



Historical Association

The voice for history

HA REGIONAL RESOURCES

SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS: LINCOLNSHIRE



The individuals listed here have been collated by members and affiliates of the Historical Association Primary Committee for use as a starting point to think about framing a local study around an individual and/or an important site. The list represents the collated research of the author and is by no means an exhaustive list. In their research, every effort has been made for representation and balance, but as is the nature of significance, different people will know of different people locally who they feel are significant to them. If you think there is someone that should be included on the list for your local area – let us know!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

ALF WILKINSON, FHA


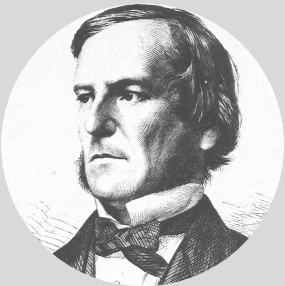

SECRETARY OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH OF THE HA
FORMER MEMBER OF PRIMARY HISTORY EDITORIAL COMMITTEE




Alf Wilkinson's in-laws have farmed in Lincolnshire for at least three generations. He has lived on the edge of the Fens for more than 20 years, and is Secretary of the Lincolnshire Branch of the HA. Alf taught history for many years and is now retired. Until recently he was a member of the editorial board for *Primary History*.






SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS: LINCOLNSHIRE






SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
MARGARET THATCHER Prime Minister 	Grantham	<p>First female Prime Minister of UK. Born in Grantham in Lincolnshire. Scientist first, then a politician. Nicknamed 'The Iron Lady,' because of her uncompromising policies. Known for tough reaction to Falklands War and Miner's Strike.</p> <p>How easy was it for a woman to become a politician? A party leader? Prime Minister? Significance – how should we remember her?</p>	20th Century	<p>Gov.uk Past Prime Ministers</p> <p>Yougov: Public view 40 years on</p>
GEORGE BOOLE Mathematician 	Lincoln	<p>1815-1864. Mathematician born in Lincoln who developed the idea of logic and probability that is seen as the basis for computer circuits.</p> <p>Boole was a mathematical genius, but it was 100 years later that his ideas formed the basis of the computer age. Does he deserve to be known as the 'father of the computer'? Boole was largely self-taught. What does that tell us about schools in early Victorian Britain?</p>	Victorian	<p>Visit Lincoln</p> <p>The Story of Mathematics</p> <p>IEEE Computer Society</p>
JIM BROADBENT Actor 	Near Market Rasen	<p>Born 1949. Award-winning actor, including roles in two of the 'Harry Potter' films and 'Paddington'. His parents were conscientious objectors during WW2, working on a farm in Lincolnshire.</p> <p>Are actors important? Make a comparison between modern actors and those in Shakespearean or Ancient Greek times - or even perhaps Celtic and Viking travelling bards?</p>	20th Century	<p>Rotten Tomatoes</p> <p>Acting through the ages</p>

SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
COLIN DEXTER Writer 	Stamford	1930-2017. Author of the 'Inspector Morse' series, as well as TV crime shows. Began life as a teacher before deafness led to early retirement. <p>A comparison between books and television. Is our view of crime based more on reality or on how it is portrayed in the media?</p>	20th Century	Enotes Biography
ISAAC NEWTON Scientist 	Woolsthorpe Manor, near Grantham	Born in Lincolnshire in 1643 and taught at The King's School in Grantham. Died 1727. Very influential scientist who played a large part in the 'scientific revolution' of the 17th and 18th Centuries. Best known for his work on gravity, he also worked on optics – building the first reflecting telescope – and mechanics. <p>Newton once said 'If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants'; was he a modest man? How was Isaac's career influenced by the Plague of 1665? Many people say Newton was the greatest scientist ever. Do you agree?</p>	17th/18th Century	BBC Teach Ducksters Biographies Starchild Biography
JOHN HARRISON Carpenter and Horologist 	Barrow on Humber	1693-1776. Born in Yorkshire, Harrison moved to Lincolnshire aged 7. As a carpenter, he built and repaired clocks. Following the Scilly Naval Disaster of 1707, Government set up a prize for solving the problem of finding longitude at sea. Eventually he designed and built H4, a sea-going watch, that solved the problem. Captain Cook took an H4 with him on his voyages of discovery. <p>Why was it so difficult to be accurate about longitude? Why was it so difficult to design a clock at sea? John Harrison never won the award for designing a device to measure longitude. Is this because he wasn't rich and famous?</p>	17th/18th Century	Royal Museums Greenwich The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers Barrow Upon Humber Website The National Trust

SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
NICOLA DE LA HAYE Landowner 	Swaton	<p>Landowner, Sheriff of Lincolnshire and Constable of Lincoln Castle. An ally of King John, she defeated a siege of the castle by the French, leading to defeat of Prince Louis and victory for Henry III. Died 1230.</p> <p>How typical was Nicola de la Haye? Were all medieval women important? What does the life of Nicola tell us about power and influence in Medieval England? Why do we hear so little about women like Nicola in history books?</p>	Medieval	Catherine Hanley Website Visit Lincoln History: the Interesting Bits
ALFRED LORD TENNYSON Poet 	Somersby	<p>1809-1892. Very popular poet, with famous works including 'The Charge of the Light Brigade'. Poet Laureate 1850-1892. Made Lord Tennyson 1884.</p> <p>How accurately does Tennyson's poetry reflect life in Victorian times? How useful is the poem 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' as a source of evidence for events during the Crimean War?</p>	Victorian	Poetry Foundation National Trust The Charge of Light Brigade
MATTHEW FLINDERS Navigator and Mapmaker 	Donington	<p>Born and educated in Lincoln, Flinders Joined the Navy aged 15 after reading the book 'Robinson Crusoe'. Made three voyages to the South Seas. Circumnavigated and mapped New Holland and gave it the name Australia. His book, published in 1814, 'A Voyage to Terra Australis,' with an accompanying Atlas, made him famous. Many places in Australia are named after him.</p> <p>Does Flinders deserve to be known as a great explorer? How similar, and how different, were the lives of Joseph Banks and Flinders?</p>	18th/19th Century	Royal Museums Greenwich Guardian: Grave of Flinders Unearthed near London station National Museum Australia

SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
JOSEPH BANKS Botanist 	Revesby Abbey	<p>Born in London but grew up in Lincolnshire. Botanist who accompanied Captain Cook on his first voyage to the Pacific. He was the first person to describe a kangaroo [kanguru] and recorded hundreds of new species. Played a large part in developing Kew Gardens.</p> <p>What does Banks' life tell us about the nature of scientific discovery in the 18th Century? Does Banks deserve to be known as a great explorer? 'It is only because he was rich that Joseph Banks could be such a great botanist'. Do you agree?</p>	18th/19th Century	BBC History Lincolnshire Wolds Natural History Museum Public Domain Review: Extracts from the Diary of Joseph Banks
JOHN WESLEY Methodist Leader 	Epworth	<p>1703-1791. Founder of Methodism. Started out as a Church of England vicar, but then founded a new group who preached a simple faith that attracted thousands of ordinary people. Originally preached outdoors – since the Church of England would not let them use their churches – but then built chapels all over the country and eventually the world. Strongly anti-slavery and believed that every man is equal.</p> <p>What does the life of John Wesley tell us about life in 18th Century Britain? Is religion important now? Was it important in 18th Century? What message of John Wesley appealed to so many people?</p>	18th Century	Christianity Today BBC Humber
ST GILBERT OF SEMPRINGHAM Founder of the Gilbertine Order 	Sempringham	<p>1085-1189. The only Englishman to found an order of monks and nuns. Eventually there were 26 of them. Was made a saint shortly after his death. A custom developed in the houses of the Order called 'the plate of the Lord Jesus', whereby the best portions of the dinner were put on a special plate and shared with the poor.</p> <p>What do monks do all day? What do nuns do? Why are monks and nuns usually kept separate? Was Gilbert, in your opinion, a saint?</p>	Medieval	The Billingborough Group Britain Express Catholic Herald

SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
<p>STEPHEN LANGTON</p> <p>Cardinal</p> 	Langton by Wragby	<p>1150-1228. Archbishop of Canterbury from 1206 to his death. His appointment was one of the causes of the dispute between King John and the Barons that culminated in Magna Carta in 1215.</p> <p>Why was the church so important and powerful in the Middle Ages? What was the conflict between Langton and King John all about? Is Stephen Langton a significant individual and why?</p>	Medieval	Magna Carta Trust
<p>SAINT BECCEL</p> <p>Hermit and holy man</p> 	Crowland	<p>An 8th Century hermit and holy man circa 714. He was reputed to have been an Anglo-Saxon king before becoming a hermit on the violent death of his wife and child.</p> <p>What do hermits do? Why did the church make Beccel a saint? If he lived alone and a life of prayer, why did Beccel become so famous?</p>	Anglo Saxon	
<p>KATE HAYWOOD</p> <p>Elite Swimmer</p> 	Grimsby	<p>Born 1987. Youngest swimmer in the GB team at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester. Competed at 2008 Olympic Games in Peking. Retired in 2012. In 2003 was BBC Young Personality of the Year.</p> <p>In your opinion, is Kate a 'significant individual?'</p>	20th/21st Century	Team GB

SIGNIFICANT PERSON	LOCATION	BIO SUMMARY & SUGGESTED ENQUIRY QUESTIONS	HISTORICAL PERIOD	USEFUL LINKS
JOHN FOX Academic 	Boston	<p>1516-1587. Oxford academic, forced to resign when Mary I became Queen because of his Protestant beliefs. Fled to the continent. Returned after Elizabeth I became monarch. Famous for his 'Book of Martyrs' published in 1563 which described English (mainly protestant) martyrs through the ages. A strict Puritan.</p> <p>What does the life of John Fox tell us about life in the 16th Century? What happened to you if you said the 'wrong kind of prayers'? How important was religion in Tudor times?</p>	16th Century	British Library Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies
JOHN TAVERNER Composer and Organist 	Boston	<p>1490-1545. Famous English composer and organist. Most of his existing work is religious.</p> <p>How similar is Taverner's work to the kind of music we play today? Why do you think most of his work was religious? What does Taverner's life tell us about life in 15th Century England?</p>	Tudor	Hyperion Records Classical.net YouTube: Qui Venit
CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH Soldier 	Willoughby	<p>1580-1631. Soldier, went to Virginia, played an important role in the settlement of Jamestown, England's first colony in the USA. Captured by local Native American tribe in 1607, his life was saved by Pocahontas.</p> <p>Is it possible to separate fact from fiction in the life of John Smith? What does the story of Pocahontas tell us about relations between settlers and Native Americans? Why did settlers go to America?</p>	Tudor and Stuart	Britannica.com National Park Service

Significant Person	Location	Bio Summary & Suggested Enquiry Questions	Historical Period	Useful Links
FRED SPIKSLEY Footballer 	Gainsborough	1870-1948. International footballer, coach, and actor with Charlie Chaplin. When WW1 started he was coaching in Nuremberg and taken prisoner. He managed to escape from Germany and returned to Britain. Worked in munitions during the war. Coached in three continents. <p>Does Fred deserve to be remembered as a significant individual? Are sportsmen important?</p>	19th/20th Century	BBC Sport
ANNE ASKEW Writer and martyr 	Stallinborough	1521-1546. Anne was an English writer, poet, and Protestant martyr condemned as a heretic in the reign of Henry VIII. She is one of only two women on record to have been both tortured in the Tower of London and burnt at the stake. She is also one of the earliest-known female poets to compose in the English language and the first Englishwoman to demand a divorce. <p>Why was Anne tortured and executed? Is it right to punish people because of their religion? Why couldn't women get a divorce at the time?</p>	Tudor	Wikipedia
CHARLOTTE SCOTT Mathematician 	Lincoln	1858-1931. Charlotte was a British mathematician born in Lincoln who made her career in the US and was influential in the development of American mathematics, including the mathematical education of women. <p>Can a mathematician be a significant individual? Why was it so difficult for women to get a good education in late Victorian times? How important is mathematics in your own life?</p>	19th/20th Century	Biographies of Women Mathematicians
CHRISTA CULLEN Elite hockey player 	Boston	Born 1985. Chay Crista Kerio Cullen is an Olympic Gold and Bronze Medal winning English field hockey player. <p>How long has hockey been part of the Olympic Games? How similar are the modern games to those introduced by the Ancient Greeks?</p>	20th/21st Century	England Hockey