

For the **longer route**, continue ahead through the village, passing the church and farm shop (4 km point).

Parts of St Helena's Church in South Scarle date from the late 11th and early 12th centuries, including some fine Norman arcades. The church also houses a very unusual artefact - a Vamping Horn. This 17th century precursor to the megaphone may have been used to summon parishioners to church services, or to lead the choir in the absence of an organ!



Where the road bends sharp right, go straight on along a track to reach a field. Continue ahead on the field edge, with a hedge and ditch on your left. Stay close to the hedge as it bears first left and then right. Continue for another 200 metres to reach a hedge gap and an old way marker sign on your left.

Go through the gap. Continue ahead, now at right angles to your previous line and with another hedge on your left. Aim for a yellow-topped marker post that soon appears in view. Keep straight on at the post to cross the field, now heading for a house in the trees.

Go through a hedge gap and continue ahead to reach a farm drive. Walk down the drive to a T-junction. Turn left and continue ahead to a junction with a minor road (6 km point).

This section of the walk follows the Trent Valley Way, a long distance footpath devised to celebrate the centenary of Notts County Council. 124 kms long, it never strays too far from the river and passes through both Nottingham and Newark. There are plans to extend it to follow the entire course of the Trent, from the Staffordshire moorlands to the Humber Estuary.

Cross the road and continue ahead, first on a grassy track and then along a field edge. Follow the way marked path to the left and then to the right, keeping to field edges.

Continue ahead to reach a small wood. Follow an ill-defined path that keeps to the edge of the wood. Continue on the same line across a field. Go through a hedge gap and keep straight on, with a ditch and hedge now on your right.

Bear right at a way marker and continue ahead, keeping a ditch and houses on your left. Go through kissing gates to reach the main road. **Cross with care** to gain the pavement and turn left. Walk back through the village (approx 1 km) to return to the car park.

SOUTH SCARLE TRAIL



COLLINGHAM WALKS

One in a series of circular walks produced by 2020 Green Vision* and supported by the Parish Council

*'Working towards a greener future for Collingham and its communities'

Walk Information

Description:

This walk is set in farmland to the north east of Collingham. It passes through the attractive village of South Scarle before following part of the Trent Valley Way. The route uses field paths, tracks and minor roads. It is easy, level walking, with just a slight incline on the shorter route. It can be muddy in places in wet weather.

Walk length:

8 $\frac{3}{4}$ kms (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles). At a leisurely pace it will take about 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours. The shorter route is 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ kms (4 miles).

Starting point:

Car park at The Medical Centre on Collingham High Street. Grid ref: SK 831617. Ordnance Survey maps: Explorer 271/Landranger 121.

Refreshments:

Choice of pubs and shops in Collingham. The Church Farm Shop in South Scarle.



Walk directions

Go to the rear left corner of the car park. Walk along the edge of the field. At the far end, in front of the football ground, turn left along a narrow path. Keep straight on to the junction with a main road.

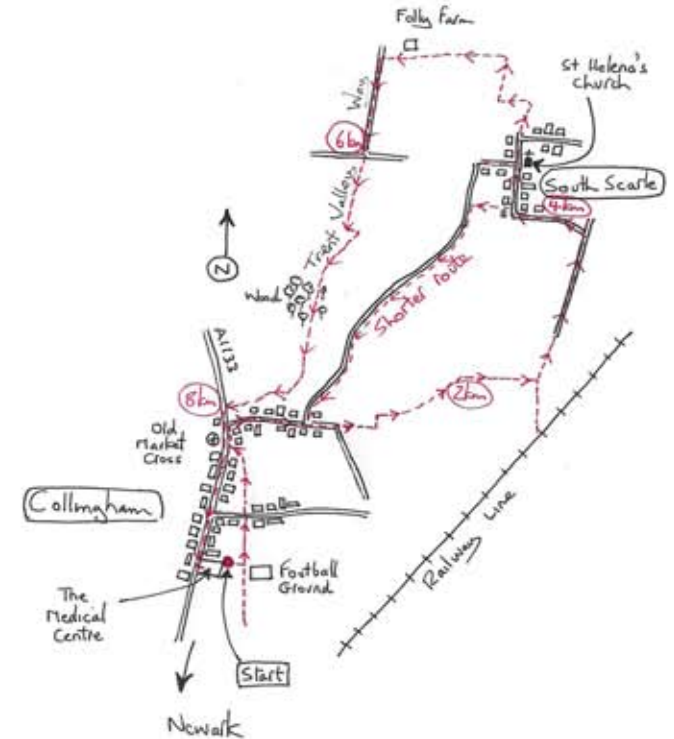
Cross the road with care and continue ahead on the footpath. Turn right on reaching the main road near the old market cross, and then right again soon afterwards into Woodhill Road.

Continue for approx $\frac{1}{2}$ km, to where the road bends sharp right. Leave it here to go straight ahead on a track that first crosses a ditch and then runs along the edge of a field.

After approx 200 metres turn left at a way marker. Continue ahead on a track, keeping a ditch on your right. At the end of the field go through a hedge gap and bear right along the field edge, now with a hedge and ditch on your right.

The many different shrubs here - including hawthorn, blackthorn, field maple, gorse, dogwood, wild honeysuckle, and crab apple - provide a rich habitat for wildlife. Over 200 species of insects and mites feed off hawthorn alone. The thick gorse is particularly attractive to songbirds such as the distinctive yellowhammer, whose numbers have declined significantly in recent years.

Go through a hedge gap and turn left, first on a grassy track and then a tarmac lane. Follow the lane round to the left and then to the right to reach the main street through South Scarle.



Map of route

For the shorter route, turn left after approx 30 metres to follow a way marked path along the side of a bungalow. Go through a gate and continue ahead along a field edge to reach a minor road. Turn left and walk along the verge to Collingham (approx 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ kms). Turn right at the first junction and retrace your steps to the start.