



Friends Of the River Crane Environment

Dear Friends,

The autumn edition of our newsletter finds us preparing for a new season of activity. Our third annual **Open Day** will be held on **Sunday 18th September**, closely followed by our **AGM** on **Wednesday 21st September**, and then our new series of Volunteer Days kicks off at the **Mereway** site on **Sunday 9th October**. Further details about all these are provided below.

We are pleased that so many of you have renewed your **memberships** and this currently stands at over **300 adults and children**. We are always keen to spread the word and welcome more members and would encourage you to circulate this newsletter to friends and colleagues. Anyone wishing to join should contact Mike Day, our membership secretary, on 020 8893 3503 or Mike.day@dsl.pipex.com

Open Day on Sunday 18th September on Craneford Fields

Our third annual **Open Day** will run from **12 noon until 5.00pm** and provide entertainment for the family as well as information on our plans for the area. **Children's entertainers**, rugby tuition and the FORCE Marquee will be on the West Field. David Rose, a **local historian** will be available to talk about the history of the area. The **Rifle Club** will be open for everyone to try their hand on the indoor range and enjoy tea and cakes. **Marsh Farm Allotments** will have an open day, where the **Thames Valley Beekeepers** will have a display, and there will be **apple identification** and tasting. Also, a **Treasure Trail** will be held around the area proposed for the Mereway Nature Park. **Guided tours** will be provided of the new stand at the Harlequins and the club will also be providing free rugby tuition for children on the fields. **Information boards** will be placed throughout the area providing details of proposals from FORCE and others and giving you an opportunity to put in your own ideas.

Annual General Meeting from 7.30pm on Wednesday 21st September at All Hallows Church Hall

Our second **AGM** is open to all our members. The Chair and Secretary will be standing for re-election and we are currently looking for a new Treasurer, as David Trigg reluctantly decided to resign following his election as a local councillor. In addition we are always interested in any members wishing to consider becoming a Trustee of the group. Any members wishing to stand for election or wanting to know more should contact our secretary, Frances Bennett, on 020 8894 6522 and Frances.Bennett@talk21.com by 14th September.

Following our formal business and a review of the last year, Keith Martin, local British Trust for Ornithology representative and FORCE Trustee will provide a presentation on the **Flora and Fauna of the Crane Valley**. We anticipate the meeting will be ended by 9.30pm.

Registered Charity No.: 1108542

Website: www.force.org.uk

E-mail: info@force.org.uk



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Kneller Gardens

The plans for Kneller Gardens were discussed at an open session at the Gardens on September 3rd. A new group, known as The Friends of Kneller Gardens, has been created to look into this issue, and FORCE is in contact with this group. For more information on them contact Steve Wynne at steve.wynne@disney.com

Improvements to the wall along Marsh Farm Lane

Ena Parker, our oldest member, shall be unveiling a small plaque on the wall during the Open Day to mark the improvements made to date. We are also pleased to announce that we have been successful in our recent **Civic Pride** bid for the wall, to create a pathway through it and into the Triangle and west playing field beyond. We further hope that the remaining graffiti on the wall will be removed in an initiative involving the Council and the local Young Offenders Group.

Volunteer Days

The new season of **volunteer days** will start again in **October** and the proposals for the first three are set out below:

Sunday 9th October: Mereway. *Completion of pathways through to the Duke of Northumberland's River and development of the meadow area and outdoor classroom.*

Sunday 13th November: Rifle Club/Triangle. *Working on the pathway through the Triangle, planting hedges and preparing banks for wild flower plantings. This event will be followed by an outdoor barbecue*

Sunday 11th December: Crane Park Island. *Working with London Wildlife Trust to coppice trees and manage the wetland areas*

As always we welcome all ages for the day or just an hour or so. Come and find us on the site. We provide tools and gloves and recommend old clothes and stout shoes. The day starts at 10.30am and goes through until 4.30pm. For further information call Rob Gray on 020 8892 9518.

Thank-you again for your support and we look forward to seeing you in the coming months.

Regards,

Rob Gray (Chair of FORCE)

**Notice is hereby given that the
Annual General Meeting
of the**

Friends Of the River Crane Environment

**Will be held on
Wednesday 21st September 2005
Starting at 7.30pm
In
All Hallows Church Hall
Encroft Way, TWICKENHAM**

Anyone wishing to stand for election to the committee should contact the Secretary, Frances Bennett on 020 8894 6522 by 14th September 2005

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