

# Growing Success

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## Greenwood Awards for Volunteers

*Rufford Abbey Country Park proved to be a popular venue for this year's Greenwood Community Awards Ceremony held in June.*



*Nominated volunteers - photo courtesy of North Notts newspapers*

Following a sumptuous buffet, over 150 volunteers, officers and councillors attended a presentation of Friends Groups' achievements over the past year, given by Colin Barson, Chair of the Friends of Greenwood Community Forum.

See centre pages for all award winners for 2007.

## We Have Moved!

The Greenwood Team has moved offices. Our new address is:

**The Greenwood Community Forest Team**  
The Saw Mill, Rufford Abbey Country Park,  
Ollerton, Nottinghamshire  
NG22 9DG

Tel: 01623 827322



Greenwood

# All the colours of the rainbow found at Carr Bank Park



Children from Newgate Primary School visited Carr Bank Park in Mansfield to get inspiration for artwork in a workshop led by the Greenwood team for partners Mansfield District Council. Once the pupils had collected colours, sketched and photographed nature, they returned to school to produce artwork to be submitted to the East Midlands in Bloom children's painting competition.

*Newgate Primary  
collect colours*

## Stake your claim to a tree-planting grant!

*The Greenwood Community Tree Planting Grant Scheme provides funding and advice to help schools and community groups to carry out small-scale tree planting events. Having now operated for over 7 years, the scheme has made it possible for over 100 schools and community groups to plant thousands of trees.*



*Tree planting at Silverhill Wood*

The scheme is designed to be flexible and offers up to £250 to cover the cost of buying trees, shelters, tree stakes and ties and for publicising your event. To be eligible, your scheme must:

- Plant native tree or shrub species (advice is available on suitable choices)
- Involve the school and/or local community
- Be situated within one of the following districts: Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark & Sherwood
- Be located on school grounds or publicly accessible land

Application forms for the 2008/09 planting season (November to March) will be available from the Greenwood team in September. There isn't a deadline for applications, but funding is limited so we encourage you to apply early.

# Nine thousand one hundred reasons to celebrate Park Life

*Greenwood's Park Life project came to the end of its third and final year this spring. The project has led the way in coming up with new and innovative ways for people to use their local parks for physical activity and so to benefit their health.*



## The stats!

**9100**  
**participants**

**167**  
**events**

**59**  
**volunteers**

**50**  
**schools benefited**

**27**  
**qualifications gained**

## And claim a stake....

Each winter the Woodland Trust encourages community groups throughout the country to organise and run tree planting events in their local community by offering tree planting grants of up to £100.

The scheme has proved very popular over the past few years, with more people taking an interest in their local environment. It's a great way for communities to come together and do something positive. The application process is reasonably easy. For more details and a copy of the grant criteria please visit [www.treeforall.org.uk](http://www.treeforall.org.uk)

### *Fidget the Fairy and helpers*

Looking back over the last three years reveals that Park Life was able to achieve a large amount, thanks to the efforts of partners and the enthusiasm of participants.

Over 9,100 participants took part in 167 events, including street dance, BMX workshops, Nordic walking, environmental games and team building activities. There was something for all ages, with "Fidget the Fairy" helping tots to burn off excess energy and yoga for those more interested in gentle stretching exercises.

Park Life's School Travel Fund was instrumental in helping 50 schools with transport costs. This ensured that over 3,800 school children from schools in more deprived communities were able to benefit from the project.

Country park rangers and sports officers were able to pool their expertise and were supported by 159 volunteers who gave their time to help run events. 27 individuals gained qualifications as a result of their involvement.

A final report has been produced to record Park Life's achievements. This is available on request from the Greenwood team.



# Greenwood Awards

Greenwood Partnership Board members, Cllr Veronica Goddard and Cllr Ivor Walker, presented awards in 10 categories to community groups and individual volunteers for the contribution they make towards improving their environment.



## Outstanding Contribution Award

Maureen Barker won an outstanding achievement award for her work at Moor Pond Wood, Papplewick. Maureen has been a member of the Moor Pond Wood steering group since it began in 1999, and is a major driver for the project.

Colin Barson spoke about Maureen's tenacity and said: "Above all her great energy, reliability and sense of humour are never defeated especially in the face of adversity. If you say no to this lady she just finds another way to force you to agree with her, and always with a smile and a twinkle in her eye."



Amot Hill School

## Long Serving Volunteer

Dorothy Sparham, a founder member of the Friends of Brierley Forest Park has recently completed two years as chairperson. She won the award for her tireless commitment to the park including open days, Christmas fayres, countryside days, and the Green Flag judging day.

## Young Team Award

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of Arnot Hill School Duke of Edinburgh team, with a richly deserved award for their hard work at Bestwood Country Park. Amongst many things, Sue McDonald, Bestwood ranger, who nominated the group, praised their enthusiasm, initiative, attitude, teamwork and sense of fun, which together made a winning combination.

