



# Friends

of FOREST FARM COUNTRY PARK  
and GLAMORGANSHIRE CANAL  
LOCAL NATURE RESERVE  
**Issue No: 103    March 2017**

website: [www.forestfarm.org.uk](http://www.forestfarm.org.uk)

## Forest Farm Award from the Countryside Alliance - “The Rural Oscars”

We are delighted that Forest Farm Nature Reserve was one of 4 finalists in the tourism section of the regional (Wales) “Rural Oscars” aka the Countryside Alliance Awards for 2016. These are described as “THE rural business awards to win, giving a voice and a platform to the best of our produce, enterprise, heritage and communities.” The awards “recognise and honour those who routinely go the extra mile for their community.” Forest Farm was Highly Commended.

Our M.P Craig Williams put Forest Farm forward for this award and a judge visited the finalists who were then all invited to Cardiff Bay on 1st February where the results were announced.

Although ‘tourism’ in business terms is not what the ‘Friends’ are about, we do want to welcome and encourage visitors to appreciate nature, biodiversity and conservation generally and Forest Farm in particular. The Parks Department are keen to develop the Reserve for educational purposes and encourage community involvement. The Countryside Alliance Award recognises this and it raises awareness of Forest Farm Nature Reserve.

The Council’s Rangers, our own Friends group and other volunteer groups work hard to try to maintain the various habitats; woodland (including the SSSI), wetlands, ponds, boggy areas, meadow, orchard and then the canal, bird hides, and numerous pathways. There is always something to be done!



L-R> Martin Chamberlain, Secretary FFF, Raj Chettri Community Park Ranger, and Nicola Hutchinson Conservation Officer Cardiff Council, John Harding Chairman FFF). Photo Martin Chamberlain

\* \* \* \* \*

### *The beginning of the new Woodland Garden*

You will remember that at the bottom end of the canal, work has been going on to clear, improve and develop a woodland garden. Its early days and there is still some work to do.

Among the bulbs planted are:- Tenby daffodils, native bluebells, snowdrops, anemones, cyclamen and some ferns and foxgloves. I am told that it may take a few years to see the full effect as native bulbs often take longer to settle in.

There will be some large pieces of ‘weathered’ stone in keeping with the area. The latter is mainly to stop people parking on the edge.

The millstone is in place and some tree ‘logs’ with bark will be put around the edge.

There are a few photos on page 11, but do take the opportunity to go up and have a look. In a few weeks there be will be a lot more to see and hopefully, the weather will be a bit warmer.

**Sheila Austin**

*The photograph of the canal in winter on the front page of the last edition was taken by Martin Chamberlain.*

Editorial

Hello everyone. Do I detect a hint of Spring in the air? I was on our nature walk this morning and there were snowdrops, daffodils, catkins and blackthorn blossom and a lot of birds to see including one particularly aggressive (or is that attentive?) male mallard. Other signs of activity were evident! The Rangers and volunteers have been really busy (P3/4) - it's wonderful to see such progress and shows how much can be achieved with larger numbers and working together.. Its' really enjoyable. Volunteering groups other than the Friends have done amazing work as well. We really do appreciate it.

You are not too late either to volunteer for the Mary Gillham project - see the interesting comparison photos of 'then' and 'now' in volunteer John Wilkins report (P6/7).

There are a lot of activities coming up, our evening talks and coach trip, as well as our usual nature rumbles and quite a few interesting events organised by the Rangers - Dawn Chorus for the early riser, a photography workshop and the Rangers Summer Festival (see P1/12) You can always catch up on our website [www.forestfarm.org.uk](http://www.forestfarm.org.uk)

The plans for Velindre development continue. Their team continue to liaise with the committee and we will try to keep you up to date and raise any concerns you have with them.

I am delighted that Forest Farm received some national recognition by being Highly Commended in the Countryside Alliance Awards . It never ceases to amaze me how many people locally have never visited or even know its there. We need all the support we can get to maintain the Reserve and increase its biodiversity - and maybe one day be able to get something done about the parlous state of the canal..

Last but not least, you cannot have failed to notice that we have printed this again in colour. It does cost us more but it makes such a difference. Whether and how it continues is to be discussed at the A.G.M. on 19th April.

