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Botanical Brecks 2015



Pinelines by Jane Bohn

Breaking New Ground (BNG) and the Iceni Botanical Artists (IBA) are delighted to confirm that the exhibition of paintings created as a result of the 2014 series of Brecks Botanical Art Watercolour Workshops will continue to be available for the public to enjoy. The exhibition, which until recently was on display at Brandon Country Park, will be available for new audiences to enjoy at West Stow Anglo Saxon Village from 25th February until the 27th March. Lance Alexander, TIC & Operations Manager at West Stow Anglo Saxon Village said: "We are very pleased to be able to host the Breaking

New Ground Botanical Art Exhibition at West Stow, and give visitors the chance to see the lovely watercolours depicting some of the beautiful species and landscapes of the Brecks". BNG and IBA will announce further locations for the temporary exhibitions in the future in the press and on their website www.breakingnewground.org.uk. The paintings can also be viewed on the BNG Flickr site www.flickr.com/photos/thebrecksbng/sets/.

The Heritage Lottery Funded Watercolour courses are part of the Breaking New Ground scheme for the Norfolk and Suffolk Brecks have been unique in that the subject matter has focussed on the specialities of the Brecks across a range of subjects including Wildflowers, insects, Pine Lines and Fungi. Participants were also treated to a presentation on the Brecks and the importance of the subject matter by local experts. Feedback on this approach has been incredibly positive and has given many participants a new perspective on the unique Brecks landscape and its importance to many rare species that have their major UK populations occurring there.



Dates for the 2015 workshops can be found on the BNG website www.breakingnewground.org.uk- it is anticipated that the places will be booked very quickly.

Isobel Bartholomew, of The Iceni Botanical Artists Group said "Iceni Botanical Artists very much look forward to the Workshops of 2015 and meeting lots of new people, for an informative and fun day celebrating the diversity of the Brecks landscape"

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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, Iceni 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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