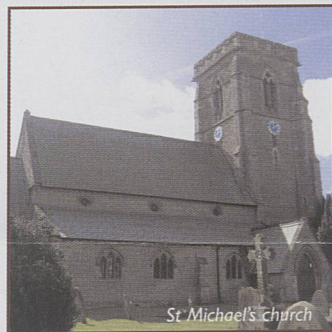
Beverley Minster gives the appearance of a cathedral because of its large size but it is actually a parish church. The current building dates from about 1220. Partly because of its importance as a place of pilgrimage and also a place of sanctuary, the town of Beverley grew up adjacent to the Minster and by the 14th century Beverley had become a wealthy town, famous for its wool trade.

During the middle of the 18th century the floor of the Minster was taken up and relaid. The

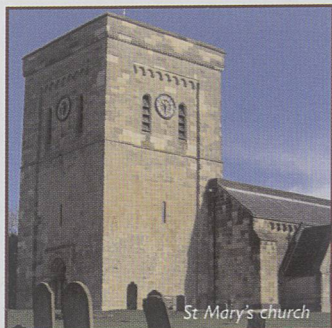


chancel, where the 15th century choir stalls are found, was relaid with Italian marble shipped from Leghorn by Alderman William Wilberforce of Hull, the uncle of William Wilberforce. This marble is of different colours, placed lozenge-wise and gives the illusion of 3-D cubes.

St Michael's Church, Cherry Burton was built in 1852-53 and replaced an earlier church on the same site.



St Mary's Church, Etton dates from about 1150, has a list of rectors going back to 1200 and has parish registers surviving, almost complete, from 1557 to the present day. Although the building was extensively restored and rebuilt in the 19th century, a number of fine Norman features remain.



The Hudson Way is named after the 19th century Yorkshire railway magnate who in 1847 opened a stretch of rail line from York to Market Weighton. Hudson wanted the line to continue to Beverley but the local landowner, Lord Hotham, would not at first allow access. He only agreed to a railway crossing his land on condition that a station was built at Kiplingcotes in order

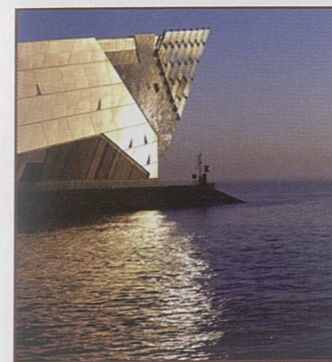
to serve his estate and so the extension to Beverley did not open till 1865. It survived for 100 years but, although it was profitable, Lord Beeching had it closed in 1965.



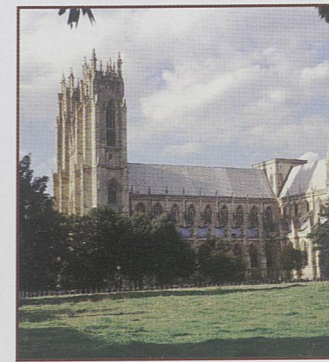
Kiplingcotes Derby Horse Race was founded in 1619 and is the oldest endowed horse race in the country. The race always takes place on the third Thursday in March, starting from near the old railway station and finishing four miles to the north-west close to the site of the medieval village of Kipling Cotes.

All Hallows Church, Goodmanham site is of special importance in the Christian history of Britain.

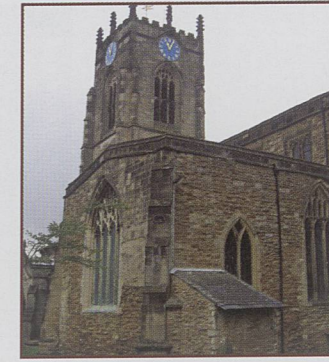
William Bradley (1787-1820) is reputed to be the tallest Englishmen ever recorded and his



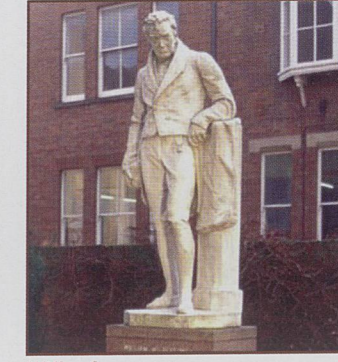
The Deep, Hull



Beverley Minster

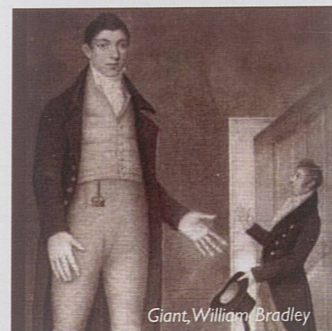


All Saints, Pocklington



Wilberforce statue

memorial plaque is on the wall of the house where he lived. He grew to 7' 9" and weighed 27 stones. On his death, it is believed he was buried secretly in order to avoid body-snatchers, who would



