

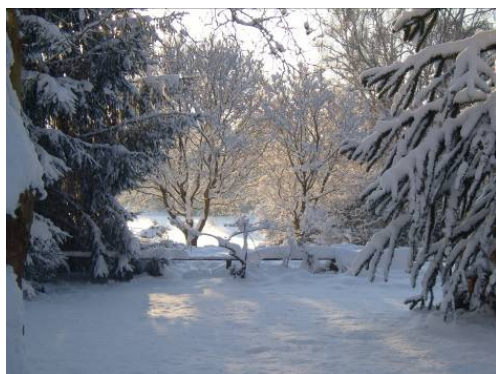


FRIENDS OF WALTON FIRS
Newsletter 19
Christmas 2009



Merry Christmas to all our Friends & Supporters

Challenge, Adventure & Education for Young People



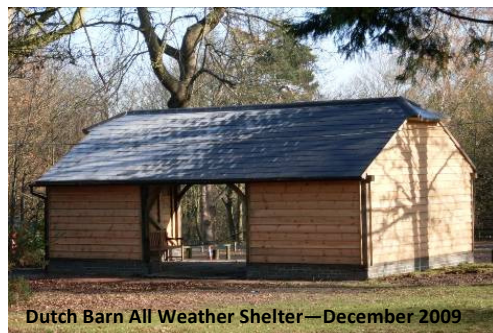
Amid children's laughter, showing visitors this wonderful site and, the administration for Friends of Walton Firs, fund raising has been a hard slog in 2009. However with the rising FTSE, the increased environmental awareness of schools, and of course the wonderful groups who join us each holiday and weekend how could anyone be glum particularly when you look in the winter sunshine at all the progress we *have* made.

The Dutch Barn has risen and now offers a welcome shelter for our day visitors out of the hot sun - or maybe the rain. The sound of building echoes through the glade that will become our caving complex and the Christmas reindeer on the roof of my hut expect next year to be on top of a new Site Centre Building! For the sake of all our visitors, let's give this a big push in 2010 to complete the amenities we all need. It's touching when your office or club makes a donation in lieu of sending office Christmas cards or gifts, or your company supports our charity.

THANK YOU.



So, when you cut open your Christmas pudding and make a wish on the silver sixpence, please remember Walton Firs too!



Dutch Barn All Weather Shelter — December 2009

 **The Walton Firs Scout Fellowship,**
lost in the mists of time, is being re-instated as the Walton Firs Active Support Unit. The unit is open to anyone over 18 years who actively supports Scouting through Walton Firs. There will be an inaugural social event in the Training Hut on Saturday 30th January 2010 at 18.30. Contact Sue to RSVP at: warden@waltonfirs.co.uk or phone on 01932 863243.

You can read more about the name change and SAS Units at: www.scouts.org.uk/activesupport



The caving complex has moved to the planning application stage, and the groundwork has begun by clearing the large amount of undergrowth for the sub-structure and caving tunnels to be erected. Through the winter it will take on the form of a large boulder and by the summer season will be in full use. The photograph is of the glade before we began, and we will bring you updates.

As reported in our September 2009 newsletter, we still urgently need funds to complete this project.

High Praise Indeed!

'I was camping last week with the 2nd Chailey who have severely disabled youngsters and would like you to express my very sincere thanks to the Manager and all his staff for the excellent support that he gave to the Group throughout their stay, they could not have done more to ensure it went well and that all the Scouts enjoyed themselves'. Signed by Mike Gooderson the (then) Chairman of the Scout Association Committee of the Council.

If you have any comments about your visits to Walton Firs, or have a story to tell, please email stella@waltonfirs.co.uk for inclusion on our website www.waltonfirs.co.uk.

Changes to the Board:

Dennis Peerman has decided to step down from the Board of Directors. We would like to thank Dennis for his support during the initial purchase of the site and for his continued support of Walton Firs. Dennis has kindly agreed to become a Patron and we are delighted this is not a final goodbye and that he will be part of the on going success of Walton Firs.

You may recall that Manishankar Das joined the Board but was called back to India. In his place we are delighted to welcome Lee Bansil, also from Proctor & Gamble, who brings PR experience, and a great affection for Scouting. His contributions at Board meetings have been extremely useful and we look forward to a long and successful association.

Welcome Aboard Lee!

'A Summer Evening with Michael Aspel'

Friday 18th June 2010 at Burhill Golf Club



Tickets are now available for this prestigious event by completing the enclosed flyer, or by downloading a form from www.waltonfirs.co.uk. Ticket numbers are strictly limited and will be available on a first come first served basis at £55 per head. Please encourage your family and friends to join us.

