

Newsletter from Pensford field 20th September 2009

www.pensfordfield.co.uk

charity no.1118800

The field has been used a lot during the summer. There have been picnics including our own annual summer celebration with Mike Ruff and his band. The After School and Out of School clubs have used the field and a new group of 11 – 14 year olds have been enjoying fun in the field during the holidays with organised entertainments and talks from experts about what to find in the field. In fact we would like to thank Mick Massie from the LNHS for talking to the younger children about insect and beetle populations in the field and it was so interesting that we would like to ask him back to talk to the adults. Did you know we have cuckoo bumble bees?

The children's garden can be seen outside the studio with tomatoes, beans and hopefully some leeks . The object with pallets is a toad palace with leaves and sticks, pipes and tiles to make a safe haven for the local toads to hibernate in the winter.

The pond water level has been a cause of worry but we have been certified free of the dreaded alien plant *Crasula helmsii* There might be hole in the liner and we would welcome any advice if anyone has had the same problem we have not been able to trace the exit but water is leaking out.

Events to look forward to are

First chronologically is the Rotary Club of Kew Gardens **Riverside Ramble** on **3rd October**. The Rotary club have always been very supportive to Pensford Field and we would like to promote their new event which will be fun for everyone and a fundraiser for all the local charities. Contact: David Poole, 20 Halford Road, Surrey, TW10 6AP or by email to ramble@kewrotary.org.uk for more information

Birdwatch and Breakfast Saturday 10th October Under the expert instruction of Dominic Couzens you will be shown the interesting birds and told about their life style. Then we repair to a local café and eat a hearty breakfast

Meet 7am in the field. Ticket only, £20

Table Top sale

This is on **7th November 12.30 – 3.00 Barn Church Hall**

Tables £10 to rent, all profit to yourself ! Please get in touch quickly because half the tables have been booked already ! There is a complete variety this year and we welcome the Kew Gardens Rotary Club who have taken 2 tables and Ulrike from the Lloyds bookshop as well as individuals who are doing a clear out and people who deal in antiques as a hobby.

Oran-Utang event in the afternoon 12th November

Details to be announced. Pam Ibrahima will be using the studio so come and see how you can help this near relative of ours to keep from going extinct.

Last Wassail

Date to be announced. The Mayor of Richmond is a Kew Lady and we would like to welcome her and entertain Celia Hodges to our last Wassail with the Fisher Family as they would like to stand down (if any budding historians would like to offer their services !) We would like to thank Bob and Celia for their enthusiasm and help over the years. This will be in early January.

Annual Quiz

The quiz will be out in November (last year won by our Mayor Celia Hodges), you will have your chance to have a go by buying the sheet at £1 from the Kew Sparkle or from my house in North Road.

Workday

Date to be announced. The BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) is going to make a weekday date to clear the paths and pull up the *typha latifolia* reeds that used to be in the pond. Although it does not look too good with the water gone we do have a new planting theme with thanks to Dr. Richard Bullock from the WWT Barnes. This should be much less invasive and will make a sustainable backdrop for the ducks and heron who frequent the pond.

We will also have a weekend workday(date to be announced) because so many people have asked if they can come along and help. (Double gate padlock code 2001) Of course you can always do a small bit of 'work' in the field when you visit by picking up any litter which the foxes bring in and asking anyone who has brought a dog to read the notices asking for dogs to be kept out of the field. We also ask for children to be escorted because there is a health and safety need for them not to be on their own. We have had some vandalism and the police patrol the field on an infrequent rota.

Kew Library

We are delighted in being given a spot in Kew Library for a display of things that happen in the field. I will be setting it up next Tuesday (22nd Sept) so if you have any pictures or would like to type up any comments, they could be incorporated into the display.

Girls Fun Art Project, popular as ever, Saturday art fun with Pam booking via 07500 178578

YOGA on Sundays with Katja. In peaceful settings looking out from the studio. Contact via. 13 Lawrence Drive Ickenham UB10 8RW

Lastly I am retiring from the committee in the new year. I have been working with Pensford Field for over 10 years and it is time someone else took the reins and brought new ideas to the area. The committee are the best to work with, filled with enthusiasm and hard work in their various fields and I will be sad to go. There are a few commitments to take on to run the field but I hope I will be leaving an easy to organise place in the community.

Diana