

2015 - A Great Year for the Friends!



On the first day of Christmas

Successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Achieving approval from the Town Council to go ahead with the Footpath Project. Six months of application preparation, consultation work and presentations to the Town Council and to the Heritage Lottery Fund



On the second day of Christmas

On the 23rd May, we had our Big Plant Sale. Raising over £1000, with the half the proceeds going to Hospice Hope



On the third Day of Christmas

The Friends celebrated the approval by the Heritage Lottery Fund of our application for a new footpath and Heritage Trail. We had our Heritage Footpath Launch attended by the Mayor, representatives from the Town Council and the District Council and the Heritage Lottery fund and members of Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds and the Ashby community at the Cricket Club.

In 2016 there will be heritage activities to get involved with;

- If you want to have a go at non-intrusive archaeology on the Bath Grounds using geophysics?
- If you would like to be involved in performing in the Ballad of the Bath Grounds during the May Bank holiday Arts Festival weekend at the end of May 2016?
- If you would like to try your hand at producing a community heritage mosaic during the May Bank Holiday Arts Festival weekend?

If you know of a group/school/individual who might be interested in getting involved – then please contact our Engagement Coordinator, Annie Ingram, via our email bathgroundfriends@gmail.com or Tel 07525 339896.



On the fourth Day of Christmas

The Mayor, Mary Tuckey, officially unveiled the Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds Plaque on the South street flowerbed!! The friends have been making sure that there has been as much colour as possible throughout the seasons this year and have taken on the grass edging as well, to make sure the flowers look as good as possible.



The Footpath is constructed!!!!!!!



On the sixth day of Christmas

Launch of the **Pride in our Bath Grounds Campaign** at Jim's Tractor Run with the following 3 initiatives;



Dog waste – bag it and bin it



Unwanted behavior – not welcome here



Litter bin it or take it home



On the seventh day of Christmas

We started the Bag it and Bin it initiative including; **Temporary Stenciling** to paths and walkways asking people to pick up and bin dog waste, **Small flags stuck into the ground**, asking people to bag and bin their dog waste. Dog owners also **pledged to pick up...always pick up and help others to do the same** Dog flagging. We had had great support for this initiative, raising awareness and resulting in a 65% reduction in dog mess on the Bath grounds over the last 5 months.



Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds



 **NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2015** 



On the eighth Day of Christmas

We progressed with our Antisocial Behavior initiative on the Bath Grounds. The Friends will continue working with police to ensure continued regular Police patrols. We also have continued to encourage the public to report any ASB, by calling 101.



On the ninth Day of Christmas

Organised by A. Ingram our Pride Co-ordinator, we carried out our first litter pick on the Bath Grounds on Saturday 14th November 2015, in association with NWLDC Street Action Team and Ashby Town Council. Many thanks for the 16 volunteers who came out on that wet awful weather and 'did their thing'!!!

It is clear that the Pride in our Bath Grounds Litter initiative is supported by the Ashby community – there is a great desire to look after the Bath Grounds

We are very pleased to report that within two hours the team work had paid off and we collected 25 dustbin bags from the Bath Grounds and the Green Corridor up to the Castle.

Thanks again to everyone, including the many volunteers from the Rotary Club, who came and litter picked – you have made a real difference to the Bath Grounds by volunteering your precious time!!

On the tenth Day of Christmas

Kicked off new quarterly Maintenance Meetings with the Town Council. Working with the Town Council we have already addressed a number of issues including bollard replacement, reseeding of bare areas, removal of a large tree stumps and weed clearance. These meetings will be pivotal in helping us to work with Town Council to continue to make improvements.



On the eleventh Day of Christmas

This year we increased our membership to 72 people – we hope to gain further members and that existing members will renew their membership for 2016 and continue to support us!!!



On the twelfth day of Christmas

On the 29th November We supported the Rotary Santa run and walk by participating and helping to steward the event which started and ended on the Bath grounds and raised monies for Hospice Hope – the 600 Santa's, man, woman, child and dogs made full use of our lovely new path !!



We need your continued support for 2016

Without your membership we would not have been able to do all the great things we have done this year. We have some great ideas for 2016 and need your continued support to ensure;

- Continued protection of the Bath Grounds against building applications
- Promoting the Ashby green corridor between the Bath Grounds and the Castle
- Ensuring the maintenance and continued improvements to the Bath Grounds to retain its countryside in the town feel and a lovely green space for everyone
- Continuing our initiatives to reduce litter, antisocial behavior and promote responsible dog owners

To renew your membership for 2016

Email: bathgroundsfriends@gmail.com

Web: www.bathgroundsfriends.com

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

Contact details:

D. Bigby: Treasurer - Tel: 07765 765156

16 Tower Gardens, Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 1EX