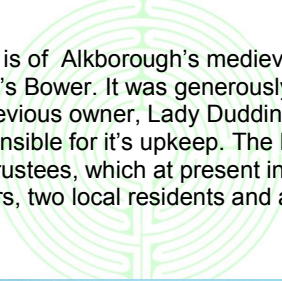




The view above is of Alkborough's medieval turf maze also known as Julian's Bower. It was generously donated to the village by its previous owner, Lady Dudding and the Parish Council is responsible for its upkeep. The Maze is managed by a Board of Trustees, which at present includes three parish councillors, two local residents and a local solicitor.



For lovers of fine views we might well recommend the view from Julian's Bower. On a clear day it is possible to see York Minster, over 25 miles away, from there.

Directions to many points of interest may be found on the plaque to the left of the maze, you will also see where the River Ouse and Trent join together to form the mighty River Humber.

Alkborough & Walcot



Places to visit North Lincolnshire

St John the Baptist Church

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Based on the original written by Mr. S. Brand

Designed and produced by **aura media**





St John the Baptist Church at Alkborough dates back many years. Earliest records show that there was a Church here in 1052 and the Tower is of typical Saxon design. The architecture of the Church shows there have been many changes to the building throughout its long history.

Local legend tells how three of the four knights who murdered Thomas-a-Beckett in Canterbury Cathedral took refuge here and as a penance, did much to restore this building.

As you enter the porch you will see a copy of the medieval maze set in concrete in the floor and on entering the Church proper you see the font on your left, set on its modern base, this dates back to Norman times. (see the font below)



Looking ahead on the far wall are two frames giving details of the vicars of our parish since the year 1220, before this time the monks of the priory of Spalding serviced this place of worship, and before them, monks of the Abbey of Peterborough looked after the folk living here.

The monks also had at Walcot, a Chapel of Ease and a Leper colony.

Immediately on your left as you enter the Church is an ancient Holy water stoop, thrown out of the Church during the reign of Henry VIII this was restored some years later to its present position.

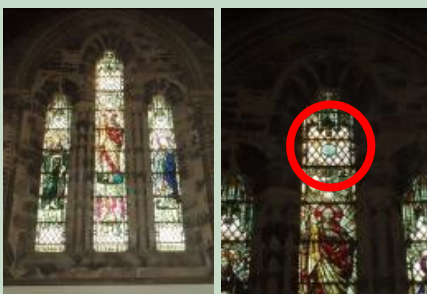


The photograph above shows the nave looking back from the choir stalls, and in particular the Saxon archway leading to the tower.

The nave was enlarged and the arches built in around the year 1200 with stone imported from the great stone quarries near Caan, Northern France.



Under a capping stone set in the floor near the tower entrance, those with a strong arm will find what is believed to be a stone of Romano/ British origin as shown in the photograph on the right. The floor was lowered and re-paved with pews being installed in the Nineteenth Century.



As you enter the Chancel, look up at the stained glass window and at the top centre you will see a copy of our famous maze.



The oak Reredos behind the Altar was hand made by the famous "Mousey Thomson" of Kilburn. His signature mouse can be seen on the right hand upright.

The Reredos was placed in the church as a memorial in the early 1920's

It is believed that at least 8,000 burials have taken place in the church graveyard over the many years of its use. It is often said that if only walls could talk, they would have such a story to tell. In this hallowed ground lies the story of the village of Alkborough throughout the centuries, it's peoples, it's joys and sorrows, it's times of war and peace.



The above picture shows the remains of the ancient churchyard cross, a single piece of millstone grit, an ideal stone on which to sharpen weapons such as swords, sickles and arrowheads. This accounts to a great measure for the worn shape of the stone today. The top of the cross is missing and we have no knowledge as to when or why this was removed.



As shown above, the memorial installed in the church grounds stands at the junction of Front street, Whitton Road and Church View. Every remembrance service is conducted in the church and at the memorial, where wreaths are laid in memory of our villagers that have given their lives in the world wars.