



UNIVERSITY OF  
LINCOLN

# Location, Location, Location...

*The University of Lincoln has several campuses across the county, this issue we look at the Riseholme site*

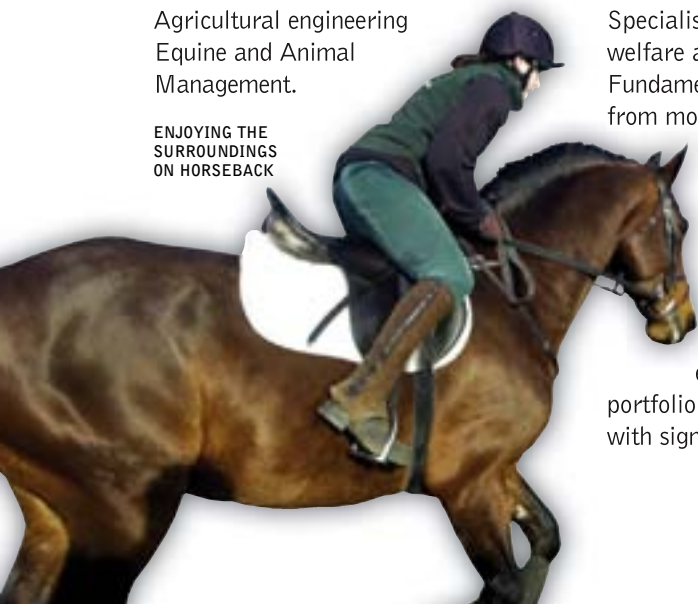
RISEHOLME OLD HALL

**T**he University's Riseholme and Holbeach campuses are the bases for the faculty of Agriculture, Food and Animal Sciences. The Dean of the faculty is Val Braybrooks. There are three departments within the faculty:

**Department of Agriculture and Land-based Studies** – based at the University's Riseholme campus in Lincoln and incorporating Riseholme College.

Head of department - Bill Meredith  
Primary production of agricultural crops and animal husbandry  
Horticulture (commercial and amenity)  
Sustainable agriculture and horticulture  
Agricultural engineering  
Equine and Animal Management.

ENJOYING THE SURROUNDINGS ON HORSEBACK



**Department of Food Manufacturing and Process Automation** – based at the University's National Centre for Food Manufacturing, Holbeach.

Head of department - Professor Gerrit Meerdink  
Further processing of agricultural products into food products for the retail and/or food service market  
Process automation and manufacturing improvement  
Food packaging  
Sustainable food manufacturing.

**Department of Biological Sciences** – based at the University's Riseholme campus in Lincoln.

Head of department - Dr Paul Eady  
Specialising in animal behaviour, welfare and management and ecology  
Fundamental and applied sciences from molecules to cells to organisms, to communities  
Applied animal and crop husbandries  
Impact of animals on society and social policy.

The Department has an established undergraduate portfolio and research culture with significant scope for further

development in particular postgraduate provision and the raising of the existing Research and Development profile.

## RISEHOLME PARK

Riseholme Park is home to the University's agriculture, animal-related and biological science courses. More than 1000 acres of land are farmed at this beautiful campus and in the nearby village of Nettleham. The Riseholme Estate has more than twenty hectares of mixed woodlands, and extensive water features.

Farming activities on the 240 hectare estate focus on dairy and grassland, with the arable enterprises being grown on 200 hectare Lodge Farm. The campus is home to a modern, purpose-built Rural Science Centre which houses the animal care unit and equine facilities.

The Riseholme campus has been named as one of the high-quality facilities to appear in the London 2012 pre-games Training Camp Guide. It has been included as one of the available sites for an Olympic training camp – one of only three in Lincolnshire.

Its equine facilities were selected according to specific criteria. Riseholme has been chosen for its





SHEEP ON THE MOVE!

equine specialist management and indoor and outdoor facilities, which will support the horses and their development. The site will also provide riders with the opportunity to engage with their own personal development by using facilities within the University of Lincoln's Human Performance Centre.

