



WASH WEEK

6 - 14 August 2005



Celebrating the rich and diverse heritage of The Wash

Come explore the history, wildlife, culture and ways of life with us

Guided walks, talks, boat trips, courses and event days for all

wash estuary

strategy group

Co-ordinated by WESG but in partnership with many

Introduction

Wash Week 2005 is a celebration of life in and around The Wash from Hunstanton to Skegness on land and at sea.

The heritage of The Wash, in all forms, will be the focus for the week, be it: wildlife or man; marine or terrestrial; past or present; myth or fact. This programme of events has been co-ordinated by the Wash Estuary Strategy Group with the help of Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. The whole week has been made possible through partnership working with many other organisations and groups.

The Wash is Britain's largest estuarine system with five rivers and the North Sea flowing in and out of it every day. The extensive areas of saltmarsh, mudflats and sandbanks provide excellent homes for an incredible array of wildlife.

But The Wash is not just about wilderness and wildlife it also has a highly rich and diverse cultural and historic heritage. The land and seascape tells the story of our forefathers; the rich archaeology indicates past industries and ways of life, and; the built heritage represents amazing wealth of past eras. Farming, military and maritime culture has strong ties with the area now and way back into the past. Great people and events are associated with The Wash, and The Wash has strong ties with mainland Europe.

Hence, the Wash Estuary Group is working with partners of the Wadden Sea area of Europe on developing conservation and management tools to ensure the sustainable use of heritage there and here. And as part of that raising awareness of what we have is an essential aspect in delivering our heritage to future generations, and Wash Week 2005 provides an excellent opportunity to do just that.

General tips and guidelines

Booking and Costs – It is best to book for all events or at least ring to check, that way preventing disappointment if you turn up on spec and there is no room for you and yours. Some of the events are free and some will be charged. If the charge is more than £3.00 it is stated in the listings overleaf, but if it is £3.00 or less it is not. Again it is best to ring the individual event organiser in advance.

Food and drinks – unless stated presume they may not be available or there will be associated charges. Best to check beforehand.

Transport and parking – if you are unfamiliar with the area we have provided a rough guide to indicate venue's locations, more specific information can be gathered at the local Tourist Information Centres: Skegness, Boston, Spalding, King's Lynn and Hunstanton. Parking is available at some sites but a charge may be incurred and free cycle racks are also available at some of the locations. Again it is best to check beforehand with the organiser.

Weather – The Wash is a wild place and the weather can change dramatically. Please check the weather forecast before setting out and wear appropriate clothing warm or wet. Hopefully being August we will have sunshine so bring hats, sunscreen and plenty of water. If you are going on one of the guided walks or visiting a nature reserve then stout footwear is recommended.

Children – children are welcome to nearly all of the events (bar where stated) but they should always be accompanied by an adult.

Dogs – are welcome at some of the events but must be kept on leads. At other events it is not appropriate to bring a dog. Please ring the individual event organiser to find out more.

Access – many of the events are fully accessible to wheelchairs. Please call the event organiser to check details and discuss arrangements where appropriate.

Get yourself orientated

Below is an illustrative map with key sites identified with numbers that associate to those on the event listings.

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1a Natureland | 7 Witham Way Country Park/Sluice Bridge | 14 Ongar Hill |
| 1b Church Farm Museum | 8 Bicker | 15 The Wash Discovery Centre |
| 2 Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve | 9 Vernatt's Nature Reserve | 16 Point Green, King's Lynn |
| 3 Royal Air Force Wainfleet | 10 Moulton Marsh Nature Reserve | 17 Reffley Wood, South Wootton |
| 4 Glebe Farm, Bennington | 11 Gedney Drove End | 18 Castle Rising |
| 5 Admiral Nelson, Bennington | 12 East Lighthouse, Sutton Bridge | 19 Hunstanton Town Hall |
| 6 Freiston Shore Nature Reserve | 13 Fordham, near Downham Market | |



We would like to acknowledge the support of the following:

The Wash Estuary Strategy Group, in partnership with many, are working to promote the wise use of the area's resources while trying to maintain the balance that allows the local communities to prosper and safeguards the wildlife and landscape features for future generations. Sustainable development and Integrated Coastal Zone Management are at the heart of what we are trying to achieve.

The Wash Estuary Strategy Group are kindly supported and funded by:

Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk,
Boston Borough Council,
East Lindsey District Council,
English Nature,
Lincolnshire County Council,
Norfolk County Council and
South Holland District Council.

Interreg IIIB North Sea Programme and Lincolnshire County Council for financial contributions via the Lancewad Plan project which the Wash Estuary Strategy Group is undertaking with partners in Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. This will lead to a complete, integrated Historic Landscape Characterisation of The Wash and its hinterlands securing a more sustainable future for our heritage.

