



## “OK Sparks!” Press Release

[Hwa Young Jung](#), [Ross Dalziel](#) and [Glenn Boulter](#) from [Domestic Science](#) are developing 2 weekends of activity, workshops and pervasive games to investigate the hidden history of [Wray Castle](#), a Victorian Folly on the banks of Lake Windermere.

Wray castle was originally a Victorian family home in the style of a medieval castle, later playing host to the Freshwater Biological Association and then the Merchant Navy amongst others before opening to the public in recent years.

Over two weekends in May artists, scientists and local radio experts will help you explore local freshwater biology, communicate over a special Wray Castle radio station, explore sensor networks, play mobile Text Adventure games and a Minecraft radio treasure hunt to investigate the hidden histories of a special place in the Lake District with a unique role in the history of science and communication.

### Ok Sparks Day 1

**Saturday 7th May 2016**

**1030pm - 16.30pm**

**Drop in / Free with General Admission**

Free activity reflecting on the past of the Merchant Navy at Wray Castle with [Furness Amateur Radio Society](#) (FARS) an active community who recently celebrated 100 years of

Amateur Radio in Furness in 2013. Barrow Wireless Association was one of the first amateur radio clubs to be issued with a transmitting licence in the UK, on the 26th June 1913.

Experience a special OFCOM licensed Wray Castle Radio station, call sign GB2WCR, send radio messages to Minecraft, play with simple messaging equipment and learn about the continued importance of radio culture.

### **Ok Sparks! Day 2**

**Sunday 8th May 2016**

**1030pm - 16.30pm**

**Drop in / Free with General Admission**

Continue to explore DIY radio culture with special guests and the Minecraft Radio Treasure Hunt

### **The Wray Castle Text Adventure**

**7th/8th/14th/15th May 2016**

**10:30-16:30**

**Drop in / Free with General Admission**

The Wray Castle Text Adventure is a mobile interactive story encouraging young people to explore the castle's unique architecture and learn about some of its former inhabitants.

Aimed at younger visitors (5-10), the game will centre around a gentle ghost story including some simple freshwater biology and radio operating-themed puzzles. Players will also be quizzed on details from specific rooms in order to progress through the game.

*Visitors can find us in the Castle Building Room and the Morning room to download the game to their mobile device or borrow a tablet.*

### **The Easter Class**

**Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th May 2016**

**1.30pm - 4.30pm**

**Bookable on Eventbrite at £4.50 plus General Admission**

[Saturday Workshop Tickets](#)

[Sunday Workshop Tickets](#)

Re-creating the "Easter Class", an introduction to freshwater biology with scientists from the [Freshwater Biological Association](#).

Investigate the ecology of the Lakes with hands on activities about chemistry, algae, fish, invertebrates and more. Explore the impact of the lake ecosystem and the role of limnology. Free limited places, booking required.

## **The Easter Class Reading Room**

**14th & 15th May 2016**

**The Morning Room**

**13:30 - 16.30**

**Drop in FREE with General Admission**

**All Ages**

Discover the role the **Freshwater Biological Association** have had on local and international science with FBA volunteers and browse a temporary Reading Room of fascinating illustrated publications on Freshwater science

## **Minecraft Radio Treasure Hunt**

**7th-8th May 2016**

**1230, 1430, 1530**

**Drop in / Free with General Admission**

Special Minecraft blocks have been hidden around the castle: when you find them low power radio modules send a message to a local Minecraft server and reveal hidden treasure and information about Wray Castle's past

## **The Domestic Science Tiffin kit**

Limited edition Domestic Science kits available to order to continue the fun at home!

---

*This project is presented in partnership with the National Trust with support from Arts Council England. With special thanks to the Freshwater Biological Association and Furness Amateur Radio Association.*

Read more at: <http://domesticscience.org.uk> and <http://slyrabbit.net/ok-sparks/>

Press Contact: [ross@cheapjack.org.uk](mailto:ross@cheapjack.org.uk)

Twitter: @ok\_sparks / #oksparks

Directions: <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wray-castle>