



POST BOX

Letters to the editor

▶ *Well deserved recognition for Flinders*

A friend has just sent me a copy of 'Lincolnshire Life' and I was very pleased to see your article on Matthew Flinders in the May edition. I go to Australia a lot and was there during 2003 - the bicentenary of Flinders' circumnavigation and mapping of the coast of Australia.

I was so taken by his work that I visited the Australian National Archive in Sydney, where a lot of information about Matthew Flinders is kept including the ship's log for his voyage, and as a result made a short documentary on the voyage. The video received an award in the Cheadle and Gatley Video Club here south of Manchester.

For some time I have been trying to get the BBC to put something together because nothing has appeared on UK TV about the man. There was a short talk on radio but that was all.

Its interesting that everywhere in Australia you travel there is some mention of Matthew Flinders or something is named after him. Thanks again for the article.

Don Hyde, Chairman,
The Lancastrian Theatre Organ
Trust, www.voxlancastria.org.uk

▶ *Riseholme disappointment*

On a recent visit to Riseholme we noticed that the plant centre has now closed. This was an excellent place to buy plants, trees and shrubs and I know that horticulture played a big part in the curriculum at the college. Surely this is a retrograde step at a time when horticulture is at its zenith.

We always used to think that Riseholme was our college, where we could go to study and enjoy all sorts of different courses on a number of subjects.

It would appear that the college, now part of Lincoln University, is now a 'closed shop' to local residents. And surely we are paying for this through taxes, at least in part.

What do other readers think?

Mrs Barbara Mumford,
West Torrington, Lincoln.

▶ *Scrembly Open Gardens*

Our open gardens afternoon went wonderfully well - we couldn't have asked

for better weather and were delighted to have an excellent turn-out of very enthusiastic visitors, who seemed to enjoy everything on offer. I was somewhat astonished to receive an anonymous 'thank you' letter from one of the many visitors (addressed to The Lady of the Manor!) who 'thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful gardens and lovely church' and said that the "meringues and strawberries would take a good medal anywhere"! Nice to have such contented customers.

We raised £1,700 for the Church Restoration Fund, which will go a long way towards footing the bill for repainting the interior of the church, which hopefully will happen as soon as we receive the necessary permissions. We had visitors from far and wide, many of whom had never been to Scrembly before, and I think we have Steffie Shields' article in the June edition of 'Lincolnshire Life' to thank for that.

Liz Drake, Scrembly

▶ *It started with 'Lincolnshire Life'*

I have just had my latest book published, the 'Supermarket Own Brand Guide' but thought you would like to know that it all started at Lincolnshire Life.

I can't remember how it came about - I was purely a food and drink taster then - but I was asked to write an article of around 1,000 words on the Bishop's Vineyard for the magazine in around 1994/5.

It took me two days to research and write the article. I posted it off - to the then editor with my invoice for £250 plus travel expenses. His reply was... sorry we only pay £25!

However, he did conclude with... you are good enough to write for a national... I took his advice, and a few months later became the drink columnist for 'Scotland on Sunday' and went on to publish several books.

Martin Isark, Food and drink journalist, taster and author, via email.

▶ *The Nocton garden boy*

I assume that Canon Hanson was referring to Field Marshal Sir William Robertson who was born in 1860 at Welbourn. Enlisting as a private at the age

of seventeen, he was the first man to have risen from the lowest to the most senior rank in the British army.

Eleanor Kenyon,
Newcastle upon Tyne

In the village of Welbourn, on a cottage, is a plaque naming it as the birthplace of Field Marshal Robertson. I believe that when he was a private he said: "Every soldier has a field marshal's baton in his knapsack."

I do not know if he was a garden boy at Nocton.

D Eileen Lingard, Lincoln.

▶ *Lincolnshire Wagoners' memorial?*

I have a friend in Suffolk seeking information about the 'Lincolnshire Wagoners' memorial' in one of the Wold parishes. I have drawn a blank from local enquiries. If any readers have any information about this, please could they send this to 'Lincolnshire Life' magazine.

H A Hooton, Horncastle.

▶ *Marvellous Mablethorpe*

I had to write and tell you how much I love your wonderful county. My husband and I are very keen travellers and during our lives have been fortunate enough to visit many different parts of the world. However, this summer, while visiting relatives in Lincolnshire we spent a few days and Mablethorpe and were astonished at how lovely it was and how well it compared with many of the places we have visited abroad.

The weather was wonderful with a sea breeze taking the edge off the heat of the sun, the beach was huge and clean and the cafés in the town most reasonably priced. Next year we may have a rethink about where we spend our holidays.

Mrs A Heathcote, Bath, Somerset.

If you would like to contribute to this page please address your letters to: The Editor, Lincolnshire Life, County House, 9 Checkpoint Court, Sadler Road, Lincoln, LN6 3PW or email us on editorial@lincolnshirelife.co.uk For more information about 'Lincolnshire Life' visit our website on www.lincolnshirelife.co.uk