



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE AUTUMN 2011 NEWSLETTER

HELLO!

Hello again! Welcome to the Autumn newsletter from FSC. It seems only a few days ago that the summer holidays were stretched out before us, and now suddenly the children are back at school, the nights are getting darker and the leaves are all turning red! Where did the time go?! But it does mean that we're getting nearer to the time of year when we all head off on that journey - very familiar to most of us - to the New Forest, gathering together to sing! Hurrah! I can't wait!

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR!

Janet Hodges

Today the sun has been shining, yes really! The sky has been blue - and of course it is a work day. But after dismal days it brings hope of good things to come - including Singing Circle Weekend in the Forest. Other good things to come are The National Singing Meet in May 2012, and our trip to Washington DC, USA in June 2012, to participate in The Big Sing - so far 21 deposits paid. A big thank you to Janette Walker for organising this for us. I trust you have all received the information about these events - if not please tell us as it means the database needs tweaking, or you have moved or changed your contact details and kept it secret.

Memories of Summer (well the season if not the weather!) are singing in fields, in houses (thank you Becky & Mo for the invite to sing with your Guides - there are good musicians in the making!), in Church halls, in Churches, in cars, and with 20,000 other people at Fairport's Cropredy Convention - a wonderful folk festival just down the road from home; Youth Hostelling in Derbyshire (highly recommended!); Proud Guider of Division Patrol Competition Cup Winners (again!) followed by a sleep out under the stars - well actually in Mess Tents - the weather was a tad inclement!!! - cloud burst activity level!

My first weekend as Chair, believe it or not was really enjoyable - hope the nerves didn't show too much and that you all enjoyed it too. Hilary Stokes as always, gave us a great weekend of music and singing. Most things ran smoothly, and those that didn't just added 'flair' to the occasion. All the Caterers did us proud, (a BIG thank you) and though arriving much later than planned due to London road traffic after attending the funeral of Olive, (Founder member and Chair of London Guiders for many years) we still enjoyed a fantastic Friday night meal thanks to mobile 'phone communication with Janette's co-driver, and our usual Guiding Spirit approach to helping each other when needed. I haven't received any suggestions for future weekends, or changes to what and how we do things (there is still time!)- but perhaps you too are happy with the way things are.

I trust the November weekend will run smoothly - it won't be for lack of hard work from the committee - they are real stars. Oh cripes - I have just thought about November weekends - AGM happens!! - well, I shall rely on all your friendly faces willing me to do as well as I can, and kindly letting me know if I forget something etc. and I will try not to worry about it until it happens. There is certainly a lot more to worry about in the world at the moment, but November will bring an escape from all that.

Look forward to seeing you all, and a weekend of singing, friendship and fun, Janet

FIRST TIMER'S VIEW



I have just spent my 1st weekend with Foxlease Singing Circle. So many friendly talented people, how could anyone not have a fantastic time?

Getting to hear what so many of these songs are meant to sound like with their harmonies was wonderful.

I WILL be back next year.

Thank you to all the organisers for their hard work and everyone for making me feel so welcome.

Kirsty Oliver
Pensilva Rangers
Cornwall



Sunday Moment
Martha and
Jackie with
the book

IMPORTANT! NEW WEEKEND ARRANGEMENTS

Our membership is continually growing, which is fantastic news, and we have for the first time booked the Coach House in addition to PML and The Barn to help us accommodate as many people as possible for the November weekend.

The Coach House bedrooms consist of a large dormitory and an additional 4-bedded room, both of which have bunk-bed accommodation. Using the Coach House, therefore, gives us the added advantage of having more bottom bunks to share around!

With regard to the catering, we've decided to try something a bit different. There will be two teams as usual, one based in PML and the second in the Coach House. Everyone staying in PML will eat there along with any hardy campers. People sleeping in the Coach House will eat there and the majority of The Barn people too. Depending on numbers a few of the Barn people may have to go to PML to eat.