Sponsorship for the Wash Week photograph calendar is gratefully acknowledged from Finn Forest and Centrica Energy.

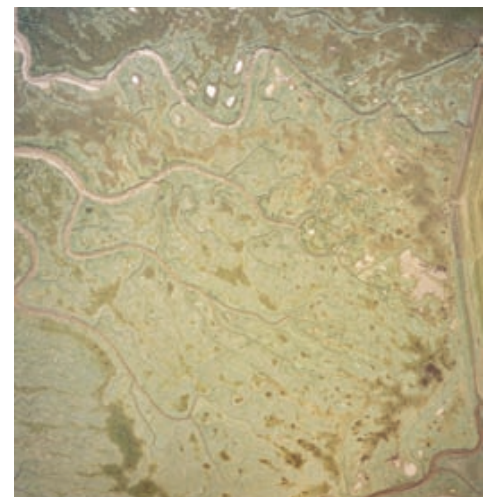
The co-ordination and production of material for Wash Week 2005 has been assisted by Rachel Shaw, PR Officer for Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust



We would also like to thank all those organisations and bodies that have dedicated resources to Wash Week 2005 which are too numerous to mention but the week could not have happened without their efforts.

Images have been kindly provided by the following individuals and organisations: Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, East Lindsey District Council, English Nature, Environment Agency, Fens Tourism, Jon Watson, Lincolnshire County Council, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Mike Davison, Neil Smith, RAF Holbeach and Richard Littlewood.



C/o South Holland Internal Drainage Board
Marsh Reeves, Foxes Low Road
Holbeach, Lincs PE12 7PA
Tel: 01406 425518
Fax: 01406 426501
E-mail: wash_project@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Website: www.washestuary.org.uk

LAUNCHING WASH WEEK - FRIDAY 5th



- ❖ **Camera, action...** ¹⁵
8pm – *The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn*
Join the winners of 'The Wash through the eye of the lens' competition at this evening event launching Wash Week 2005. Booking essential.
Contact: 01406 425518

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK: 6-14th

- ❖ **The Wash through the eye of the lens** ¹⁵
9am – *The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn, Norfolk*
Some of the images from The Wash Week 2005 photography competition will be on display all week at Green Quay.
Contact: 01553 818500 or the Wash Estuary Project Officer on 01406 425518.
- ❖ **At The Wash Discovery Centre - Green Quay celebrates The Wash** ¹⁵
9am – *All day at the centre in King's Lynn on the river front*
Lots of activities all week happening at the centre including The Wash Quiz with pictures of The Wash needing identifying with great prizes up for grabs.
Contact: 01553 818500

SATURDAY 6th AUGUST

- ❖ **Butterflies & Dragonflies** ²
10.30am – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
Come and see the antics of these beautiful flying insects and learn more about them. Booking essential.
Contact: 01754 762677
- ❖ **English and French War** ¹⁸
10am – *Castle Rising, near King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
Re-enactment at this ancient keep by the Napoleonic Association.
Booking essential. Costs £6 adult, £5 concessions, £3 juniors or £16 for a family.
Contact: 01553 631330
- ❖ **Discover Gedney Drove End** ¹¹
1pm – *Village Hall, Gedney Drove End*
7 mile jaunt along the old and new banks of this tranquil section of The Wash with Debby Braund of Conservation Services, Lincolnshire County Council.
Contact: 01522 554844 Debby Braund



SUNDAY 7th AUGUST

- ❖ **Wonders of The Wash** ²
10am – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
An extravaganza celebrating The Wash with lots to do for all the family, all day.
Contact: 01754 762677
- ❖ **English and French War** ¹⁸
10am – *Castle Rising, near King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
Re-enactment at this ancient keep by the Napoleonic Association.
Booking essential. Costs £6 adult, £5 concessions, £3 juniors or £16 for a family.
Contact: 01553 631330
- ❖ **River bank walk** ¹³
10.30am – *Car park near river at Fordham, Norfolk*
(GR 621991- use Explorer Map 228)
Enjoy a lovely stroll along the banks of one of the tributaries of the River Ouse which drains into The Wash. A five mile walk between Denver Sluice and Roxham Farm. Beryl Baker and others will be leading this all day ramble.
Contact: 01775 723227
- ❖ **Wildart at Vernatt's** ⁹
11am and 2.30pm – *Vernatt's Local Nature Reserve, Spalding, Lincolnshire.*
Two sessions of a guided walk and sculpture class with local artist (Adventures in Art) and South Holland District Council's warden of the reserve.
Contact: 01775 761161 Jonathon Bills
- ❖ **Invasion and defence** ⁶
2pm – *RSPB Freiston Shore nature reserve, near Boston, Lincolnshire.*
Join The Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire and RSPB staff at Freiston Shore, near Boston. Explore defences of two kinds, World War II and from the sea today, while also taking a look at today's 'invaders' of the site, birds!
Contact: 01205 724678 or freistonshore@rspb.org.uk



