

Farnborough Airport Fund Annual Report Grants awarded in 2022

Summary of grants awarded

Parkside (Aldershot & District Learning Disability) - £3,120
Gardening and Sharing in the Community *^

Tweseldown Playgroup - £5,000
Outside is great! ^

Tice's Meadow Bird Group - £5,000
Tice's Tern Rafts *^

OAK FARM LEARNING AND ACTIVITIES CENTRE (OFLAC) - £2,550
Garden rejuvenate and regenerate *^

Parity for Disability - £10,844
Accessible roundabout for Southwood Playground ^

Total awarded for 2022: £26,514

* projects still to be completed
^ awaiting feedback

Feedback from projects awarded funding in previous years

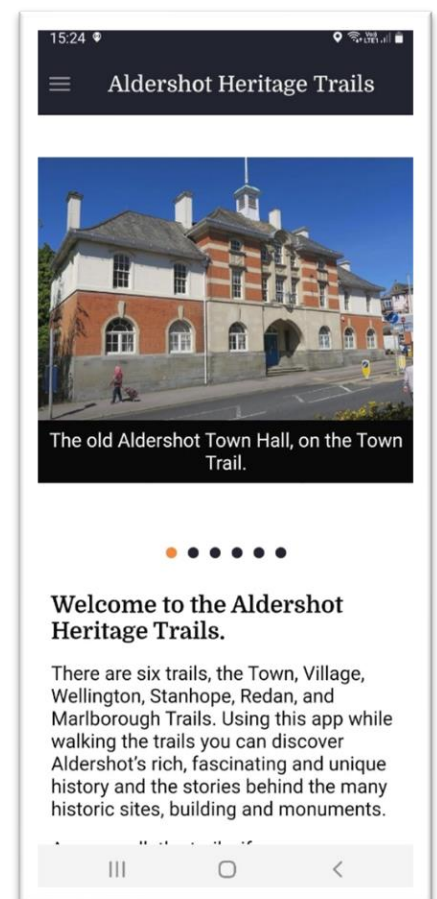
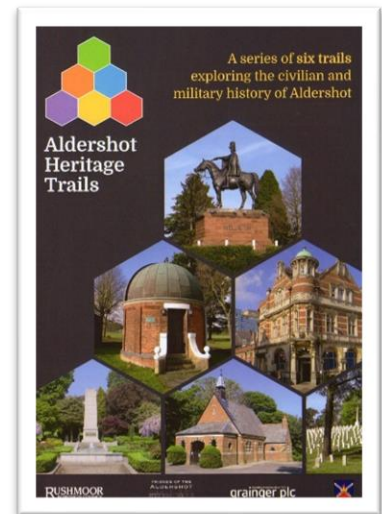
Friends of Aldershot Military Museum - £15,000 Signage for Aldershot Heritage Trails

The Aldershot Heritage Trails project has established a series of six interlinked walking trails across the civilian and military towns. Together these celebrate and commemorate over 160 years of the town's history from its humble beginnings to its current status. By walking the trails visitors can discover Aldershot's rich history and the stories of the many historic sites, buildings, people and monuments; understand the growth of the town in the Victorian and Edwardian eras; how Aldershot became Britain's most important military centre; and how the history of the military and civilian towns have been intertwined for over 160 years.

The Heritage Trails are delivered by:



- Physical signs (tall totem signs) at the start points of all the trails, and at other selected sites of particular importance.
- Smartphone app - when walking the trails with the app open, at each place of interest stories automatically appear with audio commentaries, historic images and text, with additional interactive features at selected sites.
- Website (<https://aldershot.placesandtrails.com>) with maps of the trails and details of all the places of interest. The website contains identical information and images as the app, but does not have any of the interactive features.
- Printed booklet, including maps of the trails and lists of points of interest, available free of charge from selected outlets in the town.



The grant was used for the manufacture and installation of the totem signs. Eight double-sided and one single-sided signs were procured.

The Heritage Trails were formally launched on 20 November 2021. An indication of their popularity is shown through the 519 uses of the app in the first three months, and all the initial 1,000 booklets were taken by members of the public.

Feedback received through the app includes:

“Feeling very grateful to the team who put this together and excited to try them all!”

“Fantastic.”

““Very enjoyable thank you and would love to have more of these guided trails.”

Hale PTA - £7,000 Hale Academy trim trail

The project was to replace our old and rotting trim trail with a brand-new trim trail.

The children are queuing to use the equipment and are actively engaging in physical activities that are developing their gross motor skills. It has supported younger children in developing their confidence, resilience and



independence in willingness to have a go, and move in different ways, traversing, climbing and balancing.



The children voted for it to be used as part of the reward system, so their class is able to access it more at additional times as a whole class reward.

The new equipment has improved the environment of the school for children and staff. The children are now more engaged and active at play and lunchtimes on the field.

Feedback from the children includes:

“I found it a bit tricky at first, but my friend showed me what to do, now I can do it.”

“I like it when we get to go on it after guided reading.”

“It is so good that we can just go and be there with our friends.”

“Awesome.”

