

19th edition

# Wolds News

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



*Your guide to what's happening in the  
Lincolnshire Wolds  
October 2008 - March 2009*



# Ponds survey

LINCOLNSHIRE  
BIODIVERSITY  
PARTNERSHIP



By taking part in the pond survey you can help increase knowledge about species including common frog. © Geoff Trinder

The first count of ponds in Britain took place at the beginning of the 20th century and recorded 1.2 million ponds. So many have been lost through drainage, infilling and neglect that it is thought there are now only about 400,000. However, small ponds still make up the majority of waterbodies in the UK and they are of great value to wildlife, supporting considerably more species and more scarce species than rivers and streams.

But, little is known about where ponds are or how good they are for wildlife. The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership has launched a Ponds and Amphibians Survey to gain an understanding of the distribution of small ponds from the Humber to the Wash and their biodiversity value. This is the first step in being able to identify priorities for conservation management. Anyone can take part in the survey – of their own pond or of ponds that are accessible from public rights of way or from public land, such as village ponds. A survey form is available to download from [www.lincswolds.org.uk](http://www.lincswolds.org.uk).

**For more information, please contact:**

**Telephone:** 01507 526667

**Website:** [www.lincsbiodiversity.org.uk](http://www.lincsbiodiversity.org.uk)

**E-mail:** [info@lincsbiodiversity.org.uk](mailto:info@lincsbiodiversity.org.uk)

# Splashing about in the stream



Since the last update in Wolds News, the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project has been busy working with landowners to protect and enhance the threatened chalk stream habitat.

Projects at Thorganby and Brigsley have been completed, covering 800 metres. These involved the removal of the inhibiting shade from the bank tops. Spoil from historic dredging has also been removed and allowed a more natural stream profile to be created. Where needed, flow has been energised through installation of log deflectors.

Over time, a greater variety of wetland plants will colonise the banks, which in turn provide home for numerous invertebrates and the elusive water vole. The invertebrates will provide food for the native brown trout, birds and bats. At the top of the food chain, otter and kingfisher will find improved habitat and food along these sections. All this will happen because of a few simple steps undertaken by the landowner.

Work is ongoing in the village of Welton le Wold, where voluntary efforts by the local residents are improving more than 700 metres of the Welton Beck.

A number of Higher Level Stewardship applications have been assisted, with over 10 kilometres of stream protected to date. Numerous walks and talks have also been given to raise awareness of the very special habitat we have hiding away in the Wolds.

**For more information, please contact:**



**Ian Rees, Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project Officer**

**Telephone:** 01507 609740

**E-mail:** [aonb@lincswolds.org.uk](mailto:aonb@lincswolds.org.uk)

# Wolds Words

A festival of reading, writing and performance

Monday 20 – Thursday 30 October 2008

This year's Wolds Words festival of reading, writing and performance plays host to a fabulous array of performances and workshops for the whole family.

Big names include Robert Powell, star of Jesus of Nazareth and Holby City; BBC presenter, architectural historian and author, Dan Cruickshank, as well as a performance of Toby Hadoke's 'West End' solo comedy, Moths Ate My Doctor Who Scarf.



There will be plenty of workshops for adults including creative writing, poetry writing, scriptwriting and calligraphy. Events also include open mic sessions, 'Farwelter'd' Lincolnshire's Dialect Society and guided walks, including one celebrating 'Wind in the Willows' led by Ian Rees, Chalk Streams Project Officer – see details in our events programme overleaf.

The children's activities are also better than ever, with performances of 'Rapunzel and the Tower of Doom' at the Riverhead Theatre and 'Funkenstein' at Alford Manor House, storytime at Louth Library, workshops with Rhubarb Theatre and puppet man, David Watterson, and a chance for 12 – 16 year olds to try their hand at creating Graphic Novel/Manga and Animation.

