

Friends of the Farm

If you want to support the Farm by becoming a 'friend' please complete the form below. By becoming a member of the Wirral Urban Farm Association you will receive 3 newsletters a year by post and a standing invitation to our informal monthly meeting. These meetings are held in the Café at 7.30 p.m.

Dates on next meetings

Thursday 19th August 2004

Thursday 16th September 2004 Our AGM

Thursday 21st October 2004

Thursday 18th November 2004

Tam o'shanter farm

times

Summer 2004

Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm, Boundary Road, Bidston, Wirral CH43 7PD

Tel: 0151 653-9332

Email: mail@tamoshanter.fsworld.co.uk

Website: www.tamoshanterfarm.org.uk

Farm News Update

For the last 9 weeks Arnie and Jacko have been taking walks out on Bidston Hill. It began with Arnie being taken for walks to get him fit. So we plucked up our courage to take Jacko out with Arnie for their Saturday morning walk. Both of them have lots of fun and enjoy pulling their unfortunate leaders along in a flat our gallop! Gradually, the two have calmed down and now they only canter away! Jacko has become a lot more friendly.

We have obtained a new pig after Rosie's death. She is a rare breed – a Gloucestershire Old Spot, from Croxteth Country Park. She is a tame pig and is very friendly. Yorkie is keeping Healthy and well and is still enjoying her retirement.

The duck, hen and goose eggs have been plentiful and have been selling very well in the farm shop. Sadly the male turkey was taken by a fox! We still have our female turkey and she is doing well. Our flock of sheep are doing fine and they are enjoying the thick green grass. They are the only animals on the farm who stay out over night.

Our three nanny goats are happy to let visitors stroke and talk to them.

Our seven pet rabbits are in good health. At our Sunday Pat a Pet session people are amazed at how tame they are as they lie on the bench while they are stroked by the children.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE FARM!

Membership Fees. Individuals £ 2.00
Families £ 3.00
Groups £ 5.00

Membership runs until 31st March 2005.
If paying by cheque, please make payable to WUFA

RENEWING/NEW MEMBER

I/We wish to join the Wirral Urban Farm Association

Age (if under 16).....

Name

Address.....

.....

.....

Phone

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

? DETAILS ON DATA BASE

COMMENTS PLEASE

We would like to know what you think of the Farm

What is your postcode?.....

How often do you visit the farm?.....

Any comments (good or bad)

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Souvenir Counter

The souvenir counter has been Very successful. Volunteers Joan, Paul And Colin have been very busy selling items including plants. The counter will be open most days during the summer school holidays from 11am til 4pm. If you have any unwanted plants please bring them along, they will help to raise funds for the farm.

As some of you will be aware the Tam O'Shanter Cottage is getting a Make Over watch out Changing rooms. The present public toilets and store rooms are being incorporated into the Wardens Cottage making a new bedroom and bathroom.

Our New Resource Centre is now in operation. What about the lovely roof the sedum plants are now in full flower. The Heswall Centre are now using the building to make ornamental scarecrows and other items that are for sale. Radio Merseyside came to the farm to hold their 6.30 to 10.00 show last month, everybody found it to be very entertaining.

We must thank the following
Aults Ltd for their donation of wood to help with our fences
Jean Jones and Friends for their knitted chickens we sold at Easter.
Jewson Hire for the barriers for Jolly Joy Rides
Paul McHugh who raised over £200 and Simon Wearden who raised over £50 on the Wirral Coastal Walk.
Mr Band, FRICS for his professional work via 'Prohelp'
Fools Gold Theatre Co. for their performances of Mummers Plays at the farm in July. They will perform again in September with 'The Day of the Triffids.

EVENTS

At various times during the School Summer Holidays there will be face painting and Jolly Joy Rides will be at the Farm on Tuesdays and Thursdays weather permitting.

AUTUMN FAYRE

On Sunday 12th September
2004 we are holding our
Annual Autumn Fayre from
12 noon to 4 pm.

There will be new stalls plus all the usual stalls and entertainment.

If you are interested in a stall or helping at the fayre please contact Janet on 606-9702 for more details.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

August is the start of the harvest season. Fruits are gathered, flowers scatter seeds for the birds and for next year's blooms, and in the fields the grain ripens. Good things are grown in gardens and on allotments for food and enjoyment. Have you grown anything to eat in your garden this summer? In even the smallest garden or yard you can grow a selection of herbs and salad greens that will tickle the taste buds and liven up your diet for at least half the year. The herb borders on the farm show how a wide variety of herbs grow: you can look at the size of them and see if you could grow them at home.

This is a good time for you to think about what-if anything-your own growing space has given you this year, and plan how you can get the best out of it next year. No space is too small, so have a go. Peat-free growing bags, window boxes, containers in a yard, a few square feet of garden border – it's surprising what you can produce in a small space. For example, new potatoes taste so much better with home-grown mint, basil smells sensational and is the perfect partner for tomatoes fresh from the plant, and a pinch of thyme can really perk up an omelette. Chives look great, the leaves and flowers can be chopped into all sorts of things to add a mild onion flavour. Young nasturtium seeds give a peppery tang to salads.

If slugs and snails pester your patch, don't use poisonous pellets to keep them away; spread grit or crushed eggshells round the stems of your plants. Make collars out of plastic bottles to encircle the base of your plants to create a barrier as well. The important thing is to have a go at growing things.

STOP PRESS

Sorry no play scheme this year due to shortage of staff.

We now have a **'begging list'** we require

Egg boxes

Bookshelves – fixed or moveable

Wall cupboards

Raffle prizes for our Autumn Fayre

Anyone who can help us with the above please contact John at the Farm