Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group

Issue 8 Newsletter August 2010

Open Weekend 2010 - September 11th and 12th

Our principle fundraising weekend is fast approaching.

We will have some new contributors and new events.

Our principle money raisers are the Lamb Roast, sale of cakes and of course the Tombola. <u>Please</u> could you ask someone to sponsor a lamb at £50 a lamb (each lamb actually costs £90) and we use 6!!; names will be posted over the two days so plenty of publicity for interested companies etc.

The other good earner is the cakes stall. If anyone could bake a few or just one cake we would be most grateful. If you could please call Carla on 654088

By being a Friend of Fernhurst Furnace we hope you are keen to help us raise funds so that conservation and maintenance can take place. PLEASE HELP US!

Conservation Management Plan. As you will remember, last year we successfully applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant for a Conservation Management plan to be written. The finished document finally arrived so this now means that we have begun to commission further reports and have contacted HLF as to how we proceed from here.

Stage 2 means that we use the CMP to direct our efforts with certainty towards getting quotes for all the works we wish to do and Stage 2 is the actual "on the ground" works. This is going ahead with great enthusiasm.

Outside Events. The FFPG was present at the Fernhurst Revels, the Lodsworth Fete and at the Tilford Rural Life Museum Rustic Sunday Event. At present we have been booked for other talks.

Volunteer Work Day: As always we have the brilliant Volunteers from the South Downs Joint Committee helping us to prepare the site for Open Weekend. The main energy is strimming soft vegetation and clearing tracks. Construction of stalls also begins here. If anyone would like to join us on Wed and Thurs the 8th and 9th September, please contact me, either by phone or e-mail Barnes@haslemere.com Thank you

Web Site: By the time you are reading this our own website should be up and running. We have bought Fernhurstfurnace.co.uk and the site will develop over the months to include some of the historical research, technical information and links to

other sites in particular Wealden Iron Research Group (WIRG) which is a mine of useful information.

Dam Survey. About the most important works to be carried out is the rebuilding of the Southern Spillway where the eastern wall looks very 'drunk'. Not knowing how this was constructed and therefore not being able to suggest a method of it's rebuild a Geo-technical survey was undertaken, partly paid for by the WSCC, which is why you can see disturbed soil and 'dips' on the dam

Heritage Lottery Grant Application.

We have put together a 'wish' list which has been approved by English Heritage and one of our Directors has grasped the nettle and offered to co-ordinate filling in the application form. Other Directors are finding suitable contractors and consultants to carry out the tasks which we wish. These tasks include:-

- Uncovering the furnace and conserving the brickwork
- Conserving the brickwork in the stream
- Controlling the volume of water leaving the pond at the Northern Sluice
- Installing a new water relief pipe at the southern end of the site
- Rebuilding the Southern Spillway
- Providing interpretation and access to the site

All these tasks are underway but if anyone has specific abilities at any of them please contact Robin or Carla.

AGM. The AGM for Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group Co Ltd will be held on Thursday 23rd Sept at the Fernhurst Village Hall. Please see separate notice for details.

Anyone able to help on Open Weekend or with the general works for our Furnace Project please call Robin or Carla on **01428 654088**

We really thank all those who help us as well as all of you who are "Friends".

