

August 2018

Newsletter No. 8



**WATER,  
MILLS &  
MARSHES**

## Our scheme

Helping to preserve and protect the distinctive drained marsh landscape, the Broads Landscape Partnership Scheme covers an area of 200Km<sup>2</sup> and links the urban hubs of Norwich, Acle, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Beccles and Loddon.

## Get involved

If you would like to talk about a project, if you are part of a local group that may be able to help deliver an activity in your local area or if you just want to be kept informed please let us know.

To talk about a project, please contact 01603 610734, if you would like to be added to the mailing list send us an [email here](#)



**Broads**  
National Park



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

# Water, Mills and Marshes: the Broads Landscape Partnership

Water Mills and Marshes is an incredible project that will allow you to really get to know the Broads. 38 projects in fact as that's how many make up this amazing scheme. There really is something for everyone!

Funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund and led by the Broads Authority, from January 2018 to December 2022 you can explore your incredible Broads National Park landscape in many different ways with the help of over fifty partners.

Here is what we have been up to over the last few months.





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1. An in-school roadshow

The background behind Water, Mills and Marshes with films and exercises providing information on heritage, landscapes and wildlife within the Broads National Park.



WMM school education programme

Over the Spring and Summer terms, our education delivery team from Claritie CIC have been based in Lowestoft, working with 12 primary schools, a high school and one 6th form college. So far they have worked with 640 students and 44 teaching staff, spending over 12 hours with each of the pupils. Our education programme is designed to be non-curricular and experiential, but packed with learning opportunities surrounding heritage, the landscape and habitats.

The primary school programme is divided into three sections:

2. A Broads Experience Day

Starting with a 90 minute boat trip from Oulton Broad, through Oulton Dyke into the River Waveney. Terry and Natasha from Claritie introduce the magic of the Broads by boat, something that was a first time experience for many on board. While on the river, pupils complete a number of exercises focussing on land use, habitat and heritage. [Video](#)

This was followed by a 3.5 hour visit to Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Carlton Marshes Nature Reserve where the Claritie team were joined by SWT educators providing a programme of events including:

- Dyke dipping
- Mammal identification
- Carr woodland and reedbed exploration and learning about balancing conservation needs with public access.

3. Broads in a Box

The culmination of these learning activities was for students to create their own "Broad in a Box" This whole day classroom session was geared to enable the students to use their knowledge creatively. Working in groups, pupils had to decide the content of their Broad based on two budget sheets. One for amenities that could be used by humans, such as café, hotel, footpath and marina. The second showed costs for wildlife habitats, such as reed beds, grazing marshes etc. The key to the exercise was that both budgets had to balance – so that both wildlife and human access were equal - leading to some very heated group discussions.

In total, 125 "Broads in a Box" were built and displayed at our public showcase event at Red Oak Primary. The very worthy winners were from Dell Primary and Blundeston Primary schools.

Quick stats

Broads Experience Day

20% had not been on a boat before.

32% had not been to a Nature Reserve.





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### 2018/19 Academic Year

18 education establishments and schools have signed up for the WMM education programme during the 2018/19 academic year. We are running a similar programme this year, with the addition of having a presence at school sports days and village fetes.

Most excitingly, we are trialling a Water, Mills and Marshes full term activity module including experience days, music, literacy, drama, design and technology, media and careers.

For more information contact the WMM Team

### Broads Album

Our High school / FE interpretation project this year was the inaugural Broads Album. Groups of music students from Pakefield High School and Lowestoft 6th Form College were taken out into the Broads National Park to gain inspiration to enable them to compose songs for the Broads Album, visiting drainage mills, grazing marshes, rivers and a broad.

During the following five months, students were regularly supported and encouraged to turn their experiences into music. Eleven songs were chosen for the album which were recorded and mastered in the studios at Lowestoft 6th Form college.

All songs, featuring 15 artists, were performed live in front of an invited audience at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft in May. The quality and variety of songs produced by the students is outstanding. All tracks are available on [Soundcloud](#) and there is a [short film](#) of the entire process.





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**“The prototype didn’t just float, she turned out to be incredibly stable and fast through the water”** Gary Breeze, International Boatbuilding Training College Project Manager for the Chet boat re-creation.

Chet Boat

Following the successful launch of our 3/4 size prototype, work has begun in earnest on the full size replica, beginning with selection of timber. The Raveningham Hall Estate have very kindly donated a couple of Oak trees - one felled for planking has been cleaved by hand to begin the process of making the planks.



The second is another enormous Oak tree full of crooks perfect for making the curved features of the boat. This tree is less than a mile from where the Chet boat was excavated, in a woodland not far from Reedham Ferry. Forester John Hollis and his assistant Jay cut the 20-tonne oak into usable pieces ready for milling and in keeping with the traditional nature of the build we employed Joe Griffin and his 2 cob horses to extract the timber from its setting.

