An abundance of merriment is announced at

Students looking at Nottingham Castle's archive material Nottingham City Council

The backdrop to some of England’s most powerful folk stories – Nottingham Castle – has secured nearly £14million from the National Lottery.

News of the HLF grant means plans can now be put into action, including the creation of new galleries dedicated to Nottingham’s most famous outlaw, Robin Hood, and the story of rebellion in the city.

Great new facilities

As part of the wider project the gatehouse and Palace galleries will be restored, an adventure play area built and the visitor experience of the caves and Brewhouse Yard Cottages will be improved.

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Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands said: “Nottingham Castle will forever be linked in our imaginations to the outlaw Robin Hood and his Merry Men. There are, however, many other wonderful stories that are part of its history, including political rebellion, riots and intrigue. With the help of National Lottery players, this extraordinary historic

building will once more become a focal point for Nottingham.”

Wider benefits

The project, celebrating the Castle’s 1,000-year history, will turn it in a major heritage attraction. Wider benefits to the city include:

- 400,000 visitors in the first year
- An extra £90m for the local economy over 10 years
- 230 construction jobs created
- 500 volunteer placements
- 20,000 school visits per year with events, workshops and activities to enliven the site