



Friends

of FOREST FARM COUNTRY PARK
and GLAMORGANSHIRE CANAL
LOCAL NATURE RESERVE
Issue No: 99 **March 2016**

website: www.forestfarm.org.uk

TED (EDWARD OWEN) EDWARDS **1927 - 2016**

We were very sad to hear of the recent death of one of our founding members, Ted Edwards.

Chris James has written the following.

Ted was born and brought up in a beautiful area of Denbighshire, the village of Llanelidan. At the age of eighteen in 1945, he became a member of the Military Police within the British Army. Training in this section resulted in him being in charge of a group in a large area of Palestine during the period of terrorism named "The Jewish Resistance Movement". It was a very traumatic time for British Military members in Palestine, it led to Ted being against the acts of terrorism and he developed a personal involvement in social peacefulness. In 1947, he returned to the UK, left the Military Police and became an instrument maker for the Air Ministry in Shrewsbury.

During his time in Shrewsbury, he met Mair who later became his wife. In 1953, he was transferred to St Athan, lived in Cathedral Road, and later moved to his long term Cardiff home in Cambourne Avenue. Later, he transferred to



the Electricity Board as an electrical engineer and was based at Upper Boat (near Nantgarw).

He retired in 1984 during the period of privatising public industries in the '80s. After his retirement, he used his time supporting his chapel movement and the RSPB. His consistent chapel support led him to become an Elder member at Tabernacle, Whitchurch. Within the RSPB, he organised monthly bird watching walks at Forest Farm on Saturday mornings. Also, he became a voluntary warden at the Forest Farm Nature Reserve which involved numerous tasks.

In 1990, a small group of people involved with Forest Farm, set up the Friends of Forest Farm. At the group's first meeting, Ted became Treasurer and then in 1991 was Chairman until 2005.

As a Committee Member of the Friends, he proposed many projects and became deeply involved in the creation of ponds and bird hides, improvement to paths and the canal embankment.

Continued overleaf

The Canal Environmental Study

for a project entitled
Glamorgan Canal Conservation
Management Plan

This study was carried out last year by **frog environmental**. The Committee had a presentation about it at their January meeting.

See page 7

Radyr Hydro project

After a flurry of activity leading up to Christmas, things seem a lot quieter at the hydro project at Radyr weir on the Taff - and there hasn't been much to see as you go past. But there has been plenty going on and the latest update from the Council is:-

"The new fish pass has been completed. This will enable easier passage of upstream fish as the scheme now includes two resting pools. The power house building and fish trap buildings are being completed and clad, and we will soon be completing final landscaping." They are looking to complete the project around the end of April.

Sheila Austin

Editorial,

*Hello Friends. Here we are with the first edition of 2016. Did you make any resolutions? As a Committee, we don't have them as such, but we do know what we want to achieve. There is always so much to be done - but we do our best and are grateful for any support (especially volunteering) you can give. (See **Martin's** article P10). The Rangers' time is precious, so we want to make each session worthwhile, and bigger tasks can be tackled in the time available if more people attend.*

*In the past couple of years we have lost three key original members of the Friends, Mary Gillham, Dennis Davies and now Ted Edwards. They gave us a fantastic legacy and we want to do our best to take that forward. My thanks to **Chris James** for writing about Ted (and previously about Mary and Dennis). I am glad to see there is to be a project archiving Mary's prodigious work and to use it to inspire others.(p4)*

*We have a lot to look forward to; the completion of the Radyr hydro project - a great project but it will be nice not to have a building site!, the OPAL worm hunt, the dawn chorus walk, foods of the forest and the summer wildlife festival organised by the rangers. Don't forget our own events - maybe not so exciting but vital to the maintenance of the Reserve - nor our talks and walks. then there is the summer trip to Wells - meticulously organised by **Duncan** (P6). Last but not least, hopefully moving forward with some action on the canal,*

Its good to see that the Rangers now have their base at Forest Farm and we look forward to seeing you on the Reserve too.