**To receive a full festival programme, please contact:**

**Community Arts & Events Team: 01507 329437**

**Website: [www.woldswords.org.uk](http://www.woldswords.org.uk)**

**E-mail: [artsdevelopment@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:artsdevelopment@e-lindsey.gov.uk)**

## More funding for sustainability in the Wolds



The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) has once again been busy supporting local projects aiming for a more sustainable way of life. The good news is that additional funding is available until March 2009.

We've been doing our bit to reduce the Wolds's carbon footprint in a number of ways. A ground source heat pump was installed at Nettleton Village Hall and the Viking Centre in Claxby now has new photovoltaic cells generating electricity to complement its wood pellet fuelled heating system.

A new business, Wolds Cycle Tours, received a grant to create jobs to hire cycles and lead guided rides around the Lincolnshire Wolds. The Louth Rural Activity Centre will soon have a newly planted pond area where groups can learn more about wildlife and nature. Racing talent was on show at the Belchford Downhill Challenge in gravity propelled carts, whilst visitors to Market Rasen's Global Warming Day were entertained by local schools and viewed displays about energy, local crafts and organic food.

The SDF awareness raising event took 40 people to Hockerton Housing Project near Newark. Attendees were able to visit eco-homes viewing rainwater harvesting, reedbed waste disposal, a green roof and photovoltaic cells.

We've supported many other projects and new ideas are always welcome – what would you like to do?

**For more information, please contact:**

**Telephone: 01507 609740**

**Website: [www.lincswolds.org.uk](http://www.lincswolds.org.uk)**

**E-mail: [aonb@lincswolds.org.uk](mailto:aonb@lincswolds.org.uk)**

## Creating a vibrant future for an attractive rural area

Through the East Midlands Development Agency (emda), the Lindsey Action Zone (LAZ) has been successful in securing £2m to deliver the social-economic elements of the Rural Development Programme for England. Funding will be available for a range of activities including:

- Diversification - businesses wishing to restructure through the development of diversified activities can access support.
- Producing an environment in which entrepreneurs can establish and grow businesses that create high quality jobs whilst reinforcing the rural identity of the LAZ.
- Creating sustainable tourism that capitalises on the unique and natural landscape.
- Conservation and upgrading of rural heritage.
- Provision of training and information relevant to the needs of communities and businesses in the LAZ.

Who can apply?

- Farmers/land based businesses
- Micro rural businesses
- Communities

Application process:

- Grants are available starting from a minimum of £3,500 for eligible activities.
- A minimum of 50% private sector match funding is required for each project application.
- Project applications will be assessed through a Local Action Group.
- All applicants will be required to register with the Rural Payments Agency.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Lincolnshire County Council - Economic Regeneration**

**Telephone:**

**01522 550500**

**E-mail:**

**development@lincolnshire.gov.uk**



## A window into the past

Present day Lincolnshire has a variety of distinct landscapes which are the product of thousands of years of human settlement and activity. It has been, and continues to be, shaped by human use of the physical environment and reflects underlying political, social, economic and cultural influences.

Lincolnshire County Council is undertaking a Historic Landscape Characterisation over the next 2½ years which is part of a national programme supported and developed by English Heritage. The project will cover the whole of the historic county of Lincolnshire including the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB.

The project will include a programme of digital mapping and analysis which will record surviving aspects of historic and archaeological features within the existing landscape. It will identify landscape-scale remains parish-by-parish to show how human activities have changed and developed the natural topography into what we see today. Included in this will be characteristic features, field patterns and boundaries as well as settlement patterns.



Characterisation is by its very nature a broad-brush overview of complex aspects. The results of the project are intended to identify local distinctiveness and aid local conservation, management and development strategies for landscape protection and enhancement. The project will include community consultations and produce a series of local reports across the county. It is intended that these will be accessible via local authorities, the AONB and the Lincolnshire Historic Environment record. One of the main outputs will be digital mapping which, unlike conventional landscape assessment, allows the creation of many different layers of historic landscape types.

