



Area Wide Grants

CENTENARY CELEBRATION FOR THE WARMLEY SIGNAL BOX

■ AREA WIDE GRANTS 2017/18 **WARMLEY AND SISTON COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP** | CASE STUDY ■



Warmley and Siston Community Garden Group (W&SCGG) received an Area Wide Grant of £1,453.40 in 2018 to contribute towards their community event which celebrated the 100th birthday of Warmley Signal Box. Warmley Signal Box is a Grade 2 listed heritage building which was last used in 1968 to support freight trains. The award helped to publicise the centenary event, the group also purchased a gazebo and hired civilian and military costumes to help volunteers bring Edwardian history to life at the event.

The birthday celebrations were held on June 10th 2018 and provided an opportunity for members of the community to learn about the history and local heritage of the Signal Box and the Midland Railway connection to Warmley. A vintage bus service provided transport between the stalls and activities at the Signal Box and Community Garden and those at the Warmley Forest Park and Visitors Centre. Volunteers from the Warmley Scout Group,

Air Training Corps and Army Cadets assisted with marshalling at the event and the Ladies Friendship Group provided refreshments on the day, including a specially created centenary celebration cake of the Warmley Signal Box.

Secretary to Warmley and Siston Community Gardens Group, Ros Pyle, said, "It was a very sunny day; we had a Spitfire fly-pass, vintage bus service, and Graham Darby, the last signalman to work at the box, welcomed over 1,000 people into the Box on the day. The whole community thoroughly enjoyed the event and nearby businesses benefited from the increased footfall."

WSCGG is a voluntary group that has restored Warmley Signal Box and opens it to the public at weekends and bank holidays. In addition the volunteers sustain a garden and orchard in Warmley for the benefit of the community.