Sheila Austin

TED EDWARDS - cont'd

One of his other significant contributions was supporting the bird life on the site. In the early years, there were several new woodlands and as the trees were young, they would not provide a significant number of nest sites. To create the extra ones needed, Ted organised the location and erection of nest boxes with the Warden Mike Wiley. In the first couple of years, over 100 nest boxes were set up and maintained by Ted - assisted by Howard Davies and John Baynham and occasionally by other voluntary wardens. He also began organising the feeding of birds which still continues today. This work resulted in an increase in the number and variety of birds living in the Reserve.

He was also a regular writer in the Friends Newsletter, contributing articles about the nature and history of the Reserve, including the Glamorgan Canal. His activity for the Friends was of great consequence and it was very sad that he suffered a stroke in 2010 which affected him so significantly.

Those of us who knew Ted were saddened by his death; but have very happy memories of his sociability and his great work for the Reserve.

I am sure readers will be interested in an extract of an article by Ted. It was written in October 1991 about the Glamorganshire Canal (see P10).

Don't forget Volunteer days - 2nd Wednesday and Sunday with the Friends and mostly once a month (Saturday) with Cardiff RSPB Conservation

Deadline for articles for next newsletter - 8th May 2016

See back page for contact details

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Reserve Report

by **Paul Davies - Countryside Warden**

Whilst walking over the bridge to Radyr recently, I realised how accustomed I had become to the amount of litter on the trees and bushes on either side of the river. The branches are festooned with plastic, paper and rubbish. The amount that ends up in the bay must be phenomenal - I understand a lot of time is spent removing it from the water down there. There is also plenty of litter along Longwood drive and this needs to be collected regularly.

My colleague Paul Pinnell met visitors from New Zealand who were appalled by the amount of litter throughout Cardiff - although they did say that our Reserve was well looked after and generally litter free.

The work on the Melingriffith water wheel has been held back due to bad weather, but has already started.

Recent (feathered) visitors to the Reserve include Bittern, Snipe, Kingfisher, and Little Grebe.



Bittern

Photograph - Cliff Woodhead



Little Grebe

Photograph - Colin Harvey

Finally, the Rangers have moved from their Wedal Rd office base to the farm. There have been a number of delays due to the state of the building and there is a lot more to do. We hope that with the increase in facilities there, we will be able to cope with an increase in volunteer numbers. Paul and I are looking forward to the challenges ahead.

My thanks to Cliff and Colin for their great photos. You will see a lot more of theirs and many others on our website www.forestfarm.org.uk and click on 'photos' for the Flickr Friends of Forest Farm group. Ed

Membership

The number of members is still 382. Last year was so successful for us that if 2016 is similar, I feel sure this number will increase again.

Thanks to all of you. Obviously you are spreading the word of how special a place Forest Farm is.

There is a renewal of membership form with the A.G.M. papers.

Pauline Fisher, Membership Secretary

Dr Mary Gillham Data Archive Project

The South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC) has been successful in securing a grant of just under £60,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a two year project entitled 'A Dedicated Naturalist: Dr Mary Gillham Data Archive Project'.

An estimated 140,000 biological records will be extracted from the archive, with the most important documents being digitized. The project will also inspire the public through a travelling exhibition, a website and social media oral history interviews from people who knew Mary, guided walks, field days and public bio-blitzes, and talks to school and local groups.

In addition, a botany mentorship scheme will be established to train future botanists, two of Mary's previously unpublished books will be e-published, and the future of the archive will be secured through its permanent housing at Glamorgan Archives

All of the outputs will be publicly available either through Glamorgan Archives or through the dedicated website.

Volunteers are going to play an essential part in achieving the goals of this project. With something in the region of:

- 140000 wildlife records to mine out of 20 boxes of assorted papers,
- 14000 slides to digitise (and recover records from),
- 2 unpublished manuscripts to make available digitally,
- an oral record of Mary's life to create,
- a website, social media presence and blog to develop,
- numerous public facing biodiversity events, school/community group visits and guided walks to organise and run...

There is no shortage of tasks!

