

An addition to Gloucester Heritage Open Days programme

A walk and talk around Alney Island Gloucester looking at its history, its future and current management.



Date and Time: Monday 15th September at 10.00

Duration: 2 hours

Pre booking required at

<https://buytickets.at/gloucestercivictrustlimited> Max no. 25

Meet the at the crane Gloucester Docks outside North Warehouse, Commercial Road GL1 2EQ (w3ws sing.shift.reap)

Please where appropriate footwear for an uneven surface. There may well be grazing cattle on site. The walk is about 3 miles (4.5k) and will take approximately 2 hours.

Join local historian Tony Condor and Meyrick Brentnall of Gloucestershire wildlife trust as they walk around Alney island nature reserve.

Alney island, created due to the River Severn splitting in two just north of Gloucester has been central to the development of the city since before Roman times. As the lowest crossing into Wales, it has been of strategic importance resulting in a number of battles as well as a wealth of infrastructure to actually cross the various channels. Of particular interest are the 19th century Telford and Brunel bridges that the walk will visit.

The island is also critical in flood management of the city. It is said that in full spate 40,000 cubic metres of water a second flow past the city. Getting this water past Gloucester and into the estuary is key to ensuring the city does not go underwater. Of course the area is subject to the world famous Severn bore -a wave that surges up the river roughly 250 times a year, while none are predicted on the day the walk will go past some good bore viewing spots and its history will be discussed.

As well as the above Tony and Meyrick will talk about events generally both historical and recent that have shaped the island and Gloucester, as well as looking at its current management and what may happen over the coming years.