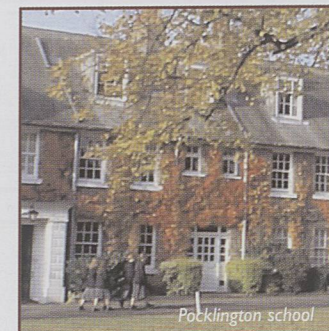
Giant, William Bradley

have demanded a high price for such a large corpse. William Bradley was later re-buried in All Saints Church. In 2005 the local Civic Society created the Giant Bradley Heritage Trail in his memory.

Burnby Hall Gardens is said to have Europe's largest collection of hardy water lilies in a natural setting. Percy Stewart and his wife travelled the world in the days of the Big Game hunters and brought back with them the trophies of their shooting safaris. However, it is the 45 varieties of water lilies that Percy Stewart left which attract thousands of

visitors to Burnby Hall each year.

All Saints Church, Pocklington dates largely from the 12th-13th century date with a few re-used carved Norman stones in the



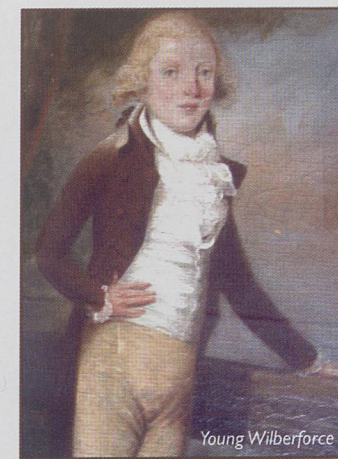
Pocklington school

porch. In 1835 a beautiful 15th century cross-head on a later shaft was found buried in the churchyard. It is called the Sotheby Cross and the Sotheby family is known to have lived in Pocklington for about 400 years.

