

CORGI TRAIL LAUNCHED IN DRIFFIELD

Corgi fever looks set to hit Driffield next week as the town prepares to welcome 18 new canine residents.

As part of Driffield Town Council's efforts to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee a Corgi Trail will be launched on **THURSDAY 2 JUNE 2022** with town centre businesses providing homes for the life sized corgis.

The aim of the trail, which runs until Sunday 4 September, is to celebrate the Queen's love of these characterful dogs as well as encouraging people to discover all that Driffield has to offer with its huge variety of shops and eateries.

The idea for the trail came from Driffield Town Councillors Amanda Croft and Andrew Coleman with local artist Siobhan Palmer designing the Driffield corgis. The life sized corgis were made by Driffield Tidy Team member Andy Wilson – assisted by Driffield Men in Sheds.

The corgis have been decorated by local school pupils from all over the Driffield area and each one represents a country of the Commonwealth.

"We are absolutely delighted to welcome the Corgis to Driffield," said Mark Blakeston, Mayor of Driffield.

"The Corgi Trail is a true community effort and is a great way for people of all ages to exercise and take a proper look at all our amazing town has to offer."

Forms are available from the Little Book Emporium (Middle Street North), Wonders of the Wolds (Market Place) or Kinship (Middle Street South) and on the Driffield Town Council website.

Those handing in the first 100 correctly completed forms will receive a specially made commemorative Driffield Corgi Trail medal and be entered into the draw in September to win their very own Corgi decorated by partner artist Siobhan Palmer. All other entries after the first 100 will receive a Corgi Trail pin badge.

Completed forms need to be returned to Little Book Emporium, Wonders of the Wolds or Kinship.

"I am absolutely delighted to be involved in such a great initiative in my home town," said Siobhan.

"I think it is so important to get involved with the local community and as an ex-teacher I am delighted that ALL the schools in the area are also doing this

The Corgis will be sited in and on Driffield businesses with Driffield Town Council's very own named after the Queen's first Corgi 'Susan' and Siobhan's personally decorated Corgi, taking pride of place in the Driffield Town Council offices on Market Walk.

"It looks set to be a brilliant summer for Driffield and the Corgi Trail is an ideal way to encourage both local people and visitors to see just what the Capital of the Wolds has to offer – as well as celebrating the jubilee and our love of dogs," said Jill Baldwin, Driffield Town Centre Officer.

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Background information:

The corgis were decorated by: Driffield School, Driffield Junior School, Driffield Northfield Infant School, Driffield Infant School, Kings Mill School, Driffield SMASH, Driffield Youth Action and schools from Nafferton, Kilham, Hutton Cranswick, Burton Agnes, North Frodingham, Beswick & Watton, Beeford, Sledmere, Wetwang, Middleton on the Wolds, and Garton on the Wolds.

Corgi Facts:

*Susan was the name of the Queens favourite Corgi. She has owned more than 30 Royal Corgis since 1945.

*In Welsh cor means small while gi is a form of the word dog

*Folk legend states that these “enchanted” dogs were gifts left by the fairies and were kept hard at work pulling fairy coaches and herding cattle for fairies

*Corgis have a double coat of hair – enabling them to have weather protection but also lose a layer in the warmer weather. This also means that they shed hair a lot – so much so that you could make another corgi out of the hair they shed.

*They are amongst the oldest herding breeds and more than 3,000 years old. They are believed to have come to Wales with the Vikings

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Note to Editors : For further information please contact Jill Baldwin on tco@driffieldtowncouncil.gov.uk or 07542782182