



## “TRAMPING” WITH FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK

June has been a busy month at Towneley, with a Celebration of all that has been achieved through the Heritage Lottery Funding, taking place from June 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. This included a Lancashire Food Festival, a Hog Roast and Comedy Evening, a Parade of students from Unity College in Tea Party costumes, a Teddy Bear’s Picnic with traditional games on the Lawn, not to mention the Britannia Coconut Dancers and Stacksteads Band performing in the marquee on the back lawn. There was a guided walk round the new Smallholding Nature Trail, and leaflets are now available for this Trail, which includes fabulous carvings on each of the ten marker posts, made by the Lancashire and Cheshire Woodcarvers group. A teapot trail within the Hall, and an Exhibition, including Towneley Time Travellers, and a Heritage trail, all demonstrate the strong link between the Hall and the Parkland, with Silk Paintings made by members of the Friends of Towneley

Park and other members of the public, during two banner making sessions, led by Jacquie Smith. This exhibition continues in the parlour at the Hall until the middle of July, and is free to all Burnley residents.

On the weekend of June 26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> the Friends of Towneley Park arranged for two Trampers to be on free loan to anyone who wanted to experience driving these four wheeled, all terrain vehicles, (rather like small golf buggies) and were delighted to introduce 43 people to this particular type of transport. The vehicles allow those who find it difficult to walk around the park, to visit the woodlands, the nature trail, the heritage trail or simply be transported to and from the car park. The Friends of Towneley Park are considering whether to apply for funding to buy one or two vehicles, and wanted to test how useful they would be.

It was excellent, therefore, for several people to use the Trampers to be taken from their cars round to the back lawn where, in traditional style, the sounds of Hebden Bridge Brass Band resounded around the grounds, to an enthusiastic crowd who gathered in glorious sunshine behind Towneley Hall. Refreshments were served by the Friends of Towneley Hall and, despite the football results; a wonderful afternoon was had by all those who visited Towneley.

Overwhelmingly, everyone agreed that the Trampers were a huge success and would greatly add to the quality of the experience of visiting Towneley, and for many visitors with disabilities of various kinds they would be a real life style improvement. If you want further information about the Trampers, or would like **to express an interest in their use, please contact Maureen on 01282 432423. Watch for more details of the Heritage and Woodland Festival at Towneley on Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup>.**