

SHARING HERITAGE LOTTERY GRANT

National Lottery support for, The Muck & Flea Club, a Sharing Heritage Grant.

Today 18th August 2018, the Bacup Natural History Society & Museum Committee are thrilled to announce we have been successful in bidding for a Heritage Lottery, Sharing Heritage Grant and have received a National Lottery grant of £10,000 for a project called The Muck & Flea Club.

The project will focus on telling the history of the Bacup Natural History Society as we celebrate our 140th Anniversary.

Fondly known as the “Nat”, we will research and tell the stories about the men from the Nat who took part in World War 1, those who came home and those who did not.

Originally known as the “Muck & Flea Club” then the “Bug Club” we plan to hold four Bug Day Events consisting of using microscopes bug viewers to view and record items from our collections. A fossil day workshop will be held by our Fossil expert Arthur Baldwin where children and adult visitors can learn about the fossils in our collection, how they were created, their environment and species, with the invitation to bring in their own finds for expert advice. There will be a Bug House Day with a talk from a guest Entomologist and a Wild Roadshow consisting of a hands on animal encounter workshop.

And as a last remembrance to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice we would like to place a commemorative WW1 bench and There But Not There Aluminium Statue in the Newgate Garden which is situated next to the museum.

We will be working with the Bacup Carnival Committee (BASCO), local shops, schools and children's groups basing the theme of the carnival in 2019 on the 1919 Peace Parade. Working with the Nat, the schools and children's groups would research and recreate the shop window displays of 1919 and the Peace Parade entries.

The shop displays will then be recreated with funding provided by us to purchase the materials etc. and any group wishing to take part in the parade would be offered a small cash donation for taking part to purchase the required materials to make the costumes etc. The shop displays would then be placed in the corresponding shops to provide a colourful backdrop to the carnival parade along with the parade entries taking part in the carnival parade.

As you can imagine the Committee are absolutely thrilled to bits, and can't wait to start.