

CTA FAM trip to Markenfield Hall

Sunday 25 November 2018

2-4pm – followed by CTA Xmas Social at The Cairn Hotel, Harrogate



Markenfield Hall – tucked privately away along a mile-long winding drive, just three miles south of Ripon, has been described as Yorkshire's best-kept secret. Not visible from the road, a glimpse of the imposing east wall cannot be seen until visitors reach the old Mediaeval road near to the top of the drive. But for a quirk of fate – and the turnpike act of 1777 – Markenfield would be one of the most recognisable houses in Yorkshire and the nearby A61 would run along this now-Bridleway just 100m from its façade.

The house is approached from the A61 Ripon to Harrogate Road. Parking at the side of the moat, visitors approach the building on foot – walking over the bridge that now serves the house in place of the former drawbridge – and the moment the Mediaeval Courtyard opens up as visitors pass beneath the Tudor Gatehouse never fails to astound.

The earliest part of the house was built circa 1230, with its Undercroft consisting of the three surviving vaulted ground floor rooms on the east side of the house. This earlier house was bought and enlarged by Canon John de Markenfield, who received the Licence to Crenellate the Hall on 28 February 1310 resulting in the distinctive outline that you see to this day.

The Markenfield family owned the Hall until their fateful involvement in the Rising of the North in 1569. The Rising was quashed and the then owner Sir Thomas Markenfield fled to the Low Countries. The Hall and its surrounding farmland were confiscated for High Treason and from that day until 1761 the Hall became a tenanted farm with an absentee landlord.

The house was bought – and essentially saved – in 1761 by Fletcher Norton, the first Lord Grantley of Markenfield (a title still held by the family). At a time when it was quite fashionable to own a ruin, Norton replaced the roof of the Great Hall ensuring that the house was watertight and structurally sound once more.

In 1980, 7th Lord Grantley began the restoration of Markenfield – turning it from a cold and draughty farmhouse into the much-loved family home that visitors see today. Lord Grantley's widow Lady Deirdre, and her second husband Ian Curteis, are continuing the work to this day.

Please make your own way to Markenfield Hall for the FAM trip - see directions overleaf.

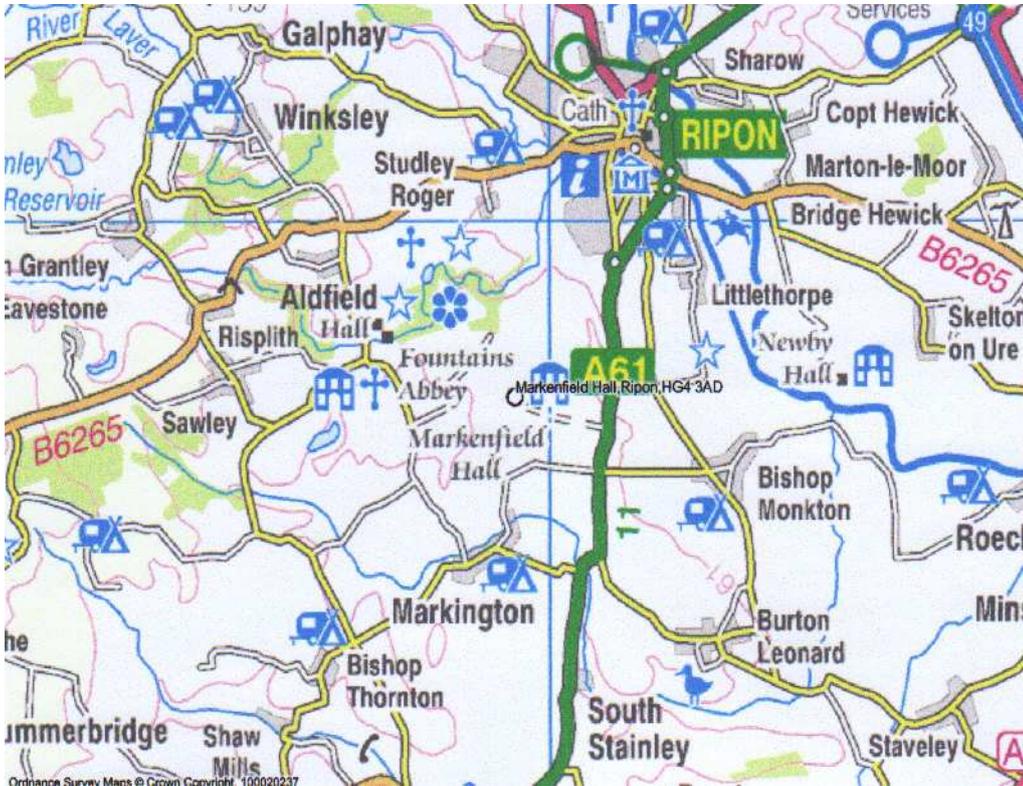


MARKENFIELD ENTERPRISES

Mr Ian Curteis and Lady Deirdre Curteis

Markenfield Hall · near Ripon · North Yorkshire · HG4 3AD

Tel: 01765 692303 & 603411 Email: info@markenfield.com



Markenfield Hall is just off the A61, three miles south of Ripon.

The gates to the drive are on the west side of the A61 and are marked by low stone walls, each wall has a small green sign bearing the name of the Hall. During the summer months, larger signs are placed approximately 100m before the drive in both directions. Please find further detailed directions below:

From AIM: Take Junction 48 off the AIM, signed Boroughbridge and Ripon. Follow the signs for Ripon along the Boroughbridge bypass and at the end of the bypass take the left turn at the roundabout signed for Ripon along the B6265. Follow this road until you reach another roundabout, this time follow the signs for Harrogate (left at the first roundabout, straight on at the second and left at the third). Once on the A61 Harrogate Road, follow the directions from Ripon below.

From Harrogate: Coming from Harrogate, the A61 passes through the following villages – Killinghall, Ripley and Wormald Green. As you leave Wormald Green the A61 starts to climb a steep hill with a sharp left hand bend at the top. There is then a long straight road with a garden centre on the left, after this the road bends round to the left and begins to go down hill. As you start to go down hill you will notice a blind-dip in the road – the entrance to the Hall is in this dip on the left hand side. If you miss this turning – don't worry – there is a roundabout five minutes further down the road where you can turn around.

From Ripon: Coming from Ripon, the A61 begins on the last roundabout of the Ripon Bypass. The A61 forms a number of bends as you leave Ripon and shortly after begins to climb a hill – you will see two houses by the side of the road to your right. The turning to Markenfield is just over the brow of the Hill, on the right hand side. If you miss the turning – don't worry – there is a garden centre around the next bend and you can turn round there.

Beware Sat Navs: Certain Sat Navs and route planners will try to take you in to Markington Village – DO NOT FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS – the only entrance to the Hall is off the A61.