*Sheila Austin*

**Membership**

Our membership now stands at 401.

A warm welcome to new members. Once again a big thank you to all our current members - your continued support is really appreciated.

**Pauline Fisher**  
**Membership Secretary**

*Evening Talks*

*7.30p.m. Ararat Centre for the Community,Whitchurch. CA14 1PT*

*15th March The Glamorgan Canal by Stephen Rowson.*

*19th April Cardiff's Edwardian Parks by Rosie James - and AGM*

**Apology**

*To Norman West - his lovely photo of the snipe in the December edition was not correctly attributed to him as I inadvertently changed his surname. I am sorry - it was entirely my error.*

*And for the mix-up of dates re the elm tree planting and post Christmas walk. It seems as though the corrections got out there via the website and verbal messages, but our sincere apologies if you did not get them.*

**Sheila Austin**

**Deadline for articles for next newsletter - 8th May 2017**

**See back page for contact details**

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## **Reserve Report by Alec Stewart, Community Ranger**

Its that time again for the Reserve report. Wow! that came around quickly, and a lot has happened on the Reserve since the last one. The work at Forest Farm has been carried out between the Rangers, the Friends group and various individuals and volunteer groups such as Greendays. A big thank you to all involved, working with everyone has been fun and without you, keeping on top of everything would be impossible.

While clearing the ponds in the autumn I discovered a large leak in the wetland to the right of the first hide. On a particularly wet day, the Rangers were able to fill this with several tons of clay bought by the Friends. It seems to have worked as the area has now flooded and snipe have been seen feeding there. We also managed to repair the screens around the hide and add some gates to enable better access for equipment and staff to carry out various duties.

The restoration of the hedge at the second hide is now complete and should now grow and thicken up to give a protective barrier to the wetland but allow light into the area. We will also be planting some foxglove in the area in front of the hedge fairly soon.

Work has started around the car park area clearing bramble restoring pathways and lifting some low tree branches. This is to make the car park more inviting and safer to use. The pond in front of the farmhouse has also seen some clearance work in preparation for a new liner to restore it to its former glory with an added extra as well (watch this space!).

Further along the road, the restoration of the butterfly meadow is starting to take shape. The meadow has been scraped and reshaped with banks (no, its not going to be a swimming pool as someone suggested) which will be kept with short grass and spring flowers. Indeed the daffodils and snowdrops are in flower and the bluebells are poking through. The main meadow area will be reseeded again at the end of March and Martin Chamberlain will be planting some foxgloves on the back bank. We will also add some primrose to the banks as well.

A recent workday saw Forest Farm hosting **three** groups in one morning. The Friends worked along the feeder canal clearing the sycamore and dead hedging the brash. It was a really good turnout of people; everyone worked hard and a lot was accomplished. The other two groups were CCV and a volunteer group from the university. They worked in the scout field across the lock and concentrated on clearing bramble and bracken to allow the ground flora to flourish.



*Left: One of the Friends volunteers working along the feeder. John was not alone!*



*Repairing a leak in the wetland..  
It looks like he is having fun!*



*Above : Volunteers clearing brambles and bracken in the 'Scout Field'*

## **Reserve Report cont'd**

Slowly, the Rangers, with volunteer help, are trying to improve the ***gardens around the farmhouse.*** New benches have been added and some of the beds have been cleared and planted. This is an *ongoing project and there is more to do, particularly with day to day weeding etc.* ***I would like to ask for help from anyone from the friends who may be interested in getting involved and can spare an hour or two, and who would enjoy this kind of activity.*** Please contact me on A.Stewart@cardfiff.gov.uk or telephone 02920445902/3 to discuss further details.

As you can see a lot of work has been carried out but there is plenty more to do!

Lets not forget though why we do this, Forest farm is a Nature Reserve for people to enjoy the outdoors and marvel at the wildlife we have on our doorstep. The resident kingfisher as always has drawn the crowds eager to get a view or a picture. The Bittern put in several appearances with the fox showing well if you were prepared to wait. A large flock of siskin has been seen regularly and redwing as well (sadly no waxwing) and there seems to be an abundance of Goldcrest.



