



PRESS RELEASE:

9th April 2015 for immediate release

Last Chance to Book 'Sandlines' first writing workshop

Get your literary juices flowing in these creative writing workshops, connecting people, landscapes and memories.

Sandlines is set to host four creative writing workshops this Spring and Summer in The Brecks as part of the Breaking New Ground Landscape Partnership Scheme. The workshops connect people and landscape through creative writing. Absolute beginners are welcome as well as more experienced writers. The first of the workshops, 'Forests and Flints', is being held on 22nd April at Santon Downham, and places are still available.

Sandlines invites Brecks residents to come and write in these friendly, inspiring, day-long workshops where we will blend the craft of poetry writing with the craft of reading the landscape. **Sandlines** was developed by Melinda Appleby and Lois Williams to encourage people to explore and understand their local landscape through writing in response to a direct experience of place. Melinda gave short taster sessions at this Easter's Big Brecks Fest, reading from Breckland inspired writing and setting some simple, fun writing exercises. Melinda urged people to get out and explore the Brecklands: "You need to taste the wind on the heath and hear history flowing through rivers if you want to write about landscape."

The other workshops are being held at the BTO, Thetford on 18 May; West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village on 13 June and Brandon Country Park on 15 July.

To book:

Booking is being managed by the Breaking New Ground team. There is a £5 non-refundable registration fee to secure your place.

To book via the website visit:

<http://www.breakingnewground.org.uk/events/sandlines-forests-and-flints/>

Or contact the team directly on 01842 815465

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Notes to Editors

The Breaking New Ground partnership will be delivering a £2.2M scheme with a series of new and exciting landscape and heritage conservation projects for the Brecks, thanks to a £1.5M grant from the Heritage Lottery. The partnership is made up of regional, national and local organisations with an interest in the area, community groups and members of the community and includes:

Suffolk County Council, Norfolk County Council, Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury District Councils, RSPB, Natural England, English Heritage, Forestry Commission, University of East Anglia, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, The Breckland Society, Farm Conservation, Icenian botanic Artists, Green Light Trust, Plantlife, Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership, Orchard Barn Environmental Education CIC, Ancient House Museum

The funding comprises just under £1.5million for delivery of the project with the remainder contributed by the partner organisations and volunteer input.

Breaking New Ground will be hosted by Suffolk County Council at Brandon Country Park which is in the heart of the area and provides a convenient and accessible location for participants and partners, and is the location for a number of public participation events.

The Scheme outputs will concentrate on a 253km² area within the Brecks, including Brandon and Thetford, with the aim of delivering real understanding and changes on the ground. This area encompasses a unique landscape in Britain with an incredible and much overlooked heritage and biodiversity. It has been selected to be a representative core of the whole Brecks area and contains the three main landscape character types of the Brecks, the two main population centres, and the greatest concentration of heritage assets.

See www.breakingnewground.org.uk for more information

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

HLF's Landscape Partnerships are helping bring together members of the community as well as local, regional, and national organisations to deliver schemes which benefit some of the UK's most outstanding landscapes and rural communities. Grants available now range from £100,000 up to £3m.

Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains and transforms a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, we invest in every part of our diverse heritage. HLF has supported 36,000 projects, allocating £5.9billion across the UK. Website: www.hlf.org.uk

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