

Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group

Issue 14

Newsletter

May 2106

Open Weekend 2016 –

Saturday September 10th and Sunday 11th are the dates this year, so please come and learn more about the Furnace Project and the iron industry. We are part of the national **Heritage Open Days** event hence their posters etc.



We will be following the familiar format with **Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's Regiment of Foote** re-enacting a skirmish as well as the full process of loading and firing a musket.

Target archery is another activity as will be several stalls & activities including **Weald and Downland Museum** hewing oak beams, **Sparsholt College** demonstrating woodland techniques etc.

Opening hours will be **10.30 – 5.00** along with **free parking and free entrance**.

Blacksmiths and our Glass Blower and many more artisans will be demonstrating their crafts.

BUT don't forget that **donations** are gratefully received.



Historic England (HE), what used to be English Heritage have asked for a up-to-date **Engineers Report** with costings of what our Preservation Project will cost. The brief to be sent to potential writers of this report is nearly complete.

Once we have the report fundraising will begin in earnest. We will be approaching private charitable trusts and other funding streams and appealing to all local authorities for support .

If this is **your expertise** would you be will to help, I hope so. Please contact Carla and Robin.

Last summer an energetic team of volunteers installed the large plastic **water pipes** which you would have seen at Open Weekend last year.

I am pleased to say that they have been working very well, exactly as we had hoped.



And looked quite pretty on the freezing days.

If you are members of **WIRG – Wealden Iron Research Group** - and attend the AGM on July 30th we will be visiting a site of great interest in the Western Weald group of furnaces. It will be an interesting day.

FFPG AGM

The date of our AGM has been fixed for Saturday 11th June at 2.30pm . The venue will be The Warehouse, Coultershaw Beam Pump, Petworth.

Following the meeting there will be guided tour of the Beam Pump site at a cost of £2.50 per head.

This information will be on our **website**.

Any comments, suggestions or offers of help please contact me 01428654088 Barnes@haslemere.com **THANK YOU.**

Please remember to **update** FFPG with your **contact details** to our membership secretary David Bleach at

DavidBleach1@sky.com

We thank you all of you for caring about this important heritage site within the South Downs National Park.

Go to our website to view the current drone footage courtesy of a Friend of Fernhurst Furnace