*Scarlet elf cup fungus*

While litter picking the car park I was treated to a close view of a Goldcrest hunting along the car park edge and hovering right in front of me. We have also had a really good display of scarlet elf cup fungus this year, I think they enjoy the mild winters.

The hazel catkins are now in full bloom and the birds are pairing off and inspecting nest sites. Spring is on its way!

**Photos: Alec Stewart**

*(Captions - the editor!)*



## **Volunteers Plant Elm Trees**

*In January, volunteers from the Friends joined Ranger Gareth to plant 16 elm trees on the Hospital Meadows.*

Elm trees were once common across Britain. They are an important habitat for the White-letter hairstreak butterfly which has declined by 53% since. In the 1970's when Dutch elm disease ravaged populations across the country. This butterfly breeds and lays eggs on elms and so also suffered when they lost this vital food source for their caterpillars.



*The trees planted were all Dutch elm disease resistant varieties. Many thanks to our volunteers for all their hard work - and I think they all enjoyed it as well!*

**Photos: Gareth Stamp**

**A Talk on Howardian Nature Reserve**

*(I did not have room last year to include this article, so decided to publish it as we approach Spring so that you can look out for the date of the 2017 summer walk at Howardian. Ed)*

Volunteer wardens **Gerald Nowell** and **Roy Bailey Wood** gave a most entertaining and informative talk to the Friends who attended the 2016 AGM.

The Howardian Reserve is located in the lower Rhymney Valley which can be accessed from Ipswich Road or from Hammond Way off Colchester Avenue. There is a good website with many photos and further details ([www.howardianlnr.org.uk](http://www.howardianlnr.org.uk))

The site had begun life as the Rhymney Tidal Refuse Tip in use until the early 1970s. In 1973 when it was derelict land, the Parks Department under the father and son William Nelmes, asked if pupils of the adjacent Howardian High School would like 5-6 acres to convert to a nature reserve. Pupils spread earth, planted trees and Rye grass; they were involved with the Reserve till the school closed in 1990. The Reserve has now grown to 34 acres. Originally, there was just a line of trees on the boundary but 30,000 have now been planted - a variety of species to give a succession of flowers, fruit and nuts. A lot of the site is marshy and there are ponds too.

A wide range of fauna and flora have colonised the Reserve. The most famous being dormice, the only UK mouse with a furry tail. They have 52 special nest boxes and in their best year 31 dormice have been found, though numbers fluctuate vastly. The mice hibernate on the ground and if it's a wet winter, a lot of the site floods and they drown.

The Reserve is also home to seven species of orchids, including some hybrids - Bee, Common Spotted, Southern Marsh and Butterfly Orchids, Twayblade and Broad-leaved Helleborine. There is usually a public walk in mid June which is the best time to see them. Other signature species are marsh marigolds (Kingcups) and the Speckled Wood butterfly. A Mary Gillham drawing of this butterfly is used as their logo by the Friends group. However there are many other species of plants, animals and invertebrates found on the Reserve.

***Albyn Austin***

To note for your diary:

Friends A. G. M. - After Rosie James talk on 19th April Details enclosed.

