



Cricklade Manorial Court celebrates National Lottery support for North Meadow National Nature Reserve

The Manorial Court for the Hundred and Borough of Cricklade is celebrating receiving a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £33,400 for an exciting heritage project, Forever Normead, at North Meadow, Cricklade. Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project will improve the experience of visitors to North Meadow and create a pool of volunteers to help care for it in future.

Supported through The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project involves the purchase of 5.5 acres of North Meadow land previously held in private ownership, the creation of a web site to deliver audio, text and pictures of North Meadow together with new interpretation boards and QR points at the Meadow. In addition, there will be a series of conservation courses on offer, including those on butterflies, bumble bees, dragonflies and moths, plant recording and scything. These will aim to recruit and train 60 conservation volunteers for North Meadow.

North Meadow is well known as the home of the rare Snakeshead Fritillary flower – around 80% of Britain's Snakeshead Fritillaries grow there. It has a great variety of wildflowers and is one of the finest examples of a lowland hay meadow in Europe. The Meadow is protected as a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest and attracts over 10,000 visitors each year, many arriving in the Spring when the Fritillaries are in full bloom.

Commenting on the grant, Clive Smith the High Bailiff of the Manorial Court said: "We are thrilled to have received this support thanks to National Lottery players and it will allow the people of Cricklade and those who visit North Meadow to see and learn more about this important and ancient hay meadow "



Notes to editors

About The Manorial Court for the Hundred and Borough of Cricklade

The Manorial Court has been in existence for c800 years and has been connected with the management of North Meadow grazing rights since the time of Charles I. The Court is now a charity, known as Cricklade Court Leet Charity, registration number 1179807.

About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire, lead** and **resource** the UK's heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future. www.heritagefund.org.uk.

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Further information

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