



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE SPRING 2008 NEWSLETTER

HELLO!

Welcome to the Spring 2008 FSC Newsletter!

It's officially spring, so we can throw off the winter woollies and dance in the sunshine among the daffodills! (maybe?!) But just before you race out to do that, think back to November and the fun we had when we were last together...



SPECIAL FUND NEWS

We are looking forward to hearing about Iona, the little girl who we gave money to last time. It was to go towards special equipment at school to help with her hearing difficulties. Her mum has recently had a new baby so things are bit hectic right now, and we haven't been able to get an update!



Don't forget that the special fund is there for anyone connected with GirlGuiding, to give a helping hand when especially needed.

A WORD FROM FRANCES

Are there any Guiders in the SW Region over the age of 40 who don't link Marjorie King and Foxlease... we all have such strong memories of her as Guider-in-Charge!

The congregation who managed to get to Wells on November 30th 2007 to attend her memorial service had many fond tales to tell. I found it delightful to meet again the young women who I remembered as Foxlease staff in the past; now mothers of little ones, looking very elegant and grown up! Current Foxlease staff were there too, as well as recent staff; it was quite a gathering.

The service was moving... but definitely a joyful celebration of Marjorie... of music... and of her friendship with Sue Stevens. The 'singers' talked afterwards about how interesting it was to learn about Marjorie's other interests; her family; her dogs; her loyalty to her church.

It was good to see Alison looking well despite the tough months she'd been through. Her hand could be seen in every arrangement, and we were all gripped by her reading of 'Mr God, this is Anna'.

The singers were a combination of the Somerset Singing Circle and Foxlease Singing Circle; we all did our best for Marjorie and felt very strongly that she was approving each item; except 'Lead Me Lord' where she must have been smiling wryly when it fell in pieces at the beginning!!! Pat and Philippa accompanied and coped with the challenge of putting two singing circles together at the last moment. We all felt glad that we'd been able to be there.

WHAT NEXT? For someone who has been so important to the development of Foxlease Singing Circle, we need to decide HOW we mark her passing! I think this is something we will need to talk to Alison about... but keep thinking! Personally I'd like to see a CD made, in her memory, which gives all Guiders a resource of songs for the units they are sadly lacking at the moment! Over to you for ideas....



Frances P.

A BLISSFUL TIME

by Mandy Rowe

For a variety of reasons, the word 'blissful' comes to mind when I remember my first FSC weekend in November 2007. At last I fulfilled a long awaited ambition to attend what turned out to be an amazing weekend. I felt honoured to join such a talented group of people who made me feel that I belonged with such a warm welcome. My excitement at being there was constantly fuelled by the laughter, fun, friendship and great food. A real bonus to the programme was provided by so many talented individuals - I shall not forget the plight of 'Derek the Duck', 'The QM's' or 'All Ladies Bright and Beautiful' in a hurry and I keep finding myself trying to guess the length of an elastic band! Apart from all the socialising, there was a fair bit of enjoyable shopping both at the FSC shopping mall, and in Lyndhurst. I bought loads more badges, cards, polo shirt, scarf and the cherry on the cake - the FSC kazoo. I really enjoyed playing it. It was so therapeutic.

The singing was sheer joy, each session so expertly led and such fun. Hilary Stokes led and immersed us all in such beautiful Scottish harmonies as well as providing us with a programme packed with nostalgia, Spirit of Christmas and a good vocal workout. The fun and late night singing sessions were an additional highlight and trying to sing 'who stole my chickens' was hysterical! There was however, time for reflection, an AGM, chats, duties, lots more food including a fabulous roast turkey lunch, which altogether left me in a state of bliss and feeling very full. Thank you all for such a brilliant time. I am truly grateful but I'm still wondering does anyone get any sleep at these weekends?



CATCH YOUR DREAMS



Friends for well over twenty years, Ali Crooks and Pat Hobden have been performing individually, in small groups and with larger choirs, around the UK since the early 80's. During that time they have each enjoyed singing, playing guitar and song writing. Five years ago, they wrote their first collaboration, 'Music of Life'. Many more 'joint efforts' have since followed, some of which are featured on this CD, the first they have recorded together. Pat and Ali are members of Kernow Singing Circle and Foxlease Singing Circle and enjoy sharing their music with the respective groups.

If you would like a copy of the CD, please send a cheque for £10 per copy (payable to Mrs A Crooks) and your address details to:
Ali Crooks, 6 Clyst Heath, Exeter, Devon, EX2 7TA.

Please note 20% of all profits from sales of the CD will be donated to charity. This will be R.N.L.I and Headway (Brain Injury Trust)

COMING SOON...

20-22 JUNE 2008

Saturday - Vikki Corke

Vikki says, "Argh - I'm so scared!!!"

Sunday - Jacqui Ford

Jacqui says, "June 22nd... yes, that's the day I shall be in... um... Kazakhstan, because I've always wanted to see a... um... yellow eared, fluffy... stick insect, and that's where they live, and er... they only come up from underground once every 113 years... and my brother's girlfriend's cousin's mother-in-law' knows this expert who knows where they are... in Kazakhstan. Or it might have been Belgium. Anyway, that's what's happening. Can't wait."

21-23 NOVEMBER 2008

JUNE 2009 - Sue Mann



FSC WEBSITE



Don't forget to keep up do date via our website - www.geocities.com/foxleasingsingingcircle

It would be great if we could fill in details of all the weekends since we started, so if you have any information, memories or photographs, please email them to foxleasingsingingcircle@yahoo.co.uk or if you have then 'on paper' pass them to Jacqui during the weekend - with an SAE if you want them returned.

SEE YOU IN JUNE!