



Pupils from Eastlands Junior School with Mrs Alcock and Bec Smith using Ipad to capture video

Eastlands Juniors Capture the History of Birklands Forest

Pupils from Eastlands Junior School, Meden Vale, enjoyed a day's activities deep in the heart of Sherwood, in the historically important Birklands Forest, Edwinstowe, thanks to the Friends of Thynghowe's Lottery Funded project: Thynghowe and the Forgotten Heritage of Sherwood.

COMMUNITY REPAINT SCHEME

Nottinghamshire County Council run a Community RePaint scheme at Beeston, Calverton, Newark and Warsop Recycling Centres. Public donations of paint accepted at these sites are checked by the site staff and any tins that contain good quality reusable paint are put aside in a designated shelved paint cabin.

This reusable paint is then given away free of charge, throughout the year, to community and voluntary groups registered on the scheme. The paint cabins at Beeston, Newark and Warsop started collecting paint in March and are filling up well with reusable paint so we're inviting groups in your area to apply so that they can get their hands on some free paint.

Over 100 groups have received around 12,000 litres of reusable paint so far but we're always keen to help even more.

For further information about the scheme downloadable application form visit:

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/living/waste/recyclingadvice/communityrepaint/>

We're also opening these schemes to members of the public but this is only at special open evenings. For more details visit:

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/living/waste/recyclingadvice/communityrepaint/paintopendays/>

The visit, part funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Nottinghamshire County Council's Arts Team and organised by the Greenwood Community Forest Team, is part of an 18 month project aimed at conserving and enhancing Birklands Forest and the Viking meeting place "Thynghowe".

The 8 and 9 year olds spent the morning listening to stories from the Thynghowe "Trail Tales" told by Steve Horne, Friends of Thynghowe, as well as capturing video in a workshop led by Urban Projection's Bec Smith. Once back at school, the children took part in multi media activities to create a one off performance in a "VJ" session.

Video artist, Bec Smith, explained: "VJ-ing is just like DJing but elements of video and sound are mixed together in a performance that the pupils controlled. The children worked really hard to create all the different pieces of video before putting them all together with sound in a school assembly."

The sound element came from poems and stories that the children also wrote about their visit to Birklands.

Thynghowe and the Forgotten Heritage of Sherwood, which has been running for almost 18 months, has enthused local people, groups and schools to uncover, map and document features in the forest. All data will be used to map features in the forest and archived for future generations as part of the project.

Three other schools in the area are involved and all completed work and photographs will be displayed at the final celebration event, "A Viking Spring Thing" at Sherwood Pines on May 18th and 19th 2013.

Steve Horne, one of the project managers said: "I am astonished at the work the children produced using stories told in the forest about Vikings, World War II and the Duke of Portland. The end result was stunning."

Ann Alcock, class teacher, added: "This project really raised the children's awareness of the forest on their doorstep. Steve told us many stories about our local history as far back as Viking times. And it was a great experience for the children to work with a professional video artist and perform their finished videos for their parents."

Ollie Hynd set for MBE

Paralympic Gold Medallist Ollie Hynd is set to make the trip to Buckingham Palace on Friday 17 May to collect his MBE from a member of the Royal Family (yet to be confirmed).

The 18-year-old from Kirkby-in-Ashfield will travel to London to receive the prestigious award in recognition of his services to swimming. He will be joined by his family and coach Glenn Smith, Mansfield District Council's Swimming Development Officer and coach to the Mansfield Nova Squad.

Ollie, who is part of the Mansfield Nova Squad, triumphed at the London Paralympic Games in 2012, where he took the full set of medals - Gold, Silver and Bronze, to become the most successful Great Britain male swimmer at the games.

The Gold medal performance came in the SM8 category 200m Ind Medley, in a new European Record, the Silver in the S8 category 400m Freestyle and the Bronze in the 100m Backstroke in the same category.

Ollie's Gold medal was also celebrated by the Royal Mail, with a minted stamp for his achievement and the painting of a gold post box in Kirkby to honour his performance.

Ollie plans to receive and celebrate his award by wearing a pair of gold shoes designed by Peter Bullock (fine shoe maker), who awarded Ollie with the footwear following his achievements in London 2012.



Commenting ahead of receiving the award, Ollie said: "I am deeply honoured to be receiving an MBE and very much looking forward to visiting Buckingham Palace, meeting the Royal Family and spending the day with some truly inspirational people."

"The past year has been unforgettable and I have memories I will treasure for a lifetime. This award tops off everything I have already achieved and I look forward to what my future career brings within the sport of swimming."

Executive Mayor Tony Egginton added: "Ollie's achievements at the London Paralympic Games were outstanding and he truly deserves the MBE award. I had the joy of witnessing Ollie winning his Gold medal and it was a truly special occasion to be part of."

"Both in and out of the pool, Ollie is a fantastic ambassador for our District and a credit to himself, his family and Mansfield. He is an inspiration to many and his achievements are the result of years and years of relentless hard work and dedication - he deserves all the success that comes his way."

Following the ceremony on Friday, Ollie will fly out to Majorca for an intensive training camp with the Great Britain Disability Swimming Team in preparation for the IPC World Championships, which take place in August in Montreal, Canada. Ollie will again be competing in the three events he won medals at in London and after a string of fine performances at the recent British Disability Long Course Championships and trials in April, hopes are high of another medal rush.

The Mansfield Nova Squad is supported by Mansfield District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. Ollie is a recipient of Nottinghamshire County Council's Shining Stars Fund for the current year.