



19 July 2005

Fun, family events at Foxton this summer: RISE AND SHINE AT FOXTON LOCKS

Early birds will get the chance to experience the captivating sights and sounds of Foxton Locks at sunrise on Sunday 31 July, with a special guided walk at dawn and a tasty breakfast to follow!

Those prepared to roll out of bed extra early are invited to join the first guided walk of the morning at 5.15am. For those who prefer to stay in bed a little longer, a second walk will set off at 8.15am.

Both walks will take in the wildlife and amazing countryside scenery of Foxton Locks – one of Leicestershire's most popular visitor destinations and home to the famous Grade II* listed staircase of locks, a scheduled ancient monument and a wide range of wonderful wildlife.

The exercise and country air is sure to work up an appetite, so there will be a hearty breakfast of home-made butties for all who take part.

Tickets for the special guided walks, which will take approximately two hours, cost £6 for adults, £4 for children, £5 for concessions or £20 for a whole family (two adults and up to three children). Booking is essential – call 01908 302500 to book.

The guided walks are part of a series of fun, family events planned at Foxton Locks this summer. Future events include:

- 'Tales from Foxton' guided tours – Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 August
- Afternoon and sunset cruises – Saturday 20 August
- Bats, cheese and wine evening – Friday 26 August

Recent developments at Foxton Locks include the opening of the Foxton Locks Inn and the restoration of the site's Top Lock Cottage, which will soon be opened as an information and refreshment centre.

More follows...

Media Enquiries

South East Waterways Ground Floor Witan Gate House 500-600 Witan Gate Central Milton Keynes MK9 1BW
T 01908 302500 F 01908 302510 E louise.mccarthy@britishwaterways.co.uk
www.britishwaterways.co.uk

In March, the Foxton Locks Partnership was awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £1.78 million towards a planned £2.8 million, 3-year programme to improve access to and restore major elements of the Foxton Locks site.

For more information on Foxton Locks and the Foxton Locks Partnership, visit www.foxtonlocks.com.

Ends

Press and media enquiries: Contact Louise McCarthy, Media & Communications Executive, South East Waterways, on 01908 302560 or 07917 373116, email louise.mccarthy@britishwaterways.co.uk.

Notes to editors

- Digital images to accompany this news release are available. Email louise.mccarthy@britishwaterways.co.uk.
- **British Waterways** is the public corporation responsible for the care and enhancement of the nation's 2,000-mile two centuries old network of canals and rivers, working in partnership with public, private and voluntary organisations to develop and improve the waterways in a sustainable manner. British Waterways' navigations are visited over 400 million times each year accounting for £1.5 billion annual visitor spend. For more information, visit www.britishwaterways.co.uk.
- The **Foxton Locks Partnership** was established in 1996. The Partnership is chaired by British Waterways and includes: The Waterways Trust; the Foxton Inclined Plane Trust; The Inland Waterways Association; Harborough District Council; Foxton Parish Council; Leicestershire County Council; English Heritage; East Midlands Development Agency and the Old Union Canals Society. The Partnership meets regularly to plan development at Foxton Locks and raise funds.
- For more information about other events and great days out on the inland waterways this summer visit www.waterscape.com.

Media Enquiries

British Waterways Willow Grange Church Road Watford WD17 4QA
T 01923 201329 F 01923 201300 E pressoffice@britishwaterways.co.uk
www.britishwaterways.co.uk