

News from Fulbourn Forum

for community action

Sent 10 March 2016

Dear All,

Please find details below of two regular Forum events coming up over the next four weeks - the Community Market (with several new stallholders) and the Spring Litter Pick - plus information on several other interesting events including the Fulbourn Forum AGM and presentation on Friday 29 April (see last item).

Fulbourn Spring Community Market

Saturday 12 March from 2.30pm to 5.00pm, in the Townley Hall, Fulbourn Centre, Home End
Come and stock up on local artisan breads, cakes, tarts, savouries and local produce, as well as organic fruit and vegetables and Fulbourn-brewed ales by Moonshine Brewery. **Browse among stalls** displaying original prints, fine art, crafts and cards; affordable jewellery; crafted home, table and fabric gifts; home decorations, lamps, toys and nursery items; local pottery and wood turned articles.....and enjoy delicious cakes and refreshments at the WI cafe.
A seed swap and plant stall, plus fun seed-planting activities for youngsters will be an added attraction.

Cambridge Local Nature Reserves

Talk by Guy Belcher, Cambridge City Biodiversity Officer

Wednesday 30 March at 7.30pm in the St John the Evangelist Church Hall, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8RN

We are all familiar with our own Fulbourn Nature Reserve, but this talk, organised by the Cambridge Group of the **Wildlife Trust**, will introduce you to the 12 Cambridge nature reserves and explain the ecological pressures and opportunities that growth is bringing to the city sites.
Entry £2.50

Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke AGM

Talk by Professor Tim Sparkes - *Tales from the Wood*

Wednesday 6 April, 7.15 for 7.30pm in the large meeting room, Fulbourn Centre, Home End

The AGM business meeting will begin the evening with illustrated reports of the work the Friends have done over the last year. An interval with tea and coffee (other drinks available from the Institute bar) will be followed by the talk by Prof. Sparks, visiting professor at the Poznan University of Life Sciences and at the University of Liverpool. At Monks Wood Research Station, near Huntingdon, Tim Sparks undertook ecological research from 1961 until 2009. That work included studies on landscape history, hedgerow management, and on the succession of open ground into woodland. In his talk he will present aspects of these studies that may be relevant to the Fleam Dyke and Roman Road. Prof. Sparks is also known for his studies in phenology - the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life.

All welcome. Members free. Non-members £3

For more information contact Julia Napier on 01223 213152 / frrfdjin@freebie.net / www.frrfd.org.uk

Fulbourn Spring Community Litter Pick

Sunday 10 April. Meet between 2.00 and 2.30pm outside the Fulbourn Centre

We hope that you can join us for the first village litter pick of 2016. As usual, there is much to do, but with plenty of volunteers we should be able to cover most of the village and get out along the numerous approach roads towards the parish boundaries. **Pickers and bags (and bag holders) will be available** from outside the Fulbourn Centre between 2.00 and 2.30pm, but please bring your own pickers if you have them. And don't forget suitable gloves and, if you have one, a hi-vis vest for when on road verges - however, we will have gloves and a few vests to borrow if necessary.

If required, lifts can be provided to and from your picking area, and refreshments will be available back at the Centre between 4.00 and 5.30pm. Arrangements will be made for collection of the filled bags from the roadside - no need to carry them back.

If you cannot make the Sunday afternoon but would still like to help, contact us for the pickers and bags so that you can litter pick your chosen area in the morning or on another day - several people have been doing this recently.

Although there is usually a great turnout of volunteers, a few more hands would enable more areas to be cleared of litter. We shall also be looking for a couple of volunteers (with suitable wellington boots!) able to help clear the ditch along Hinton Road. **Do come and join in if you can - it makes such a difference to the village.**

Fulbourn Windmill

Next Open Days and Work Parties - Saturday 2 April and Saturday 7 May

Come and visit the mill and see the progress that has been made in its restoration. Open days and work parties will continue through the year on the first Saturday of each month. The second set of new sails is soon to be lifted into place, once the weather is suitable. If there is enough notice, we shall let you know as you might wish to view the spectacle. Extra volunteers are always needed, so if you are interested please contact the Fulbourn Windmill Society through their website - www.fulbournwindmill.org.uk - or come to an open day to see what is involved.

