

**POINT 4 is on the footpath called Torpel Way. Look again at the field to the north, which we believe was the site of Torpel village in 1300.**

Lucy Chat was a widow living in Torpel village, which was just a cluster of about 20 thatched wooden houses at the side of the road. She had to pay rent to Peterborough Abbey for her strips in the open fields and a tax of 9d a year to the king, Edward I. She made a little money selling her vegetables and home brewed ale in the market.

**Follow Torpel Way in the direction of Ashton as far as POINT 5. The field outside the walls was later part of the deer park but in 1300 was still part of the manor's open fields.**

Geoffrey was the reeve whose job was to make sure that all the work on the lord's land was done well and everyone paid their rent and taxes.

**Finish at POINT 6. John Clare was terrified by a ghost one dark night on his way home across the field after harvesting.**

" I fancied I saw something wavering in the path, but my hopes put it off as a shadow. On coming nearer I found that it was something but whether it was of flesh and blood was a question...my astonished terrors magnified into a horrible figure..."

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**Torpel Manor field is owned by the Langdyke Countryside Trust and is both a County Wildlife Site and a Scheduled Ancient Monument.**

