

Task Mornings

Meet at Mill Road car park on the 3rd Sunday in the Month at 10.00am for a couple of hours. The work is sociable and not arduous.

Next dates:

16th July

20th August

17th September

15th October

Useful contacts:

Henry Heath (Chairman) 07776 144 053

Sue Crowhurst (Membership Secretary) 01903 368978

Adrienne Stevenson (Secretary) 01903 753977

<https://www.facebook.com/friendslancingring>

<http://folr.wordpress.com>

If you would like receive a copy of the newsletter by email from now on, please email me at

AdrienneStevenson@gmail.com

* A single stem on a bramble can grow from 9-19 ft (and in some cases up to 29 ft) in a single year!



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2017

Summer is here and we are now seeing the benefits of the winter maintenance regime as the flowers really start to get going on the Reserve. It is always interesting to see what is happening and every year brings the excitement of wondering where they will appear this time. The Pyramidal orchids are just such a case in point. Over the years they have spread within the Reserve and we now have substantial colonies in the meadow north of Firlie Road and in MacIntyre's field. There are even a few by the side of the road to the Mill Road car park. I always feel that summer is really here when they arrive. During the winter the Council tried a slightly different regime by flailing and removing the cut grass in a few selected places on the Reserve and this does seem to have helped encourage a good variety of flowers and was obviously very successful. The flowers in turn bring the butterflies and bees and they have been evident in the warmer weather. Some butterflies can be difficult to identify, particularly if they are flying, but there are some that are a good starting point for anyone new to them but interested in what is there. In particular we seem to have seen quite a few Marbled White about at the moment. Others worth looking out for are the Commas with their ragged looking wings, or the beautiful Peacock with its eye spots on its wings.

COMMITTEE 2017-2018

The Committee are Henry Heath (Chair), Veronica Eltringham (Vice chair), Sue Crowhurst (Membership Secretary), Adrienne Stevenson (Secretary), Keith Dollemore and Chris Ball. Henry Heath continues to double as Treasurer. Members of the committee are usually available to talk to at any of the task mornings on the 3rd Sunday of each month, so do seek us out if you have any enquiries or concerns.

TASK DAYS

Members of the FOLR meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month to work on the Reserve. We always welcome anyone who would like to come and help and you don't have to commit to every session either. Just come

along when you can. We spend 2 hours doing simple maintenance. Some people stay for the whole time whilst others just come for as long as they have spare. One of the main jobs in these summer months is keeping the paths clear. It is surprising how quickly paths can completely disappear if they are not maintained as I am sure you have seen if you visit other sites. Do you know how far a brambles can grow in a year? (Answer on the back of the newsletter!)

NEW NOTICEBOARDS

You may have noticed that we have lovely new noticeboards at the Cemetery and main car park. We will keep them updated about news on the Reserve. Our thanks to the Council Rangers for putting them in place for us.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR THIS YEAR

Thanks to those who have renewed. Membership numbers are important, so please do renew and try to encourage other people who use the area to join. Subs are £3 per person, £5 for families or 50p juniors.

You can renew at:

Fircroft News, Manor Road; Lancing Pet Shop, Culver Road; Bowness Avenue newsagents, 21 The Street or by contacting Sue Crowhurst, 31 Sedbury Road, Sompting.

WILD FLOWER WALK – SAT 15 JULY at 2PM

If you have always wondered about the flowers on the Reserve, why not join us for a wild flower walk? Ros and Adrienne will take you on an hour's walk identifying some of the flowers and telling you a little about them. This is a free event and anyone will be welcome to join us. We will meet at the car park at the top of Mill Road and set off at 2pm. No prior knowledge is needed. We look forward to seeing you.

We hope you have a good summer and enjoy the Reserve.