Volunteers will have the opportunity to complete training in various skills such as digitisation, recording software, oral history recording and archive packaging and labelling. Volunteers will also be supported through any other tasks to which they wish to contribute.

If you are interested in helping out, email the Project Officer Al Reeve (alan.reeve@sewbrec.org.uk) to find out more.

(My thanks to Pauline Fisher for bringing this to my attention and to Alan Reeve for his input. What a great project! As many of you will know Mary Gillham was one of the founder members of the Friends.

Bench for Dennis Davies

The Friends have placed this bench alongside the Taff in memory of Dennis.

The sun (!!) obscured the writing on the photo of the plaque but it reads:

*In memory of
Dennis Davies O.B.E.
1925 - 2014
Founder Secretary of the
Friends of Forest Farm*



Rise and shine!

DAWN CHORUS WALK
06.00 Sat 30th April

Led by the Rangers. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Wardens Centre
Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch.

See P12 for more details

Who remembers this?



Martin sent this poster of an event held **only** 16+ years ago!!

I thought I would also include some photos of past events at Forest Farm. I realise they are not necessarily 1999, nor even a Summer Fair - but you may know when they were taken or some of the people.

They look happy days.

Do you have some memories to share?



FRIENDS OF FOREST FARM

Annual coach trip - WELLS / CATHEDRAL/ THE BISHOP'S PALACE, on SATURDAY 9th July 2016

- 8.45 am.** 53 seat Pencoed coach with toilet will park in Heol Uchaf - side entrance Bethany Baptist Church.
 - 9.00am.** Coach departs and travels to the front of the car park of the Deri Inn, Wenallt Road.
 - 9.05 am.** Coach will pick up at the Deri Inn and depart for the lay-by in front of Canolfan Beulah.
 - 9.10am.** Pick up at Canolfan Beulah and depart for the bus stop just before the Monico traffic lights.
 - 9.15am.** Pick up - bus stop, depart for front entrance, Whitchurch High School, opp the British Legion in Penlline Rd.
 - 9.25am.** Pick up at the School and depart for the bus stop at the Holly Bush, Coryton.
 - 9.30am.** Pick up at the Holly Bush and then depart direct to Wells via the M4/M5/A39.
- For the less able further pick ups can be arranged **along the above route**. **Contact Duncan before booking.**
 At 10am. if required, there can be a 15 min. toilet stop only, Gordano services just outside Bristol.
- 11.15am.** We arrive at our drop off location in Sadler Street, Wells - group photograph to be taken. We then have a short level walk down Sadler Street to the 3 star Best Western SWAN HOTEL - opposite the Cathedral Green and the famous west front of the Cathedral. A 5 min. level walk to the Cathedral entrance and Wells High Street where the weekly Saturday Market is held. If anyone wishes to have tea/coffee/biscuits on arrival, arrangements have been made to use a private room at the hotel - cost £3 each.
 - 2.15pm.** For anyone who wishes to join us, there is a private group guided tour around the Bishop's Palace and gardens (the medieval home of the Bishops of Bath and Wells since 1206). This tour will finish approx. **3.30pm** and cost £6.00 for adults and £3 for children under 12.
- Please note - the Cathedral is open at any time for your own self guided visit or a 1 hour guided tour at 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm. Entry to the Cathedral and the guided tour are FREE but recommended donations of £6 per person are gratefully received to help with the upkeep.
- 4.30pm** For anyone who wishes to join us arrangements have been made to have a cream tea (coffee/tea/scone with jam and cream) back in the Swan Hotel. The cost of this will be £5.00.
 - 5.30pm.** Coach arrives to take us back home, **departing at 5.45pm**. This pick up location will be the same as our morning drop off location in Sadler Street.
- We expect to be back in Whitchurch at approximately 7.30pm. and Rhiwbina at 7.40pm.**

If you would like to come along please complete the tear off slip below and send it together with your cheque made out to Friends of Forest Farm to D.Hockridge at 5, Clos Cromwell, Rhiwbina, Cardiff. CF14 6QN, together with a stamped, self-addressed envelope, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
 Should you have any queries please contact Duncan by telephone on Cardiff 20626111 or by Email at duncan3@hotmail.co.uk. You will receive a confirmation of your booking, with seat numbers once the coach has been booked. Your cheque will not be presented for payment before 1st June 2016.

