

Nettleham – all abuzz without the sting!

Josie Thurston went along to visit this large village with a community feel.

Words and Photographs: Josie Thurston

Situated four miles north east of the city of Lincoln, Nettleham is a village with a population of around 3,500. With excellent transport links across the county and an active and vibrant community, the village has a great amount to offer the visitor or resident.

The name 'Nettleham' derives from the term 'place of nettles' and dates back to the Bronze Age. Nettles tend to flourish where human settlements have emerged. A likely reason for the arrival of a population would be the shallow beck flowing through the village, providing a wonderful habitat for wildlife and the village a

'conservation area' status.

A green provides the centre of the village, which itself is self-sufficient with local grocery stores, newsagents and banks providing a valuable service to the community. Other useful establishments include a hairdressers, furniture retailer,

opticians and of course, not forgetting the four pubs!

There is plenty to do in the village and sport is high on the agenda. Nettleham is home to an angling, badminton, bowls, cricket, football and tennis club, with the village able to facilitate all



ALL SAINTS CHURCH

these activities. Should you prefer something a little less energetic, there are many social committees, with the Women's Institute and Nettleham Ladies Club holding regular meetings, along with the Mens Fellowship and Nettleham & District Probus Club providing a social outlet for the gentleman. For the younger generation, the scouts and guides are thriving, with children achieving various badges each year. Arts and crafts and dance classes are also held in the village for out

of school entertainment.

Nettleham is also famed for its walks and indeed prove to be popular with trekkers of all abilities. Should you wish to rest your weary legs there is a tea room which provides a welcome retreat.

Other attractions include the two churches, All Saints and the Methodist Chapel. Lying in the old graveyard in the village is the gravestone of a young nineteen-year old postboy who was cruelly murdered in the eighteenth century. The

story behind the murder has been well documented and resulted in the hanging of two brothers for the crime.

To the west side of Nettleham lies the picturesque and landscaped location of the Police Headquarters for the county. In an idyllic setting, a lake at the front of the building provides a natural habitat for many birds and aquatic breeds of wildlife.

Other amenities in the village include a library, medical centre, infant and junior school and several parks. Twinned with the French town of Mulsanne, there are references to the sister location at various points in the village, including Mulsanne Park and Playing Fields. Regular exchanges take place between the two villages.

Nettleham is the proud winner of the 'Best Kept Village' competition for the second year running, scoring 141 points out of a possible 150. This success may well have been aided by the hugely successful Gardeners Association in the village, which has many active members, all keen to maintain a beautiful village.



WAR MEMORIAL



THE GREEN

Where to Stay

The Old Vicarage
East Street, Nettleham
Bed & Breakfast
Tel: 01522 750819
www.oldvic.net

Luv-A-Duck Cottage
Self-catering holiday cottage
Situated by Nettleham Beck
Tel: 01522 750746

Haymans Ghyll
9 Church Street, Nettleham
Bed & Breakfast
Tel: 01522 751812

The Old Barn
Sudbrooke Lane, Nettleham
Holiday Cottages
Tel: 01522 753419

Martingale Cottage
Nettleham
Self-catering
Tel: 01522 751795