

HISTORY MATTERS

WELCOME TO ALFORD

LOCAL AREA MAP



LOCAL INFORMATION

GENERAL MARKET DAYS Take place on Tuesday & Friday

CRAFT MARKETS Tues and Friday from mid July to beginning of September

EARLY CLOSING DAY Thursday

PARKING Central Market Place (when market not in situ); South Street car park

LIBRARY South Street, Alford
Telephone 01507 463440

LOCAL AUTHORITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

Alford Town Council, Alford Town Council Council Offices, Corn Exchange, Market Place, Alford, Lincolnshire, LN13 9EB
Contact: Town Clerk Telephone: 01507 463590

East Lindsey District Council – Tedder Hall, Manby, Louth, Lincolnshire LN11 8UP Telephone 01507 601111



WELCOME TO ALFORD

At the foot of the Wolds this delightful picturesque town is a busy and popular market town.

In the centre of town is St Wilfrids Church. Built in the fourteenth century, it still contains some original features. Restored in the 1860s when a second north aisle, vestry and organ chamber were added. The Tower was also raised and decorated with pinnacles. Over the south porch is the Parvis Room which was used as the town's early school. Lincolnshire lad, Captain John Smith, was one of the school's most famous pupils. The son of a farmer, he was born in the Village of Willoughby, a few miles south of Alford. St Helena's Church in Willoughby still has the font in which Smith was christened in 1580 and has a memorial window dedicated to their famous son. As a boy, Smith would walk across fields each day to school in St Wilfrids and was taught by Rev Francis Marbury, Father of Anne Hutchinson.

Smith went on to have a full life and became a soldier and a gentleman and went to fight in Europe. In May 1607, he had his biggest adventure and landed in Virginia USA and an English speaking America was born. A 'Captain John Smith' trail has been produced, where you can follow in the Smiths footsteps and learn about his extraordinary life. Text HISTORY to 84118 or visit www.visitlincolnshire.com. The library also has leaflets available.

Alford Manor House was built in the early 17th Century and from the mid 1600's was owned by the Christopher family. Robert Christopher fought in the English Civil War and was awarded a knighthood, which increased his wealth significantly. In his Will he left money for the tomb and alabaster effigy of himself and his wife, in St. Wilfrid's Church and money for the foundation of Almshouses and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School.



The Manor was eventually inherited by his granddaughter, Lucy, who married John Manners, Duke of Rutland. The house was then let out to tenants until Dorothy Higgins, a Doctor and member of Alford Town Council bought the property in 1958. She donated it to the town in 1967, and the Civic Trust was then established to manage and maintain the property.

In recent years, the Manor has undergone a huge refurbishment and is now a buzz of activity in the centre of town. Bursting with history, it now hosts a tea room, events, exhibitions, weddings and meetings.

Alford's five-sailed windmill was once a landmark for miles around. Today, still milling grain (when the wind blows!) it fully operates on 5 sails, and is still visible on approaching the town. Tours of the windmill are offered and there is also a gift shop there, which sells flour and goods produced by the mill.

The town is also the birthplace of Anne Hutchinson, daughter of Rev Francis

Marbury. Anne married Will Hutchinson and they were one of the earliest settlers in America, where she is celebrated as one of America's first female preachers.

Widowed in 1643, Anne moved with her family to a New York suburb. A short time later she and all her family, with the exception of her daughter Susanna, were all killed by native Indians. Susanna was taken captive and lived with the Indians for some time. She was rescued and eventually she married John Cole. They became farmers in Rhode Island and began a long line of descendants including it is believed – Presidents Roosevelt and Bush.

Alford is renowned for its arts and crafts and many events take place throughout the year, including the popular Craft Markets, the annual Jazz Festival and Christmas Extravaganza. To find out more about these events, visit Alford Manor House or www.visitlincolnshire.com

WHERE TO EAT

There is a wide range of places to suit everyone's budget, from tea shops to pubs, from restaurants to take-away. For further information text DISCOVER to 84118

WHERE TO STAY

To find the nearest accommodation please text DISCOVER to 84118. All accommodation suggested via this service has achieved a National Quality rating (Stars)

WHERE TO VISIT

Alford Manor House • Alford Pottery • Alford Five Sailed Windmill • St Wilfrid's Church • Summer Craft Markets
For information on Places to visit, Events, Text DISCOVER to 84118 or visit www.visitlincolnshire.com

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