

The fort has been a hive of activity over the winter months preparing the fort for the start of the weekly tours held every Sunday. The progress has seen the internal area of the 1902 turned into a museum which has now been fully kitted out with a reception counter and period lighting. The magazine has also seen the start of what can be described as a particularly messy job of lime washing the walls. If you haven't visited the fort for some time, we are sure you will be impressed by its progress.

Fort Sponsors

The Trust are always looking for extra help from companies who can help. By reaching out it allows the volunteers to progress the restoration and will hopefully one day remove Slough fort from the endangered ancient monuments list.



Mark Mckenzie Donating Tools

One such company is National Grid, Grain LNG which stores liquefied natural gas in tanks. Grain LNG, which can be seen from the fort, has supplied power tools and materials which then led to them holding a team day at the

fort. The team day enabled colleagues from the site to pull together and help install steps to the magazine and paint iron work.

Did You Know?

Volunteers at the fort can receive Tempo time credits. Time credits are earned by volunteering at Slough Fort. Depending on the amount of hours worked, you can earn up to 5 per month which allows you to enter attractions such as the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, West Gate Towers Museum (Canterbury) or Diggerland. You can also use them for nationwide attractions including gyms and leisure venues. For more information speak to Colin or visit <https://timecredits.com/>



Recent volunteer activity

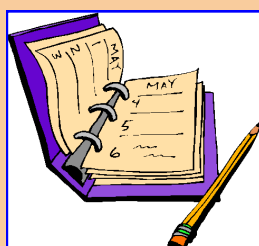
Our volunteers have worked hard to erect Harris Fencing around the entrance to the Fort in an effort to increase security.



Events Calendar

Over the next 2 months we have a number of events for you to get involved in

- **7th Apr** - Sunday Tours start @ 11am (every Sunday)
- **13th & 27th Apr** - Work days
- **20th Apr Paranormal night**—Dusk Till Dawn
- **21st Apr** - Easter Open Day 10am—4pm
- **26th Apr Paranormal night**—Ghost Hunt Events
- **11th & 25th May** - Work days
- **11th May Paranormal night**—Ghost Hunter Tours
- **18th May Paranormal night** - Dusk Till Dawn



Please note all Paranormal nights are not run by the trust who only supply the venue for the investigations, all bookings should be made via the relevant groups websites

Wish List

If anybody would like to donate to the fort, this is our current wish list:

- Any wood over 1m in length to reinstate ceilings in the main fort
- Building materials such as sand, cement, ballast, pea shingle
- Type 1 road stone for vital access road repairs
- Free use of equipment including excavator, crane, hi-ab and the use of a bricklayer
- Electrical light fittings, cable
- Leftover DIY materials - screws/nails
- Company team building days

Easter Open Day

Easter Sunday 21st April 10am—4pm

Guided Tours at 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 1.30 and 2.30

Easter Egg Raffle, Children's colouring, Hook a Duck, Lucky Eggs!, Find the Lucky Square, dressing up and more!

Refreshments available

Entry fee included a guided tour

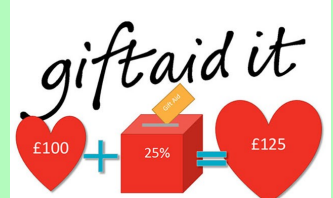
Price Adults £4, Children £1

Gift Aid

Last year, all visitors had an opportunity to tick the Gift Aid box when paying. Gift Aid is a way for charities to increase monetary gifts from UK taxpayers by claiming back basic rate tax from HMRC. It doesn't incur any extra cost to the visitor but can help the fort increase funds from entry by up to 25%. Last year we were able to claim back

£232.50

However, many visitors have not previously signed up to this so if you visit the fort, please could you help us by signing up to Gift Aid? Thank You ☺