## Greenwood Community Winners

*Outstanding Contribution*  
**Maureen Barker**  
Friends of Moor Pond Wood

*Team Endeavour Award*  
**Tom Brewer & Tony Hart**  
Oak Tree SAFE

*School Involvement Award*  
**King Edward Primary School**

*Long Serving Volunteer*  
**Dorothy Sparham**  
Friends of Brierley Forest Park

*Team Award*  
**Bob & Barbara Clifford**  
Friends of Tippings Wood

# Awards for Volunteers



All our Award Winners with (centre) Cllr Goddard, Cllr Walker and Colin Barson

## Community Award for 2007

*Youth Team Award*

**Arnot Hill School**

Bestwood Country Park

*Endeavour Award*

**James Chisholme**

Leen Valley Conservation  
Volunteers

*Senior Volunteer (Male)*

**Brian Woods**

RSPB

*Senior Volunteer (Female)*

**Joan Thomas**

Maun Conservation Volunteers

*Non-Environmental Volunteer*

**Brian Deller**

Broxtowe Walk & Talk



*Tony Hart & Tom Brewer*



*Dorothy Sparham*

## Team Endeavour Award

Tony Hart and Tom Brewer won the Team Endeavour award for work on Oak Tree Heath. Barbara Belford nominated the pair and gave a glowing testimonial: "These are two young men who stand out as model volunteers. Come rain, shine, or even snow, they travel once a week, with their support workers, from Hucknall to Mansfield by bus, to work on Oak Tree Heath.

The entire group says it has been a pleasure to work with them and they will always be welcome at Oak Tree Heath.

# Lesson in a Box helps pupils learn outdoors



## Teachers' INSET day at Brierley Forest Park

A new educational resource was launched at Brierley Forest Park and Colliers Wood in spring. Lesson in a Box provides all the information, activity sheets and equipment teachers need to lead outdoor education sessions based on the environment we live in. Lesson plans and ideas for activities, all linked to the curriculum, are included. There is a Lesson in a Box for Brierley Forest Park in Huthwaite, Colliers Wood in Moorgreen and Tippings Wood and Boundary Wood in Blidworth. To find out more contact Gill Grievson on 01623 827326.



## Friends of Colliers Wood study Lesson in a Box

## September Events

Saturday 6th September, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

### Family Fun Day

Beacon Baptist Church, Killisick Road, Arnold and Killisick Recreation Field (opposite the Church). Tel: 01159013901

There will be many stalls and activities. The Friends of the Hobbucks will be attending, so why not go along and learn more about this green oasis in Arnold.

### Free entry

Sunday 7th September

### Vicar Water Fun Day

Vicar Water Country Park, Off Mansfield Road, Clipstone. Tel: 01623 466340

All the fun of the fair, plus stalls and environmental activities

### Free entry

# Rufford Country Park is Bioblitzed!

*Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group recently held an event that saw a 24-hour race against time to count all the species found at Rufford Country Park, near Ollerton.*

Bioblitz took place over Friday 11th and Saturday 12th July to encourage people visiting the park to get directly involved in surveying, and also learn about the biodiversity of the park. This snapshot list of habitats and wildlife helps to build a better understanding of the park's wildlife value, essential for good site management.

The event began on Friday evening with mammal trapping and a bat identification walk and continued



*Wildflower identification walk*



*Rainworth Brownies prepare mammal trap*

through the night. Activities on Saturday included bird ringing, plant identification and slug collecting to name a few. The event ended in the afternoon when a total of 415 species had been reported, with further counts to be added.

For further details and to get an up to date count of species found visit [www.nottsbag.org.uk](http://www.nottsbag.org.uk)



## *Green Gateways opens doors to recreation*

*A new leaflet "Green Gateways" is now available in time for summer to give everyone the chance to explore green spaces in Greenwood that are slightly off the beaten track.*

Green Gateways has a calendar of events taking place over the summer and autumn and also gives information about how to join your local Friends group, take part in practical conservation or join a health walk.

Focussing on Bestwood Country Park as the main site for events, Green Gateways also promotes smaller sites that have

been developed on old pit tips, disused railway lines or quarries and are helping to create the Greenwood Community Forest.

Copies of the free Green Gateways leaflet, with full details of summer and autumn events can be downloaded at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/countryparks](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/countryparks) or to join the mailing list contact Lynn Sergant on 01623 827323.



# Friends of Greenwood Visit Peafield Park



## Friends of Greenwood visit Peafield Park

The Friends of Greenwood Community Forum enjoyed a visit to Peafield Park, Mansfield Woodhouse. Veronica Goddard, Chair of the Friends of Peafield Park, led the walk through wildflower and woodland areas that are encouraging mini beasts, birds and mammals to the park.

The Friends of Peafield Park work closely with Greenwood Partner, Mansfield District Council, to improve the site, which has recently been awarded its first Green Flag.

## The Greenwood Community Forest Team:

**Project Manager:**  
Malcolm Hackett

**Community Liaison Officer:**  
Gill Grievson

**Administration Events and  
Promotions:**  
Janet Valenti

**Administration:**  
Lynn Sergant

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## Next Issue.....

Issue 20 of "Growing Success" will be available in Spring 2009.

Growing Success is available in other formats and languages.



*Nottinghamshire's Community Forest bringing Sherwood Forest to your doorstep*

A partnership initiative of Nottinghamshire County Council, Ashfield District Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council, Mansfield District Council, Newark & Sherwood District Council, The Forestry Commission and Natural England.