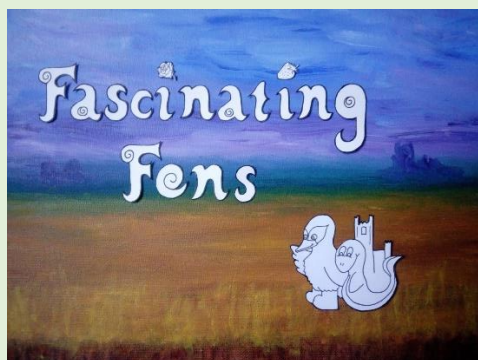




Newsletter

June 2023

Edition Twelve

Welcome: to the twelfth e-newsletter from Fascinating Fens. If you love the fens as much as we do, please continue to receive this free quarterly newsletter. It will be full of fen facts, fen festivals, places to visit, events and promotions. If quarterly is not enough for your fen updates, then follow us on Twitter, Facebook or our blog www.fascinatingfens.com. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter by writing an article or being an editor, please get in touch. The newsletter will be published in June, September, December and March, all articles must come to us by the end of the previous month. If you would like to sponsor this newsletter or other Fascinating Fens projects, then please see the section about sponsorship in this newsletter. Above all, we would love it if people could get involved, as this newsletter is for you.

In this newsletter....

- Celebrate the Fens Day 2023
- Open days
- Guided Walks
- Other activities
- Fen Flag
- Fen Folk Fridays: updates
- Volunteering and sponsorship opportunities

An Introduction to Fascinating Fens:

Fascinating Fens believes in engaging communities to promote and explore the fens through heritage, creativity, nature, wellbeing and accessibility. Fascinating Fens has continued to gain momentum with projects such as "Celebrate the Fens day", "Fen 2024 calendar", "Fen Folks Fridays", colouring competitions/challenges, story reading events, Fascinating Fens Tails, and the giant community lockdown eel. These projects are voluntary. Please continue to get involved and I love seeing your photos on social media.



Happy

Celebrate the Fens day:

17th June 2022

Celebrate the Fens

Weekend 16th -18th June

#CelebrateTheFens

How will you Celebrate??

Here are some ideas...



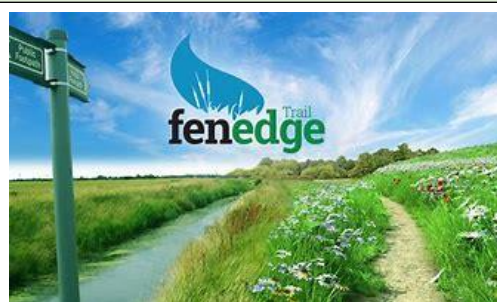
Crowland Abbey Open Day:

Join Crowland Abbey's Open day featuring: Bell ringing demonstrations, inside & outside guided tours, churchyard guided tours, tower tours, children's trails (Inside & Outside), display of historical documents, and refreshments. 17th June 10am -4pm.

Hereward the Wake will visit at 1-2pm.

Hereward the Wake

Come and meet our Fen Hero. Hereward the Wake will be visiting Ramsey gatehouse at 10-11am, Thorney Abbey at 11.30-12, Thorney Museum at 12-12.30, and Crowland Abbey at 1-2pm, on Saturday 17th June. No booking required.



Cambridge guided Fen Edge Trail walking tour:

Join Cambs Geological Society for a guided walk on the Fen Edge Trail in Cambridge, taking in cultural history, fenland landscape and geology, 10.30-1pm, Saturday 17th June. Please book by emailing: info@cambsgeology.org

Chatteris Little Acre Pocket Park Nature guided walking tour:

Saturday 17th June, 10am - 4pm. A lovely nature walking tour exploring Chatteris Little Acre. Free walking nature tours. Please pre-book: by contacting Ian Mason by phone: 07979 334833



Kings Lynn guided River walk:

Saturday 17th June, 10am - 1pm. A delightful tour with a tour of the town from both banks of the River Great Ouse. Please meet at Kings Lynn Market Place and see website for more details.

Spalding Gentlemen's Society:

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th June, 11am -4pm: free Open day, exploring the museum, and archives relating to the Adventurers (Hawkes, Grundy) . No booking required.





The Great Fen Nature Guided Walk:

Sunday 18th June, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Join a wonderful guided walking nature tour around beautiful Woodwalton Fen Nature Reserve, one of the oldest reserves in England. Please book in advance, see www.wildbcn.org

New Life on the Old West

Join Cambs Acre for their 'New Life Old West' project, Sunday 18th June, 7-8pm. A virtual talk on how the Cambs Fens have changed through time. Link available via their website.