Please tear off

Please tear off

Please tear off

FRIENDS OF FOREST FARM, COACH TRIP, TO WELLS, SATURDAY 9th July 2016

Name.....Address.....
Post Code..... Tele.....
I wish to be picked up at:-BETHANY DERI INN** BEULAH** MONICO**HIGH SCHOOL** HOLLY BUSH**. **Please circle your desired pick up location.**
Please book for me the following places and my requirements for this coach trip.
****No. Adult/s at £15** = £.....**
****No. Children (under 14) at £8** = £.....**
.....No. Optional Morning coffee/tea/biscuits at £3.50 = £.....
.....No. Optional Bishop's Palace/gardens guided tour at £6.00 OR £3.00 = £.....
.....No. Optional Afternoon cream tea at £5.00. = £.....
TOTAL = £.....

****PLEASE NOTE THAT SHOULD YOU WISH TO ONLY TRAVEL TO WELLS WITH US AND MAKE YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS WHILST THERE THIS IS YOUR ONLY COST.**
Please list the names and addresses of all persons, other than yourself, who you are booking for, on the reverse of this booking form. You are able to invite any of your friends and family on this trip.

I enclose my cheque made payable to Friends of Forest Farm for £.....together with a stamped s.a.e.

Canal Conservation Management Plan - the environmental survey.

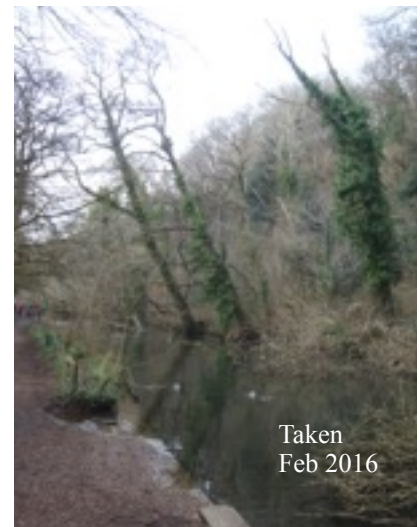
As you will know, the Friends of Forest Farm have long been very concerned about the state of the remaining section of the Glamorgan canal which runs through the Reserve. We offered a financial contribution towards an environmental survey on the canal. The organisation instructed by the Council to carry that out was "frog environmental". Last year, they conducted a range of surveys which would inform the production of a conservation management plan for the canal, and have produced a report. This was presented to the Committee for information in January.

The tasks of the environmental survey were to investigate:-

1. The character of the sediment and de-silting options.
2. The composition, distribution and extent of aquatic macrophytes (plants that grow in or near water - whether emergent, submergent or floating), tree and invasive plants.
3. The Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies).
4. The requirements for bank protection, and suitable techniques taking account of environmental, heritage and archeological constraints.
5. Crayfish.
6. Waterway mammals.

The Committee, and I am sure all the Friends, are very anxious that this will be a catalyst for some action to stop the decline of the canal and improve its biodiversity. We realise that a scheme of this kind will be very costly and would like an application to be made for Heritage Lottery Funding. To this end, we have requested a meeting with the Parks department of the Council and our Councillors to find a way to move forward.

Below are some photographs I have taken over recent months of the current state of the canal.



Below - Some of the recent damage due to high winds and (right) some necessary action taken by the Rangers. In another area volunteers helped.



**Cardiff and District RSPB Group
Conservation Group**

. . . Doing something positive

The weather was not looking promising for our last visit of the season (**November**) at Forest Farm with rain in the air ... I was pleased we had a turn out of five.

The task for the morning was clearing the felled timber and creating two habitat areas - by making open spaces between a group of hazel trees and some mixed scrub. The objective is to create two islands of dense vegetation.

The rain was settling in, so we decided to bring the morning session to an end - but then it eased up a little and we took the opportunity to find some suitable trees to reinstate the nest boxes lost during the felling operation.

