

**We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the Month  
at 10.00am in the Mill Road Car Park.**

**If you fancy joining us for a little light work do come  
along. We keep paths open, pick up litter and generally  
keep everywhere accessible. Every little helps.**

**Next dates:**

**21st April**

**19th May**

**9th June**

**Useful contacts:**

**Henry Heath (Chairman) 07776 144 053**

**Sue Crowhurst (Membership Secretary) 01903 368978**

**Adrienne Stevenson (Secretary) 01903 753977**

**Email: [AdrienneStevenson@gmail.com](mailto:AdrienneStevenson@gmail.com)**

**Facebook:**

**<https://en-gb.facebook.com/friendslancingring/>**

**Website: <https://folr.wordpress.com/>**



**SPRING NEWSLETTER  
2019**

It's already time for our spring newsletter which ironically is being written during an exceptionally wet and windy spell. The Reserve has taken a battering over the past few days and there is currently a lot of tree debris from broken branches littering the woodland areas.

However there are signs that spring may be on the way. There are beautiful carpets of violets flowering in the wooded areas. Many of these are the scented variety and the smell from so many flowers has been glorious. There are also a lot of birds visible at the moment. The results of the RSPB Big Garden birdwatch last year revealed that Goldfinches were doing well. That certainly seems to have been the case on the Reserve where we have seen more than 20 of these lovely little birds chattering away on a single bush. The collective name is a charm and they definitely lived up to that. There are also a few more thrushes in evidence, especially near the chalk pit.

The winter mowing has been completed ready for the first meadow flowers to appear. We have also put up 3 owl boxes on the Reserve. Two were made by the Men in Sheds and we would like to thank them for both making them and helping us to put them up in position. The 3<sup>rd</sup> was given to us by a member of the public. To protect the birds if they do get used, we aren't advertising the positions. We well remember a few years ago when the boxes were shot at by teenagers with air guns. Tawny owls have been heard and seen on the Reserve, so we are keeping our fingers crossed that one might like a new home.

**ADUR & WORTHING COUNCIL** – there have been a few management changes at the Council and we had the pleasure of recently showing a new Manager, Philippa Reece, round the Reserve. We look forward to working with her and the Council team. We would like to thank them for working with us over the past year.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS** - it is membership renewal time. Subs remain £3 individual, £5 family or 50p juniors. The brown

renewal envelopes are enclosed. Please put your name and address on the front of the envelopes to renew at the AGM or leave the envelope with your money at:

- Lancing Pet Shop in Culver Road
- Bowness Avenue newsagents.
- Through the letterbox of 21 The Street
- Through the letterbox of 31 Sedbury Road, Sompting

Membership numbers are important so please think about renewing even if you can't help at the task days. Please note that this will be the final newsletter for anyone whose renewal is more than a year overdue.

### **OUR 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

You may remember that something went awry with my maths last year and I wrote about our 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. Well, this really is our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Over those 30 years a lot has been done, including re-establishing the dewpond, planting trees (especially after the devastation of the Great Storm), establishing the Diamond Jubilee plantation, fencing, clearing and much more. We have worked with a variety of groups, including Worthing Conservation Volunteers, the SDNP Ranger and Volunteers, local schools and Brownies, Cubs and Sea Scouts to name but a few. We are truly grateful to everyone who has helped to make the Reserve the lovely place that it is now.

### **AGM / COFFEE MORNING – Sat 7<sup>th</sup> April at 10am**

This will be at the Holy Family Catholic Church Hall, North Road, Lancing. Books, plants, cakes, handmade cards and crafts will be on sale. The Men in Sheds will be there with their goods to sell. There will also be a raffle and free refreshments. Money taken from the coffee morning is vital for our funds, so please try to spread the word. We will also have our short AGM. The Committee are seeking re-election, but if you are interested in joining the committee, please let me know and I can give you more details. We will have some pictures of our 30 years on display. We look forward to seeing you there.