

Newsletter No. 37 – May 2013

Meet the Suntrap animals, shelter building and Friends of Suntrap AGM



Saturday 11th May 1pm - 3pm

Bring your children to meet the Suntrap animals while you attend the Friends of Suntrap AGM. Whilst grown-ups are at the (short) AGM, we will be providing fun activities for children. They will get the chance to handle our animals, including hissing cockroaches, salamanders and snakes. Then everyone will join together to have fun shelter building in the forest. The activities are free and there will be refreshments at the AGM. Please come with any suggestions you may have for future Family events.



The committee feels it is vitally important to consult with our members to ensure that the Friends continues to grow in strength to be able to support the work of the Centre.



Suntrap spring surprise and other family activities



Thanks to funding from London Borough of Waltham Forest, Suntrap is running more and more family events during the holidays and at weekends. As proof of this, the Easter holiday was particularly busy. Three day trips were organised for families from Waltham Forest as part of the borough's Easter Daze programme. Families enjoyed shelter building, pond dipping, meeting the Suntrap animals and natural treasure hunts. Two further days were run as "drop-ins" for families to have a go at some natural craft activities and undertaking a self-guided trail through the local woodland.

One family enjoying being out in the forest together during a trip to Suntrap.

the Suntrap animals and shelter building.

We also welcomed a group of families with a disabled child from Epping District Council who enjoyed a day meeting



Holiday fun collecting natural treasure, paddling in the stream, following the nature trail through the woodland and pond dipping.

The bird box building during February half term was also well attended with over 50 boxes made over 2 days. However the poor weather during March obviously deterred anyone from having a go at the family orienteering day.

The committee try to put on events which families would enjoy - you may have some great ideas for future events. Why not come to the AGM on May 11th and let us know?

Building new allotment



Students from William Morris School have been working hard since January to extend and improve the allotment area. Under the guidance of Paul & Ros the students dismantled the old small beds replacing



them with bigger better ones, learning how to use hand and power tools in the process. With the start of the warmer weather they have now started to plant up the beds and are looking forward to their first crops in a few weeks' time.

Upcoming Family Events

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See above for details.

Pond dipping Thursday 30th May 2013, 11- 1pm Grounds open until 3pm for picnics.

£2 per person

Visit our pond to carefully collect some of the fascinating animals which live there, then have a closer look using microscopes and hand lenses. Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the grounds after the pond dipping.

<http://webfronter.com/waltham-forest/suntrap>

If you have anything you'd like to contribute to the Friends Newsletter please send it to Suntrap, Church Road, High Beach, Loughton, Essex, IG10 4AJ or by email to: suntrap_centre@walthamforest.gov.uk or phone: 0208 508 0611