



Friends of Worthington Park wins National Lottery support

The Friends of Worthington Park in Sale has received a National Lottery grant of £5900 for an exciting heritage project, the provision of a ceramic pavement to be laid in the park to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of famous local physicist, James Prescott Joule. The project has been made possible by money raised by National Lottery players together with grants received from the Manchester Airport Community Trust Fund, Sale Mayoral Fund and private donations. The project will run from October until June of next year.

The pavement has been designed by renowned local ceramic artist, Gordon Cooke, and will provide pictorial details of both the role Joule played in the field of physics and thermodynamics and of his close connections with the town of Sale. Although not having an academic background his findings became accepted by leading scientists from across the world.

The pavement will be located in a distinctive area of the park and should attract the attention of the many people of all ages who visit the park. A key aim is to enhance the interest of young people in physics and engineering and encourage more students to consider pursuing these subjects to lead to a future career. A learning package is to be produced and made available to local primary and secondary schools with input from specialist teachers who are volunteering their time. The project aims will be monitored and outcomes assessed.

James Prescott Joule was a brewer who through looking to make his business more efficient, discovered the relationship between heat and mechanical energy which led to the derived unit of energy, the JOULE, being named after him.

The commemorative artwork will be situated near a bust of Joule and will act as a beautiful focal point for this area of the park.

Worthington Park has been a popular area for recreation since Mrs. Mary Worthington donated the land in 1900. Until 1950 it was known as Sale Park, but was later re-named Worthington Park during the Golden Jubilee (when an oak was planted by Viscount Leverhulme) in memory of the benefactor, Mrs Worthington.

Nona Dougherty, Chair of the Friends of Worthington Park said

“All our members were keen to support this project and it was with their support, particularly Rachel Fell, Christine and John Howard bidding for funds that we were able to access from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Manchester Airport Community Fund,



Sale Mayoral Fund and private donations which has enabled us to appoint Gordon Cooke, a renowned local ceramicist, to design this piece of work. Gordon has two pieces of artwork in Walkden Gardens.”

Local Councillor Jane Baugh and Vice chair of the friends group said

“As a Friends group we have managed to raise funds for a project we have been keen to develop for well over a year, knowing that this year it is 200 years since James Prescott Joule’s birth and as he was a resident of Sale and buried in Sale cemetery we thought it important to commemorate this special occasion, plus of course the Park already has a splendid bust of Joule .

We are also involving local schools and we are so fortunate to have a local residents, David Ward and Dr Peter Baugh, who have volunteered to visit and talk to pupils about the importance of Joule in science history. We are hoping the artwork will be installed in the Autumn.”

Cllr Barry Brotherton also a member of Friends of Worthington park said “I am proud of the Friends group in successfully bidding for this prestigious project and to have Gordon, a local Sale artist, create it makes the project very special.”

Notes to editors

About (name of your organisation)

Friends of Worthington Park.

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. www.hlf.org.uk. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use #NationalLottery and #HLFsupported.

Further information



LOTTERY FUNDED

For further information, images and interviews please contact (name of contact) at (organisation) on (telephone number and email address).

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