Interpretation Consultants appointed

We are pleased to have appointed our Interpretation Team, who will be working on the 2nd Stage Heritage Lottery Bid with us. They are WideSky Design (digital media design), Querceus Design (interpretive and museum design) and Catherine Chroney (Strategic consultancy and storyline).

Chris Parker from WideSky, Mike Oakenfull from Querceus and Catherine have worked together on a number of projects, most recently re-fitting visitor centres for the Peak District National Park. They have worked on a wide variety of projects - including museums, visitor centres, national parks and historic buildings. Past clients include the National Trust, Historic Royal Palaces, the Houses of Parliament, English Heritage and many charitable trusts.

An exciting NEW GAME is being created

Students from Sheffield Hallam University are working on a project to build a virtual reality experience about William Brewster and Scrooby Manor. Led by tutor David Wilson, who lives in Ranskill and knows the area well, the students are re-creating the sitting room and a secret chapel where visitors or ‘gamers’ will be able to pick up artefacts and find clues that will draw them into the VR experience. Dave says ‘It’s early days yet but the 3D art is looking great and our students are really interested and enthusiastic about the subject matter’. We can’t wait to see the results!

Did you know?

The Pilgrims clothes weren’t just black and white. The children had some interesting names: two girls named Fear and Patience, and three boys named Love, Wrestling... and Jonathan! The Pilgrims from our area were Separatists - people who wanted to have their own church, and not be part of the state Church of England - at a time when this was illegal and forbidden.

Men from our region who sailed on the Mayflower signed an important document called the Mayflower Compact - it set out an agreement between the passengers to work together once they got to America - to ensure their survival. They ended up in the wrong place at the wrong time of year, and had to make their own agreement to come together as a ‘civil body politic’. The principles of this document were later said to have inspired the American Constitution.

There were 102 passengers on the Mayflower - 32 were children.

In 1955, a group of American descendants visited England and Holland and recorded their visit on plaques in Babworth and Scrooby - ‘On their first Pilgrimage – 152, by planes – to the Netherlands and England’ - similar plaques can be found across the country.

Thomas Bayard was the US Ambassador to the UK in the late 1890s - he laid a foundation stone at the John Robinson Memorial Church in Gainsborough, and was instrumental in getting William Bradford’s diary - which recorded the Pilgrims’ story - repatriated to the USA after it was found in the library at Fulham Palace in London.

Contact details

Email Sandra.withington@bassetlaw.gov.uk
Tel 01909 533533
www.pilgrimroots.org

Preliminary design ideas for the panels, to be placed on the PILGRIM TRAIL.

Preliminary design ideas for the new spaces at the Museum in Retford - to be devoted to the PILGRIM STORY.

St Wilfrids’ Church, Scrooby

Sheep farming was common in the Retford area in the 1600s

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