Lottery helps reveal the real story of Sherwood



Legendary forest - home to myths and miners - receives grant that will help to restore important habitats and bring history to life.

Sherwood Forest will forever be known as the home of the legendary Robin Hood and his merry men. The huge Major Oak at its centre – recently voted England’s tree of the year – is said to have hidden the band of outlaws from the Sheriff of nearby Nottingham!

What is less known is that the famous forest also supports unusual and internationally important wildlife, such as the hazel pot beetle, Welsh clearwing and Leisler's bat. The nightjar bird flies over to spend the season there along with thousands of people who visit every year.

The area is also a working landscape. The site of several coal mines, now mostly closed, tell their own story of the importance of Sherwood to the industrial development of the area.

Nottinghamshire County Council has successfully applied to HLF for a £3.7million grant to restore 200sq km of the forest and surrounding area. The work is planned to start in 2017 and will restore large areas of heathland and celebrate the forest’s cultural heritage.

John Everitt, Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, said: “This is excellent news, which confirms the national importance of Sherwood Forest and will help us to realise the vision of a Regional Park. Extra funding from HLF

will offer great opportunities to restore industrial areas to wildlife-rich heathland and woodland.”



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story of Sherwood Forest

£20m birthday bonanza! Lottery money continues to play massive role in protecting UK’s much-loved landscapes