



Into Delivery and beyond...

On Wednesday 8th November, after a 4 month wait, the Heritage Lottery Fund said “yes” to funding the Nenescape Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS). We were a team again.

Amanda Johnson, our Project Manager, remains in post as does Ali Cross our Interpretation & Community Engagement Officer (ICE). Denise Horn is now working full-time as Project Support Officer and Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Amanda began beavering away to prepare additional documents for HLF and new contracts for us all as we embark on our 5-year journey together. It was something to celebrate both personally and professionally. Ali hit the “send” button to deliver her press release to local and national media organisations. There was a buzz of elation mixed with a dazed realisation that this was it, we now had a great responsibility to deliver the project that had been nurtured by those before us and during our year’s work in development. Exciting times.

Growing the Nenescape team

We welcome Andy Beal to the Nenescape Building Bridges project

Fisheries Enforcement Support Service Project Officer with the Angling Trust

The Angling Trust is a partner of Nenescape exploring the people and heritage in the ever-changing landscape of the Nene Valley.

This has provided an opportunity for the Fisheries Enforcement Support Service to employ Andy as a part-time Project Officer, working across both the Voluntary Bailiff Service, in support of Eastern Regional Enforcement Manager Paul Thomas, and enhancing delivery of the ‘Building Bridges’ Project in the Nenescape area.

Contact: andy.beal@anglingtrust.net



The Launch – Concert at the Royal Albert Hall

There was no better way to reflect the excitement of our launch than to have the honor to be present at the debut of “Nene” a specially commissioned work by composer Benjamin Till who grew up in Higham Ferrers.

The piece was performed by around 700 young people from the Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust, Rutland Music and Peterborough Music Hub, at the Royal Albert Hall in November. The concert was the first of our partners to deliver their project.

Whilst the performance was stunning, everything it had promised to be and more; we were touched to listen to some of the performers “off-duty”. Their excitement and enthusiasm for what they were about to do was inspirational.



Performance of 'Nene' by students of NMPAT at the Royal Albert Hall (image: NMPAT)

If you would also like to experience this musical journey along the “Nene”, a 25-minute version of the piece is to be performed by the County Youth Orchestra, County Youth Choir, County Youth Brass Band, County Senior Girls’ Choir and a massed choir of local school children in Northampton and Peterborough.

Performances will be at the Royal & Derngate Theatre in Northampton on Tuesday 8th March 2018 and at Peterborough Cathedral on Saturday 17th March 2018.

Tickets are available from the box office at the Royal and Derngate www.royalaltderngate.co.uk (£9 per adult / £7 under 16s) or for Peterborough, the Oundle Festival box office www.oundlefestival.org.uk (£15per adult / £10 concessions)



Beth Hodgson conducting at the Royal Albert Hall (image: NMPAT)

Volunteering update

We met many people during development who were interested in volunteering with us so we were very pleased to invite prospective volunteers to induction sessions in January. Attendees were able to find out lots more about the Nenescape project and to get to know the team a little better. Likewise, we were able to learn so much about those who had expressed an interest in the Nene Valley and in supporting the Nenescape project.

We were thrilled to meet such positive and generous people from a wide range of backgrounds, so important for us as we will have a variety of volunteering opportunities to offer.

The volunteering element of Nenescape is just beginning. We are recruiting for our Volunteer Task force which is made up of HEAR, EYES and LOCK teams. The HEAR team is Historical Exploration and Advancement of Research, EYES will focus on Engagement, Youth and Events Support and the LOCK team will concentrate on Local Outdoor Conservation and Knowledge.

So we are interested in hearing from anyone who would like to be a part of our team. If you would like to know more about becoming a Nenescape volunteer, please contact Denise either by email denise@nrp.org or telephone 01536 526451



We had some lovely comments after the sessions from the people we met:

“A very positive experience, I am very much looking forward to being involved”

“Thank you so much for making specific access arrangements for me”

“Lovely to meet new people. Feeling inspired”

“Very informative and well presented. Lovely cup of coffee”

Training starts early

Keen to offer our first batch of volunteers something to get their teeth into we arranged a training opportunity in historical research at Northampton Central Library and have made initial contact with a provider who will be able to train people in identifying and cataloguing historical artefacts.

Image: Jon-Paul Carr, Northamptonshire Studies Manager, with volunteers at Northampton Central Library (D Horn)



Also joining the Nenescape team...

Rockingham Forest Trust (RFT) welcomes five new members of staff to the team, who will deliver the Nenescape Settlers of the Nene project

Becky Gill - Project and Community Heritage Manager
Helen Norman - Heritage Community Coordinator
Mark Wood - Heritage Skills Coordinator
Alison Neville - Schools Coordinator
Tracy Lewis - Administration Coordinator

RFT is another delivery partner within Nenescape and their project will be researching, recording and sharing the skills and journeys of people who have settled in the Nene Valley over the last 10,000 years.



The new team will also plan to create a new interpretation barn based at Stanwick Lakes, that will demonstrate the different building techniques used by past generations. We're looking forward to hearing more from this team soon.

General information for your interest:

Heritage Lottery Fund – grant consultation

Thankfully we have secured funding for five years to deliver the Nenescape LPS, however the Heritage Lottery Fund has decided to suspend their future LPS grants and are currently consulting on the options for the future of their grant offer. If you would like to express your opinion please use this link <https://g4-emea.yougov.com/v38g6tWsrz20t8>

Changing the way we provide our newsletter

The Data Protection Act is changing in May 2018 into the GDPR, a new data protection law, which aims This 998 Data protection act which aims to protect EU citizens from privacy and data breaches. Therefore, we have a legal requirement to improve the way we communicate.

This will be our last newsletter in this format. As from March 2018 we ask that all our new and existing newsletter readers sign up to our online newsletter which will be delivered via Mailchimp. Go to <http://nenescape.org> and use the subscription area

at the bottom of the page. We do hope you will stay with us as our project continues!

There will be a wide variety of volunteer roles over the next five years but we are currently working on our Artcodes of the Nene project and we'd like to hear from anyone with a digital background or people who would like to test our prototype app. *Please feel free to get in touch either to volunteer or for more information about this project.

You can also keep track of what we are up to on twitter and Facebook



*For more information contact alison@rnrp.org