

## HISTORY INGLEBY ARNCLIFFE AND INGLEBY CROSS

The parish of Ingleby Arncliffe comprises the villages of Ingleby Arncliffe and Ingleby Cross. It lies in the angle formed where the A19 and A172 meet. It is situated mid way between Stokesley and Northallerton, beneath the Cleveland Hills and on the edge of the North York Moors National Park. There are several remarkable buildings constructed in the Arts and Crafts style. Nearby is Mount Grace Priory, England's best-preserved Carthusian ruin.

The discovery of a Viking "Hog Back" stone is evidence that there was a settlement in Ingleby in the C10th. From Domesday Book it appears there were 2 distinct manors held by the King – Engelbi (thought to mean 'village of the English') and Ernclive (Eagles Cliff) – and it is from these names that Ingleby Arncliffe derives. This refers to the outcrop of rock above the village where eagles may once have nested. The area was heavily populated by Danish Viking settlements and an Englishman's village was possibly unusual.

The estates of Engelbi and Ernclive were granted to Robert de Brus almost certainly in the reign of Henry I (1100 – 1135) as part of the Barony of Skelton. Later they were held as one manor under the Brus family by the Ingrams, one of whom, Walter Ingram, about 1170, gave the churches of Ernclive and Welbury with certain lands in both parishes to the Priory of Guisborough. The Ingram family had considerable estates in the country and in 1255 Robert Ingram had a grant of a 'free warren' (i.e. hunting rights) in all his lands in Arncliffe, Heslerton (near Scarborough) and Dale (near Hawnby).

Robert's daughter and heiress Engeliza married Sir Philip Colville and the estates were conveyed to that family. In 1317 Sir Robert Colville, their son, obtained the royal licence to empark his woods at Arncliffe. The last of the direct male line of the Colvilles was Sir John Colville, on whose death in 1440 the estates were divided between his co-heiresses. In this partition Arncliffe was allotted to Joan, wife of Sir William Mauleverer of Wothersome, whose ancestor Sir Richard Mauleverer had accompanied William the Conqueror to England and was Master of The Forests, Chases and Parks north of the Trent.

The Mauleverers continued to hold the estate for over four centuries, though when the last of the male line, Thomas Mauleverer died in 1785 it was necessary in order to preserve the family name, for his daughter, Mary, to devise her share of the estate, together with that of her late sister Frances, to their nephew Captain William Gowan – on condition that he changed his name to Mauleverer. When William, as William Mauleverer, died in 1857 he was survived only by two daughters, one of whom, Georgia Helen, was married to Douglas Brown. The latter ultimately acquired the whole of the estate which passed on his death in 1892 to his son, William – who sold it in 1901 to Sir John Lothian Bell, Bart., with whose line it has since remained. Sir Hugh Bell, in whose memory the bells in the church tower were restored in 1973, died in 1970 and was succeeded by his son, John.

Although few details are known, there seems little doubt that for centuries the seats of the lords of the manor house have been on the same site, adjacent to the church, as that now occupied by the impressive Arncliffe Hall, which was built by Thomas Mauleverer in 1754.

Throughout the C17th and C18th much of the employment in the parish was centred round the Arncliffe Estate, particularly the woodland. By 1720 the small township of Ingleby Arncliffe and Ingleby Cross comprised 30 families with a large proportion of wrights (constructive makers), joiners, coopers, firkiners (makers of small casks used for liquids, butter, salt, and sometimes fish) and carpenters. The estate supplied eight local tanneries and the "bark barn", now Hall Barn farmhouse, provided work for 40 workers during the season, mainly women and children.

In the late C18th jet became fashionable. Jet shales occurred on sloping hillsides, such as Arncliffe Wood, and the weathered shales could be worked with a pick so avoiding the use of explosives and the possible damage to the jet. However imports of inferior "soft" Spanish jet hastened the decline of the local jet industry and it is doubtful whether any mining continued after the 1920s.