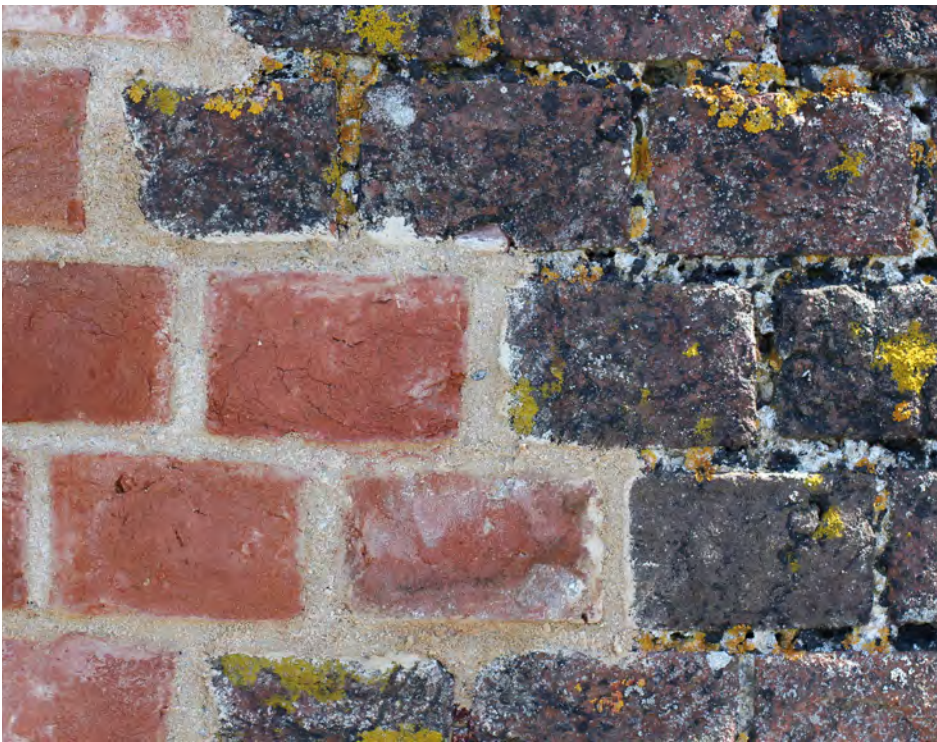


Horse logging is a low impact, low carbon way of moving timber. Horses can get to places that machinery cannot, and there is virtually no impact on the woodland floor or damage to plants and wildlife. There has been lots of interest from people wanting to see more horse logging and we plan to hold some demonstrations later this year.

Drainage mill restoration

Our drainage mill restoration projects are well underway with workshop and site work happening over the summer. Students from City College Norwich have been volunteering their time during the summer break, coming into the college workshops to work with Sean, our Heritage Skills Training Supervisor. They have been busy fabricating new windows and doors for North Mill, Reedham and Six Mile House, Halvergate.

Work has also started on site at North Mill. The site fencing is up, along with the scaffolding and Sean has been busy installing lintels and repairing brick work ready for the installation of door and window frames. North mill is the smallest drainage mill in the Broads and is a good structure to test our repair methods before moving on to bigger projects in the Autumn.





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Norwich Start Club

We thrilled to be working with the Start Club at Norwich Castle from Spring 2019 on a series of Broads based art projects for local children at Key Stages 1-3. The first will focus on the collection of Broads Paintings at the Castle and we will take the groups out on the water to experience the landscape for themselves. We're looking forward to seeing their own creative responses to the trip in an exhibition of their work next Summer.

Grand for a grand idea

Our community grant fund is open to community groups and local organisations and funding on offer ranges from: £100 to £5000. Decide how much you want to apply for and complete an application form. Guidance notes and application forms are online [www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk/grants](http://www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk/grants)

So far we have funded two projects under £1k:

- Somerleyton Primary School for a National Park exchange visit with South Downs National Park
- Norfolk and Norwich Sonic Arts Collective for a podcast based on a journey from Norwich to Great Yarmouth – more info below.

We have also received applications for grants over £1k. These applications are decided by the WMM Board which meet at the end of September.

Grant applications can be submitted at any time. More information on our website and lots of help available if you are new to applying for funding

Soundscape Podcast

Funded through our Grand for a grand idea project, the Norfolk and Norwich Sonic Arts Collective are launching a soundscape podcast of the train journey from Great Yarmouth to Norwich (via Berney Arms). The podcast reflects the wild beauty of this iconic landscape including the Halvergate Marshes and several of the eye-catching mills. Featuring the voices of naturalist Mark Cocker and author Jean McNeil, the podcast also includes music from the Happy Couple. The launch date will be announced shortly and there will also be a chance to enjoy it as part of the next Norfolk & Norwich Festival.



NUA Rural Exhibition

Illustration students from Norwich University of the Arts have collaborated with the Water, Mills and Marshes team to make images, objects and animations in response to the people, places and processes of 'Water, Mills and Marshes'. Fed by oral histories, field trips and WMM's rich source material, the students have developed illustrative works in a range of media, including drawing, animation, painting, printmaking, costume and collage – aiming to awaken a relationship to the Broads.

The unique works went on public display at Dove Street Studios, Norwich in May and received excellent reviews. See the students work in our online gallery [here](#)

The WMM team are continuing to work with this group of students as they progress into their 3rd year and we will be working with NUA tutors to explore wider opportunities in the 2018/19 academic year.





