



FRIENDS OF WALTON FIRS
Newsletter No 23
WINTER 2010



Challenge Adventure and Education for young people

www.waltonfirs.co.uk



Not rising to the temptation of writing one of those 'state of the household' Christmas letters ones friends and family include with their greetings card.....

...we do at least have to tell you how Walton Firs has been doing this past year.

During the Spring we launched into the research of funding opportunities and began the more detailed planning of our major Summer fundraising event at Burhill Golf Club. It made a pleasant change from typing Minutes to be shopping for table confetti! The Burhill Event raise over £6,300.

The Birtley House Sculpture Garden event organised by Simon and Caroline Whalley enjoyed the most glorious evening sunshine and showed off the exhibits and grounds to an enthusiastic audience. The Birtley House event raised a further £925.

Our Supporters' Open Day was attended by 6 Mayors of the surrounding boroughs, some of whom have been back for a more detailed look at the Activity Centre and the facilities we offer.

Our website continues to be developed with the kind encouragement of Simon Corrigan, and our activities continue to attract large numbers of young people.

None of this could have happened without the support of our Friends of Walton Firs through your generous donations of time, energy, goods in kind and of course your cheques!



Tra la la la la...



In October we were delighted to welcome The High Sheriff of Surrey, Rob Douglas, to Walton Firs. He is pictured here in front of the High Sheriff's Youth Award certificates awarded during 2009 and 2010. Rob was able to meet Richmond Scouts preparing for a weekend camp despite the chilly weather forecast. As a local resident, we hope he will be a regular visitor to the site.

There was a good turnout for the Founder Districts' visit to the caves at the end of November. The leaders were able to experience the thrills of caving and will be better prepared to explain the caving complex to their young people and parents. Dave McIntosh was able to allay fears of becoming stuck and demonstrated how close to an exit cavers are at all times, without spoiling the illusion. Thank you to all those who helped make this an interesting morning.



Do feel free to email your stories to us at stella@waltonfirs.co.uk or Derek@waltonfirs.co.uk or by post to Friends of Walton Firs, Walton Firs Activity Centre, Convent Lane, Cobham, . KT11 1HB. Our phone number is 01932 860224 and our Registered Charity number is 1113830.

Dave & Sue are collecting names for the

Service Team Reunion

on 12th June 2011 from 11am so if you know of anyone who may be interested, please pass on the details and RSVP to warden@waltonfirs.co.uk.

Our indispensable wardens, Dave & Sue McIntosh, seen here at the 'Barn Topping' have clocked up their first 21 years at Walton Firs and we owe them a great debt of thanks for their contribution to the success of the Centre. Our new deputy warden, John Young, and members of the Service Team have also contributed enormously, instructing and leading activities, encouraging participation and gaining the respect of our visitors.

To our Service Team..

We know that Dave & Sue thank you, but we would also like to record our thanks and appreciation for the work you do.

