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Carnival History Discovered in Lock-up



Pieces of Nuneaton Carnival history have been discovered in a lock-up in the town.

Nine trophies and shields from Nuneaton Carnival were found in a lock-up in Camp Hill following a new committee taking over the event.

The awards date back to the 1950s and would have been presented to the winners of several of the carnival's categories, including best float and best dressed.

David Hawley, the committee's treasurer, said the event had taken place since 1930, and he hoped by "*publicising the event's past*", it would "*help to secure its future*".

The carnival previously announced it would not return in 2025 due to a lack of volunteers.

However, after a new team assembled, the event is scheduled to take place on 24 August.

Andy Sergeant, the carnival's chair, said one of the artefacts was so big it was "*like the World Cup*".

He added that the committee wanted to get the trophies cleaned up and find the people whose names had been engraved.

We want to trace the families of the event's carnival queens from the past in order to "*fill in*

the blanks" of its history, Mr Sergeant said.

"We'd like them to give us some idea of what it meant to them, the first carnival queen would have lived through the war, so it's a massive history project."

The committee's chair added that it had reached out to the town's museum, external and hoped the trophies would be displayed in an exhibition.

"Hopefully publicising the trophies will remind the past winners of how much fun they had in the carnival and they will be there to join us in August," Mr Hawley said.

"We don't want it to die out."

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Nuneaton Heart Transplant Success Story Welcomes Royalty

A Nuneaton man who received a life-saving heart transplant was among guests welcoming HRH Duchess of Gloucester to the opening of a new “one-stop shop” transplant centre at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham.

The Edmonds Transplant Centre enables patients to receive all of their care, both prior to and after their operation, in one place.

Imran Vorajee, 44, from Nuneaton, received a life-saving heart transplant at the hospital in 2018.

Mr Vorajee was diagnosed with end-stage heart failure at 37 years old and spent three months in a coma at the QEHB while he waited for a transplant.

He told the BBC he *“owed everything to the heart donor who saved his life”*.

The new centre, which was funded by the University Hospitals Birmingham Charity, provides patients with pre-transplant consultations, additional fitness classes prior to surgery, support groups and rehabilitation classes after surgery.

QEHB is one of the leading transplant centres



in Europe for heart, liver, lung and kidney surgeries.

Mike Hammond from the charity added that the new facility would help the hospital increase the number of transplants it carried out and complete research to make transplants *“more successful and last longer”*.

Seven years after he received his transplant, Mr Vorajee said he was looking forward to playing table tennis at the World Transplant Games.

He added that *“with his new heart”*, he no longer took things for granted.

“I feel that it hasn’t changed me as a person, but I’m making the most of my new life now thanks to my donor,” he said.



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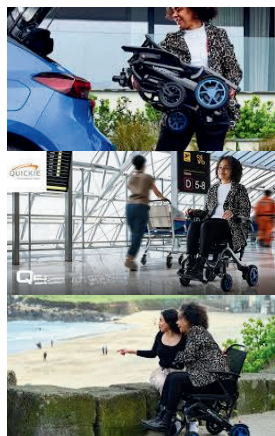
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Revamps for Local Recreation Grounds

Three recreation grounds in Nuneaton - Marlborough Road Park, Attleborough Recreation Ground and Sorrell Road Community Park - have all had makeovers.

£375,000 of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funding was used

across all three projects, with Sorrell Road also benefitting from £100,000 provided by Hill Top and Caldwell (HTC) Big Local Lottery.

All three parks have benefitted from the installation of new play equipment that caters for younger and older children, new outdoor gym equipment, additional benches and new bins.

In addition, Sorrell Road Community Park has also benefitted from a remarked ball court, with new knee-high fencing and a new tarmac path network, improving accessibility for all.

An official opening of Sorrell Road Community Park will take place on Wednesday, 28 May, between 2:00pm and 3:00pm, with ice cream and goodies available.

Cllr Brady Hughes, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Health, said: "Our green spaces are so important for physical and mental wellbeing; I



am delighted to see that the hard work put in to transforming these parks is finally complete.

"This work has given each of the recreation grounds a terrific lift, with new facilities that we hope will bring many benefits to the people of the Borough for years to come".

A spokesperson for HTC Big Local added: "We've been working with residents on the Big Local project since 2015 to make the area an even better place to live.

"As we're coming to the end of our ten-year programme this year, we're proud to have been able to collaborate with the Borough Council, using part of our £1m lottery funding, to upgrade the park at Sorrell Road.

"This is a great legacy for residents in Hill Top."



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Kicking off on 23 July families and children of all ages are invited to join in the festivities throughout Hinckley town centre.

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on offer including bike maintenance workshops with Northside Bikes, bike tagging and security advice from Hinckley Police, and balance bikes for the younger children, plus lots of tips on active leisure thanks to Active Hinckley.

20 AUGUST: ALLSTARS SHOW

Show off your talent at our Allstars Show in Argents Mead!

Organisers invite local performers to join them for an entertaining showcase of skills.

Local performing arts schools will showcase their talent through music, song and dance for all to enjoy. Plus, there'll be plenty of have-a-go tasters for children in the audience to join in the fun and try something new.

All events are free and open to the public, running from 11am to 3pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to come together, have fun, and celebrate the vibrant community of Hinckley.

For more details about these free events and additional information, please visit hinckleybid.co.uk



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POSTAL ENTRIES ACCEPTED ONLY

Please send all competition entries to: **The Local Rock**
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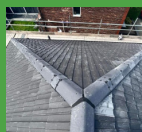
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