When the project has started it will be possible to follow its progress via a dedicated website.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Lincolnshire County Council - Historic Environment Record**

**Telephone:**

**01522 782070**

**E-mail:**

**lincssmr@lincolnshire.gov.uk**



# Wonderful Wolds Walking



The 4th Lincolnshire Wolds Walking Festival proved to be a big success, with over 2,200 people enjoying the many walks held during the last two weeks in May. This year the Festival started with the Launch event at Welton le Wold disused quarry, with numerous activities and walks for all the family to enjoy. Between 700-800 people took part, experiencing the fun of globe and tight-rope walking, finding out about the geology and archaeology of the area, mini-beast hunting and much, much more.

Keep an eye out for details of the 5th Lincolnshire Wolds Walking Festival during May 2009 here in Wolds News or via [www.lincswolds.org.uk](http://www.lincswolds.org.uk) or [www.woldswalkingfestival.co.uk](http://www.woldswalkingfestival.co.uk).

# Tennyson 2009

2009 sees the 200th birthday of Alfred Tennyson, born in Somersby, who became the most widely read poet of the 19th century and achieved the hugely popular status more associated these days with rock stars. He is one of the most famous sons of Lincolnshire, his imagination was inspired by the beauty of the Lincolnshire Wolds, and there are many places in the county associated with him and his poetry.

Wolds Words festival and the Walking Festival are two of the local festivals which will include events in 2009 celebrating the Wolds's association with Tennyson. The Tennyson Society will have celebrations near his childhood haunts. There will be a major exhibition, Tennyson Transformed, at The Collection in Lincoln of illustrations of Tennyson's work and an academic conference at the University of Lincoln.

**For more information about celebrations for Tennyson 2009, please contact:**

**Tennyson in Lincolnshire**

**Website:**

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk)

**E-mail:**

[grace.timmins@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:grace.timmins@lincolnshire.gov.uk)



©James Mudd, 1857, Tennyson Research Centre

# Discussion and debate at the conference



The farmer's perspective of living and working in the Lincolnshire Wolds was in the spotlight on 3 July 2008 at the 2nd Lincolnshire Wolds conference.

Around 100 delegates gathered at Market Rasen to hear experts speak on topics ranging from current national policies to the history of farming in the area. Ideas for innovative marketing and a view of farming in the Wolds today were also highlighted.



Not much encouragement was needed for lively discussions to take place. Issues debated included the effects of climate change, global food demands and breeds of cattle. Delegates also had the chance to look at displays and ask advice from many organisations, including Lincolnshire Co-operative who generously sponsored the day.

Feedback and notes from the conference are available on [www.lincswolds.org.uk](http://www.lincswolds.org.uk).

# Guided walks and events

## SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER - 100 years of Wind in the Willows

10:00 am to 12:00 pm. As part of the Wolds Words Festival, join the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project Officer and the Community Librarian on a gentle 2 mile stroll through Hubbards Hills and beyond; exploring the favoured habitat of Ratty, Mole and Portly the Otter.

**Meet:** In the northern car park of Hubbards Hills, off Crowtree Lane (by the tea room)  
Grid ref: TF 316 867 O.S. map 282

**Parking:** In the northern car park of Hubbards Hills,  
off Crowtree Lane (charges apply)

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project



## DON'T FORGET THE CLOCKS CHANGE THIS WEEKEND!

## SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER - Trek Round Tealby

10:30 am to 4:00 pm approx. A strenuous yet delightful 8¾ mile circular route with superb views in the Wolds following public footpaths starting from the lovely village of Tealby passing through Risby, Walesby, Normanby-le-Wold and Claxby. Don't forget a packed lunch and a drink.

**Meet:** King's Head Inn  
Grid ref: TF 156 905 O.S. map 282

**Parking:** Please park considerately in Tealby, either in the Village Hall car park, outside the school, near the church or on the roadside.  
(Not in pub car park please)

**Leader:** Ramblers' Association Scunthorpe & District Group  
Tel: 01724 350118



## SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER - A Walk for all Ages through The Warren

10:00 am to 1:00 pm. This 6 mile walk combines the history and wildlife of this ancient Wolds valley with a chance to explore South Thoresby Warren Local Nature Reserve. Why not enjoy a hearty Sunday lunch at the welcoming Vine Inn on your return – call 01507 480273 to book a table.