Director of Sport at the University of Lincoln, Robin Wright, said: "For the University of Lincoln, the opportunity to host an Olympic training camp has the potential to stimulate direct benefits; like adding to the student experience through inspiring, sharing different cultures and building new overseas partnerships. Becoming a training camp will also provide golden opportunities for the community to become engaged with the London Games in 2012."

Lord Sebastian Coe, Chairman of the London Organising Committee, commented: "We said that we wanted the London Games to be for athletes, and the facilities listed in this Guide will really help overseas athletes prepare well. It also provides a great opportunity for towns throughout the UK to get involved in our plans."

Riseholme has had a place in history for hundreds of years. There are signs of Roman and early English settlements and the remains of a medieval village, parts of which have been excavated. Some of the earliest records of the parish are in the Domesday Book 1086AD, which mentions three Saxon owners. In the Middle Ages parts of it belonged to the abbey of Barlings and Kirkstead. After the dissolution of the monasteries, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, who married Mary, sister of Henry VIII, held it.

*Look out for the next issue of Lincolnshire Life where we will take a detailed look at the Holbeach Campus.*

## History of Riseholme Park

The Chaplin family, who purchased the estate in 1721, completed Riseholme Hall in 1744. They subsequently sold it to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1840 and it became the Palace of the Bishop of Lincoln. William Railton (the architect of Nelson's Column) remodelled the Hall in the mid part of the nineteenth century. He designed the eighty-six foot long colonnade built on the south side of the Hall, and the carriage vestibule on the north side, next to the principal door. He also added the balustrade around the upper storey, the impressive staircase of fossilized Jurassic limestone (from the Cathedral Quarry, Lincoln) and the lantern in the main entrance.

The Bishop of the time, John Kaye, built the present parish church at his own expense and he is buried in the churchyard along with Christopher Wordsworth, nephew of the immortal poet. Bishops continued to live at the Hall until 1887, when Bishop Edward King moved to the Old Palace in Lincoln. The estate was then sold and ultimately passed, in 1890, to Captain Thomas Wilson. His son sold the estate to Lindsey County Council for the sum of £24,000, for the purpose of establishing a farm institute.

The Education Committee approved the purchase of the estate, comprising some 569 acres in 1946. It was then sanctioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, which was responsible for agricultural education at the time. It was agreed that the estate should be used for the training of ex-servicemen and be run by the County War Agricultural Executive Committee.

Finding farm institute places for students from the Lindsey area was difficult, so in July 1948 the Education Committee asked the Ministry of Agriculture to terminate their lease, so that

the estate could be used for the purpose originally intended. After some negotiations, the transfer was finally arranged to take effect on 1st October 1949. Riseholme Farm Institute was born, it later became known as Lindsey Farm Institute and then in 1966 the Lindsey College of Agriculture.

When the Farm Institute was founded students lived in two hostels, one at Riseholme Grange and the other in Riseholme Hall itself. As the Institute grew an expansion programme was required. A new hostel to accommodate fifty students was opened in 1961 and a further hostel opened in 1970, with forty single study bedrooms. In 1980, following a merger of the three county divisions in Lincolnshire, Lindsey College of Agriculture, Kesteven Agricultural College and the Holbeach Agricultural Centre merged to become Lincolnshire College of Agriculture and Horticulture.

In 1987 Riseholme Hall, by now a listed building was rededicated by the then current Bishop of Lincoln, Robert Hardy. The occasion marked the completion of a very comprehensive refurbishment programme of the Hall. During 1994 Riseholme, along with the rest of the College merged with De Montfort University to become its School of Agriculture. In October 2001, the Lincolnshire School of Agriculture transferred to the University of Lincoln. September 2002 marked the closure of the Caythorpe Campus and the relocation of all its courses to Riseholme. This has entailed building the Rural Science Centre, which was completed in 2002.

Throughout 2005-07 extensive development of the campus provided a new indoor riding arena and a small animal centre. In 2007 The Lincolnshire School of Agriculture was renamed Riseholme College.