**Introduction**

All three walks start from Market Rasen and head through fields over the Coversands; soils which are very deep but which dry out quickly and are subject to wind erosion. The second route follows the National Cycle Route for a distance, whilst the third route gives you the opportunity to explore a heathland nature reserve.

**Points of Interest**

Market Rasen was known throughout the county for its clay pipe making industry in the early to mid 1800s. Clay for the pipes came from Devon and was brought to Gainsborough by river and canal and from there by road and later rail. The clay pipe makers in Serpentine Street closed in the late 1800s following the introduction of wooden pipes.

The name Legsby originates from the old Nordic meaning of Legg's farmstead or village, probably a notable chiefman of the area, whilst the name Linwood originates from the old English meaning of the common native woodland tree of this area, the small leaved lime or linden tree. The lime tree has been used for centuries as a decorative street tree as it was also believed to ward off evil. The soft, even grained wood does not warp and as such is ideal for carving and for making piano keys.

**Local Public Transport Information**

For train times to Market Rasen, phone 08457 48 49 50
For bus services and Call Connect services to Market Rasen contact Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or www.traveline.info
ROUTE A
3 1/2 MILES OR 5 1/2 KM
1. Continue straight on, keeping the cemetery on your left, until you reach Legsbys Road. Turn right at the road, walking out of the town.
2. Turn left onto Legsbys Road, opposite Market Rasen Golf Course, and into the footpath opposite, keep straight on.
3. Cross the Steet to the next waymarker, onto the footpath opposite, keep straight on.
4. Continue straight on, keeping the cemetery on your left, until you reach Legsbys Road. Turn right at the road, walking out of the town.
5. Just past ‘The Ridings’ housing estate on the right-hand side, take the footpath between the bungalows at the waymarker.
6. At the end of the gardens, cross diagonally left over two fields, then go left to a gate.
7. Follow the hedge line, before following the arrow sign on the post, diagonally right across the field to Woodhill Farm.
8. At the farm entrance, go through a gate and follow the direction arrows. At the corner go diagonally right and aim for the marker post near a tree at the end of a hedge.
9. Continue on the same direction, crossing the next field to the hedge. At the four-way marker post on Willingham Lane byway you have three options.

ROUTE B
4 1/2 MILES OR 7 KM
1. Continue on the same direction, crossing the next field to the hedge. At the four-way marker post on Willingham Lane byway you have three options.

ROUTE C
6 MILES OR 9 1/2 KM
10. Go past The Poppers on your left, then turn left along a footpath, just before the Market Rasen sign keeping the hedge on your left. With care, cross the railway line and turn immediately right, keeping parallel to the fence. Continue through a hedge and past another railway crossing.
11. Follow the path away from the railway line then between houses. Cross the black-paved road and continue on the urban path to another waymarker, next to a large grassy hollow.
12. Turn right at the tarmac road (Will Road). Continue downhill to the school. Follow the road right, then left by the library, cross Chapel Street and back to John Street car park.
Route Information

Distance: 3½ miles, 5½ km; 4½ miles, 7 km; 6 miles, 9½ km

Time: Approx. 2 hours at a leisurely pace for the shortest route
Approx. 2½ - 3 hours at a leisurely pace for the second route
Approx. 3 - 3½ hours at a leisurely pace for the longest route

Maps: OS Landranger 113 OS Pathfinder 747
OS Explorer 282

Parking: Car park in John Street, Market Rasen - Grid ref: TF 108 89
Postcode LN8 3HH. Please check for parking tariffs.

Terrain: Footpaths, byways and fields can be very muddy at times.
Some verge walking on all routes. All on level ground.

Refreshments: Cafes and pubs in Market Rasen

Toilets: John Street, Market Rasen

Stiles: Numerous

Covercands Heathlands
Restoring the Cover

Levland heathland is rarer than tropical rainforest, with the UK still having 20% of the world’s reserve, despite massive decline over the last 200 years. The heathland found in the northern half of historic Lincolnshire and the eastern edge of Nottinghamshire is even more special, having a wider variety of plants than typical southern heaths, as well as characteristic short-cropped grasslands, lichen-rich heath and sand dunes. This area, known as the Covercands, has gradually lost its important wildlife to farming, forestry and development.

The £1.5 million Covercands Tomorrow’s Heathland Heritage Project has worked to restore this precious habitat. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, this 5 year project restored 700 hectares and re-created 250 hectares of this internationally important heathland. The project was not just about wildlife; it also developed strong community participation and school links by working with local organisations and Covercands partners while boosting the economic prosperity of the area through grazing projects.

For further information or to request a DVD about the Covercands Heathland Project, contact the Environment Team, North Lincolnshire Council, Church Square House, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 6XQ – Telephone 01724 297390

If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format please contact us