A site visit had been arranged to explain the reasons for the removal of so many mature trees by the contractors working for the National Grid. The reasons seem plausible enough, though I am not convinced that such dramatic measures were needed. At the end of the day, the trees have gone, trees that took well over 40 years to grow.

After weeks of rain, it was pleasant to have a dry sunny **January** day for our first visit of 2016 at Forest Farm, Longwood Drive. November saw us abandon our work due to heavy rain, so our task was to finish that job, clearing the timber and selecting suitable branches to make stakes. These will be used to retain the brush and timber barrier as all the cleared timber helps to create a habitat pile which also acts as a barrier to define the path edge.

The morning went well, though I've not seen so much standing water in that area before.

* * * * *

Programme 2016

Conservation work will be held on the following Saturday mornings 10.30 - 12.30p.m.
at Forest Farm, Longwood Drive, Whitchurch.

March 19th	Clearing undergrowth/checking for dumped rubbish Middle entrance**
April 30th	Clearing undergrowth from the hedgerow Middle entrance**
May 28th	Clearing Himalayan Balsam and Rosebay Willowherb Middle entrance**

(** Location: M4 Jct 32, past Asda and down the hill approx 100 yds)

* * * * *

The group works for a few hours during the morning, roughly once a month. It is not particularly strenuous - similar to an active gardener (you work to your own level). If you feel you would like to get involved ... just turn up, or better still give me a ring.

Hugh Harrison 029 20704889

Monthly Nature Walks

We do miss Stella to lead these walks and who wrote such lovely reports for the newsletter, but the walks continue - 3rd Saturday of every month 10a.m. Its a gentle ramble with enough time to stop, look and listen ... and chat! Its a good time of year with not much foliage yet, so do come and join us. You never know what you might see.

Forest Farm Dairy

"Further to the question in the December newsletter, Forest Farm Dairy was a cafe in Merthyr Rd Whitchurch on (approximately) the site where the Principality BS is now. I remember it when I was growing up and living in Whitchurch in the 1950s, '60s and '70s. It was a traditional and sedate cafe, in the days when there wasn't a coffee shop on every other corner and which offered tea and cakes, before "afternoon tea" recently came back into fashion. The cafe was run by 2 sisters - the Misses Jones. No doubt the restaurant now in Merthyr Rd has been named after them.



I think my late mother may have bought eggs at the dairy but can't be sure. In the fifties of course there were no supermarkets or mini markets. Whitchurch residents bought groceries in the Maypole, which was next door to Birds, which sold fruit and veg. It seems quite plausible that Forest Farm Dairy sold dairy products, in addition to their cafe business.

Cheryl Beach

Note from the Editor

The Miss Jones bar/restaurant in the village does indeed refer to the the previously mentioned cafe - by agreement with the Jones family. They have a leaflet giving some information about the family and the dairy.

Cheryl also referred to the most interesting article on the internet by Thomas Ernest Broad which refers to Forest Farm, and mentions that one of the sisters worked on the farm, 2 other running the cafe. (Other old farms in the Whitchurch area are also mentioned.)

A few people I have spoken to remember the cafe on Merthyr Rd and there has been confirmation that the Misses Jones were running it in the 1930's. It was not thought by them that the Jones family lived at Forest Farm.

There is also a lovely sketch of 'Forest Farm Dairy' cafe dated 1940 by C Hordley in a book by Hilary M Thomas 'Whitchurch - a Brief History'.

I am most grateful to Cheryl for getting in touch and others for their information but am still intrigued about what prompted a local dairy to enter for a French award from the 30th Congres National des Glaciers de France in 1971. **Does anybody know any more?**

Worm Hunt and Craft Fun

Get involved with Science
Week, outdoor fun and
Citizen science with the OPAL
soil and Earthworm survey

Sunday 20th March
2.30pm-4pm

Suitable for children 4 yrs
and older



Evening Talk - All Welcome

**Wednesday 16th March
7.30 p.m.**

**' Biodiversity in South Wales'
by Richard Winston**

Ararat Centre for the
Community, Plas Treoda
Whitchurch CF14

Refreshments

A.G.M. AND TALK

"From Rubbish to Nature Reserve;
The Story of the Hawardian Nature
Reserve" by Martin Mckay

Wed 20th April Talk at 7.30 p.m.

