



THE FRIENDS OF CHARNWOOD FOREST NEWS



Autumn 2013

Website: www.focf.org.uk

Mission Statement: To work towards the preservation of the countryside and local environment of Charnwood Forest Regional Park for the benefit of those who live within it, and for those who visit, and for future generations. We aim to be an effective, informative and influential voluntary organisation.



Dick Howard

Our Chairman is known to most of us as the leading light of our Society. He is the reliable guide to all we do and a friend to the Society and to Charnwood Forest

like no other. He is the man, along with the founding fathers, who has ensured that The Friends of Charnwood Forest has become the highly respected organisation it is today. He is the man who makes things happen - sometimes by delegation but most often he just rolls up his sleeves and gets on with it himself.

After so many years of doing all of that, in his roles as Secretary and Chairman, Dick has recognised (as we all have to do) that this time is now the right time for him to hand over to someone else. He will therefore step down as the Chairman of our Society at our Annual General Meeting in March next year. Typically, he has put the welfare of the Society first and given us lots of notice of his intention.

We therefore need someone to step into Dick's shoes in some 6 months time. Any member who would like to consider offering their services in this capacity is invited to express an interest to Dick now, with a view to learning what is entailed.

And are you up for this Event?

It proved impossible in the end for Helen Kessling to add the role of Events Organiser to her already big personal schedule.

We are therefore seeking a member to arrange around half a dozen events (speakers and guided walks) a year. Please speak to the Chairman (details overleaf).

TALKS and WALKS

Our activities for you to enjoy

Indoor meetings take place at Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall at 7.30pm, finishing about 9pm followed by refreshments. Your guests and other non-members are welcome at our talks (for whom we make a small charge of £3 at the door).

To assist our preparations and to help you in case of any change to the arrangements, please tell us you are coming (see individual invitations for details).

It's a big help ... thank you.

Monday 23rd September

TALK: CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPES, CHANGES IN A LIFETIME by Tim Adkin, the Access to Nature Officer at Charnwood Borough Council.

Monday 21st October Please note change

TALK: LATITUDES II - TO THE END OF THE WORLD by Peter Crichton

Wed 13th November Please note date change

MEET THE MEMBERS DINNER at The Village Restaurant, Newtown Linford 7.15pm to 7.45pm

And for next year ...

Monday 13th January

TALK: THE FUTURE OF LEICESTERSHIRE QUARRIES by Geoff Mason

Monday 17th March

AGM followed by TALK: THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL FOREST by Lynne Richards, Head of Fundraising and External Relations, National Forest Company

Committee Notes

◆ Ted Pepper has been a valued Committee member for six years. Recently his health has caused concern and in June he tendered his resignation. We all wish you well, Ted.

◆ With the arrival of this quarterly Newsletter and its Programme panel (above), it has been decided to discontinue producing the familiar, but rather inflexible, annual programme card.

◆ We now enjoy reciprocal membership with the Friends of Charnwood Forest Canal and hope to report more of their news in future. They are currently arranging a series of walks along the line of the old Canal.

◆ We continue to support the Charnwood Landscape Project and their Heritage Lottery bid which aims

to support 17 individual projects intended to be of benefit to the Forest.

◆ We are supporting CPRE in their campaign against the National Planning Policy Framework.

vices, Charnwood Borough Council, Southfields, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 2TN or via email to Stoneywell@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Delightful Charnwood 'Secret' Walk

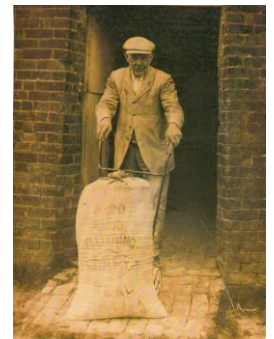
One Saturday morning in May, a goodly group of Friends (including five 'new recruits' who were warmly welcomed) met at the Old John car park and enjoyed a lovely walk arranged for us by John and Liz Kettle and Helen Kessling. Our 2½-hour ramble took us partly through private woodland. We enjoyed John's informative commentary.



On public paths again, our route passed the hidden and derelict Ulverscroft Mill, pictured. Here we paused, had a group picture taken and were fascinated by the tale which Pat Woodward told us about her family ancestor. Pat then emailed with a big thank you (shared by us all) to John and Liz for such an interesting morning. And she gave us the following information together with two early pictures:

Joseph Draper was born in 1859 at Belton watermill and married Sarah Rudkin, a Newtown Linford girl, around 1884. His brother Henry, born 1865 worked the Shepshed windmill which ceased working during the second world war (the second photograph is Henry with the last sack of flour produced at Shepshed). It is Henry who is a family ancestor.

If Pat's calculations are correct it is Joseph William son of Joseph and Sarah in the first photograph of Ulverscroft Mill which she believes ceased working in 1935. The wording on the photograph reads Newtown Linford Mill. J Draper. The Midland Photo Series, No. 90.



Stoneywell Update

In view of the wide interest just now, the following is taken from the most recent edition of the National Trust's Stoneywell newsletter:

Welcome to the July Stoneywell newsletter. Follow the Stoneywell blog for more updates; subscribe at <http://ntstoneywell.wordpress.com>

Planning proposals continue

We would like to thank everybody that has sent in their support of our planning proposals to Charnwood Borough Council. The Planning Committee are now expected to consider our proposals in mid-September which has pushed a few of our plans back. However, this has given us more time to carry out essential surveys and for people to support our plans. If you would like to register your support please do so in writing to Planning Ser-

Who's Who?

Chairman Dick Howard richardhoward342@btinternet.com 01530 245373
Secretary & Newsletter Douglas Maas doug@idnet.com 01530 242534
Membership Louise Gibson louise@the-grey-lady.co.uk
Treasurer Kim Turner 01530 244921
Events vacancy
Web Master Toby Manning ptm@tobymanning.co.uk

Foot Note

SIGN OF THE TIMES? According to their website, in their "New Great Outdoors Survey", Maplins - the technology retailer - found that millions of UK holidaymakers are being put off going camping or caravanning. The reason .. they can't bear to leave their technology behind. Over a third must have a permanent power source available on holiday. Where do you stand? Now ... where did I put my phone charger? ...