

Life in Lin

Keep in touch with what's happening

GARDEN PONDS HEDGEHOG DEATHTRAP WARNING



Hedgehogs are endangered by garden ponds

Two county wildlife charities are increasingly worried over the number of hedgehogs drowning in steep-sided garden ponds. In one week alone, Authorpe based Hedgehog Care received eight reports of drowned hedgehogs and as the majority of deaths go unreported, the true figure is probably much higher.

The charity's Elaine Drewery said a hedgehog's spines acted like a life jacket enabling them to swim. "They can get out of natural ponds with shallow, sloping sides but there is no escape from a pond with steep sides," she said.

Mrs Drewery is asking if keen DIY-ers have ideas for an invention which will enable hedgehogs to escape. "A plank leading out of the water is not enough. Hedgehogs can't grip the wood and need footholds," she said.

If you can help, please contact her on 01507 450221.

Rachel Shaw of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust said: "Hedgehogs are popular animals but we do create a lot of dangers for them."

BREWERY BOOST FOR STABLE LADS

Market Rasen Racecourse has joined forces with Bateman's Brewery to reward stable lads for their hard work throughout the year. The Best Turned Out awards will be presented for every race and the training yard receiving the highest number throughout the season will be given beer from Bateman's Brewery with supporting prizes for second and third training yards.

In addition, the sixteen-bed Stable Lads' Hostel has been refurbished, and includes creature comforts as well as updated decor.

Racecourse manager Pip Adams said: "We are delighted that Bateman's Brewery are joining us with this initiative, and feel that it is well overdue that stable lads are recognised for all their hard work. They will be able to stay in comfort at Market Rasen as well as having the opportunity to compete for an excellent party!"



Awards will now be given for the best turned out horses at Market Rasen

SAILS WILL TURN AGAIN AT MOULTON MILL

The sails will turn again on Moulton Mill thanks to a grant of £702,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The sails have been missing from Moulton Mill for over 100 years after they were blown off in the gales of 1895 but now plans are under way to restore the local landmark to full wind power. The facilities will promote Lincolnshire's heritage with disabled access to a set of working stones. School parties will be given demonstrations of milling techniques and tea rooms will provide welcome refreshments for visitors.

The project was initiated by the owners of the Mill, Broadgate Builders and the Lincolnshire Mills Group who held a public meeting in the village in 1998. Moulton Windmill Project has secured a lease for 200 years from Broadgate Builders and needs to raise £900,000. The company has been supported in its work by the Friends of Moulton Mill and together they have driven the project forward with local volunteers.

The mill, a Grade One listed building, is on the English Heritage list of Buildings at Risk. This was set up to raise awareness of important buildings and hopefully prevent them being lost to future generations through neglect or decay.



Saved for the future: Moulton Windmill

Lincolnshire

happening around your county

'REFLECTIONS' RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY



Caroline McCausland (left) and Mary Sheepsbanks at Culverthorpe Hall

Soprano Caroline McCausland and author Mary Sheepsbanks joined forces to present 'Reflections' a performance of words and music in aid of the Elizabeth Finn Trust.

The event took place at Culverthorpe Hall, near Sleaford and was organised by the charity's Lincolnshire Committee. The Trust, formerly the Distressed Gentlefolks' Association, exists to help professional people who are experiencing difficulties in their lives brought about through ill-health or age.

The event featured a variety of songs in English, French and Spanish, sung by Caroline who accompanied herself on the classical guitar.

Mary's poetry was a delight, reflecting the joy of nature and emotional experiences and the performances of both were well received by an enthusiastic audience.

MAYOR AND SHERIFF GET ROUND TO CONTEST

The Mayor of Lincoln, Councillor Gary Hewson, and the City Sheriff, Jeff Boyall, challenged each other to a friendly match during the recent World Circular Chess Championship in Lincoln.

Both accepted an invitation to open the event at Edward King House and then stayed to join in the first round of the tournament.

Councillor Hewson, who told competitors, guests and spectators that he had not played a game of chess since his schooldays, won the game against Mr Boyall with a well-positioned check-mate.

Circular chess is a variation of the traditional game and was revived in Lincoln in the mid-1980s by amateur historian David Reynolds. He found a reference to a circular version of chess reputedly played in Byzantine times, the eleventh century, and decided to manufacture a board with the City of Lincoln crest.

The latest Lincoln tournament, the eighth, was won by Peterborough engineer Francis Bowers. Competitors came from all over Europe to take part.

The event was sponsored by Lindum Group director Herman Kok and Beaver Design pine furniture businessman Eamonn Hunt.



'DRAGON' DISCOVERED ON BUILDING SITE

A late Norman dragon's head has been unearthed in Lincoln at the site of a former garage.

Grimsby-based Cherry Tree Homes has been demolishing the former Eastgate Motors in Wragby Road prior to the construction of a multi-million pound apartment block. Due to the history of the site, Saxilby based Pre-Construct Archaeology has been excavating. As well as the 850-year-old dragon's head, the dig has yielded a kiln, which could possibly have been a bread oven, a silver coin and grains of wheat.



The head was dated to the twelfth century by expert in medieval architecture, Dr Catharine Richards. "The site is next to where the former St Leonard's Church stood so it could have come from there," she said. Originally, the head would have been in an arch across a doorway or a window. Cherry Tree Homes are planning to put the finds on display in the new apartments.

The twelfth-century dragon's head unearthed on a Lincoln building site