



2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the **Mayflower** – one of the most influential journeys in global history. This commemoration will involve an exciting national and international programme inspiring people across nations with the stories of that iconic voyage, exploring themes of migration, tolerance, freedom and democracy.

Nottinghamshire is one of 11 UK destinations that make up the Mayflower 400 partnership and will be programming a series of events, activities and capital projects to mark the occasion.

Nottinghamshire is also part of the Pilgrim Roots Partnership that has been tasked to deliver activity on a regional scale.

To find out more you can visit:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mayflowerpilgrims

www.mayflower400uk.org

www.pilgrimroots.org



Nottinghamshire

Pilgrim County



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Nottinghamshire has a strong association with the beginning of the Pilgrim movement that sailed first to Holland, and then in 1620, on the Mayflower ship to America. Some of the leading Pilgrims that embarked on that iconic journey were from Nottinghamshire, where their beliefs were shaped. The Pilgrims set up a colony in Plymouth, Massachusetts and, today, it is thought that over 25 million Americans are descended from the original 102 passengers on the ship. You can enjoy finding out about this part of Nottinghamshire heritage by visiting some of the places associated with this globally significant story.

The map opposite shows you the regional connections to the Mayflower Pilgrim story. There is also a map overleaf that directs you to main sites associated with the Pilgrims across Nottinghamshire. You can find out more at: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mayflowerpilgrims

The Mayflower



England

1620

Austerfield (South Yorkshire)

William Bradford, one of the Mayflower Pilgrims and later governor of the colony in America was born in Austerfield in 1590. He was orphaned at an early age, and by the age of 12 he was beginning to read scripture and attend Richard Clyfton's preachings at Babworth. He later joined the congregation at Scrooby and became good friends with William Brewster.

Immingham (Lincolnshire)

In 1608, some of the Separatists secured the services of a Dutch captain to take them over the sea to Holland to escape persecution. They left from Immingham Creek which is now part of Immingham port, one of the largest ports in Great Britain.

Gainsborough (Lincolnshire)

Gainsborough Old Hall has a link to the Separatist movement and the Mayflower Pilgrims through its owners William and Rose Hickman. They were ardent Puritans and were sympathetic to the beliefs of the Separatists. They allowed the group to worship in secret at the Old Hall and supported them financially.

Lincoln

At the time of the Mayflower Pilgrims, the beautiful city of Lincoln would have been a thriving centre for the wool trade. The city's cloth became famous in legend through Robin Hood being said to have worn garments of Lincoln Green. Lincoln is well known for its links to the Magna Carta (Great Charter) which is believed to be the forerunner of the Mayflower Compact – the set of self-governing rules that the colonists drew up once in America. The Compact, in turn, is said to have inspired the creation of the American Constitution.

Boston (Lincolnshire)

Boston is a historic port and market town that sits on the banks of the River Witham which joins the North Sea. It was at Boston that some of the Mayflower Pilgrims were held captive in the cells at the Guildhall in a bid to escape religious persecution across the sea in Holland. The Guildhall cells and other memorials to the Pilgrims can still be seen today.



Scrooby

It is amazing to think that this quiet, rural village in North Nottinghamshire is part of the beginning of the Pilgrims story and foundations of America. Therefore, Scrooby holds a lot of importance to American visitors. Scrooby Manor House was once home to William Brewster and Susanna White Winslow and they, along with some of the other separatists, attended St Wilfred's Church before they decided to

break away from established traditions and Church law. William Brewster was one of the most influential Pilgrims, held secret religious meetings at his house and he accompanied the Pilgrims over to Holland and America. As the elder and religious leader to the Pilgrims, he is credited as holding the first Thanksgiving in 1621.



Sturton le Steeple

Sturton Le Steeple is the birthplace of John Robinson the "Pilgrim Pastor." Robinson was born in the village in 1576. John Robinson became the leader of the Separatists during their time in Holland. He died there in 1625, never making the voyage across the ocean, but proved an important source of advice through letters he sent to the

colonists. In 1604, he married Bridget White who was also from Sturton le Steeple. The village and church also has connections to some of the other separatists including John Smyth and Katherine Carver (Bridget White's sister) who married John Carver, the first governor of the new colony in America.