**Meet:** The Vine Inn, South Thoresby  
Grid ref: TF 402 769 O.S. Map 274

**Parking:** By kind permission of the publican, in the car park

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER - Laceby - Bradley Woods Loop

10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Join us on this 5½ mile walk as we explore the countryside on the edge of the Wolds. This walk is accessible via the Interconnect 3 bus service between Grimsby, Caistor, Market Rasen and Lincoln – please contact Traveline 0871 200 2233 for details.

**Meet:** In the car park behind the Laceby Arms, Laceby  
Grid ref: TA 214 065 O.S. map 284

**Parking:** In the public car park behind the Laceby Arms

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER - Caistor's Countryside

10:00 am to 1:00pm. Discover the charms of Caistor on this 4 mile walk through the countryside surrounding this historical market town.

**Meet:** Caistor Market Place  
Grid ref: TA 118 013 O.S. map 282 & 284

**Parking:** Caistor Town Hall car park - please check for parking tariffs and time restrictions

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER - Boxing Day Morning Stroll

10:00 am to 12:30 pm approx. Take some essential gentle exercise over the festive period on this easy 4 mile stroll along paths around Horncastle - part of the Ramblers' Festival of Winter Walks.

**Meet:** Horncastle Market Place  
Grid ref: TF 258 696 O.S. map 273

**Parking:** Numerous car parks within the town – please check for parking tariffs and time restrictions

**Leader:** Ramblers' Association Horncastle Group. Tel: 01507 527358



## SUNDAY 4 JANUARY - The 10th Annual Round Louth Walk

Registration between 10:00 am and 11:00 am

A choice of 2, 6 or 14 mile walk for the Meningitis Trust. A £4.00 entry fee is payable (which goes to the charity) which includes a badge and a route map. For further information, please contact David Bolland, event organiser on 01507 606560.

**Meet:** Hallington Road, southern end of Hubbards Hill  
Grid ref: TF 315 861 O.S. map 282

**Parking:** Limited parking at southern end of Hubbards Hill, with additional parking available at the northern end, off Crowtree Lane.

**Leader:** A self guided route, event organised by David Bolland



## SUNDAY 25 JANUARY - Ludford and Great Tows Circular

9:30 am to 1:00 pm. Too much Christmas pud and not enough exercise over the festive holiday? Then walk it off with the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service on this 6 mile walk along byways and footpaths to start the New Year as you mean to go on!

**Meet:** Ludford Village Hall  
Grid ref: TF 197 888 O.S. map 282

**Parking:** By kind permission, in the village hall car park

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY - Vales and Views

9:30am to 2:00pm approx. Join us as we celebrate National Wetland Day on this 7½ mile walk from Louth, through Welton Vale and South Elkington along the tributaries of the River Lud as it flows through Hubbards Hills and into Louth. Parts of this walk can be muddy so don't forget to come prepared (and bring a packed lunch and a drink).

**Meet:** St James' Church, Louth  
Grid ref: TF 326 874 O.S. map 282

**Parking:** Numerous car parks throughout the town – please check for parking tariffs and time restrictions

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY - A Walk for All Seasons

10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Strap on your boots, grab your waterproofs and get some fresh Wolds air on this 4½ mile hike around the historic villages of Belchford and Fulletby. This walk has plenty of hills so be prepared!

**Meet:** Belchford Village Hall car park  
Grid ref: TF 293 754 O.S. map 273

**Parking:** By kind permission, in the Village Hall car park, next to the church

**Leader:** Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service



## SATURDAY 7 MARCH - To Regal Bolingbroke by Bus!

10:35 am to 4:00 pm approx. Catch the bus for an enjoyable car-free walk. This 8 mile circular walk along public footpaths and quiet lanes leads from Hundleby via Keal Carr Nature Reserve to East Keal then on to visit Old Bolingbroke Castle, the birthplace of King Henry IV.

