

Slough Fort News



As Autumn finally hits and Winter is just around the corner, the Trust have desperately been trying to weatherproof the fort. With the success of winning two grants for windows and doors for the Main Fort, these have now been successfully installed ready for restoration of the rooms. At the moment, the floor of the Guardroom is currently being dug out in preparation for future renovation, more of which will be revealed in the next edition.

Windows and doors bring us a step closer

After successfully gaining funding for the Main Fort windows and doors from Leader, Kent Community Foundation and AC Gotham, we recently took delivery from Faversham Joinery. Once the items where onsite and prepped, Colin worked extremely hard to install the beautifully crafted items, breathing new life into the Fort!





Volunteers Ralph, Steve & Dave prepping the windows before being installed.









Thanks for your support from the Trustees and volunteers of Slough Fort!









Trustees Colin & Keith installing window sills before fitting the windows

Crowdfunding Page Still Live

During the uncertainty of the summer, we decided to set up a crowdfunding page in order to raise much needed funding to help cover the cost of the new windows and doors. In addition, we are raising funding to remove the temporary handrails at the top of the fort. These temporary handrails were put in place for safety reasons but new handrails need to be situated in the original location between the chimneys that Orbit kindly built for us in 2019.





Relocating these handrails will be another step to bringing back authenticity to the Fort.

Thank you to everyone who has already donated If you would like to donate (no matter how small), you can find links via our Facebook page or use the web address or QR code

> https://www.justgiving.com/ crowdfunding/slough-fort? utm_term=mV2bvX6bR

Medway 'Time To Change'

As we approach World Mental Health day on Saturday 10th October, the Fort would like to acknowledge Medway's 'Time to Change'. This year, the Fort was due to run an event promoting the Medway hub but unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. The event was due to host guest speakers, artists, music and organisations who all support mental health within Medway.

We are happy to announce this event will now be rescheduled in 2021.



For more information on the Medway hub you can find them on **Facebook**

www.facebook.com/Timeto-Change-Medway-101755051679809



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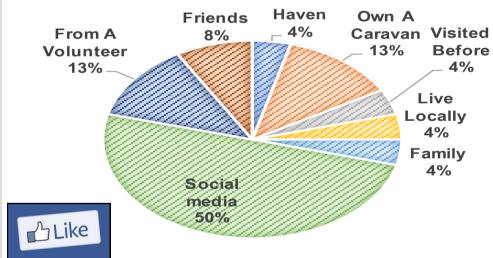
Sunday Tours

Being unable to run our normal Sunday tours from April until July due to the Covid-19 restrictions, it was decided to switch the remaining tours to ticket only events. This has enabled us to monitor and if needed, Track and Trace all our visitors. It was also decided in order to raise much needed income, that we would increase to two tours each Sunday. This method has proven to be very successful and maybe something to adopt in the post-Covid future.

This new method of purchasing tickets online has also given us an opportunity to ask our guests how they had heard about the Fort. This information has proven to be invaluable as we try to raise the profile of the Fort to the larger community. As you can see on the pie chart below, 50% of our visitors discovered Slough Fort via our social media pages.

Our active campaign to raise our social media profile is proving to be successful and we urge all our followers to like, share and promote our Facebook page so our fan base can grow.

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT SLOUGHFORT?



Electric Medway @ Slough Fort

Electric Medway, a new digital arts festival, in conjunction with Medway Council, visited the Fort in September.

The musicians Standish and von Bergdorf asked if they could use the Fort for its unusual acoustics and backdrop. An impressive piece of musical video was captured at our unique location.

To view their performance, you can access it via YouTube on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nf3kVrZLnzY

https://electricmedway.co.uk/



Keep a lookout for the December Edition of Slough Fort News where we will be reviewing the remarkable progress made in 2020, despite it being a somewhat strange year!

Paranormal Investigations

Although the Fort does not run the Paranormal events ourselves, we do enable the hire of the Fort to groups for investigation of our ghosts.

Unfortunately, with the new Covid restrictions, the trustees have had to postpone all private groups from investigating at the Fort. Hopefully, these will be rescheduled to 2021.

However, there are a number of paranormal companies who have obtained the 'Good to Go' Covid standard enabling them to safely run events during the current restrictions.



Recently, a number of groups have heard whistling on a number of different occasions and evidence captured.

If you would like to attend an investigation, you can find links to purchase tickets via our Facebook page.



Annual General Meeting

If you would like to find out more on what has been happening at the Fort throughout 2020, our AGM will be held on 28th November from 7pm.

The meeting will cover reports from our chairman Keith, and from our Treasurer Daune, as well as talks from the other trustees. It will also cover appointments of existing and new trustees.

The meeting will also allow the Trust to listen to any feedback and to answer any questions that you may have.

If you would like to attend, please contact:

secretary@sloughfort.org.uk

We hope that you found this Newsletter informative. Please do contact us if you are able to provide any support to us in the form of tools/materials or time so that we may continue with our vital work to get Slough Fort back to its former glory.

Please find us on our Facebook
Page—Slough Fort Preservation
Trust and on our website
www.sloughfort.org.uk