A big advantage of catering in the Coach House is that we will not need to clear the Barn of all our musical paraphernalia to make room for tables every meal time! For those with mobility difficulties, we will if necessary ensure that there is a car and driver on hand to help you move between venues.

What this arrangement does mean though, is that unfortunately we will be able to offer fewer meals to day visitors as priority will be given to those staying at Foxlease. Day visitor meal places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis according to date of return of booking form.

As always, accommodation is also on a first-come, first-served basis; I will try my hardest to take into account your preferences and will contact you should any problems arise. Please bear with me...!

Please remember that your annual membership of £2.00 is now due and this is included on the booking form. If you are unable to attend the November weekend but wish to remain a member and receive information regarding further weekends, please ensure that you send your renewal fee to me.

I hope to see you all in November,
Rachel Clare



The Coach House

SONGBOOKS

**Do you have any duplicate song books you want to sell?
Is there a book missing from your collection that you would like to buy?**

Our songbook stall at Foxlease Singing Circle has been a great success so far!

Our aim is to try and make it easier to get hold of the books we regularly use, including those that are now out of print. Getting hold of these books is a challenge, so if you hear of folks in your districts and divisions with old Guiding paraphernalia they are clearing out, why not check to see if there are any songbooks stashed away!

Come and have a look at the next weekend and see if we have anything you need?

Also bring along second hand books you would like to sell,
and let us know if you could purchase any new books from other sources for us to sell on.

FSC ARCHIVES

Although we have been around for quite a while, very little FSC archive material exists at Foxlease.

Do you have anything - programmes, photos, newsletters - which you would donate (or lend for copying)?

As I am already involved in Foxlease archives I am happy to record/preserve/collate any items. Please bring anything you can offer to the next weekend, or leave it at Foxlease marked 'FAO Archives'.

Thank you
Hilary Jenkins

FSC MERCHANDISE

Sweatshirts
Polo Shirts
Rugby Shirts

Available in
Red or Green

Prices to be Confirmed

Neckers
£2.50
FSC Badges
£1.60



THE MEET - HAUTOBOIS

What is it? This long weekend will be filled with small workshop sessions in various parts of the estate, as well as large big sings in the marquee.

Who can go? All National Singing Circles are welcome to Hautbois to enjoy our beautiful grounds and share their voices.

When is it? Friday 4th May - Monday 7th May 2012

How much will it cost?

Hautbois House full board £133.00 - **FULL**

Patteson Lodge full board £119.00 - **FULL**

Camping full board £108.00

Camping half board £82.00

Camping self catering £54.00

Day Visitor full board £94.00

Day Visitor half board £68.00

Day Visitor self catering £40.00

How do I book? Send an SAE to Hautbois for an application form
Great Hautbois House, Gt Hautbois Road, Coltishall, Norwich. NR12 7JN



ROCK THE MALL 2012

Janette Walker

Plans for Foxlease Singing Circle trip to USA are progressing. So far 24 people have signed up with more hoping to come. Karen Brown who lives in Washington has invited us all to stay with her. Her house is quite large though some people may sleep at the local church hall.

The Big Sing takes place every four years and this year is special as they will be celebrating 100 years of Girl Scouts. The event takes place in front of the White House with many thousands of Girl Scouts attending. It will be amazing!

We will spend the week prior to the event exploring Washington and meeting with Karen's singing group for sing alongs.

Although the group booking for flights has already been made, it's not too late to join the party!

Girl Scouts **ROCK THE MALL**
100th Anniversary Sing-Along
Washington, DC

THE DATE IS OFFICIAL:
**SATURDAY
JUNE 9,
2012**
SEE YOU THERE!

DIARY DATES



2011

22nd October: Music Day in Reading

18th-20th November

2012

8th-10th June

16th-18th November

FUTURE WEEKENDS

Who would you like to see leading future weekends?

Please email your suggestions and preferences to
foxleasingsingcircle@gmail.com
or pass them to the committee



SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER!