

Registered Charity No. 1129705
Chairman Chris Williams

23rd July 2025



REPORT FROM NETTLEHAM WOODLAND TRUST TO THE NINEVEH TRUST ON THE ORIENTEERING WEEK FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND YOUTH GROUPS IN MONKS WOOD, ASHING LANE NATURE RESERVE, DUNHOLME IN JULY 2025

The orienteering week took place from Tuesday 8th July, during the hottest week of the year so far. In all seven groups attended, viz. St. John's Bracebridge Heath Primary Academy (Lincoln), Ellison Boulter's Elementary Academy (Scothern), 25th Scothern Cubs, Nettleham Junior School, Lincoln Christ's Hospital Secondary School (LCHS), Lincoln City Foundation and St. Peter at Gowts Primary School (Lincoln). For Bracebridge Heath, Nettleham Juniors and Lincoln City Foundation, this was their first visit to Monks Wood

A total of 319 pupils/students/cubs came, with 36 staff/parents. Ages ranged from 8 (cubs) to 18 (LCHS students doing Sports Studies Assessments). The events were organised and run by 15+ Nettleham Woodland Trust (NWT) Trustees and Associate Members and volunteers, including 3 LCHS year 12 girls who helped with the younger children. This was a huge increase from the orienteering week in 2024 when 70 pupils came and reflected the financial assistance from the Nineveh Charitable Trust grant towards the transport costs of two of the Lincoln City schools.

The feedback we have received from the children and their teachers has been extremely positive.

This is the email we received from the **HEADTEACHER OF ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY BRACEBRIDGE HEATH, LINCOLN:**

Hi Chris,

Thank you so much for such a fantastic experience for our Y6s. They absolutely loved it and came back very excited to share what they had learnt.

I have attached some photos which all have permissions to be shared however you need.

Some quotes from our children:

"It was great to feel independent and that we could explore new areas." Emma - age 11

"I enjoyed studying the maps and scavenging. It was nice to go off and find new places." Riley age 11

"Being an explorer for the morning was fantastic!" Noah age 11

Please do let us know about next year - we'd love to come back again!

Mrs Emma Jefferson
Headteacher
St John's Primary Academy

ST PETER AT GOWTS PRIMARY SCHOOL, LINCOLN - REPORT ON ORIENTEERING IN MONKS WOOD
11th JULY 2025



We loved visiting somewhere new which is very different to our school and seeing all of the nature, even if the hover flies made us jump a lot! We used our map reading skills to try and find different sites around the Nature Reserve and we loved the scavenger hunt too! Next year, we hope to come again but hope it might be a little bit cooler!

REPORT FROM ELLISON BOULTER'S ELEMENTARY ACADEMY, SCOTHERN, TUESDAY 8th JULY

Feedback from some of the children in teacher Clare Hauton's class. The 34 children walked from Scothern to the Reserve across the fields, a distance of ca. one mile.

"It was good because the wildlife and scenery was amazing! I loved the feeling of being outside and in the woods. It was brilliant!" Kira

"I enjoyed the calm environment of the nature reserve: It was nice and peaceful. I enjoyed orienteering because it was a useful skill to learn and after the trip I wanted to do it again." Ahmed

"I really enjoyed orienteering at Monks Wood. It was exciting navigating our way around the forest trying to beat the other teams." Lara

"A wonderful adventure on which we used our orienteering skills to compete against classmates. During the experience we embraced and connected with nature. Thank you" Lily

"I loved the orienteering at Monks Wood. My favourite part was exploring with a map and running around with our friends. It was so much fun!"

All the children were very grateful for the experience.

Thank you
Clare

COSTINGS

The grant from Nineveh Trust was £886

The toilet hire was slightly more than last year. Having more than four times the number of children this year meant a higher cost for photocopying, laminating and equipment. Two Lincoln City schools hired a coach and double-decker bus; they were St. John's Bracebridge Heath (55 children) and St. Peter at Gowts (63 children).

Toilet Hire	£343.20
NWT mileage	36.00 (80 x 45ppm)
Lunch money	15.00 (for 3 x LCHS volunteers)
Photocopying}	
Laminating }	91.56 (incl. orienteering flags and punches)
Equipment }	
Transport contributions	400.00 (2 x £200)
Total costs	<hr/> £885.76

SUMMARY

The orienteering week at Monks Wood in July 2025 has been a huge success. Fortunately, the very hot weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the children and young people (although it may have made some of the teachers a little weary). From the comments made by the pupils it is clear that being outside in the fresh air and in a completely new woodland environment, getting exercise and learning new skills with classmates, is beneficial to their physical and mental well-being.

NWT is very fortunate to have a chairman, Chris Williams, who, before retirement, was deputy head of Lincoln Christ's Hospital School (LCHS). Chris is knowledgeable and passionate about education and particularly keen, as are all the NWT committee members, to encourage children to learn about and appreciate the natural environment. For so many of the children who attended the orienteering week, especially those from the urban Lincoln schools, this was their first experience of a woodland and of being free to run around, explore and learn.

The Nineveh Trust grant enabled NWT to organise the orienteering week. In particular, the additional funds allowed two Lincoln city schools to fund a coach and double-decker bus to transport 123 children to the Reserve, which otherwise they would not have been able to do.

NWT is very grateful to The Nineveh Trust.

ATTACHMENTS WITH THIS REPORT

Additional photographs and report from Nettleham Junior School
Scavenger Hunt map
Schedule of dates, times, schools years and numbers, leaders
2 x school invoices for transport assistance; invoice for portaloos

Susie Mendel
Trustee & Grants Officer
Nettleham Woodland Trust
23rd July 2025