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## Social media

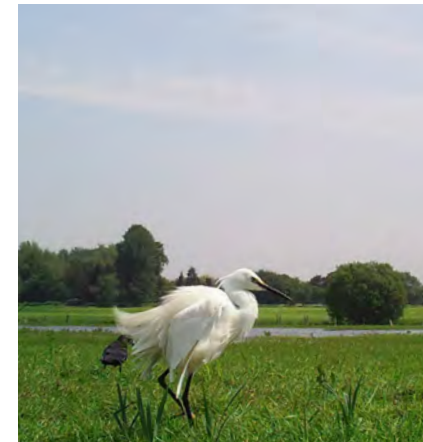
Check for #BroadsHiddenHistory on Facebook and Twitter over the coming months for updates on opportunities to participate with these projects.

## Broads Hidden Heritage

More than 100 people gathered on Saturday June 30th for the launch of our Broads Hidden Heritage projects which are investigating the archaeology and heritage of the Broads, rivers and marshes of the project area. The afternoon was kicked off by UEA Prof. Rob Liddiard, who spoke about the wartime heritage of the Broads and the importance of towns like Acle, Beccles, Loddon and St. Olaves in defending the country against possible invasion, the unique physical remains of fortifications found only in the Broads region, and the questions that have yet to be answered about what happened at home during the Second World War.

Sophie Tremlett gave a great talk about aerial archaeology in the Broads, and the importance of using LiDAR and aerial imagery in locating sites on the marshes. Alison Yardy spoke about the history of the waterways of the Broads, detailing some of the “lost” dykes and navigable water features that were once present across the area but now missing, the state of the last remaining Keel boat, and historic boat yard sites.

Sophie Cabot announced the first of a series of free Community Archaeology training events, which quickly booked up. We will be offering more of these over the coming years, repeating sessions as demand requires. Finally, UEA's own Tom Williamson spoke about the archaeology of the Broads landscape and what exactly makes this area so special and unique in the world. We are excited at the thought of what will be discovered over the coming years from these projects.



## Wild Watch

Since launching at the beginning of May this year, more than 60 people have checked out a camera trap as part of the Wild Watch programme. The free to borrow camera kits contain everything necessary to photograph and capture video of the animals living and visiting in back gardens, school grounds and nature reserves across the area. Images of birds, hedgehogs, Chinese Water Deer, pheasants, badgers and otters have all been captured by these cameras and posted on the Wild Watch Flickr page. Cameras are available for free from one of our five loan centres. To learn more and reserve yours, visit [www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk/wildwatch](http://www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk/wildwatch)



## Burgh Castle Almanac

The Burgh Castle Almanac is a wellbeing project based around archaeology, heritage and creative use of the arts. Every fortnight participants of the Burgh Castle Almanac project meet at either the Time & Tide Museum in Great Yarmouth or at Burgh Castle to take part in sessions exploring the archaeology, history and environment of the Burgh Castle site, and working with facilitators to interpret their experiences with the site in new, creative and engaging ways. Recent sessions have included a photography workshop, wildflower and butterfly identifications, and ragwort pulling with the Great Yarmouth Green Gym. You can follow along with the project and check out the astounding art being produced by the participants on the projects website [www.burghcastlealmanac.org](http://www.burghcastlealmanac.org)





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### Keep in touch

Project information, galleries, maps and event calendar is on our website  
[watermillsandmarshes.org.uk](http://watermillsandmarshes.org.uk)

And find regular updates via social media:

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/Broads\\_LPS](https://twitter.com/Broads_LPS)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/WaterMillsandMarshes/](https://www.facebook.com/WaterMillsandMarshes/)

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/channel/UCbma\\_7-l-sokaExkKxitjxw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbma_7-l-sokaExkKxitjxw)

**Flickr:** [www.flickr.com/photos/watermillsandmarshes/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/watermillsandmarshes/)

### Contact us:

Phone: 01603 610734 and ask to speak to a member of the Water, Mills and Marshes team

**Email:** [will.burchnell@broads-authority.gov.uk](mailto:will.burchnell@broads-authority.gov.uk)

or via social media or the website contact form.

## AR Sandbox

Our brand new Augmented Reality Sandbox made its debut at the Royal Norfolk show in June. It was a big hit with everyone from the youngest students to families and grandparents, who all dug their own hills and valleys, then flooded them with virtual water, all the while learning about how landforms affect the flow of water across the landscape. The AR Sandbox is a fun and interactive tool which teaches concepts related to geography, hydrology, topography and geomorphology. It uses a 3D camera and a projector to create live topographic mapping onto a sand surface. People can then hold their hand over the box to make a virtual rain cloud which creates computer generated water that accurately flows across the sand. We'll be looking to bring this fantastic tool to new places across the Broads in the coming months, as well as working with students from NUA to create new and interesting ways to engage people. The AR Sandbox is funded by Love the Broads, The Broads Authority, The Water Management Alliance and Water Mills & Marshes. If you want to use the sand box, please get in touch.

