

DURLSTON PLEASURE GROUNDS



Project Update: March

The 'Pleasure Grounds' Project will enhance Durlston's Grade II-listed Victorian landscape for nature, history and the local community, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Lottery players.

Work will include path improvements, new viewpoints and woodland management to improve wildlife habitats and the condition of historic plantings. Victorian features will be restored and opportunities for 'wild play' created. The project will also provide new ways for people to get involved, including volunteering, training and play opportunities for people with disabilities, dementia or long-term health conditions. A lift-sharing scheme will support the existing Durlston Bus.

Latest News:

- Our **Tree Cutting** works have now finished for the season. Tree surgeons have thinned out invasive Holm Oak and Sycamore to encourage a more biodiverse woodland habitat.
- The **Tuesday volunteer work group** have been removing scrub around the coast path to facilitate upcoming path improvement works and to reveal the beautiful Victorian bridge by the Castle.
- Our **Thursday volunteers** are continuing to restore the old dry-stone walls throughout the woodland. Since August 2018 they have rebuilt 40 metres and repaired another 53 metres!
- We have appointed a **Bench Artist**, Alice Blogg who will be designing and creating five bespoke benches to improve our woodland viewpoints. Learn more about her work at www.aliceblogg.co.uk
- Toby from **Dorset Horse Logging** will be back on site from 25th-28th March using his Heavy Horses to transport timber out of the woods, ready to improve the overflow carpark. Come along and see them in action!
- We are recruiting our team of volunteer '**Sheddies**' to help us run our new volunteer work base 'the shed' and help visitors take part in light volunteering tasks such as green wood working, horticulture, and craft activities. If you are interested, please get in touch using the details below.



To find out more about the Project, or get involved, visit Durlston.co.uk, email durlston@dorsetcc.gov.uk or pop in and chat to a Ranger at the Castle.