Dawn Chorus 29th April

Foods of the Forest 10th May

Wildlife Photography Workshop 13th May

Summer Wildlife Festival 27th May

Friends Coach Trip 24th June

**FRIENDS OF FOREST FARM COACH TRIP**

**TO ROSS ON WYE AND THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF BIRDS OF PREY.**

**ON SATURDAY 24th JUNE 2017**

- 9.00 am.** Coach arrives outside the side entrance of Bethany Baptist Church in Heol Uchaf, Rhiwbina (CF14 6SS). Cars can be parked in the side road just across Heol Llanishen Fach.
- 9.15 am.** Departure and travel to the entrance of the Deri Inn car park.
- 9.20 am.** Pick up at the Deri Inn, then along Heol Y Deri to the lay-by in front of Canolfan Beulah.
- 9.25 am.** Pick up at Canolfan Beulah, then via the Monico lights, Penlline Road, to outside Whitchurch High School and opposite The Royal British Legion.
- 9.30 am.** Pick up at the School then northwards to the bus stop opposite the Holly Bush at Coryton.
- 9.35 am.** Pick up at the Holly Bush and travel direct to ROSS ON WYE.
- 10.35am** Arrive at Ross on Wye near the Wetherspoons Pub, (toilet facilities and also convenient for coffee/tea/snacks. Further up the road is a local market. The rest of the morning will be at your leisure.
- 12.35pm** Meet at the same location where you were dropped off.
- 12.45pm.** Coach departs for the International Centre of Birds of Prey (GL18 1JJ) via M50 and Newent
- 1.10pm.** Arrive at the Centre - then a short guided familiarity tour of the Centre. There is an on-site café serving a selection of fresh baked snacks/soup/and drinks, and an attractive garden area. The Centre was founded in 1967 and it has over 250 Birds of Prey.
- 2.00pm and 4.15pm** Two different flight demonstrations available - informative and entertaining for all ages.
- 5.15 pm.**approx. depart from the Centre and travel back direct to our Whitchurch and Rhiwbina pick up locations. We expect to be back around 6.30pm.

If you would like to come on this trip please **complete the tear off slip below and send it, together with your cheque made out to The Friends of Forest Farm**, to Mr. D.Hockridge at 5, Clos Cromwell, Rhiwbina, Cardiff. CF14 6QN, together with a **STAMPED, self-addressed envelope**, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Seats will be allocated in the order of your booking date. Everyone is welcome to join us on this trip.

Should you have any queries, please contact Duncan by telephone (Cardiff 20626111) or email ([duncan3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:duncan3@hotmail.co.uk)).

You will receive a confirmation of your booking, with your seat numbers.

**Please tear off slip below**

**Please tear off slip below**

**Please tear off slip below**

**Ross on Wye and The Centre of Birds of Prey. SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**

Name.....Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Tele.....Email.....

**Please book me the following places for this coach trip:-**

.....No. Adult/s on the coach at £14 =£.....

.....No. Child/ren (under 15) on the coach at £10. =£.....

.....No. Adult/s, Centre group discount entry charge at £10. =£.....

.....No. Adult/s, (over 65 years) Centre group discount entry charge at £9. =£.....

.....No. Child/ren, Centre group discount entry charge at £7. =£.....

I enclose my cheque made payable to Friends of Forest Farm for the total of £.....

I /we wish to be picked up at Bethany\*\*, the Deri\*\*, Canolfan Beulah\*\*,

Whitchurch High School\*\*, the Holly Bush\*\*. \*\*Please circle desired pick up location\*\*

**Please list the names and addresses of persons, other than yourself, who you are booking for, on the reverse of this form.** Please remember to enclose a stamped S.A.E. for confirmation.

**The changing face of Forest Farm – John Wilkins, Mary Gillham Archive Project volunteer**

Whilst in the process of digitising the c.15,000 slides that form Mary Gillham’s photo archive, we came across many that she took on her frequent visits to Forest Farm. These proved to be a great talking point here at the project. In fact, so much interest did they provoke that we decided to mount an expedition in order to replicate her historical photos with up to date ones - any excuse for a few hours out of the office! Matching locations turned out to be far more difficult than we had expected - and, in some cases, impossible - but, dodging rain showers and battling clinging mud, we did achieve at least part of our aim as the photos here show.



Above: “Dredging Glamorgan Canal, parks department, March 1972”  
Below: Our efforts to replicate the scene on 6 March 2017



Notice the new lock and growth of trees that masks the factory which has since been replaced by the Ffordd Morgannwg estate.



**The Genesis of Longwood Drive,**  
40 years of history at a glance.

**Top:**

*“View west cutting through Long Wood canal and embankment. Forest Farm. November 1973.”*

Identifying the location of this photo caused no end of difficulty at the MG Project though, fortunately, Friends of Forest Farm committee member (Chris James) had no such problem.

**Middle:**

*“Forest Farm. Access road. M4 Morganstown and Little Garth Quarry. 10 October 1977.”*

Both of the above photos taken by Mary Gillham

**Bottom:**

Our photo taken from as close as possible to the same spot as the two above in March 2017.

We were amazed at the change in landscape and wildlife of Forest Farm in just 40 years. What memories do you have? We'd love to hear of them!

