

Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group

Issue 9

Newsletter

June 2011

Open Weekend 2011 – September 10th and 11th

Our only 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. Please 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



We also need a major sponsor for the Sealed Knot, please contact Robin for details.

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!**

Heritage Lottery Fund Application. Since Open Weekend last year a small group has been collating information for our large application to the HLF. As part of the application and/or to gain useful information for us we have commissioned a Geo-technical survey of the southern spillway to enable English Heritage to suggest how the wall is stabilised.

A Hydrology Assessment has been carried out to establish how much water may pass through the site if we have a large storm.

A Topography Survey has been carried out so that any works can refer to the exact position and height of any area in the site.

The application has been very complicated and we must thank Jeremy Hodgkinson, vice President of Wealden Iron Research Group for the huge amount of work he has put in to the complicated paperwork.

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 been promised the invaluable help from the volunteers from the South Downs National Park who help must prepare the site for Open Weekend. In addition we need a Volunteer Day to reveal both aprons to the Southern Spillway. They are covered by weeds and mud. On Saturday 9th July there will be a Work Day (10.00 – 4.00). Also we will clean off the walls to the east side of the spillway. A few hours from many is a tremendous help.

Please call or email Robin Barnes@haslemere.com or 01428 654088. I will bring a gas BBQ if you can supply your own food.

Thank you

Web Site: Our website is developing slowly as there are so many other things to do but if anyone would like to become ‘Web Master’ please contact Robin. There only needs to be a few changed per year but it would be great if someone could do this little job as a volunteer.

Books: Last year “British Cast Iron Firebacks” was published by Jeremy Hodgkinson and is available from him at JSHodgkinson@hodgers.com or Amazon. Also “Hammer and Furnace Ponds” is published by Helen Pearce and will be available at Open Weekend as a popular guide to the Relics of the Wealden Iron Industry. Several other books also available.

There is a small group of people who run the FFPG. There is not very much to do if it is spread around several people but at present there are not enough of us. Our Treasurer has found that her new work takes too much time so people we are looking for are a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary, Web Master and someone to be in charge of the Event Field at Open Weekend. These are simple jobs with a short spell of activity. Please help us to Conserve the Best Furnace in the Weald.

AGM. The AGM for Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group Co Ltd will be held on Wednesday 6th July at the Fernhurst Village Hall. Following the very short business part Jeremy Hodgkinson will be talking about “Gunfounding in the Weald”. 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”.