- ❖ **Friends Garden Party** ^{1b}
2pm – *Church Farm Museum, Church Road South, Skegness, Lincolnshire*
Join the friends of the museum in an old fashioned afternoon tea party and explore our countryside heritage.
Contact: 01754 766658
- ❖ **Discovering maritime Lynn** ¹⁵
2.30pm – *Meet at The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
A guided walk with Dr. Paul Richards around the South Quay and more. Allow for one and half hours.
Contact: 01553 818500



MONDAY 8th AUGUST

- ❖ **Washed up with the tide** ¹²
7pm – *car park at the East Lighthouse, Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire.*
Join the site manager of The Wash National Nature Reserve on this evening stroll along the Sir Peter Scott Walk looking for birdlife.
Contact: 01205 311674 or 07967 693507 Simon Cooter.
- ❖ **Wildlife wanderings at Witham Way** ⁷
7pm – *Witham Way Country Park, Tattershall Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Officer will lead a walk around this country park in Boston, followed by a talk on Lincolnshire's wildlife. Find out about urban wildlife and the creatures that use the river. There are all-weather paths, so even in bad weather you don't necessarily have to get muddy.
Contact: 01507 526667 and ask for Andy Simpkin



TUESDAY 9th AUGUST

- ❖ **A working Wash Farm - its wildlife, its crops, its people** ⁵
10am – *meet at the Admiral Nelson Public House in Bennington, Lincolnshire on the A52.*
Join Archie Saul of John Saul Ltd and Barry Hancock, a local birder, exploring this local farm. Learn more about the day to day management of a farm on The Wash - where your food comes from - where your food goes after leaving a farm - what wildlife thrives on the farmland and adjacent marshes. A really excellent way to spend a few hours. Buffet lunch will be provided after the visit. Booking essential.
Contact: 01205 870473
- ❖ **Animal tracks and signs** ¹⁴
10am – *car park at Ongar Hill, west side of the River Ouse, Norfolk.*
Guided walk with the site manager of The Wash National Nature Reserve looking for signs of wildlife. Approximately 3 mile walk.
Contact: 01205 311674 or 07967 693507 Simon Cooter.
- ❖ **Art and Attack** ³
1pm – *Royal Air Force Weapons Range Wainfleet, range centre, Sea Lane off the A52, Friskney, Lincolnshire.*
See a display of the various weapons used at this range and aviation mementoes for sale while appreciating the artworks of Michael Sanders - photographs and sculptures.
Contact: 01754 820777.
- ❖ **Passionate about Plankton** ²
2pm – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
Join the Kid's Gang in discovering the amazing miniature world of the oceans.
Contact: 01754 762677
- ❖ **Herbs and High Tea** ^{1b}
2pm – *Church Farm Museum, Church Road South, Skegness, Lincolnshire*
Visit this living museum and also hear a talk all about the properties of herbs and the potions we used to know and use.
Contact: 01754 766658
- ❖ **Fisheries of The Wash: past and present** ¹⁵
7pm – *The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn.*
Join Peter Rushmer of the European Marine Site in an evening all about one of our oldest industries. East Anglian Film Archive will show some footage from the past while Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee will talk about the present day.
Contact: 01553 772020



WEDNESDAY 10th AUGUST

- ❖ **Treasure hunt** ⁶
2pm – *RSPB Freiston Shore nature reserve, near Boston, Lincolnshire.*
Solve the riddles of this fantastic reserve and get treasure in exchange. Family fun for all to enjoy.
Contact: 01205 724678 or freistonshore@rspb.org.uk
- ❖ **Discovering maritime Lynn** ¹⁵
2.30pm – *Meet at The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
A guided walk with Dr. Paul Richards around the South Quay and more. Allow for one and half hours.
Contact: 01553 818500
- ❖ **Marsh bank walk** ⁴
7pm – *meet at Glebe Farm, Bennington (GR 412457), near Boston, Lincolnshire.*
Walk the original banks of The Wash enjoying the wildlife seen along the way in the various trees and shrubs, and the contrasting open views of the marshes.
Contact: 01205 364835 Ron White.