Ararat Centre for the Community, Plas
Treodda Whitchurch

All welcome. Refreshments

VOLUNTEERING - AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Last year, as a result of the cuts to Council funding, I reported on the importance of volunteering for moving forward. The Reserve is in need of much work and with the resources available to the Rangers, volunteering can help to close the gap.

At the request of members who said that weekends were difficult for them to volunteer we organised a mid week session. We now have three opportunities each month with a mid week session and a Sunday session with the Friends, and also the the RSPB on a Saturday. Unfortunately, the number of volunteers has dropped in recent months and only a handful of people are turning up. This severely limits the tasks that can be completed and also it is difficult to plan for those tasks

The Rangers change their shifts so that they can supervise us and it will be difficult to justify this with the limited number of volunteers.

Also, when we are applying for grants, we can use volunteers hours to attract funds.

Your committee are therefore urging those members who can, to support the volunteering - to get involved. Those who do take part work at their own pace, its very sociable and friendly with like-minded people.

If you would like more information before you attend please contact me on 07952 926145 or email m.chamberlain1@ntlworld.com.

M J CHAMBERLAIN

‘The Glamorganshire Canal 1951 - 1991’ - by Ted Edwards

This extract is from the second of three articles Ted wrote on this subject for the Friends Newsletter in 1991.

‘In the agreement between the Cardiff Corporation and Lord Bute on the sale of the Canal, section 31* stated that the Corporation was required to use the canal and its lands lying between Melingriffith and Tongwynlais for public enjoyment. As a result of representations made to the City Council by Cardiff Naturalist Society, supported by other interested bodies, the Council in June 1967, resolved to designate this section of the canal and the adjoining woodland as a Nature Reserve. In 1981, the Reserve, (including the railway cutting) was declared a Statutory Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in accordance with Section 19 of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act.

By today, this section of the canal is full of clean water flowing gently and peacefully, a home to all sorts of creatures and plant life. There is a variety of different habitat types - alder carr, woodland, meadow and scrub, and consequently a rich assemblage of different types of plants and animals. Bird life is abundant, around 90 different species recorded so far. It is an excellent place to introduce young people to the World of Nature and teach them how to understand and enjoy it.’

*(I found this and thought it would be a tribute to Ted and of interest to us now. Do we still have 90 species of birds? * I am pretty sure that it is section 31 - the type is not wonderfully clear on this edition. Ed)*

VELINDRE NHS TRUST

I was recently invited to a presentation by Velindre NHS Trust on their plans for a New Hospital at Whitchurch Hospital as well as the proposed Maggie Cancer Centre.

The site will be in the area that was planned for the replacement Whitchurch Hospital - before it was moved to Llandough. It is the triangular area from Velindre Road to the George Thomas Hospice building.

This is a long term plan which will take up to five years to implement and will transform the lives of their patients as well as their friends and family.

I was also able to undertake a walk around the Reserve with two members of their senior management team to show the important historical and environmental parts of the Reserve.

It was a good opportunity to start with which we hope will be a long term relationship where we will work together to protect the reserve as the project moves forward to completion.

