



# VOLUNTEERS

## NEWSLETTER No 4

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### **MANY THANKS**

We have had two huge events which have been so successful and which would have been absolutely impossible without your incredible hard work. The two day country show raised a massive amount and was enjoyed by everybody who attended. The donkey show was such a boiling hot day and the final of Wimbledon but our stoic volunteers stood their ground and raised a further sum in excess of £2000. We can only once again say THANK YOU. It is hard to single anyone out because it was the total effort that paid off, those that helped in the kitchen, the yard, the crafts, the tombola the dog show all contributed to make both occasions great successes. Once again you have made a huge contribution towards paying for all the additional food and provisions that have been needed with so many mouths to feed. We are aware of how very hard you all work, your total commitment and support for us as Trustees.

### **YEKNOD - BIKER RALLY** - Weekend 15/17<sup>th</sup> August.

We are due to have about 200 people attending this rally which will be an important fund raising event for the Sanctuary. WE NEED HELP over the weekend Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST. John will be in the kitchen but will need help in making sure everyone is served quickly and with 200 people wanting meals at the same time that is essential. Dave Ebsworth is helping John by coordinating the rota for serving meals and overseeing everything on the day[s]. We are grateful to everyone who has volunteered to help when they can but we do need more help on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.....so if you can spare some more time or have a friend who can help out please get in touch with Dave Ebsworth by giving Wendy your availability.

### **VOLUNTEER NEWS**

Well done to Flo' Galliford who was nominated for a Volunteer Award through a scheme run by OCVA [Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action]. Each year charities are invited to nominate a volunteer and this year we nominated Flo' who will receive her award, with two members of her family present at Oxford Town Hall in October.

### **TRUSTEES**

We are delighted to let you know that Dave Ebsworth has agreed to become a Trustee as from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013. As you know Dave has been working alongside the Trustees over the last year. He has also been a great help to John and the Staff and in particular, we would like to thank him for giving us such practical help with the office move - so we welcome Dave. Each Trustee covers a certain area of the work of the Sanctuary and we will let you know in the next newsletter of any changes.

### **EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Once again, we are asking those of you on email to let Catherine and Wendy have your email addresses as we are setting up a group email so that we can keep everyone in touch electronically where possible. For special and other events Wendy will continue to ring as usual. .

### **VOLUNTEER TRAVEL- a reminder**

We would like to remind you that with ever rising costs we recognise that when our volunteers do long journeys on behalf of the sanctuary, or come to the sanctuary consistently in the school holidays and at weekends to run the visitor centre you can claim your petrol costs there is a form available in the office and we will pay 20p per mile.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** The Country Show and the Donkey Show were busy and we really need more volunteers to help with events like these. To have an extra pair of hands to help with the jumble and selling ice creams and running the Visitors' Centre would lighten everybody's individual load. We would rely on our present wonderful volunteers to train the new volunteers and make them feel welcome and included. If you know of anybody who would be willing to help, even if they could only commit to the 'big' events it would be very helpful and reduce the workload for all of you who work so hard. We are still looking for Volunteers who can help with the distribution of the Newsletter and other notices. An advert will also be going out with OCVA newsletter asking for help.

### **EQUINE HOSPITAL**

We have submitted plans for an Equine Hospital at Island Farm which we have needed for some time. SODC have now published our application on the internet, in accordance with planning regulations, and there will be a short article in this week's Wallingford Herald. When we have full planning permission we will be launching an appeal. Keith Lawrence, often seen at Island Farm helping his wife Heather and his daughter Jackie with the bric a brac, will be helping us with this appeal. So, many thanks to Keith for this, which will be great help to us all.

### **HEALTH and SAFETY NEWS**

We are summarising the health and safety updates that were in the last newsletter because health and safety must be a standing item that we revisit regularly.

#### **1. Signing in and out.**

Everybody should sign in when they come to volunteer at the sanctuary and sign out when they leave.

#### **2. Fire evacuation.**

Evacuate the site as quickly and calmly as you can. If you are in the visitors' centre or yard your evacuation point would be at the end of the path between the back paddocks. If you are in the barn or the office the evacuation point would be the front paddocks. The staff would be briefed in animal evacuation and we would not want you to be involved in this unless specifically asked to do so.

#### **3. Alert the office and if necessary ring the fire brigade directly by mobile, and be sure to make your way to the nearest evacuation point and safety.**

#### **4. The accident book.**

Any accident should be recorded in the accident book, which is stored in the office. It is really important that the accident book is updated.

### **MANY THANKS for all your HELP**

**Judy Gibbons, Chair, Catherine Keogh, Vice Chair,  
Anne Ebsworth, Trustee, Dave Ebsworth, Trustee**