



## ***Welcome to the e-newsletter from the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service***

**December 2021**



### **Farming in Protected Landscapes**

We are pleased to announce that Steve Scoffin, the Farming in Protected Landscape Programme Officer is now in post. Steve has worked with us before, getting to know the Wolds very well and he brings with him many years of experience in land management and working in protected landscapes.

Joining Steve is Sarah Wellar, who will be fulfilling the important role of Admin Officer for the duration of the programme. Welcome Steve and Sarah!!

Over the next 2-3 years the Lincolnshire Wolds has a programme of funding for farmers and land managers in the AONB. Available for one-off projects that will deliver at least one of the outcomes listed below, under four themes:

- Support nature recovery
- Mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and its cultural heritage
- Support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses

The programme has been developed by Defra with the support of a group of AONB and National Park staff from across the country and delivered and managed here by the Lincolnshire Wolds team and an independent local assessment panel.

## Plashing for the People

The AONB Project Officers agreed to teach a hedgelaying training day in mid November – the weather was perfect, the hedge a great one to teach on and the bacon rolls and jacket potatoes spot on!!

A selection of traditional tools were available to try ... yet many trainees wanted to use the Yorkshire billhook belonging to one of the Project Officers.



A great day, with no injuries, and most importantly the community now have basic skills to tackle the rest of the hedges in the village!!

For further information on hedgelaying visit the website of the National Hedge Laying Society:  
[www.hedgelaying.org.uk](http://www.hedgelaying.org.uk)



## Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project – Green Recovery Challenge Fund Events

Over £200,000 has been secured by Lincolnshire County Council, Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Trust and the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project from the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund.

The fund is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency and will enable the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams team to install nature-based solutions in the River Rase catchment and deliver a number of community-based events.

The first event will be a guided walk on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February, starting at 10am at the Festival Hall in Market Rasen the 4-mile walk will be led by Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project Monitoring Officer Will Bartle with help from Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Trust trustee Sarah Baker. The walk will take in some of the beautiful countryside around Market Rasen with stops along the way to talk about what makes the River Rase chalk stream so incredibly special.

A further 5 events are in the planning stages for next year in Market Rasen. For further information please keep an eye on the Events page on the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams website or contact the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project directly on the details below:

[chalkstreams@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:chalkstreams@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

<https://lincolnshirechalkstreams.org/events/>

## Hoarfrost Hedges

Hoarfrost: a greyish-white crystalline deposit of frozen water vapour formed in clear still weather on vegetation, fences, etc

**Winter Walking? Why not make friends with a hedge at the same time? Get up close and personal with your friendly linear habitats this January.**



Volunteers are still hard at it surveying hedges in the Wolds over the Winter. Although it's a bit more tricky, you can identify tree species by their twigs, berries and their silhouette.

There's lots of information available on the internet. For example, there's a winter tree guide here: [Winter tree identification - Tree Guide UK - Tree identification in winter](#)

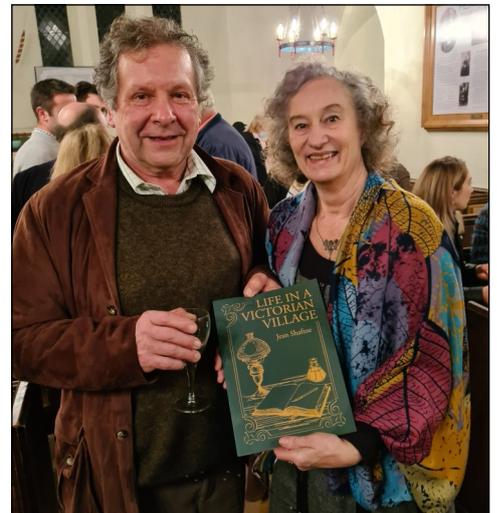
Alternatively, Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service are holding a winter tree I.D. session on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January in Stenigot, from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. For further details contact Project Officer David Rodger at: [David.rodger@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:David.rodger@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

## Life in a Victorian Village – Book Launch

A very successful book launch took place at St. Andrew's Church Fulletby in November. The author, Jean Shaftoe, has compiled *Life in a Victorian Village* from the books and manuscripts of Henry Winn, a celebrated historian of the Victorian period.

His diaries, letter and essay books together with his poetry, provide a vivid tapestry based on the lives of working men and their families. Religion, education, domestic life and community activity and events, all find life on the pages of his hand written books.

He attended the village Sunday School yet, through his own desire for knowledge, he was acknowledged as an historian and a chronicler of life in the Victorian period. The Stamford Mercury called him the Grand Old Man of Lincolnshire in an article celebrating his eightieth birthday.



Reading and writing were a passion that took him well beyond his village boundaries. He provides accounts of mill worker riots, fires in Canada and the Irish potato famine, in addition to his role as shop keeper, Parish Clerk, schoolteacher and church warden. A fascinating journey through life in a Victorian Village.

As a result of Jean's efforts there is now a constituted charity, the Henry Winn Legacy Project, which will continue to research Winn's life and achievements. The book was funded by a grant from the Lincoln Record Society.

For more information visit Jean's website [www.bookstalksandtours.co.uk/](http://www.bookstalksandtours.co.uk/)

## Oh Honey.....



Love honey? Then you probably love bees, the sources of nectar they rely on and the land where these plants grow.... and that means you love the Lincolnshire Wolds!

Louth Beekeepers have been busy – as busy as bees in fact! – in working with Wolds farmers to raise awareness of honey bees and other pollinators in the countryside and producing locally sourced honey for resale in local shops and village facilities.

A design competition for special labels has been held with the University of Lincoln and independent artists taking part and we look forward to seeing the honey in local shops soon! Will Hamilton of Louth District Beekeepers commented:

*'For Louth Beekeepers this is about more than a label, the design will be used in all of our media. We are keen to capitalize on Louth's position near the Lincolnshire Wolds, Louth is still the capital of the Wolds in our eyes!*

*When the honey is sold through village shops in the AONB under this label, it will fund events and training in the Wolds for beekeepers and members of the public, all while publicising the Wolds as a special landscape and the farmers who are hosting us. This enterprise is literally the start; we are looking to develop the apiary (beekeeping) sites to be as beneficial for nature and people as possible!'*

For more information contact Will directly at [louthdistrictbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:louthdistrictbeekeepers@gmail.com) or follow Louth District Beekeepers Association on facebook. The new logo, label and publicity materials, supported by the Lincolnshire Wolds Small Grant Scheme, will be used for a new website in January 2022. You can witness the change at <https://www.ldbk.co.uk/> .

## Do You Know Any Secret Stories of the War?

We're currently researching for a new addition to our 'Wonders of the Wolds' leaflet series, looking at the untold stories of World War I and WWII in the Wolds. The proud history of aviation in the Lincolnshire Wolds has already been well documented, so we're delving deep to find hidden tales of life during the wars.

If you have information on the impact of the war as witnessed by for example overseas aircrew, evacuees, the home guard and especially women, then we'd love to hear from you.



Please contact Project Officer David Rodger at: [David.rodger@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:David.rodger@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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