#### BUILDINGS OF NOTE.

##### Water Tower

This is a Grade II listed structure designed by Walter Brierley and erected at the behest of Sir Hugh Bell in 1915 to provide water for the residents of Ingleby Arncliffe and Rounton. It still provides water for one farmstead and livestock today. In front of the doorway is laid the inscription, in cobbles, 'H & FB 1915'. (Sir Hugh and Florence, Lady Bell.)

##### The Old School, Ingleby Arncliffe

Situated opposite the Water Tower is the older village school, now a private dwelling. It was originally built in 1846 by the late William Mauleverer, Esq., and enlarged in 1869. The building was last used as a school in 1973 when new premises were constructed (now no longer in use as a school) beside the Methodist Church.

##### Methodist Church, Ingleby Arncliffe

Ingleby Arncliffe Methodist Church, a Wesleyan chapel, stands in the centre of Ingleby Arncliffe and was an integral part of the Parish. It celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013. It has now been converted into a private dwelling.

##### Monks' House, Ingleby Arncliffe

This house is believed to be the oldest building in the area. The rectangular windows and stonework at each end of the building dates from 1623 but the arched window on the first floor, and the stonework round it, appear to be earlier. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century the main door was beneath the arched window and the roof was thatched.

##### War Memorial, Ingleby Cross

The Ingleby Cross war memorial is located on the green between the village hall and the Blue Bell inn. It has a two-stepped base surmounted by a plain moline (Christian) cross carved from sandstone. Along with inscriptions of the names, the following is also inscribed

*Erected by the people of this place who remember also with grateful hearts those who returned home in safety.*

*In memory of the Great War of 1914-1918 and of the men of this village who fell in defence of their country. Tell England ye who mark this monument faithful to the end we rest content.*



### Blue Bell Inn, Ingleby Cross

At Ingleby Cross is the fine structure of the Blue Bell Inn which was designed by Walter Brierley, best of all Yorkshire architects of the Arts & Crafts period. The inn sign of decorative wrought ironwork confirms the date and patronage of Sir Hugh Bell: 'HB AD 1912.'

### All Saints' Church

The earliest reference to a church on this site is around 1170 when it was described (Graves History of Cleveland) as 'an ancient structure of a simple form and small dimensions' which together with the Hall adjoining it, was contained within a moat – of which some traces still exist. The dedication of the church to 'All Saints' is confirmed by the will of Richard Howthwaite of Inlebie under Arncliffe, yeoman made in 1571, by which he desired '*my bodie to be buried in the parishe churche porche of All Sanctes at Arncliffe*'

The old church building was taken down to make way for the present church in 1821. The present parish church dates from the Regency period and houses among its items of interest Royal Coats of Arms, effigies (Sir William Colville and Sir Robert Colville circa 1300), a three-decker pulpit, nodding stick and box pews. The east window dates from 1370 and contains stained glass from Mount Grace Priory. The altar rails display the craftsmanship of Robert Thompson, the 'Mouseman' of Kilburn. A Credence table by 'Wrenman' Bob Hunter of Thirlby was presented to the church in 1999.

### Ingleby Cross Village Hall and adjoining cottage

This Grade II listed building from the Arts and Crafts period, designed by Ambrose Poynter and built in 1910, is well used by residents as a focus for diverse parish activities from social events to local elections. Over the doorway of the cottage, centrally placed, is a pediment with the carved legend below: 'For HB and FJ 1910.' (Sir Hugh and Florence, Lady Bell.)

### Arncliffe Hall

Arncliffe Hall is a solid, handsome house designed by noted architect John Carr of York and built in 1753-54. It features some of the most spectacular Rococo plasterwork in the country. It is the private residence of the Bell family and is not open to the public.

### The Tontine Inn

The original purpose of the Tontine Inn was to establish a daily post between Thirsk, Guisborough and Yarm and to provide accommodation for the inhabitants of Cleveland. The foundation for the elegant and extensive building was laid on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1805 and the cost of construction was raised by public subscription under a 'tontine' arrangement, hence its name. The inn is now a well-known hotel and restaurant.