We are delighted to have formed closer ties with the Friends of Forest Farm and we are grateful to the magazine for allowing us to submit the photos shown here. Lack of space precludes us from providing many more that we found to be so interesting but, in the hope that readers will be as fascinated as we were with the *Then and Now* nature of them, the link here will allow access to many more:

[www.flickr.com/photos/marygillhamarchiveproject/albums](http://www.flickr.com/photos/marygillhamarchiveproject/albums)



The Mary Gillham Archive Project is running for another year; if you would like to be involved in the project you can email [alan.reeve@sewbrec.org.uk](mailto:alan.reeve@sewbrec.org.uk) or call on 07961 516587. We will have these photos and much more on display at the Summer Wildlife Festival on May 27<sup>th</sup> and the FoFF open day on October 14<sup>th</sup> both at Forest Farm – come along and talk with us then or find out more at <https://marygillhamarchiveproject.com/>.

## Spring Birds

### **Extract from an article by Mike Wiley then Reserve Warden June 1990 Newsletter No 2**

*(We don't seem to have much about birds in this edition, so I've delved into our master set of newsletters and found this. What immediately caught my eye was 'Peregrine' and 'Cuckoo' - I wonder how many years it is since anyone heard a Cuckoo in Forest Farm? I'm glad that the practice of stealing birds' eggs has diminished though sadly not disappeared. I thought it was also interesting that mink were around then too. Are there still Pike in the Taff? Ed)*

" It has been a good season for birds on the nature reserve. I think that spring is the best time to watch birds, just before the leaves fully open on the trees.

I've had sightings of Buzzard, Peregrine, Cuckoo plus all the usual warblers. Around the middle of March, a Kingfisher was found on the towpath with a broken wing. I was told that it subsequently died. I thought at the time that this might affect the population, as breeding was about to commence. A few weeks later, in about mid April, I discovered a pair nesting on the banks of the River Taff, near the Reserve.

It was obvious that they were feeding young, as both parents were to be seen flying up and down the river carrying small fish. On leaving the nest, the parents will be seen to dip several times in the river, not fishing, but to wash themselves, as their nests are extremely dirty places. A few weeks later, both parents were seen, plus three young flying together.

The kingfisher is double brooded (it rears young twice in the same year), and sometimes uses the same nest to rear the second brood, so I'll have to keep an eye on the nest site. Some people still attempt to collect birds' eggs, so it is fortunate that the nest is inaccessible.

For me, one of the best things about bird-watching is that you never know what you might see. An example of this is the Greylag goose I recently saw on the river; whether or not this was a true wild bird or feral (semi-wild) I do not know.

There was also a female Mallard with 15 young swimming on the river. Although 15 may seem a large number, because of the predation of Gulls, Mink, Rats and even Pike (they get attacked from below as well as above), the parent will be lucky if it ends up with half of them.

Another day I noticed all the tits around the farm were calling and seemed very agitated. On looking up I saw a Sparrowhawk circling overhead. A few braver tits were even going up and trying to mob him.

The nature reserve, with its many different and varied habitats is a particularly good place for bird watching, and over the years more than 90 different species have been recorded."

### **Hugh Harrison**

In December, the Committee was delighted when Hugh accepted our invitation to join us for our annual Christmas meal together. We took the opportunity to express our thanks to him. As you see he was presented with this picture of two kingfishers which we hope will remind him of many happy hours.

(Photo of Hugh from John Harding with apologies for its quality)



*Presented to Hugh Harrison December 2016 for his long and much valued conservation work in the Longwood Drive section of Forest Farm Nature Reserve, Cardiff. Many thanks from the committee and on behalf of all the Friends, volunteers and everyone involved with Forest Farm.*

**Presentation Photo by  
Alec Stewart.**

### Hedgehogs - a talk by Erica Dixon

The Friends Talk last November was given by Erica from Hedgehog Helpline (website [hedgehoghelplinecymru.org.uk](http://hedgehoghelplinecymru.org.uk) ) This South Wales charity - now 30 years old - rescues hedgehogs in distress, rehabilitates and then releases them. At the time of the talk, 250 hedgehogs were in rehabilitation by 40-50 carers, also there is a waiting list of ten animals as there have been so many late youngsters this year. Websites are a good source of information about the animals and how to help them.

