



Wolvercote Commoners' NEWSLETTER March 2017

A year of Commoners' talks unveiled

Our Commoners' talks this year cover a wide range of subjects which should appeal to all

TAI CHI EXPLAINED by Emma Westlake & Phil Muil 7.30pm on Mon 20th March – The Plough Wolvercote

PAGANS & PURITANS by Tim Healy 7.30pm on Thursday 18th May – The Plough Wolvercote

WOLVERCOTE HAY MEADOWS by Judy Webb 7.30pm on Thursday 29th June (Venue TBC)

NOT JUST GEESE! BIRDS OF WOLVERCOTE by Steve Goddard Sept (Date, time & venue TBC)

EXPERT QUIZ PARTICIPANT? by Amy Godel November (Date, time & venue TBC)

● Put the dates in your diary (we'll keep you posted with those to be confirmed) ●

April will be with us soon and with it comes the Commoners' AGM, and with the AGM comes the election of the new committee. This year we need some **NEW BLOOD**: we have three vacancies to be filled!

If you live in Wolvercote you will realise that it's a very special place. Although it's just 3 miles from the centre of Oxford it still has the feel and atmosphere of a village. One of the features which make it so special is that it includes as part of its environment Port Meadow, Wolvercote Common, Wolvercote Green and Goose Green, all with their own unique characteristics. The role of the Commoners is the care and management of the latter 3 areas. Don't worry though, not a lot of work is involved for individual members as all duties are shared out. If you feel you would be interested in any way, why not speak to one of the committee members and see what's involved? Either send an email to the address below or speak directly to a committee member (see contact details on the main noticeboard opposite The Post Box).

The AGM is 7.30 on 26th April at the Baptist Hall. Come along and see what we've been up to and perhaps join us on the committee – you'd be more than welcome

Two things to look out for in March:

- We will be felling 3 trees on Goose Green shortly. Obviously no-one wants to fell trees but, following our recent tree survey, these 3 were found to be badly diseased and consequently in danger of falling.
- Safety signs will be going on the Target Hut. We cannot demolish it even though it is in danger of collapsing. The signs are a stop-gap while we wait for permission to fence it off. (we need permission as the Common is a SSSI)

If you've ever thought of having a family get-together such as a summer picnic, why not think about Goose Green as your venue? The Green can be hired at a very reasonable rate and would be the perfect place for your outdoor summer party.

If you would like more details check the Wolvercote Commoners' website (www.wolvercotecommoners.co.uk) and, if you would like to book it for an event, just contact Phillip Dove (phillip.dove@ntlworld.com)



Although summer is some way off there are already the first glimmers of it. When walking on the Meadow there is now the pleasure of the return of the skylark. We hear so much about the gradual disappearance of so many bird species. In the UK, the skylark population has declined dramatically: there are now 10% of the numbers that were present 30 years ago. However, we are more than lucky to have a healthy population on and around the Meadow. On a recent walk five individual birds could be heard all enthusiastically climbing high and calling to mark their territory. To be able to walk within minutes of our homes and hear the call of the skylark is priceless. So next time you're on the Meadow, just listen out and hear the real sound of summer which is now just around the corner.

Don't forget Village Work Mornings second Saturday of every month

Meet outside the Village Hall at 10am (Bring gloves/wellies). Children welcome

www.wolvercotecommoners.co.uk - wolvercote.commoners@yahoo.co.uk

Chair: Angie Goff (01865 554040) Secretary: Mary Brown (01865 236897)