

Welcome to the March edition of the RVCP Volunteer Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Heritage Lottery Funded evaluation process. We have just completed our three year project to have the Chapel conserved and re-open to the public with a new exhibition. I'm sure you will agree it has been a tremendous success, much of which is due to the help of the volunteer team. The executive summary of the report will be available shortly for us to circulate.

New E-Learning for 2020!

One of our volunteers, Dennis, has developed an E-Learning course for us on the history of the Royal Victoria Hospital. This course covers:

- The need to design, construct and develop the Royal Victoria Military Hospital site
- Early developments at the hospital during the Victorian period
- The Royal Victoria Military Hospital during WW1
- WW2 at Netley and the role of the U.S. military
- The closure and demolition of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital

We are still piloting the E-Learning course. For more information and access details, please contact Ursula Pearce, Heritage & Education Officer on 02392 244081 or email rvcp.enquiries@hants.gov.uk

Storytelling

Are you interested in sharing stories of the hospital with our young visitors?

We have three interactive storytelling sessions, written for us by a local storyteller, which introduce children to the history of the hospital and the people who worked and were treated there. If you would like to get involved in sharing and performing these stories, we will be running training sessions in the summer and have lots of support we can offer. If you would like to get involved, please email joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk



Are you a book worm?

The Friends of the Park have a second hand book shop that is situated in Southampton Lodge at the entrance of the park.

They are looking for people to help sort the books and possibly open the book shop to the public on an extra day (currently open on Sundays)

The money made from the books is donated to park projects. If you are interested please get in touch with Jo or Trevor Olding via the park shop.

Conservation and Gardening Group at RVCP

The conservation and gardening groups have been busy throughout this extremely wet weather.

Thanks to everyone who has been wading through the mud to keep the park looking tidy and safe to use.



Nomination for the Chapel

The Chapel has been shortlisted for the inaugural RICS Social Impact Awards 2020, **Heritage** category.

These awards are the only nationally recognised awards programme that show the impact our built environment has on people's lives. They highlight excellence at a regional and national level, identifying the projects making a positive difference.

There is a link to the RICS website, www.rics.org/awards, this gives a bit more detail of this new award and shows last year's other RICS award winners. The Regional award ceremony is on 11th June, so we should know after that if we have been successful.

**RICS Social
Impact Awards**

2020

Shortlisted

Changes to the Chapel website

Have you seen the new updates on the Chapel website?

- More detailed information about the building work done for the HLF project
- Information and link to the Matterport 3D virtual tour
- Explore our collection - information and links to the videos made as part of the HLF project
- Information and link to a clip about the hospital from the BBC World War 1 at Home programme with Philip Hoare
- Updated information about the Living Memory project and the stories of patients researched by the participating students
- Information about the University of Portsmouth Architecture/IT project and links to the 3D model created by the student
- Information and link to the new E-Learning course



Take a look: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/rvchapel>

VE Day Celebrations

On Friday 8th May we will be hosting a VE day celebration to include, a theatre event, vintage fayre, picnic and more. There are lots of ways to get involved. Speak to Jo or Liz to find out more.



New Gardening Group - Monday River Hamble Country Park

A new group for people of all ages and abilities who want to get outdoors! Friendly, informal and free to join.

- Meets Mondays 1.30- 4.00pm at the depot River Hamble Country Park
- Wear old clothes and sturdy boots
- Gloves and tools will be provided
- Refreshments at 3pm

No need for any expertise. Come and do as much as you want to.

For more information contact Michele 02380605101 or email michele.meek@hants.gov.uk



How to volunteer

To get involved at the Park email joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk or call 023 9224 4064 for an informal chat.