

**Welcome** to the July edition of the RVCP Volunteer Newsletter. On the Park's Facebook page we have a new feature called 'On this Day'. Our volunteer researcher Tim has been finding out fascinating facts about the hospital's history and creating short articles linked to key dates throughout the year. Current articles have featured the D-Day anniversary, Wilfred Owen and the hospital Asylum. Visit the page to have a look. <https://www.facebook.com/RoyalVictoriaCP/>

## Armed Forces Day

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the events celebrating Armed Forces day at the end of June. It was another hot weekend but feedback was good. We had over 2500 visitors to the event and 1000 people in The Chapel. We took £700 in retail sales and tower visits. Well done everyone.



## September Social for Friends and Volunteers of Royal Vic and River Hamble Country Parks Campfire evening and live music

Friday 27th September, 7pm

Join us in the Park for an evening of campfire cooking and live music. Bake your own jacket potatoes and roast a marsh mellow. Trevor J has asked a few of his musician friends to provide some live music.

If you would like to come, please accept the invitation on our doodle poll using the link below so we can cater accordingly

<https://bit.ly/32FBEkA>

Please bring any alcoholic drinks you may like and a chair.



## Volunteer BBQ—Friends of RVCP

9th August, 6pm at Oak BBQ site.

The Friends of RVCP are hosting a BBQ and inviting all volunteers and park staff. Soft drinks and burgers will be provided. Please bring your own alcohol or other foods you would like to cook.



RSVP to Trevor on [trevor.olding@hants.gov.uk](mailto:trevor.olding@hants.gov.uk)

## Volunteers Presenting

A huge thank you to Dave and Jacky for delivering heritage talks last week. Dave visited Hamble Primary School and spoke about the history of the hospital to children in years 5 and 6. Jacky delivered a talk to Monks Brook U3A group.

“Jacky was so knowledgeable and her talk so very interesting, as was clear from the questions and conversations afterwards.”

## Friends of RVCP—Stained Glass Windows

Thanks to funding from the Friends Group, the stained glass windows in the Chapel have now been cleaned and repaired. The work took two days - the first day was taken up by cleaning. Owen stayed in the Chapel all day while work was in progress and ended up with a stiff neck from observing the high level activity. He and Terry were grateful that their initial offer to do the cleaning was turned down as neither have a head for heights!



## Walking the Old Town Walls

On 19th June some of the Friends (and friends of Friends) enjoyed a guided tour of the Old Town Walls in Southampton. Fortunately, the thunderstorms which were forecast did not materialise and we escaped any downpour. Afterwards we had a very enjoyable lunch at the Red Lion in the High Street - one of the oldest pubs in the country. If you ever contemplate going to the Red Lion yourself be warned - the portions are huge and defeated most of us, including Owen!



The boat at the entrance to the Park which is managed by the Friends has a new plaque and is blooming with beautiful plants.

## New Virtual Tour of The Chapel

Visitors who cannot climb the tower can still enjoy the view through a new Virtual Reality headset, which will be available from reception.

[The virtual tour](#), which has been created by [360ify](#), will enable people to explore aspects from many fascinating viewpoints such as the stunning stained glass windows, sunny views of the Solent from the 1st and 2nd floors, and climbing the 109 steps of the 150 foot high bell tower.



## 'A leg up Snowdon'.

Volunteer Dave has completed his climb up Mount Snowdon to raise fund for Eastleigh and District Sports Association.

If you would like to make a donation to the cause there is a collection box in the volunteer room in the Chapel.

Well Done Dave!



## How to volunteer

To get involved at the Park email [joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.basham@hants.gov.uk) or call 023 9224 4064 for an informal chat.