Wisbech Community Hub Pop up exhibition

Visit our pop-up exhibition for fen photos and paintings/pictures at the Wisbech Hub (Octavia Hill Birthplace), please see opening times on website. If you want to enter a piece, please contact Lorena on info@octaviahill.org

Transported

Join Transported in Spalding on Saturday 17th June between 10am-4pm, for its free community arts projects. No booking required, for more details please see our website.



Boston Stump

Join in at the Boston Stump Community Gardens on Saturday 17th, 10am -2pm for their Family Fun Day, including nature crafts

St Germans Pumping Station

Saturday 17th June, 11am – 12pm and 1pm-2pm, a guided tour of the pumping station, please book in advance



Boston Ramblers

Join Boston Ramblers at Market Deeping for a ramble, Sunday 18th June, 10.30-3pm. Please see website for more info.



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Discover Downham:



Saturday 17th June 10-1. Visit Discover Downham in Downham Market for their heritage centre and exhibition about the railway

CPP Market place

Will be getting involved with a creative project, please see our website for more information

March Society

Walking historic tour around March, learning about the buildings. Saturday 17th June, please see website for details.

Fen
Folks Friday



Fen Folks Fridays:

Do you love the fens? If so, join our free friendly monthly zoom "Fen Folks Fridays" to meet others who share your interest. Each meeting will include a speaker about topics relating to the fens. If you are new to zoom, please feel free to email me prior to the event as I'm happy to practice a little with you first online. It will also include updates of forthcoming events and activities in the fens. Please book in advance via our website.

The Fens Calendar competition 2024:

Calling fen folk who love taking photos. Join in with our free fen calendar competition which closes 18th June 2023.



Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire Libraries:

Visit for fen themed books and displays, exhibitions and talks (please see your local library for their activity, as activities will vary)

Upcoming Fen Folks Friday dates for your diary:

June 16th: Francis Pryor helps us to launch Celebrate the Fens Weekend, along with other Famous guests, poetry, and a round roundup of activities for the weekend of Celebration.

We'll have a break for July and August, and will re-start in September, if you'd like to give a talk for our next season, please get in touch.

Other things to do in the Fens for Celebrate the fens day:

Virtual activities on our website, songs, virtual tours (Wisbech tunnels and Wisbech Art Space virtual gallery), self-guided walking tours, you tube videos relating to the fens from followers or visit your favourite fen place.

Other Fen Museums:

Visit Wisbech and Fenland Museum, March Museum, Thorney Museum, Peterborough, Ely Museum, Denny Abbey Farm, Ramsey Farm museum, and Discover Downham and more during the weekend (please check their website for opening times/costs)

Huge Thank you:

A huge thank you to everyone who has put on an event, activity or has got involved in some way in the background. Also a great big thankyou to everyone getting involved over the weekend, joining in or using the hashtag #CelebrateTheFens. It is all of you who have this community celebrate possible.

Fenland Flag:

Perhaps you have seen the Fenland flag on your travels, featuring the Fen Tiger that is the symbol of the area. Why not display one yourself on Celebrate the Fens Day? You can get a free sticker (front or back-adhesive) by contacting the Fenland Flag page on Facebook. A large range of clothing, badges, patches, fridge magnets and other merchandise is available from the FOTF Merchandise page, also on Facebook. You can buy a flag, large or small, from Flying Colours Flagmakers in Knaresborough or from Mr Flag or Red Dragon Flagmakers, both in Swansea.



Fen Galleries:

There are many Fen galleries open for free this weekend, please see their website for details including: Babylon Ely, and Haddenham Galleries.

“The Fens” Shop

Visit our Fascinating Fens shop online. Unique fen gifts and souvenirs, the items change regularly. All items relate to the fens in some way. A proportion of each item sold goes to Fascinating Fens projects. If you are a fen artist, photographer, crafter, then get in touch if you would like to sell via our website or have a link to your fen gifts.

Fen Markets

Why not visit a fen market during fens weekend such as Long Sutton, Boston, Kings Lynn, Wisbech, Ely, or Downham Market.

Volunteer with Fascinating Fens....

If you love the fens and like the type of thing Fascinating Fens is trying to achieve, why not volunteer with us to promote and explore the fens? You can spend as much or as little time as you wish, helping with our projects. Please get touch.

Sponsor Fascinating Fens....

If you own a business/company in the fens why not sponsor one of our projects. Your sponsorship would help our current projects continue and help to develop further new projects. In return you will receive advertisements in our newsletter, website and social media. Please get in touch for more details

Thank you for reading this newsletter. We hope you have enjoyed it. Look out for the September edition (our newsletter's second anniversary!). Feel free to print this newsletter for you customers/clients/visitors or email to friends. Get in touch if you have any ideas for this newsletter, photos, articles (approx. 250 words) or forthcoming events.