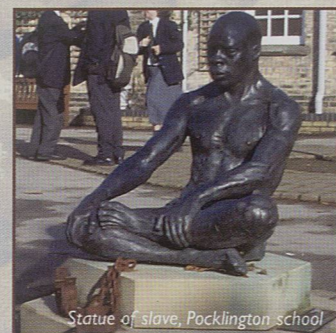
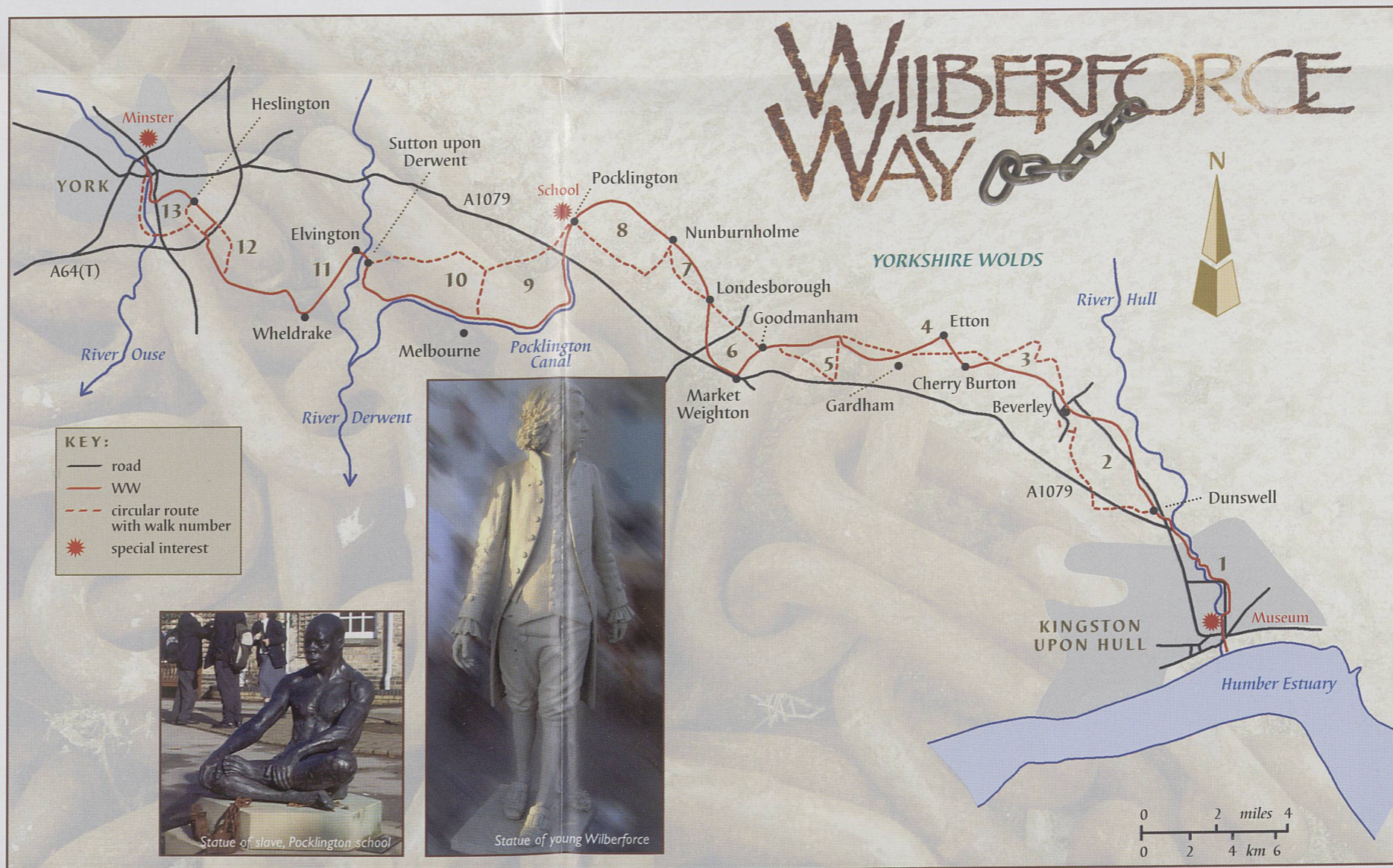
Pocklington School was founded by John Dolman in 1514 as a grammar school and is now a fee-paying boarding and day school with a strong Christian ethos. William Wilberforce was a pupil here for five years from 1771-1776.

He wrote his first public letter against the slave trade when he was a 14-year old at the school. We are not sure if the letter was ever printed. It certainly would not have been popular amongst those whose wealth was dependent on the slave trade.

To mark the 2007 commemoration, the school is honouring Wilberforce's many achievements with a specially commissioned full size bronze creation by local sculptor Sally Arnup. However, in contrast with the statues in Hull, Cambridge and Westminster Abbey, the Pocklington statue is to be that of Wilberforce the schoolboy. The school also owns an oil painting of the young Wilberforce by the artist Arthur Devis. A picture of Wilberforce painted when he was eleven by John Russell is held at the National Portrait Gallery and can be viewed online www.npg.org.uk



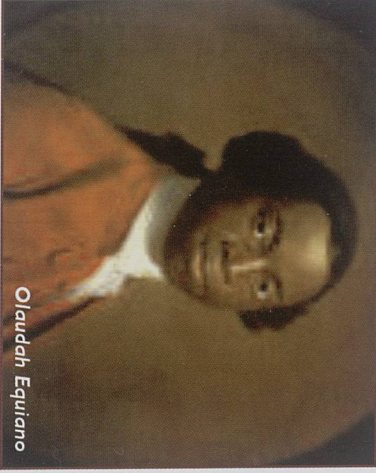
Young Wilberforce



Statue of slave, Pocklington school



Statue of young Wilberforce



Olaudah Equiano

It is estimated that there are still approximately 27 million slaves in the world today as a result of different forms of slavery including human trafficking, early and forced marriage and child labour.

On 22 February 1807, the House of Commons voted by an overwhelming majority to abolish British involvement in the transatlantic slave trade and on 25 March, 1807 the Slave Trade Abolition Bill became law. It took until 1833 for slavery itself to be abolished throughout the British Empire. William Wilberforce had given 53 years of his life to the abolition cause and he died just three days after seeing his efforts succeed.

Equiano's was the only account of the Transatlantic Trade and of Slavery in Africa, on the Middle Passage, as well as in the West Indies, North America, Holland, France, Portugal and Britain. His first reviewers quickly acknowledged the significance of the Narrative, which also greatly influenced the development of the nineteenth-century African-American slave narrative.