No.18 Bus Service to Newmarket

Following a recent meeting with the County Transport Manager of representatives from Teversham, the Wilbrahams and Fulbourn Forum, plus John Williams our County Councillor, it can be confirmed that **County funding for the three days a week bus to Newmarket will continue through the 2016-17 financial year.** We had expected the funding to be withdrawn in part or full. However, major cuts to the county transport budget have been earmarked for 2017-18 and 2018-19, so there is no guarantee that the service will continue in its present form. Passenger numbers have increase a little but not enough for a fully commercial service. So do use it if you can.

The No.18 Whippet bus runs on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, leaving at 10.30am from outside the Chemist in Fulbourn High Street, arriving at the Newmarket bus station at 11.00am. The bus returns from Newmarket at 1.30pm, arriving back in Fulbourn at 2.00pm.

Fulbourn Forum Swifts Group

A very successful season for the swifts and the Group in 2015. In 2011 just 10 pairs occupied boxes in the Swifts Development, and in 2015 this number had risen to 87. There are probably

as many nesting swifts now as before the redevelopment started. It was also noted that four nest sites on the north side of St Vigor's church were used for the fifth year running. During 2015, 26 people took part in the surveys, while five residents on the Swifts Development contributed observations made from their own homes. In addition to the above, there are around 60 further swift boxes located around the village. These have yet to attract nesting birds but moves are afoot to see whether some modifications might improve the chance of successful nesting.

John Willis, who plans and collates all the research material, earned £750 for the project by providing the detailed 2014 survey report to Accent Nene - information they needed to comply with their planning obligations. This money is held by Fulbourn Forum and is available for future swift related projects.

We are greatly indebted to John for all the work he has done with the swift project. Now that the success of the new nesting sites on the Swifts Development has been confirmed, it has been agreed that rather than a full season survey being undertaken, the group will plan a **Fulbourn Swift Watch Week** of intensive monitoring and education, probably in the week commencing 11 July. It may be preceded by a display at the Fulbourn Feast in June. Individual recording of observations will still be encouraged and Wednesday evenings will continue to be the focus for such work, starting on 4 May.

If you would like to get more involved with the Group and its activities, and receive more detailed occasional information on swift related events, including possible visits to other sites, then please contact John Willis on C881103 or email fulbournforum@gmail.com.

Grow Your Own Group Meetings

Meetings of this **informal** group are planned for **Monday 4 April, Monday 9 May and Monday 6 June**. The meetings take place in the lounge bar of the Six Bells starting at 7.30pm and are an opportunity for fruit and veg growers to exchange ideas and information. No formal agenda - just turn up for a drink and a chat. Experienced growers and newcomers all welcome. For more information please contact John Willis on C881103.

Fulbourn Forum AGM and Introductory Talk on Circular Cambridge by Dr Ann Miller

Friday 29 April in the Townley Hall, Fulbourn Centre, Home End

AGM commences at 7.30pm followed by a break before the talk starts at 8.30pm latest.

Drinks will be available from the bar before and after the AGM, while free snacks will be available in the hall.

We hope that many of you can make the AGM as we have a little more time this year to discuss past events and activities, and consider future actions. However, you are more than welcome to attend the refreshment break and talk only. With time for questions and discussion after the talk, we anticipate that the evening will close by around 9.30pm. The event is free of charge.

Circular Cambridge - *Living well with less stuff* - is a project of Cambridge Carbon Footprint - see www.circularcambridge.org The aim of the project is to encourage the reduction of waste and consumption, including of raw materials and energy, by refusing, reusing, rehousing, repairing, relating and recycling - **the circular economy**. The linear economy - buy, use, throw away - has resulted in, on average, a single person in the EU consuming 15 tonnes of resources

each year, 5 tonnes of which we simply throw away, and 40% of our personal carbon emissions comes from what we buy.

Ann's talk will give the background to the project and outline the activities being promoted to address some of the issues. The project also aims to encourage and promote progressive ways to design and manufacture goods to achieve a long life and/or the ability to repair and reuse.

Dr Ann Miller is an engineer and director of The Creativity Partnership. She is an expert in technological innovation and creativity, organisational change, sustainability in a variety of environments, and transition to a low carbon economy.

Best wishes,

David Cottee

on behalf of **Fulbourn Forum** for community action

01223 880616 / www.fulbournforum.org