Kreston Reeves Team Day

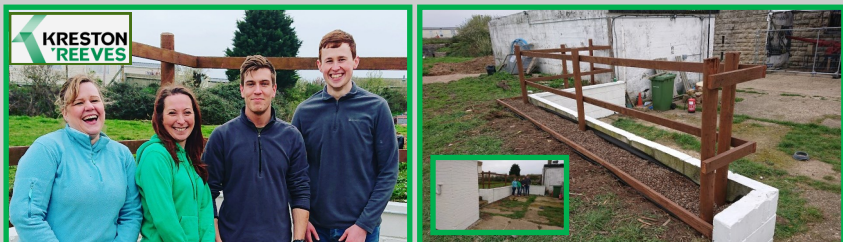


On Friday 22nd March, four Kreston Reeves employees attended Slough Fort for a community team day. The task set by the fort was to paint our toilet building along with an adjoining wall but additionally to erect a fence along the top of the wall. The team consisting of Dan, Alan, Gem and Anneka took on the project with fantastic enthusiasm and managed to totally transform the area. It was an absolute pleasure working with this polite, friendly and dedicated team who have significantly helped with our community restoration programme.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my day volunteering at Slough Fort. It was great that we managed to make such a positive difference in the short time that we spent there. The trustees were incredibly friendly and interesting, and it was great that we got to have our own private tour of the Fort! I would thoroughly recommend a visit to Slough Fort and I will watch with eagerness at the exciting things planned in the future" - Anneka

If you would like to hold a community team day at the fort we have tasks for every skill level from painting, landscaping and building please contact
Stuart.Clack@sloughfort.org.uk

"I thought it was a great way to get to know colleagues better and gave me a chance to do things that I wouldn't normally do which gave me a real sense of achievement. I also find it gives you a really good positive feeling knowing you have done something to help others." — Gem



New Look Reception

Our newly installed

Reception area in the 1902 building has been installed along with a display cabinet to show off some of our artifacts



Trustees



There are 8 Trustees that are responsible for the day to day running of the Fort. Daune holds one of the most important roles at the Fort, that of Fort Secretary and Treasurer which allows her to harness her excellent organisational skills. Daune has a keen interest in history and so she jumped

at the chance to volunteer for Slough Fort which is located in her local community, as she has a passion for renovation and seeing places of historical importance being brought back to life. Just some of her responsibilities include the management of the finances of the Fort, arranging Trust meetings and AGMs, minute takings and the organisation of the volunteers for our work days. She is of course notorious for making an excellent bacon sandwich for our hungry team of volunteers. Without Daune's continued support, the Fort would not be able to function as it does. Thanks Daune!

Well Glacis

The Well Glacis has now been reshaped back to its former glory. The well glacis was originally formed to protect the vital Well and its water supply from attack. The term glacis is a French derived term for a artificial or natural bank sloping down from the Fort. Our long term goal is to have a functioning Well with a wind pump and for the Glacis to become a wild-flower meadow haven for wildlife.



Fort Fact — Often our visitors are confused at why it is called Slough fort, as we know Slough is a town miles away from Kent. But Slough actually means marsh or bog filled with deep mud.

Grants

Much of the work the trustees do goes on behind the scenes. As with many charity organisations, we require continuous funding. Apart from fundraising, this can only be achieved by applying for grants from various sources. The grants can take over 6 months to complete which often requires detailed applications and accompanying paper work to be successful. Success rates of grants are normally only 1 in 10 applications. Recently we had success from two sources, DCPS and HLF grants. The DCPS grant will enable us to sew wild flowers on the well glacis and the HLF grant will help us install windows and doors to the magazine.



Recently two of our Trustees Daune and Colin represented Slough Fort at the Pride in Medway 2019 awards and received the following plaque in recognition of our continued efforts.



Paranormal Nights



Have you ever watched Most Haunted on TV and wondered what its all about or wondered what the Fort would be like in the dead of night? Well now's your chance because the Fort has opened its doors to a number of paranormal groups who will be investigating the Fort's older residents. If you would like to join one of these groups you can book via their websites.

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 Volunteers Group** and on our website
www.sloughfort.org.uk

