Dundee Law Newsletter

No. 12 – August to September 2018

Welcome to the latest Dundee Law Heritage Project newsletter. The aim of this Heritage Lottery and Dundee City Council

funded initiative is to improve the iconic site at the heart of the city. The funding provides a range of enhancements to the Law and attracts more people to the site.

40 Views of the Law

The winners of our poetry competition have all been picked and we're at the last stages of the design process now, so we're on course for a launch in September. We'll be sure to let you know as soon as we have finalised this. Here's a peek at the winning poem *Conquerors*. We've got poems in Scots, English and even Dundonian, as well as our junior section. Some of the poets

Geese skein hame. She tugs hir blue plaid agin sair winter and minds the het smuirichs frae hir love. Whit a grip.

He'd leukit oer the strath, swore they'd win it thegither -the howkit firth, the quiverin watter, aw things.

She cloud-peers the gloamin fir him awa hard marchin the Gask Ridge wi the rest. 'We're Roman soldiers' he bleized.

will be reading at the launch, and we hope you'll come along to see them then.

New Interpretation Panels

The long-serving metal panels at the summit of the Law are finally going to be replaced in the next few months. The new boards will be updated to reflect the changing knowledge about our most iconic greenspace and add sections on nature and history. In the case of the panels reflecting the local skyline we've also had to make a fair few changes as Dundee has changed so much in the last 20 years – most obviously the demolition of various 'multis' and the growth of the V and A. We hope you'll enjoy the new panels.

Volunteer Afternoon

Our next volunteer day is on **Sunday 9 September, starting at 1pm.** We'll meet at the lower car park on Law Road and will be undertaking some practical conservation work. We'll supply all the tools and the training of how to use them and will offer free refreshments when we've finished working.





Friends of Dundee Law

The Friends group is looking for more members. If you'd like to get involved in any capacity please get in touch with the Community Participation Officer. The **AGM** will take place at the new Hilltown Community Centre on **Monday 10 September at 6pm**. The group would like any help you could give to advise the Council how to care for the Law. It's your hill!

Nature on the Law

Summer is moving to a close now, but we have had a tremendous summer this year. June and July were as dry and hot as any can remember for some time. This has certainly helped butterfly numbers – our weekly surveys have picked up good numbers of whites as well as many other species (like this small copper) – and we've seen a healthy amount of ladybirds. But some of our flowers have struggled a little. The poppies don't look like being as spectacular as they were last year with the dry weather. Our yellow rattle likes hot summers



though and we hope it has established itself, along with the other species that it paves the way for.

Tree Work

One promised part of the project that has been a bit slow to take shape has been the extensive work planned for the woods on the hill. Funding is now hopefully on the way for this last section of work and we'd hope to undertake this during 2019. You might not notice a huge change in the skyline, though, as only some selected trees are going to be removed, with more in some areas than others, but never more than 30% in any area. A full plan of what will be happening will be available to the Friends when it has been finalised so staying in touch with them is a good way to find out what is happening on the Law.

The Dundee Law Heritage Project

So, as the main phase of the project draws to a close we hope that you've seen a huge change in the Law. It's not finished quite yet and there are still a few key works to be completed, but we've seen the steps and stairs totally rejuvenated, wild flower meadows put in place and a Friends group created, amongst the highlights. Please keep visiting the Law and support the Friends in their aims to keep Dundee Law as the city's number one natural space. Thanks!

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