

Welcome to the November edition of the RVCP Volunteer Newsletter.

We are deeply saddened to say that Joy lost her battle with cancer last week. Joy has been an active Friend of the Park for over 10 years. She attended all the Park events and was involved in the gardening group, running the second hand book shop and participated in fund raising activities with the craft group. She will be deeply missed by everyone in the Park and our deepest sympathies go to her family at this time.

Would you like to help at one of our Christmas Events?

If you would like to help as an usher for any of our upcoming events please email joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk.

For more information please visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/countryparks/rvcp/whatson>

30/11/19	39 Steps, Black Box Theatre Company.
14/12/19	Christmas Carol Concert
19 - 24 /12/19	A Christmas Carol

Decorate the Chapel - Tuesday 3rd December

Join us on Tuesday 3rd December for a crafternoon. Between 1.00 - 4.30pm we will be decorating Christmas trees, hanging ivy and making tree decorations.

One Christmas tree will be decorated from recycled origami decorations. Dig out last year's wrapping paper, junk mail or song sheets and add your own dec to the tree.

Origami templates available from the Chapel, shop or visit <https://bit.ly/349zYjH> for instructions.



Volunteer Christmas Event - Friday 13th December, 5pm

Join us in the Chapel for a Christmas quiz, games, drinks, nibbles and lots of laughs.

RSVP to joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk

If you would like something more substantial to eat you can pay and pre-order a fish and chip supper, please contact me for a menu.



Volunteer trip to Petworth House - Monday 13th January 2020

We are planning a coach trip to Petworth House for our volunteers, if you are interested in attending please let Jo know. There will be a subsidised cost of £5 which will include the coach, entry to the house and gardens and an additional exhibition. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth-house-and-park>

The House is partially closed whilst they carry out essential conservation work. The North Gallery, Chapel, Carved Room and Red Room will be open where they are focusing on their wonderful Turner collection at Petworth. High-light talks will be offered throughout the day by their volunteers which would be useful for people interested in tour guiding. The Historic Kitchens are also open.

In addition there will also be the Skyscape Exhibition (a touring exhibition run by the Ashmolean Museum) in the exhibition room which is a celebration of the way different artists have depicted sky over the last 500 years featuring works by Constable, Durer, Rembrandt, Turner and Ruskin.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth-house-and-park/features/skyscape>



New Staff

There have been a few changes to the way the Chapel is staffed since Lauren left this summer. I have now become the Heritage & Education Officer, taking over responsibility for the exhibition and displays as well as continuing with education activities for schools and families. As the only full-time member of the Chapel staff, I will also be responsible for some of the day to day details of running the Chapel and working with Phil and Geoff to get any maintenance issues sorted. Jo is continuing in her role as Volunteer Co-ordinator and should now have more time to focus on training and development activities. We have three new members of the team:

Liz Rickard, Michelle Castle and Tim Norris.

Many of you will already have met Michelle and Tim, who are our new Visitor Services/Admin Assistants working alternate weeks and weekends. Primarily, they will be responsible for opening and closing the Chapel and exhibitions, cashing up the tills and allocating daily tasks to volunteers, but will also be on hand to deal with any problems, questions or customer complaints and generally support you on the front desk, engaging with visitors, promoting events and activities, etc. As the duty officer in the Chapel each day, they will also be responsible for responding to any emergency situation in the Chapel, organising the safe evacuation of the building if necessary and alerting members of the wider Park team to liaise with emergency services. Liz Rickard is the new Events Officer, who will take over the organisation and running of commercial events (weddings, dinners, theatre, music, etc) in the Chapel. She will mainly work 3 days a week, with additional time for events as necessary. Finally, Donna Healey, who is the Manager of the Park Shop, has taken over responsibility for the shop in the Chapel and will be responsible both for monitoring our existing stock and ordering new retail lines. I hope that starts to answer the questions you have.

Ursula Pearce Heritage and Events Officer



Michelle



Tim



Liz

Spotlight on one of our researchers - We would like to say thank you to Martyn who has been undertaking research on Netley Hospital for over a year which he has been kindly sharing with us. He has trawled through hundreds of articles from the British Medical Journals and the Journals of the Royal Army Medical Corps. He has written some interesting articles that are ready to be uploaded on to our InfoActiv tablet.

This research has also increased our database of staff and patients and contributed to the work Tim F has been undertaken to our Facebook posts 'On this Day'.

Friends of the Park

Congratulations to the Friends of the Park for organising and running the Police Band Concert last Saturday.

Upcoming Carol Concert

Tickets are available for the Carol Concert on 14 December 2019, 7pm



Money from the ticket sales help raise funds for projects in the Park. In the Chapel, doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. The Chapel cafe will be open for refreshments after the concert.

£5/adult, £4/child (includes parking). Tickets are on sale now.

Park Maintenance

Terry and Owen have been out and about clearing some nuisance barbed wire in the undergrowth near the entrance by Hound Road. The Hound entrance looks much improved.



Christmas Help

Santa Paws - Sunday 22nd December - 10am
The Park are hosting a 5k run which can be done with or without a furry friend. If you are able to help marshal the event please contact Michele.

Also we require a volunteer for 14th/15th and 21st/22nd December for the story telling. We need one person to be a nurse. This is iterally a walk on and off role – no acting required. Contact 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.