THURSDAY 11th AUGUST

- ❖ **Bicker, salt and more** ⁸
10am – *Meet at the Church in Bicker*
Join local historian Hillary Healey on a 2 hour walk around the village of Bicker and along the banks of the once tidal haven; discovering the story the landscape and buildings tell us of our past.
Contact: 01775 820464
- ❖ **Coastal cycle** ²
10.30am – *Visitor Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, Skegness*
Join County Council Conservation Services Section on a bicycle ride from Gib to Skegness out of The Wash coast to Ingoldmells and back again. There will be some cycling along roads but mostly it will be on the sea wall and cycle tracks. It is suitable for families with children over 12. It will be approximately 12 miles in total and helmets must be worn.
Contact: 01522 554844 Debby Braund.



- ❖ **Fossil Fraud** ²
2pm – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
Join the Kid's Gang to learn about beach fossils and where they came from.
Contact: 01754 762677

FRIDAY 12th AUGUST

- ❖ **Willow weaving workshop** ¹⁷
10am – *Reffley Wood, Sandy Lane, near South Wootton, King's Lynn.*
A whole day learning how to design, make and maintain your own willow sculpture for your garden. This one day course will be led by the local branch of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and the Woodland Trust, and you will receive a nationally accredited certificate in 'Willow in your Garden'. You may discover a new lease of life. Cost for materials £17.50. 18 and over welcome. Booking essential.
Contact: 01553 763886 or e-mail west-norfolk@btvc.org.uk
- ❖ **The plants of the saltmarsh** ¹⁶
2pm – *Point Green, past Dow Chemicals on the east side of the River Ouse, King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
Learn more about the specialist plants of the saltmarsh with the site manager of The Wash National Nature Reserve on this field trip. Approximately 0.5 mile along boardwalks.
Contact: 01205 311674 or 07967 693507 Simon Cooter.
- ❖ **Perseid Meteor Shower** ²
7.30pm – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
Find out more about the meteors and comets that pass through our skies, and have a look at the Perseid Meteor Shower. Booking essential.
Contact: 01754 762677



SATURDAY 13th AUGUST

- ❖ **Birdwatch cruise in The Wash** ⁷
9.15am – *The Wash, departure from the Sluice Bridge, Boston, Lincolnshire.*
Cruise The Wash and the Rivers Witham and Welland on the Boston Belle with local birders from the South Lincs RSPB group. The trip lasts about 5 hours. Booking essential. Prices - £10 for adults and £5 for children.
Contact: South Lincs RSPB group on 01205 280057
- ❖ **Brass and Steam** ^{1b}
10am – *Church Farm Museum, Church Road South, Skegness, Lincolnshire.*
Join in the fun with brass bands and steam engines plus all the other attractions of the farm museum.
Contact: 01754 766658
- ❖ **Seals and paint** ^{1a}
11am – *Natureland Seal Sanctuary, Skegness, Lincolnshire.*
Do you want to become something else for the day? Transform into one of our most endearing creatures? Come and have your face painted at the Sanctuary.
Contact: 01754 764345
- ❖ **Discovering maritime Lynn** ¹⁵
2.30pm – *Meet at The Wash Discovery Centre, Green Quay, King's Lynn, Norfolk.*
A guided walk with Dr. Paul Richards around the South Quay and more. Allow for one and half hours.
Contact: 01553 818500



SUNDAY 14th AUGUST

- ❖ **Wonders of The Wash** ¹⁹
10am – *Hunstanton Town Hall, The Green, Hunstanton, Norfolk.*
A family fun day of activities celebrating all aspects of The Wash - wildlife, history, new developments including wind energy with face painting, craft works, quizzes and much more.
Contact: 01406 425518 Wash Estuary Project Officer
- ❖ **Marine invertebrate identification course** ²
10am – *The Wash Study Centre, Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, near Skegness.*
One day course on the small animals of our ocean world. Booking essential.
Cost £25.
Contact: 01754 762677
- ❖ **Saltmarsh: strand and clean** ¹⁴
10am – *car park at Ongar Hill, west side of the River Ouse, Norfolk.*
Two hours strandline collection and investigation of marine litter with the site manager of The Wash National Nature Reserve. Approximately 3 mile coverage. Followed by a visit to a local establishment.
Contact: 01205 311674 or 07967 693507 Simon Cooter.
- ❖ **Brass and Steam** ^{1b}
10am – *Church Farm Museum, Church Road South, Skegness, Lincolnshire.*
Join in the fun with brass bands and steam engines plus all the other attractions of the farm museum.
Contact: 01754 766658
- ❖ **Moulton Marsh Discovery Day** ¹⁰
11am – *car park at Moulton Marsh Nature Reserve, near Fosdyke off the A17.*
Discover the treasure of saline lagoons running alongside the River Welland at this reserve near Fosdyke Bridge with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.
Contact: 01507 526667

