

Art helps us understand and find meaning.

The Time and Tide Bell is much more than a public sculpture just to be looked at. It will spark conversations and get people involved in various projects using the arts to explore our connections with the sea and the coastal environment, in the past and into the future. A series of art exhibitions is being planned for different places in Lincolnshire, bringing attention to the Time and Tide Bell and encouraging people to visit Mablethorpe and the Lincolnshire coast.

Explore the coast's changing character through history and think about its future. We'll be looking at the local geology and wildlife and at changes in sea level and climate since the Ice Age. Archaeology and recent history of the Marsh with its wartime defences bring us up to modern times. Thinking of the future, including managing coastal defences and flood risk, with global warming set to increase sea level, is a big part of the Time and Tide Bell project.

The Bell will be at the edge of the Saltfleet-Theddlethorpe Dunes National Nature Reserve, marking the point on the beach where the accretion of sand to the north stops and its erosion to the south begins.

About half of all Lincolnshire's wildlife species live off-shore, hidden beneath the waves. The Bell brings our attention to the effects of global warming on sea level and marine life. We'll be working with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England to make the sea-life better known and protected.

Learn more? Join the Friends of the Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell:
www.bit.ly/TimeandTideBell

We do, of course, need some money to make it all happen. Donations please to:
Friends of Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell
Sort Code 777212 Account Number 40047868

Thanks. And please pass this leaflet on telling others about The Bell

A Time and Tide Bell for Mablethorpe



Britain's sixth Time and Tide Bell comes to Lincolnshire's coast north of Mablethorpe. It's community art by sculptor Marcus Vergette.

Time and Tide Bells stand near the high tide mark at sites round the coast. The waves at high tide drive the clapper to strike the bell. Played by the movement of the water, the bell creates a varying, gentle, musical pattern, changing as the tide rises.

Five Bells have already been installed: at Appledore, Devon; on Bosta Beach, Gt. Bernera, Outer-Hebrides; at Trinity Buoy Wharf, London; at Aberdyfi, Wales; and at Cemaes on Anglesey. Our Lincolnshire Bell is the sixth.

The Time and Tide Bells create and celebrate connections between different parts of the country, between the land and the sea, between ourselves, our history, and our environment and future.

It will be at North End Mablethorpe, on the beach north of where the path from the Ferryboat Inn emerges, within the Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes National Nature Reserve. The Bell will be sited near the high water mark so will be on dry land much of the time, and will only ring at the highest tides. The Bell rings quite gently; you will have to be on the beach nearby to hear it.

This part of the Lincolnshire coast is easily accessible yet gives a feeling of remoteness. It has a rich past, with people adapting to the changing environment of a shifting coastline. There's a wealth of wildlife on land and off-shore. Global warming brings an uncertain future.

The Bell is cast from marine bronze at Brass Founders of Sheffield. It will develop a greenish patina but will not degrade in seawater.



A frame, made from lengths of oak connected by pieces of stainless steel, suspends the Bell so that the waves at high tide move a paddle at the bottom connected to the clapper that rings the Bell. The frame is anchored to the ground by helical piles screwed into the beach sand. The whole structure stands just over two metres above the beach surface.

The Time and Tide Bells are permanent in a rapidly changing world, the metals lasting centuries. The wooden parts of the frame can be removed and replaced one at a time. The site at North End Mablethorpe has no solid rock to build on. With the shifting sands there is a possibility that the Bell may need to be moved one day but the modular design allows for this.

