

Wash Walk to sponsor Baden Powell restoration

A sponsored walk along the Peter Scott Wash Walk in May will raise more funds for the restoration of the Baden Powell – and help keep walkers in shape for the hot summer holidays to come.

Enthusiasts who formed the King's Lynn Norfolk Boat Trust have started preliminary work on the former double ended cockling boat, built near the South Gate in 1900. But present funding falls far short of what will be needed to bring the Baden Powell back to seagoing condition.

So walkers are invited to participate in a ten mile walk beside the Wash, and get some sponsors to pay for every mile of the walk completed. Entrants will be helping to bring forward the day when the Baden Powell is launched back into the Ouse, as a reminder of King's Lynn's proud fishing history. Fishing is still, of course, an important part of the town's commercial life.

The walk is on Sunday 10 May, and is being organised by Tim Clayton, the Chapel Street jeweller who is the driving force behind the Norfolk Boat Trust. Call into his shop or telephone for an entry form, which contains full details of the event. An e-mail version is available on info@floatourboat.co.uk and the website www.floatourboat.co.uk has further information about the Baden Powell project.

The target will be for each walker to have at least ten sponsors, who will be invited to give whatever he or she can afford for each mile achieved by the walker.

Start point is the lighthouse on the east side of the River Nene, reached by the down-river Nene-side road from just east of the Sutton Bridge swing bridge.

Walkers can be delivered by their support team to the start, or be dropped off near the ferry landing at West Lynn from 10am onwards. A minibus will take them to the starting point for a small fee. It is hoped that the Lynn ferry will be operating during the afternoon.

There will be a refreshment post along the route at Ongar Hill, with free drinks for walkers. Those who find the whole path too much of a challenge will find transport back to Lynn from Ongar Hill.

Entrants will be entered into a draw for a number of prizes currently being arranged.

Funds raised on May 10 will be added to the £4,000 raised at a Hog Roast at the Town Hall at Halloween last year, and more than £600 from a showing of Ken Hill's Antarctic film on March 31.

More events are lined up for the summer, including an Ouse Drift during the Hanse Festival (July 30 - August 2), when Tim Clayton will be pushing off from the ferry steps in a dinghy and seeing how far the tide will take him up the River Ouse before he drifts back.

Donations to the Baden Powell Project are always welcomed with delight, and should be sent to Tim's shop at 21-23 Chapel Street, King's Lynn PE30 1EG.

For further information:

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