Rushmoor Voluntary Services - £6,000

Blooming Marvellous supported gardening programme

The service directly benefits 23 service user volunteers, all of whom are adults living with or recovering from mental ill health. Indirectly, it also supports the families of many of the participants as it provides respite to them and encourages improvement in wellbeing and engagement of the individuals.

The priorities for the project changed as the covid pandemic developed and impacted upon the delivery of the support service. Some of the service user volunteers are classed as extremely or clinically vulnerable. This classification increased the level of support required to maintain safety and engagement with the group.

Fortifying confidence and strengthening service user volunteers' resilience with a 'can do' approach had a really positive impact on the group overall. However, the covid restrictions and associated anxiety manifested in different ways including a fear of using public transport.

Despite the country unexpectedly entering two further lockdowns during the period of this report, Blooming Marvellous were able to maintain a level of service provision throughout and prioritised the health and wellbeing of the service user volunteers.

During and after the first lockdown, our service user volunteers designed and built a train totally from recycled items. This provided them with a focus and a shared goal when they were able to celebrate when it was completed. They were further delighted when they had the opportunity to install it in Princes Mead, Farnborough before Christmas. They delighted in the feedback received from families.



Due to the fluctuating restrictions on meeting indoors, the group continued to meet outside whenever possible in socially distanced gatherings on the allotment. In between, the group was unable to access their normal meeting rooms due to the building closure. Thankfully, they were able to base themselves in the well-ventilated garage on the Farnborough Rotary Access Garden (FRAG) in

Union Street, Farnborough following covid secure measures. These meetings focussed on forward planning and training delivery.

This space however is cold on winter days so was not suitable for all. These service user volunteers were supported by telephone every week, offering wellbeing support mechanisms and sharing ideas of what to do with their time through the dark months

of winter. Some maintained contact with the group via WhatsApp and some met for socially distanced walks on warmer days.

Early in the Spring, the group resumed socially distanced gatherings on the allotment and rose to the challenge of catching up with sowing seeds and turning over the soil on our allotment ready for planting.

The funding contributed to the costs of staffing and bus hire to transport service user volunteers to FRAG and to the allotment.

Church Crookham Junior School PTA - £5,000 Playground equipment

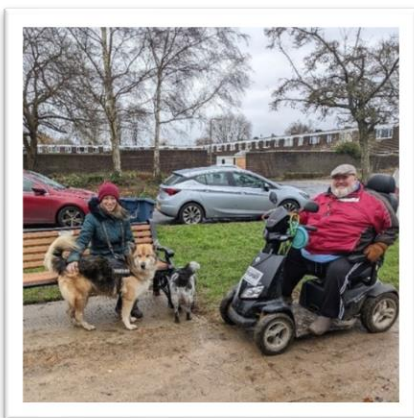
The grant was used towards the cost of a 'Birds nest' play equipment. It is an unusual piece of equipment which the children can use creatively to play and chat with their friends.

Teachers and parents say how fantastic the equipment is and how much the children really enjoy playing on it.



Prospect Estate Big Local (PEBL) - £4,505 PEBL green spaces community seating

The funding enabled PEBL to install four brand new picnic tables in Moor Road Park and two benches along Cove Brook towards Blunden Park. This seating has enabled elderly and vulnerable members of our community who previously had nowhere to sit or rest, somewhere to enjoy these green spaces. Families and older people were previously having to sit on the grass.



The seating can be seen being used every day and enjoyed by all ages of the community, many of whom are often seen 'watching the world go by'.





The picnic tables, strategically located between the children's pirate playground and the adult exercise equipment, are constantly being used and no doubt will be all the more so during the summer months.

They create opportunities for community members to engage, relax and communicate.

At our community litter pick, we met at the Picnic tables with approximately 30 local residents to clean up the surrounding area. The tables at Moor Road Park also serve as a great meeting point for community activities.



The overall unanimous positive feedback and visual evidence of the seating's daily usage clearly demonstrates the success of the project.

One 93-year-old resident expressed that without the benches for him to stop and rest, he would be unable to enjoy walking along Cove Brook. With his crutches, he is now able to get out of the house and enjoy the beauty and wildlife along the brook. He said they have given him a 'new lease of life'.

Another elderly resident explained that his wife loves to walk along the brook towards Moor Road, but his health no longer enables him to join her. Now that there is seating installed along the brook and at Moor Road, he can go with his wife and rest at regular intervals when it gets too much. Sometimes she walks on while he waits on the bench until she turns round and comes back so they can walk home together. Both he and his wife expressed their deep gratitude and appreciation for the project and how it has enhanced their lives and ability to be active.

Tower Hill Primary School - £5,000 Quiet Zone

The funding has allowed us to create a dedicated outdoor space 'The Quiet Zone'. This space is used throughout the day, at lunchtimes, during lessons and we have started to make a plan for pre-schools and other community groups to be able to have access to it.





The biggest difference to date is the positive impact it has had on those children who find the unstructured times of day difficult. It has provided them with a structure and a dedicated space away from the main playground. We have also been able to use it during ELSA sessions and for 1:1 sessions for those children who need 'bubble time.'



The feedback has been extremely positive from all stakeholders including staff, children, parents and governors. As a result of this, we have begun to redesign and develop a similar area so that we can expand the provision and impact on more children in the next academic year.