Wilder Ancholme
Rediscovering and Rewilding a ‘Lost Landscape’: Lincolnshire’s Ancholme Valley

Discovery Workshop Diary 2020
*Pre-booking essential for this event

February
Wilder Ancholme Project Launch – Open Drop in Session
Saturday 22nd February, 10.15am-2.30pm
We’d love it if you could join us at the Wilder Ancholme Heritage Lottery funded project launch. Operating across the Ancholme Valley, this 18-month project is working with the community to explore the Ancholme Valley’s past, present and future. Meet the project team and partner organisations. On the day:
- Get more information about and book onto the free discovery workshops;
- Record oral histories with North Lincolnshire Museum;
- Learn about and handle Ancholme archaeological finds;
- Learn about the wildlife of the valley and some of the in place and planned initiatives to help it from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust’s Ancholme Living Landscape to Winteringham Village Conservancy.
Where: the Buttercross, Brigg Heritage Centre, Brigg
Accessibility: Easy (lift available)

March
Introduction to Maps and Digital Mapping*
24th March 10.30am to 3pm
Suitable for beginners, this workshop will introduce people to digital mapping from looking at different base maps, to starting plotting features with GPS and then using an open-source mapping package (QGIS) to create maps from the data collected. There will be follow-on workshops on other aspects of digital mapping including geo-referencing old maps and plans (dates to be advised).
Where: Appleby Village Hall
Accessibility: Easy. Indoor presentations with short walk outside to gather GPS plots.

April
Introduction to Bat Ecology & Surveying*
Thursday 23 April 5-9pm
Come and join Greg Slack, South Yorkshire Bat Group, to learn about some of the Ancholme Valley’s nocturnal residents! Suitable for beginners, join us for a fascinating introduction to the ecology of UK bat species and surveying techniques using bat detectors and acoustic lures. The indoor session will be followed by a bat walk in Broughton Woods so please wear warm clothes and stout footwear and bring a torch and headphones.
Where: Broughton
Difficulty: Medium. Indoor presentation followed by walk.

May
Evening Chorus & Wildlife Photography Walk*
Sunday 3rd May 5-7pm
On ‘Dawn Chorus Day’ join us for our alternative ‘Evening Chorus’ with local birdwatcher and photographer Graham Catley. Discover and photograph some of the birds at Bonby Carrs, one of the Ancholme Valley’s most extensive wet grassland habitats. Wear warm clothes & waterproof boots / wellies.

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Where: Bonby Carrs  
Difficulty: Medium – 2.5 mile walk across level terrain but uneven ground with frequent stops.

Meet the Project: Wilder Ancholme Stall at Brigg Live Arts Festival  
Saturday 9th May  
We will be having a display and stall including children’s activities at the Parish Church in Brigg.

Rewilding 2020 – A Wilder Ancholme Valley*  
Wednesday 13th May 10.30am – 1.30pm  
Join Professor Ian Rotherham and the project team for a morning of talks and discussion linked to the topics of nature recovery and rewilding. Our two main speakers are Jeremy Purseglove (Working with Nature) and Philip Lymbery (Rewilding the Soil) and we will be joined by Rewilding 2020 conference delegates from around the UK.  
Where: Sir John Nelthorpe School, Brigg  
Difficulty: Easy.

Heritage, wildlife & Management of Broughton Far Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest*  
Sunday 24th May 1pm -3.30pm  
Discover a nationally important ancient semi-natural woodland, Broughton Far Wood. A fantastic opportunity to join Professor Ian Rotherham (joined by woodland owner & Kevin Leahy, local archaeologist) to learn about the heritage, wildlife and management of this wonderful woodland.  
Where: Broughton Far Wood  
Difficulty: Medium – ~ 3 mile walk across level terrain but uneven ground with frequent stops

June  
Dryland Flora & Fauna (BioBlitz)  
Saturday 6th June, 6am-10pm  
Celebrate Caring for God’s Acre Love Your Burial Ground Week with us and come along from early morning to night to meet specialists and record wildlife throughout the day. From botany to bees, butterflies to bats, moths to mycelium (fungi!), we’re trying to celebrate and record it all! Provisionally includes opportunities to explore local wildflower rich meadows.  
Where: Saxby-All-Saints Church  
Difficulty: Easy

Big Balsam Bash (Conservation Volunteering Opportunity)  
Date to be confirmed  
A chance to get active and help manage this invasive plant, originating from the Himalayas.  
Where: Broughton Wood  
Difficulty: Medium

Wild about Winteringham  
Date to be confirmed  
In partnership with the Winteringham Village Conservancy, we are celebrating the flora and fauna of wonderful Winteringham.  
Where: Winteringham  
Difficulty: Easy