Clarborough

Separatist preacher Robert Southworth was almost certainly the son of Oliver Southworth of Clarborough. More certain is the identification of Edward Southworth and his elder brother, Thomas, sons of Richard Southworth, who were baptised in the church.

Both were almost certainly members of John Robinson's Separatist church in Leiden. A sister of Edward and Thomas married the cousin of William Bradford at Austerfield.

Babworth

Rev Richard Clyfton became Minister of the congregation at All Saint's Church Babworth on 11 July 1586. He was deprived of his living in 1604 for his nonconformist views. William Brewster and William Bradford, worshipped here until the Separatist Church was formed at Scrooby in 1606 when they and Clyfton moved there. Brewster and

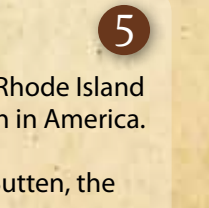
Bradford were both passengers aboard the Mayflower. Clyfton escaped to Amsterdam in 1608 and died there on 20 May 1616. The Church has artefacts associated with the Pilgrims including a Breeches Bible and a Communion cup thought to have been used by them.



Worksop

Richard Bernard (1568-1641) was a Puritan Clergyman who lost his job over his nonconformist views in 1605. During his time at Worksop, he associated with the leaders of the Mayflower Pilgrims. His daughter, Mary, married Roger Williams and together

they founded the state of Rhode Island and the first Baptist Church in America. It is possible that William Butten, the only passenger to die on the voyage itself, came from Worksop.



Nottinghamshire

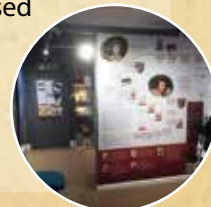
Pilgrim County



Retford

Retford is one of the oldest boroughs in England and was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Redeforde'. Retford was a centre for Puritans and many often visited nearby Babworth and Sturton to listen to Richard Clyfton and John Robinson preach. While in Retford, you could visit the 13th Century St Swithun's Church or the Mayflower Pilgrims Centre based at Retford Hub on Churchgate.

From mid-2019, there will be a new heritage trail and Pilgrims gallery at Bassetlaw Museum on Grove Street.



Greasley Church

St Mary's Church at Greasley is a medieval church, built in the mid-15th century and was restored in 1882.

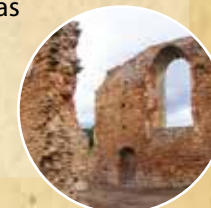
On the 15th February 1604, the church was the place of the marriage for John Robinson and Bridget White who lived

at nearby Beauvale Priory at the time. In 1607, there was concern raised that the Puritan exorcist John Darrell was allowed to preach at the Church. Separatist John Smyth also preached here.

Beauvale Priory

Beauvale Priory was a Carthusian Priory founded in 1343. The Priory has links to the Pilgrims as Bridget White, originally from Sturton le Steeple, lived here in the early part of the 17th century because her family held lands here. She married John Robinson at St Mary's Church at nearby Greasley.

Bridget's sister Katherine White would later marry John Carver, credited with writing the Mayflower Compact and was its first signatory, he was also the first Governor of Plymouth Colony.



Southwell

The pretty village of Southwell is dominated by the imposing structure of 900-year-old Southwell Minster which is the cathedral for Nottinghamshire. At the time of the Pilgrims, Southwell Minster would have been a powerful centre of religious rule, having come through the turbulence of the years of

Reformation pretty much unscathed. Senior clergy who accepted the successive religious changes were permitted to return, while Queen Elizabeth I from 1558 onwards allowed the Chapter to resume most of its former powers.



Newark Castle

It is said that the Mayflower Compact, which was set of rules for self-governance for the Pilgrims to live by in their new colony in America, was inspired by the Magna Carta. Magna Carta meaning 'Great Charter' was

signed by King John in 1215 and it was at Newark Castle a year later that King John died of dysentery – a disease caused by parasites in the gut.

National Civil War Centre

The National Civil War Centre has links to the story in terms of the legacy. At the start of the 17th century, the Pilgrims displayed the free-thinking and questioning against established traditions and laws that would eventually pervade further into the mindset of the whole country on a larger scale finally resulting in a civil war.

Visit the National Civil War to find out more about 17th Century life and the results of free-thinking that resulted in the execution of a King www.nationalcivilwarcentre.com

