



SHERWOOD FOREST

WHERE LEGENDS GROW

12 November 2021

Forest pebbles transformed into Remembrance tributes

More than 180 uniquely painted pebbles have been created by Edwinstowe residents for Remembrance Day in a project organised by RSPB Sherwood Forest.

As well as the traditional red poppies and the unmistakable image of the Unknown Soldier, purple poppies, honouring animals who were killed in action, have been painted by schoolchildren and members of organisations in the village.

The project was organised by Carol Hallam, Community and Volunteer Development Officer at RSPB Sherwood Forest, who collected the pebbles from the world-famous National Nature Reserve.

Villagers took part in painting sessions which were held at Edwinstowe House and outside the Co-op store during October.

Pupils from King Edwin Primary School, and girls from the 2nd Edwinstowe Rainbows and Brownies painted their own designs in class or at their pack meetings, as did members of the Edwinstowe Merry Women Women's Institute.

Each pebble has been varnished to protect its artwork from the elements and placed either at the Edwinstowe village War Memorial or the RSPB Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre ahead of Remembrance Sunday, in memory of those from the local community who have given their lives in conflict.

Carol said: "This has been a real community effort and a chance for people to show their gratitude for those who gave their lives to serve our nation.

"Thank you to all the individuals and groups for creating such an amazing display of artwork, to Edwinstowe House and the Co-op for hosting our community sessions and to the Edwinstowe branch of the Royal British Legion, Edwinstowe Parish Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council and RSPB Sherwood Forest for supporting the project."

Jane Chapman, Assistant Guider of the 2nd Edwinstowe Rainbows and Brownies, said: "All the girls, from our five-year old Rainbows to the older Brownies, were really happy

to be involved and had a lovely time taking part in creating their own tributes on the pebbles.”

To find out more about Community and Volunteer opportunities with RSPB Sherwood Forest, email carol.hallam@rspb.org.uk

ENDS

Attached are pictures of:

Some of the pebbles on display at the Edwinstowe Village War Memorial

Carol Hallam, Community and Volunteer Development Officer, RSPB Sherwood Forest

Notes to editors:

RSPB Sherwood Forest is a National Nature Reserve (NNR) covering 375 hectares (926 acres) of woodland pasture and heathland in North Nottinghamshire. The Reserve, famously associated with the legend of Robin Hood, typically welcomes around 350,000 visitors per year. It is home to Europe’s largest collection of ancient oak trees, with almost 1,000, many aged over 500 years old, including the iconic Major Oak.

Sherwood and the adjoining Budby South Forest Reserve today provide a habitat for hundreds of bird, mammal and insect species, as well as trees, plants and fungi. The Reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Since 2015, the Reserve has been managed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) on behalf of, and in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council. Other partners include The Sherwood Forest Trust, Thoresby Estate and The Woodland Trust.

The RSPB is the UK’s largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home. Together with our partners, we protect threatened birds and wildlife so our towns, coast and countryside will teem with life once again. We play a leading role in BirdLife International, a worldwide partnership of nature conservation organisations.

For more information visit www.visitsherwood.co.uk or call 01623 677321.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity. In England and Wales, no: 207076. In Scotland, no: SC037654.