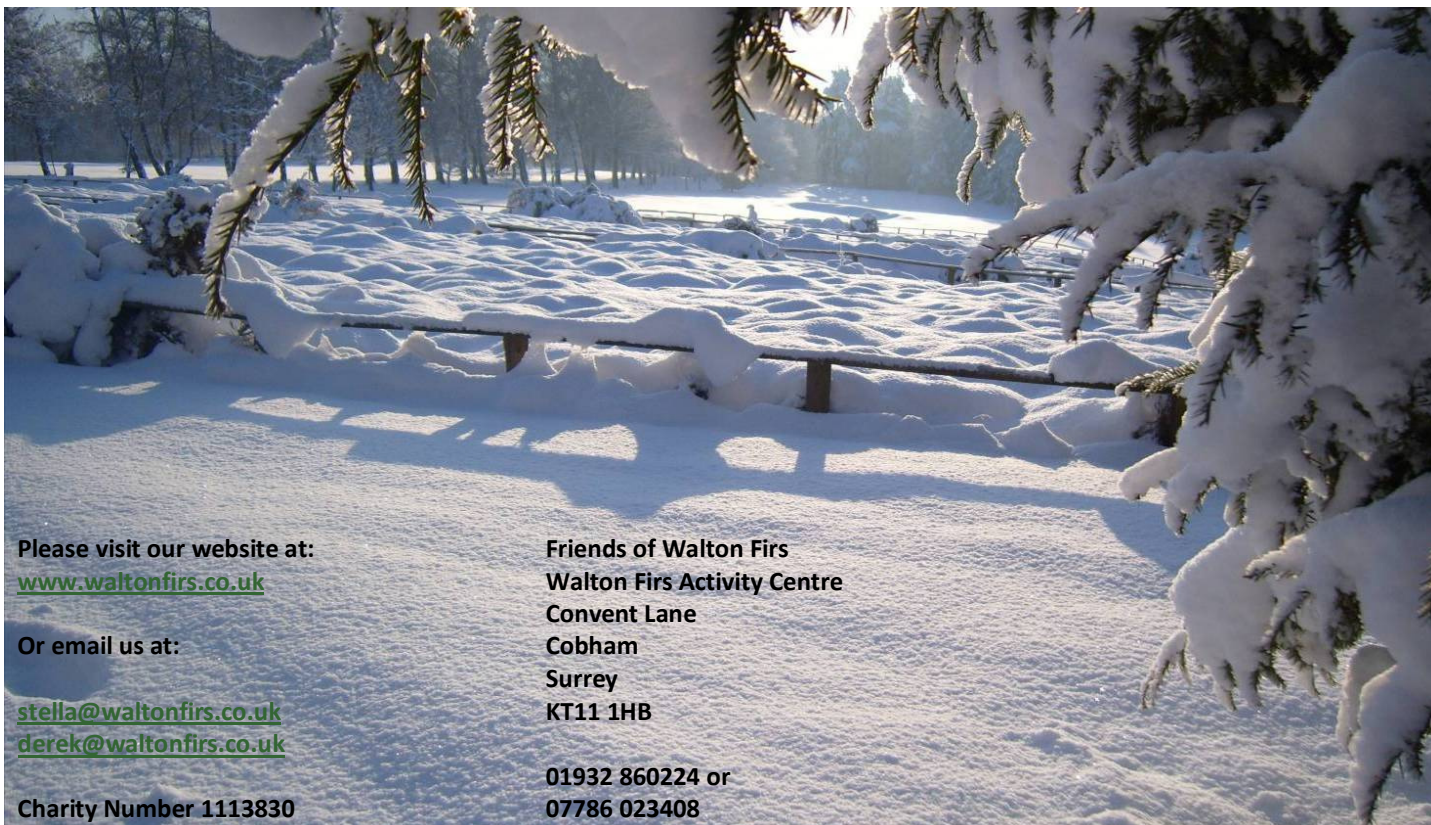
We still need some help obtaining suitable items to raffle and to auction. If you have contacts, ideas, or can help in any way, please contact stella@waltonfirs.co.uk in the first instance and we will put you in touch with one of our volunteers.



May we thank all those who have organised events, made donations, and supported us by standing order in 2009. Thank you, also, to those who have made donations in kind, and offered auction prizes. This is a terrific way to help raise the profile, and funds. Our volunteers, the Wardens, and staff at Walton Firs are working hard, every day, to improve and update the site and its facilities. Pencil in the dates you would like to book with us and give Sue a call. But, until we see you on site again,

**MAY WE WISH YOU ALL, A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY CHRISTMAS
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2010**

Derek Pollard & Stella Simpson



Please visit our website at:
www.waltonfirs.co.uk

Or email us at:

stella@waltonfirs.co.uk
derek@waltonfirs.co.uk

Charity Number 1113830

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