In commemorating the abolition of the slave trade, we must also remember the many other abolitionists who were involved; these include many black abolitionists such as Sam Sharpe, Harriet Tibman and Olaudah Equiano.

Olaudah Equiano was an abolitionist whose book 'The Interesting Narrative', published in 1789, was key in influencing many other fellow abolitionists of the period. Equiano travelled throughout Britain promoting the book and lobbying for abolition. The book became a bestseller and was also published in Germany (1790), New York (1791) and Holland (1791). He also visited Ireland where he made several speeches on the evils of the slave trade. In Equiano's lifetime, his text went through nine British editions; many other editions followed after his death in 1797.



William Wilberforce

The transatlantic slave trade started in approximately 1450, with the first British slaving expedition is widely believed to have taken place in 1562. It is estimated that between 9 and 12 million Africans were taken across the Atlantic, enduring unspeakable conditions on the slave ships where many died on route. Those who did actually reach the West Indies and North America, were then subjected to dreadful conditions on the plantations. Many individuals in Britain benefited hugely from slavery and the prosperity of places like Liverpool and Bristol owed their wealth to the slave trade.

Wilberforce and the Abolition of the Slave Trade

"Slavery, I didn't know about all these forms that existed. Generally people would not believe that it is possible under modern conditions. They would say 'No, I think you are making it all up because it's just too incredible.'" (Archbishop Desmond Tutu speaking in Hull - 2006)

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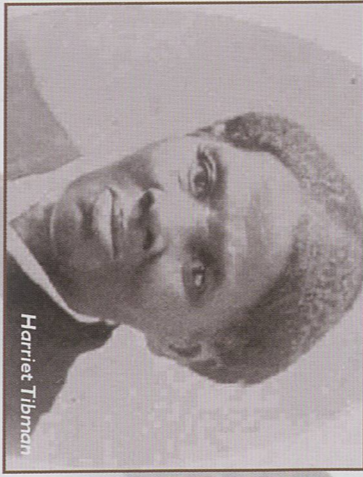
Building a cohesive community in the East Riding of Yorkshire, with its rural environment, isolated, dispersed and diverse communities, offers a real challenge to all of us. The issues we need to overcome include racism, anti-social behaviour, discrimination

The Community Cohesion Forum is one of a number of groups working under the Local Strategic Partnership. The Forum comprises members from faith groups, the police, fire, health, the council, and voluntary sector. Community Cohesion is defined as a common vision and sense of belonging in an area where positive relations exist between people from different cultures, backgrounds and circumstances.

The East Riding Local Strategic Partnership is an umbrella partnership that brings together 130 organisations from public, private, community and voluntary sectors to improve the quality of life in the East Riding. It does this through developing and delivering a community plan which ensures partners will work together for the benefit of all residents and visitors, both now and in the future. The community plan is entitled 'Our East Riding 2006-2016' and is available at www.eastriding.gov.uk. For more information on the Local Strategic Partnership contact carl.duck@eastriding.gov.uk or telephone 01482 391424.

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The East Riding Local Strategic Partnership and Community Cohesion Forum



Harriet Tibman

The Community Cohesion Forum has developed a strategy, which hopes to build better understanding between groups and individuals, to ensure our communities are welcoming and supportive to everyone, based on mutual respect for diverse cultures, nationalities, backgrounds and circumstances.

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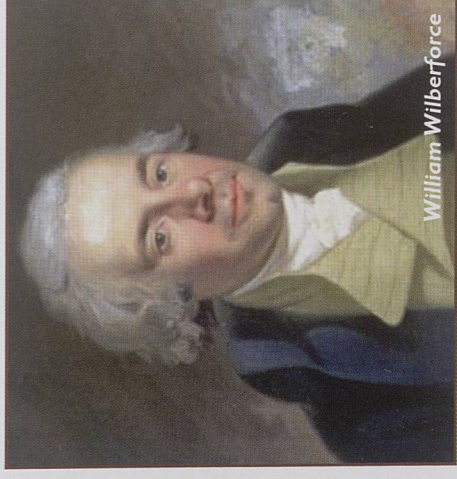
Walking the Wilberforce Way

This leaflet aims to provide an overview of the route. It is recommended that if you are intending to complete the route that you use the following Ordnance Survey Maps:

Landranger 107, 106, 105 and Explorer 294, 293, 290.

