

Life in Lin

Keep in touch with what's ha

WASH PROJECT OFFICER PLANS BUSY FIRST YEAR



The fragile environment around The Wash is to be further safeguarded MIKE COWEN

An annual forum at which all people can air their views about The Wash is to be resurrected by Tammy Smalley, the new Wash Estuary project officer. She is also planning to publish 'The Tide and Times of the Wash' newsletter along with an events calendar.

Born and brought up in Skegness, Tammy has worked and travelled throughout Britain and overseas but is glad to be home and in a position in which she can safeguard the county's environment.

In her first year she plans to review the Wash Estuary Management Plan, publish the first phase of The Wash Local Biodiversity Action Plan and generally help to raise awareness of The Wash and the facilities already there.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY CELEBRATES

Members of Lincoln Engineering Society are celebrating their eightieth birthday this month. The society's first meeting took the form of a smoking concert in Lincoln's Constitution Club, attended by more than 200 men.

They came from all the city's great engineering works – Ruston & Hornsby, Robeys, William Fosters, Clayton & Shuttleworth, Clarkes Crank and Forge and the City Engineers were included among their employers. Their first president was Victor Bone of Ruston & Hornsby and Sir William Tritton and Louis Smith were vice presidents.

Engineering in the city has now declined and the society has 100 members many of whom are retired. The longest serving has been a member for fifty-five years.

To commemorate its eighty years, people with any reminiscences, anecdotes, photographs, etc, relating to the society are asked to get in touch with Neville Birch on 01522 881281.



Early days in Lincoln's engineering history

CASH HELP FOR HISTORIC METHODIST CHURCH

Market Rasen Methodist Church has received a grant of £10,000 under the Single Regeneration Budget Challenge Fund.

Superintendent Minister, the Revd Liz Smith, said: "I am delighted with the grant money we have received.

"The funding will contribute towards the cost of repair work to the pillars and the portico. This work is necessary to ensure safe access for the public to our building as we endeavour to open it up for greater community use."

The church was built in 1863 and is a Grade II listed building.

Market Rasen has also been awarded £60,000 from the Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme which together with a further £60,000 from the Rural Tourism Development Area Partnership and match funding of £121,700 from property owners will be used to refurbish commercial properties, bringing them back into use.



Market Rasen Methodist Church JOHN WHITAKER

REWRITING HISTORY ALONG THE TRENT VALLEY

A major £277,000 archaeological project has begun which aims to travel back as far as the Ice Age and unlock 10,000 years of secrets of the Trent Valley.

The Valley, which has a section in Lincolnshire, is rich in archaeological sites and remains, many of major importance. 'Trent Valley 2002' which will be completed by March 2004, includes eleven individual schemes one of which will involve mapping ancient river

channels from aerial photographs.

The project will culminate in a major regional conference about the findings, which will be held early in 2004.

The Trent Valley is one of the major past, present and future sources of aggregates in the country and the project is being funded by money from English Heritage's allocation of the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund.



The confluence of the Trent and Humber in North Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire

happening around your county

WORK BEGINS ON LANDMARK BRIDGE

Changes in temperature and heavy lorries have taken their toll on one of the county's more unusual bridges.

Cross Keys Swing Bridge, a Grade II* listed bridge built between 1894-7, carries the A17 over the River Nene at Sutton Bridge. But currently, the hydraulic swing-bridge section experiences a 'lock up' problem when it expands in high temperatures. This has been exacerbated by the braking of heavy lorries which has moved the fixed section of the bridge towards the swing section.

The bridge must be opened at any time at the request of shipping – in 2002 this happened 271 times mainly due to the increase in marina activity.

Work on the bridge will take twelve weeks from this month with road and

lane closures taking place at night. When the scheme is finished it should alleviate the locking-up problems and prevent traffic from taking a thirty-mile diversion.



Cross Keys swing bridge at Sutton Bridge JOHN SMITH

RESIDENTS SAVING TOWN'S HISTORIC BUILDING

Residents in Long Sutton have got together to save one of the town's historic buildings.

The Long Sutton Market House and Corn Exchange was originally built in 1856 at a cost of £1,200. In the 1920s it became a garage and later a stone mason's. For the last ten years it has been falling into decline.

Now the Long Sutton Market House Trust has been formed and secured nearly £700,000 through a variety of Government organisations and European grants. They are still seeking to raise a further £100,000 to achieve the total renovation costs. When the work is finished, the building will be a vibrant new centre which will include a community room, educational facilities run by Boston College, a Tourist Information Centre, a Register Office, library and heritage archives.

The plans also include the rebuilding of adjacent properties to provide affordable housing.

If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact the Long Sutton Market Trust on 01406 363208.



The carved, glue-laminated wooden truss supports are believed to be the earliest of their type in Britain

MORRIS MEN REVIVE OLD DANCE



A traditional Lincolnshire dancing style which died out a century ago is being revived by a Retford-based Morris dancing group.

Rattlejag Morris were formed just over a year ago with the intention of reviving a dance style that was peculiar to the North Lincolnshire, North Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire area. The style was closely associated with the Plough Monday celebrations performed by Plough jags, another term for agricultural labourers.

The group would be very interested to hear from any readers who have any personal recollections of having seen dancers in their area or can recall any reminiscences passed on to them by older people about local dance and Plough Monday traditions.

Please contact Paul Blatherwick on 01777 700062 if you are able to help.



Rattlejag Morris performing their traditional Lincolnshire dances

TRUMPETER CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS

A Lincoln musician is celebrating fifty years of playing fanfares at many of the city and county's great occasions.

Geoff Moralee MBE has been a High Sheriff's trumpeter since 1953 and in this role has fanfared judges into the Judges' Lodgings and the courts. Over the years, the High Sheriff's trumpeters have played fanfares at the opening of the Killingholme oil refineries, medieval banquets, royal visits, mayor-making ceremonies and numerous events organised by High Sheriffs.

A lifelong Lincoln resident, Mr Moralee's musical career began when he was eleven when he joined the Ruston Engineers Prize Silver Band. He has also been musical director of the Market Rasen Band, the Horncastle Silver Band and the Barton on Humber Band. For the last twenty years he has been musical director of the Lincoln Beever Band, a youth band which has won many awards.

He was awarded a Civic Award Commendation in 1991, the Mayor's Medal and the MBE in 1977.

Retiring High Sheriff Richard Ferens (left) presenting Geoff Moralee with a commemorative clock watched by past High Sheriffs