Erica brought along a juvenile female hedgehog who was born in a very late litter in September. At about 350g, she was too small to survive hibernation (November to April/May) where a minimum weight of 600g is needed. She will be kept active over the winter by using artificial light and warmth so that she will not hibernate, then be released in the spring when she will be fully mature. It is really shortage of food that triggers hibernation, but it also short days and a run of temperatures below 5 degrees. In 1950, the UK had about 30 million hedgehogs; today there are only about 750,000. Increasing use of pesticides and fragmented habitat has caused the decline. Gardens are a vital habitat for them though they wander over a large territory (about ten football pitches) becoming stressed if confined in smaller areas. They have no real legal protection; bats for example do have protection even though they have much larger numbers.

If you find an injured hedgehog, one out in daylight (they're nocturnal) or disturb a litter in a nest (try to catch the mother first, then the babies as otherwise she will abandon them), phone the helpline emergency number 07557 646773 or see the website. Never give them milk – they are lactose intolerant and bread is useless to them. Feed them cat or dog food, cat kibbles, apple, boiled egg and water. Babies must be kept at 32-33 degrees C to survive and need special lactose free milk. As we know, when threatened, hedgehogs curl themselves up into a ball of spines and pull their loose outer skin up tight around their noses; their only predators are badgers, terriers and some other dogs who don't seem to mind the spines. They have very weak jaws and hedgehog bites won't draw blood. They are pretty good climbers- but not brick walls - and quite good swimmers. They also heal well and can recover from some broken bones if correctly treated.

In the UK we have the West European Hedgehog. There is a lot of information on websites about their weight, lifespan, the diseases they succumb to and diet they need in the wild.

Females have two litters (late May, then in the summer) with 4 - 6 hoglets born; a third (autumn litter) is increasingly common but the hoglets won't survive as they can't put on enough weight. Also the mothers may not have time to put on weight for hibernation. The males take no part in rearing the young. The babies weigh about 15g at birth and develop white spines within an hour and are deaf and blind until they are about 2 weeks old, then develop teeth. At 3 weeks they leave the nest with mum and at 6 weeks they wander off on their own. They breed in their first year.



Photo. hedgehoghelplinecymru

Hedgehogs need to enter and leave gardens - a 5in. hole in a wall is ideal. Their main hazards are road traffic, dogs, cuts from strimmers or lawn mowers when cutting long grass, burning in bonfires, drowning in ponds if they can't get out, getting stuck in drains, their heads stuck in garbage such as tins, tangling in netting and eating slugs or snails that have been poisoned by chemical slug pellets, so please at least use the organic types. Remember, a hedgehog in the garden will be far more effective at eating slugs than any pellets.

A feeding station can be made by cutting a hole in a plastic storage box and weighing it down or laying a square shape of six bricks with suitable gaps big enough for the hedgehog and covering it with a small paving slab or similar. If you keep it well away from walls or cover, say in the middle of a patio, rats will not go near it. Place food and water under the slab every evening, but your garden must have access for the animals to get in or out.

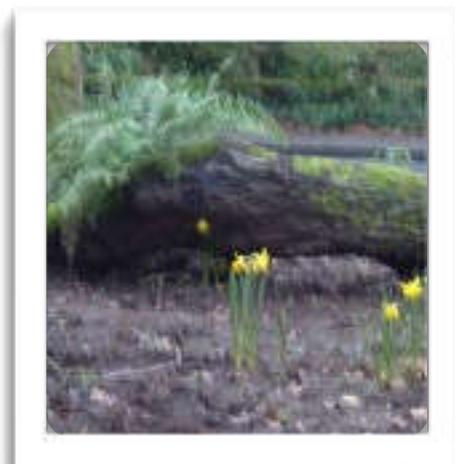
**Albyn Austin**



*The New Woodland Garden Forest Farm*

*Before - left: getting started on preparation. Work done by volunteers, supervised by Raj.*

*After - below: Mid February. Primroses is situ. No native bulbs yet but the are coming through.*



**Donation**

We are very grateful for a donation of £100 to the Friends of Forest Farm. The donor wishes to remain anonymous.