Travel information for walkers using public transport is available from East Yorkshire Motor Services (telephone 01482 22 22 22) which provides express services (X46 and X47) along the A1079. The A1079 also provides a helpful means of access for any support vehicles that may wish to accompany walkers along the route. For more visitor information about the East Riding see www.visiteastyorkshire.co.uk

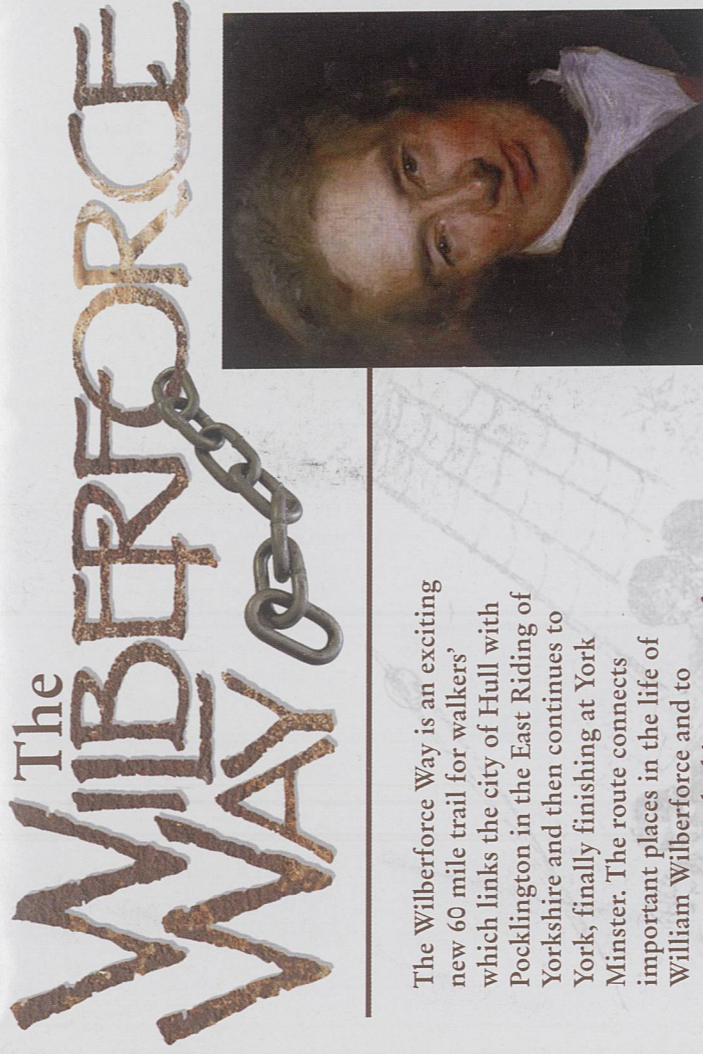
Tourist Information Centres at Hull (01482) 223559, Bridlington (01262) 673474, Beverley (01482) 391672 and Humber Bridge (01482) 640852 can offer help if accommodation is required by those completing the route in stages.



William Wilberforce

Health and Safety Information

Although the East Riding is a lowland area the weather on the Wolds can change more rapidly than you can walk. For protection you will need at least stout footwear and a waterproof, and in winter take a scarf, hat and gloves. During the summer months it is advisable to carry a drink, and something to eat for children, as



The Wilberforce Way is an exciting new 60 mile trail for walkers which links the city of Hull with Pocklington in the East Riding of Yorkshire and then continues to York, finally finishing at York Minster. The route connects important places in the life of William Wilberforce and to commemorate the bicentenary of the Abolition of Slavery Act 1807, which abolished British involvement in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The route has been developed by East Riding Local Strategic Partnership's Community Cohesion Forum and the Yorkshire and Humber Faiths Forum.

This Abolition of Slavery Act was the culmination of years of determined campaigning by William Wilberforce and his fellow abolitionists. In one sense, therefore, the trail is a tribute to the pioneering work done by William Wilberforce. However, it is

more than that. Today, two hundred years after the Act was passed, it is estimated that there are at least 27 million men, women and children throughout the world still in some form of slavery. The trail also acts as a challenge for participants to become involved in today's campaign to abolish modern slavery in all its forms.

- plan ahead and follow any signs
- leave gates and property as you find them
- protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- keep dogs under close control
- consider other people

For further information go to www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk



Pictured: Dominic Moghal, Patricia Farness and Councillor Bickel-James



EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

