



Rykneld Square

Why start here? In the first place, the area around here was probably part of the first settlement in the town we now know as Chesterfield. This raised ground would have been a relatively secure location in prehistory and there is a circular plaque right in the middle of the square to mark the likely location of a Roman Fort, built around 60CE.

In fact, the word Rykneld comes from the name of one of the lesser-known Roman roads that cross the country: Ryknild Street (sometimes called Icknield Street.) This ran from Bourton-in-the-Water, Gloucestershire to Templeborough, South Yorkshire.

Secondly, you're standing close to the unique Crooked Spire which adorns the tower of St Mary and All Saints Church. The spire is *the* image of Chesterfield.

Thirdly, Rykneld Square hosts the Tourist Information Centre – *the* go-to location for further exploration of the town.

Fourthly, there may be an event taking place in the square that is worth your attention. But, if not, starting from here allows us to begin in a calm and reflective mood before the excitement that is to come.

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