Discovering Local Histories*  
Date to be confirmed  
An informal workshop session looking at some of the local history material from around the Ancholme Valley. This will be a starting point to uncover new stories and sources of information to carry on the local history journey. We’ll look at different types of information and the sources used and how these can be collected and collated. Suitable for beginners.  
Where: Brigg Heritage Centre  
Difficulty: Easy (indoor session)
July
Dragonfly Walk
Sunday 5th July, 11-12.30pm & 2-3.30pm
Join British Dragonfly Society’s Fiona McKenna & Steve Routledge for an amble along the Ancholme. A family friendly event suitable for buggies. Dragonfly crafts at the Heritage Centre afterwards.
Where: Meet at Brigg Heritage Centre and walk to Bridge Road and back
Difficulty: Easy

Heritage Landscape Discovery Day 1: Drainage, river channels, ponds and wetlands
Date to be confirmed
Learn about the history of drainage in the Ancholme Valley and visit a section of the old and new Ancholme river channels.
Where: South Ferriby Village (to be confirmed) and section of the valley between South Ferriby and Appleby.
Difficulty: Medium – indoor presentation followed by outdoor walk across uneven ground

Meet the Project: Date to be confirmed
We will be having a display and stall at the Water’s Edge Country Park event in Barton-on-Humber.

August
Heritage Landscape Discovery Day 2: Decoys in and around the Ancholme Valley*
Tuesday 4th August, 6.30 – 8.30pm
Join Professor Ian Rotherham and learn about the fascinating history of decoys. An opportunity to visit and survey a rarely visited decoy on private land.
Where: to be confirmed
Difficulty: Medium – ~ 3 mile walk across level terrain but uneven ground with frequent stops

Forest Bathing: Rewild the Mind, Body & Soul.*
Date to be confirmed
We’re exploring whether there is a demand for forest bathing locally. Whether you work in the medical profession or are self-prescribing, please get in touch and we will work with you to develop a suitable session.

September
Community Archaeology for All: Introduction & Training Day (Day 1 of 3)*
Saturday 12th September, 10am-4pm
A fantastic opportunity to get involved in this exciting and unique Community Archaeology Initiative, led by Dr Kevin Leahy, local archaeologist. The first in a series of three linked workshops, this day will provide an introduction to finds, training on how to dig a test pit and sorting the finds in preparation for the final day of recording the finds. Whether you are an individual, a community group or a school the only requirement is that you have a 1x1m plot which you are willing and able to dig up and that you have an interest in your local heritage! Places will be limited to around 30 plots as archaeologists will be visiting each plot during the ‘Big Test Pit Dig Day’.
Where: The Buttercross, Brigg Heritage Centre (To be confirmed)
Difficulty: Easy (indoor session)

Community Archaeology for All: Big Test Pit Dig Day (Day 2 of 3)*
Saturday 19th September, 10am-4pm
Following on from last week’s Introduction & Training Day, it’s the Big Test Pit Dig Day! A team of local archaeologists are roving the valley to support you while you dig, identify and record your finds.
Capacity: 20-30 pits
Where: Across the Ancholme Valley (north of Brigg to South Ferriby)
Difficulty: Medium (involves digging the ground to 30cm deep and sieving the soil)
Wetland Flora & Fauna (BioBlitz)
Sunday 27th Sunday
On World River’s Day, get involved with the international movement at the mouth of your local river. We will be recording the fauna and flora through the day with a variety of activities.
Where: South Ferriby (details to be confirmed)
Difficulty: Easy – Medium (depending on activity)

October
Community Archaeology: Drop in Finds Day (Day 3 of 3)*
Saturday 3rd October, 10am–4pm
Following on from the Big Test Pit Dig Day, you are invited to come back together to display your finds.
Where: To be confirmed  Difficulty: Easy

Fungi Foray*
Saturday 16th October (to be confirmed)
Delve into the world of fungi with local mycologists.
Where: To be confirmed – suggestions very welcome 😊  Difficulty: To be confirmed

T’witt t’who?: Supporting owls and farmland birds across the Anholme Valley*
Thursday 22nd October, 10am–4pm (to be confirmed)
Join owl expert and former RSPB Farm Conservation Adviser Jim Lennon (& others – provisional) to learn about how to support farmland
Where: Anholme farm with agri-environment scheme  Difficulty: To be confirmed

November
Re-wilding & Tourism Event*
Date & Venue to be confirmed
A 1-day conference bringing together different speakers to look at how tourism, re-wilding and re-purposing nature be developed and support initiatives to lessen the challenges of coping with climate change etc.

Heritage Landscape Discovery Day 3: Farms and Settlements
Date to be confirmed

December 2020 – February 2021
• Winter Bird Migration
• Your Anholme Heritage: Historic Environment Records Centre and Archival Research

For more details and to book your place on any of these events, please see the Wilder Anholme Project pages on our website https://www.ukeconet.org/ancholme.html and our facebook page https://www.facebook.com/WilderAnholme