

FoKW Annual Report 2007- 08

Following an article in the Kentish Express last autumn, saying that the Committee intended to retire, a large number of Friends attended the AGM and a new Committee was formed in December 2007. We were mostly strangers to each other and Committee work, although all had a passion for the Forest and continuing the Friends. Roles under the Friends' Constitution were filled and I with trepidation set out to devise the Programme of Events that was published towards the end of April. Events have been well supported and conducted with enthusiasm by our Volunteer Event Leaders who have been generous with their time and knowledge. Smaller groups have enjoyed:- the Reptile Valley and seeing adders and slow worms; Verdant Farm agricultural collection; and the Dormouse Survey. **Additional dormouse boxes were purchased and installed earlier this year bringing the total number now to 50.**

Whilst it's intended to continue with these favourite events and perhaps add to them, the Committee also heard about grants that are available. Jon Shelton, Project Manager, Kentish Stour Countryside Programme gave us some ideas about different projects and types of grants. Carol Davis from The Blean described her experiences of raising grants and delivering projects. More recently we received very good news from Jon that the pond is to go ahead in Cuttlers Field for which the Friends will give a donation of £900 that fulfils a commitment made in 2007 and the current Committee was pleased to support.

Activity	Nos	Activity	Nos	Activity	Nos
Bluebell Walk	12	Bluebell Walk	39	Churring Nightjars	25
Great Chart Beavers	43	Reptile Valley	9	Verdent Farm	9
Butterflies & Wild Flowers	19	Six Mile Ramble	5	Bat Walk	26
Dormouse Survey	9	Great Chart Beavers	60	Deer Dawdle	12
Dormouse Survey 2	9	Fungi Foray	6	Stargazing	
A Walk through the Past		Scrub & Grub (Practical day)			
Total	92		119		72
Grand Total	283				

Fetes and Fairs		
Five Church Walk 8 new memberships	Boughton Aluph Fair 8 new memberships	Challock Goose Fair 100 prizes won by children

Membership			
Individual 42	Joint 18	Family 22	Total 82
		Named Members	Total 138
£210	£180	£220	£610

Diana Sawyer
Acting Chairman.