

Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds



NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2015

Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds win Heritage Lottery Support for the Footpath Project and Heritage Trail

The Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds in partnership with Ashby Town Council have been successful in their community project application and received £44,600 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The HLF funding, together with £20,000 previously awarded by North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) and monies raised from the Mercury newspaper coupon initiative last year, means that the Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds have now raised the full £65,000 required and work on building the path and trail can commence this autumn.



Led by volunteers from the local community, the project focuses on providing an all-weather footpath and heritage trail around the northern boundary of the Bath Grounds between the South Street and Prior

Park Road entrances. The heritage trail will comprise 4 heritage interpretation boards and 2 mosaics. An accompanying guide will be designed and made available at Ashby Museum and the Tourist Information Centre.

Working closely with Ashby Museum and other local groups, the project will also include a wide range of community activities to develop awareness of the Bath Grounds' fascinating history.

These will include;

- Community Archaeology
- Community mosaics
- An Ivanhoe Spa film
- A ballad of the Bath Grounds (performed on the Bath Grounds in 2016)
- A program of lectures and guided walks.

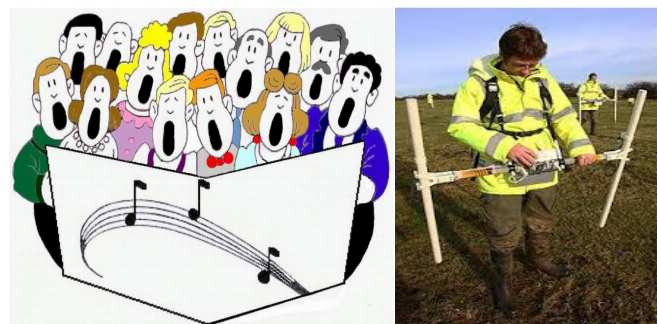
Footpath Project Launch

Sunday 11:30a.m, 20th September 2015 at the Hastings Cricket Club

Starting at 11:30 a.m there will be a brief set of presentations on the Project to which we are inviting all our members and interested members of the community.

The presentations will be followed by a buffet and some celebratory drinks!!

The Friends are keen to encourage volunteers of all ages who may wish to become involved in any of these activities. Do you want to have a go at non-intrusive archaeology using geophysics? Would you like to perform in the Ballad of the Bath Grounds? Try your hand at producing a community heritage mosaic? If you are interested in taking part why not come along to our project launch event.



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Pride in our Bath Grounds

Many thanks to Hastings Cricket Club

Pride in our Bath Grounds Campaign– 'Bag it & Bin it' initiative is being supported by the Hastings Cricket Club. They have kindly donated the spray paint the Friends are using to raise awareness of dog waste on the Bath Grounds.

The word is certainly spreading – with many dog owners encouraging others in cleaning up after their dogs and supporting the initiative by handing out bags.

...so it's all very encouraging. Thank you for all of your efforts. We know it's not the most glamorous job in the world...but it is one of the most important to keep the Bath Grounds lovely for everyone!!



Litter – Litter bin it or take it home

The 'countryside in the town' feel of The Bath Grounds is the perfect place to sit, relax, chat and picnic and it is wonderful to see how many people love it for that very reason.

Over the last 18 months, when chatting to regular users of the Bath Grounds and members of the Friends, we know that people littering the grounds is a real bug bear.

Littering can be hazardous to sports people, animals and anyone enjoying the grounds (imagine glass bottles and tin cans after they have been through a mower) and is also expensive.

Litter is collected by the Town Council, by hand, during each week of the year, on a daily basis most of the time.

As part of our Pride Campaign initiative we aim to tackle littering on the Bath Grounds. Our mission is to ensure everyone leaves the grounds as they would like to find them.

We are arranging a Bath Grounds Litter pick for early November – if you would like to get involved them please give us a call on 07958232291

ASB – not welcome here

The following issues were reported to the police and Town Council in July and August 2015;

- Dog bins by corner of Bullen's set on fire – dog waste removed by council and new dog bin installed
- Group of young people throwing stones at the Cricket Club house with intimidating behaviour – incident reported to the police – individuals given a warning.
- Fire on same patch of ground set on fire in June – incident reported to police and Town Council. Further talks by the Friends to take place with the council on this issue
- Intimidating behaviour from a group of young people towards an older resident walking her dog on the Bath Grounds. Reported to the Police.
- Damage to cricket club door – reported to the Police.

Please continue to report ASB activity to the Police and the NWLDC by telephone.

www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/antisocial_behaviour

Report to Police on the non-emergency number 101 at the time the incident is happening

You can ask to remain anonymous if you prefer.

<http://www.leics.police.uk/local-policing/ashby/team#.U8LioJRdWJB>

Our Mission

**Encourage people to leave the Bath Grounds as they found them...
Respect them for all to enjoy**

Email: bathgroundsfriends@gmail.com

Web: www.bathgroundsfriends.com

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

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