Martin Chamberlain

Events at Forest Farm - March to June 2016

DATE	EVENT
Wed 9th March 10.00 - 13.00	Midweek volunteering event with the Friends. ALL WELCOME. Meet John at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ
Sun 13th March 10.00 - 13.00	Friends volunteering event. ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch C
Wed 16th March 19.30	Evening Talk. "Biodiversity in South Wales" by Richard Winston. Ararat Centre for the Community, Plas Treoda Whitchurch CF14 1PT. Refreshments. ALL WELCOME
Sat 19th March 10.00 - 12.00	Wildlife Watch Club for children aged 8-12 Activity to be advised. For more details email Gareth at gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk or phone Community Rangers on 029 2044 5903
Sat 19th March 10.00 - 12.30	Nature Ramble. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ for a gentle ramble around the Reserve to see (and hear) the wildlife. Bring binoculars if you have them.
Sat 19th March 10.30 - 12.30	Cardiff Conservation Group Volunteering. Clearing undergrowth and checking for dumped rubbish. Meet Hugh - Middle Entrance Longwood Drive Whitchurch. See p8 for details
Sun 20th March 14.30 - 16.00	Worm Survey and Craft Fun. Meet Barbara at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd. Whitchurch CF14 7JJ for outdoor fun and community science. Suitable for children aged 4 and over. See p9
Sun 10th April 10.00 - 13.00	Friends volunteering event. ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd. Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Wed 13th April 10.00-13.00	Midweek volunteering event with the Friends. ALL WELCOME. Meet John at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ
Sat 16th April 10.00 - 12.30	Nature Ramble. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ for a gentle ramble around the Reserve to see the wildlife. Bring your binoculars if you have them.

Events at Forest Farm - March to June cont'd

DATE	EVENT
Wed 20th April 19.30	Evening Talk and A.G.M. . “From Rubbish to Nature Reserve: The Story of Howardian Nature Reserve” by Martin Mckay. Ararat Centre for the Community, Plas Treoda Whitchurch CF14 1PT. Refreshments. ALL WELCOME.
Sat 30th April 10.30 - 12.30	Cardiff Conservation Group Volunteering. Clearing undergrowth from the hedgerow. Meet Hugh - Middle Entrance Longwood Drive Whitchurch See p8 for details
Sat 30th April 06.00	Dawn Chorus. 6.00 am to catch the early bird, led by the Community Park Rangers. Experts will be on hand to help identify those tricky trills, warbles and whistles. Bring binoculars if you have them. Breakfast rolls and drinks provided by the Friends of Forest Farm. Donation required. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm rd. Whitchurch.
Sun 8th May 10.00 - 13.00	Friends volunteering event. ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd. Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Wed 11th May 10.00 - 13.00	Midweek volunteering event with the Friends. ALL WELCOME. Meet John at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ
Wed 11th May 18.00	Foods of the Forest. Take a pleasant stroll around Forest Farm Country Park; discover the tasty treats Mother Nature has in store this time of year. Followed by a tasting session of some delicious delicacies. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm £4.00 per person
Sat 21st May 10.00 - 12.30	Nature Ramble. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ for a gentle ramble around the Reserve to see (and hear) the wildlife. Bring your binoculars if you have them.
Sat 28th May 10.30 - 12.30	Cardiff Conservation Group Volunteering. Clearing Himalayan Balsam and Rosebay Willowherb. Meet Hugh - Middle Entrance Longwood Drive Whitchurch See p8 for details
Sat 4th June 10.00 - 16.00	Summer Wildlife Festival at Forest Farm Led by the Giving Nature a Home in Cardiff Team A day of wildlife activities from pond dipping and bug hunting to worm charming and bird spotting. Fun for all the family!
Wed 8th June 10.00 - 13.00	Midweek volunteering event with the Friends. ALL WELCOME. Meet John at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ
Sat 11th June 14.00-16.00	History and Wildlife of the Glamorgan Canal Led by the Community Park Rangers A gentle stroll to look at the social and natural history of this fascinating site. Meet at the Wardens Centre, Forest Farm.
Sun 12th June 10.00 - 13.00	Friends volunteering event. ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Sat 18th June 10.00 - 12.30 approx	Nature Ramble. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch. CF14 7JJ for a gentle ramble around the Reserve to see (and hear) the wildlife. Bring your binoculars if you have them.

Published on behalf of The Friends of Forest Farm and Glamorganshire Canal Local Nature Reserve by Mrs Sheila Austin, 1 Heol Gwrgan, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF14 1PP Tel: 02920 614245 email: editor@forestfarm.org.uk
The Editor wishes to state that all views expressed by contributors are their own, as is the responsibility for them.