*Note: Bus fare is applicable.*

Stagecoach CONNECT 6 buses:

Depart : Lincoln bus station 09.00, County Hospital 09.12, Wragby 09.29, Horncastle 09.50, arriving Hundleby at 10.10.

OR:

Depart: Skegness bus station 10.10, Burgh-le-Marsh 10.12, Spilsby 10.30, arriving Hundleby at 10.35.

Return buses depart hourly in each direction from Hundleby.

Walk will start when both buses have arrived.

(Check bus times with Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or with the walk leader).



**Meet:** Hundleby Church  
Grid ref: TF 389 665 O.S. map 273

**Parking:** Limited street parking, please park considerately

**Leader:** Stuart Parker, Ramblers' Association. Tel: 01522 534655

## Event information

- Guided walks are free of charge, except for the Round Louth Walk on 4 January, however the LWCS may collect donations for organisations directly relating to the events. Any bus and train fares or car parking fees need to be paid for, unless otherwise stated.
- Contact Traveline to check times of public transport on 0871 200 2233 or on [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk).
- Children are welcome, but under 16's must be accompanied by an adult.
- If your dog does accompany you on a walk, please keep it on a lead at all times.
- For all events you will need to bring or buy your own food and drink.
- Please bring suitable clothing for the weather, including suitable footwear for muddy paths.
- A leader or representative will be at the start of every event, whatever the weather.
- If you are unsure of your capability to complete an event, please contact the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service for further information one week before the event.
- Please note our office is only staffed Monday to Friday.
- The Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service reserves the right to change or cancel an event without prior notice.
- Whilst we make all our events as safe and as enjoyable as possible, any event attended is done so at your own risk.

**PLEASE USE PUBLIC OR SHARED TRANSPORT WHEREVER POSSIBLE**

# The Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

The Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service is a jointly funded partnership between Natural England, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council.

We aim to:

- Protect and enhance the landscape and its distinctive features
- Encourage community interest and involvement
- Raise awareness of the Wolds
- Promote sustainable development and appropriate enjoyment

## The Lincolnshire Wolds JAC

The Lincolnshire Wolds has an established Joint Advisory Committee (JAC): a partnership of public, private and voluntary organisations and representatives who have a special interest or working knowledge of the area. The JAC acts as a forum to advise and guide activity on a wide range of issues across the Wolds and is instrumental in developing, implementing and monitoring the AONB Management Plan 2004 - 09. Currently there are 23 representatives:

BTCV	Lincolnshire County Council
Churches Together in all Lincolnshire	Lincolnshire Economic Action Partnership
Community Lincs	Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Lincolnshire Sports Partnership
CLA (Country Land and Business Association)	Lincolnshire Tourism
East Lindsey District Council	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
English Heritage	National Farmers Union – East Midlands
Environment Agency	Natural England
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group	North East Lincolnshire Council
Forestry Commission	The Ramblers' Association
Groundwork Lincolnshire	West Lindsey District Council
Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire	

Guest organisations of the JAC include:

DEFRA	Lincolnshire Enterprise
East Midlands Development Agency	Government Office East Midlands

## For further information please contact:

Stephen Jack	Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service Manager
Helen Gamble	Project Officer
Louise Niekirk	Project Officer
Ian Rees	Project Officer (Lincolnshire Chalk Streams)
Jenny Evans	Administration and Technical Assistant

The office is usually open Monday – Friday 8.30 am – 5.00 pm

## Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse  
Riverhead Road, Louth  
Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone:	01507 609740
Fax:	01507 608851
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:aonb@lincswolds.org.uk">aonb@lincswolds.org.uk</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.lincswolds.org.uk">www.lincswolds.org.uk</a>

If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format, please contact us.