**Events - March to June 2017**

DATE	EVENT
Sun 12th Mar 10.00 - 13.00	<b>Friends Volunteering Event.</b> ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Wed 15th Mar 19.30	<b>Evening talk. The Glamorgan Canal by Stephen Rowson.</b> At Ararat Centre for the Community, Plas Treoda Whitchurch CF14 1PT. Refreshments. ALL WELCOME.
Sat 18th Mar 10.00 - 12.30	<b>Nature Ramble.</b> 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.
Sun 19th Mar 10.00 - 12.00	<b>Cardiff Wildlife Detectives.</b> An exciting new club for children. <b>Scavenger Hunt.</b> Run by the RSPB and City of Cardiff Council Rangers. For more details/ to register email <a href="mailto:cymru@rspb.org.uk">cymru@rspb.org.uk</a> or tel 02920 353000.
Sunday 9th Apr 10.00 - 13.00	<b>Friends Volunteering Event.</b> ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch CF14 7JJ

## Events - March to June 2017

DATE	EVENT
Saturday 15th Apr 10.00 - 12.30	<b>Nature Ramble.</b> 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.
<i>Wednesday</i> 19th Apr <b>19.30</b>	<b>Friends Evening Talk/AGM. Cardiff's Edwardian Parks - by Rosie James</b> At the Centre for the Community, Ararat Church, Whitchurch CF14 1PT ALL WELCOME Tea and biscuits.
Sunday 23rd Apr 10.00 - 12.00	<b>Cardiff Wildlife Detectives</b> for children aged 8-12 <b>Design your own garden.</b> For more details email Gareth at <a href="mailto:gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk">gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk</a> or phone Community Rangers on 029 2044 5903
Saturday 29th Apr <b>06.00</b>	<b>Dawn Chorus Walk</b> Experience the delights of the dawn chorus in the company of the Community Park Rangers. Experts will be on hand to help identify those tricky trills, warbles and whistles and with the Friends of Forest Farm providing hot drinks and breakfast rolls in return for a small donation, there aren't many better ways to start the day. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at the Warden Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 7JJ
Wednesday 10th May <b>18.00</b>	<b>Foods of the Forest</b> Take a pleasant stroll around Forest Farm Country Park with the Community Park Rangers and discover the tasty treats Mother Nature has in store this time of year. Round off the walk by tasting some of the delicious delicacies. Meet at the Warden Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 7JJ £4.50 per person
Saturday 13th May <b>09.30 - 15.00</b>	<b>Wildlife Photography Workshop</b> Want to take better pictures of birds and butterflies? Join the Rangers for an introduction to some basic photographic techniques and ways to improve your wildlife images. This workshop is aimed at digital SLR users of all abilities. Meet at Forest Farm Conservation Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff. CF14 7JJ Cost £30
Sunday 14th May 10.00 - 13.00	<b>Friends Volunteering Event.</b> ALL WELCOME Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Saturday 20th May 10.00 - 12.30	<b>Nature Ramble.</b> 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.
Sunday 21st May 10.00 - 12.00	<b>Cardiff Wildlife Detectives</b> for children aged 8-12 Activity TBA. For more details email Gareth at <a href="mailto:gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk">gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk</a> or phone Community Rangers on 029 2044 5903
Saturday 27th May <b>10.00 - 16.00</b>	<b>Summer Wildlife Festival</b> Pond-dipping, bug hunting and bird spotting – this day of fun packed wildlife activities with the Community Park Rangers is perfect for families. Meet at Forest Farm Conservation Centre, Forest Farm Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff. CF14 7JJ. Free activities and free parking available on site.
Sunday 11th Jun 10.00 - 13.00	<b>Friends Volunteering Event.</b> ALL WELCOME. Contact Martin on 07952 926145. Meet at the Wardens Centre Forest Farm Rd Whitchurch CF14 7JJ
Saturday 17th Jun 10.00 - 12.30	<b>Nature Ramble.</b> 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.
Sunday 18th June 10.00 - 12.00	<b>Cardiff Wildlife Detectives</b> for children aged 8-12 Activity TBA. For more details email Gareth at <a href="mailto:gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk">gstamp@cardiff.gov.uk</a> or phone Community Rangers on 029 2044 5903