Friends of Ogden Water Newsletter

September 2006

Dear Friend,

A productive time of late, has seen the inaugural Ogden calendar hit the shops (the visitor centre), thanks to the expertise and industry of Anthony, our web master. It's rather impressive and reasonably priced at £5.50 so don't delay your purchase. While stocks last as they say!

Details of forthcoming talks are within. Please support them if you can, it's an ideal opportunity to get together and they all promise to be interesting and entertaining evenings. Recent news for the Friends includes our selection for an npower Conservation Award as the best community group project in Yorkshire. This is a retrospective acknowledgement based on our achievements and is run by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. More details will follow on publicity and whether we get any hard cash! This is a tremendous achievement and reflects the efforts and input of every member of our community group so well done and thank you for your support.

And looking forward to celebrations for 150 years of Ogden Water in 2007/08, Dave will be holding a slideshow/talk on **Wednesday October 4th at 7:00pm**. This will highlight proposals for re-creating the Victorian 'Promenade' across the dam and other activities in a year of celebration. Please try and make it, as input from the Friends/ users of Ogden Water is vital.

Finally, Halloween will soon be upon us and Dave and Robin are beginning to show the customary, seasonal, signs of mental and physical breakdown as the witching hour approaches. In order to keep them sane for a few more Halloween's we are looking for some practical help in running this event and YOUR NATURE RESERVE NEEDS YOU as the posters used to say. More details over page.

www.ogdenwater.org.uk

If you go down into the woods today..... A new hard-hitting 'poo sticks' campaign is underway at Ogden, targeting dog mess. Although a good number of dog walkers deserve praise for picking up after their dog, many still don't.

Unfortunately, one or two areas can be particularly hazardous. As well as staff, friends and volunteers getting fed up of the mess, obviously it affects



many, including families with children. The campaign is very visual and involves small flags identifying any offending objects. Accompanied by a poster campaign, hopefully this should raise awareness of the size of the issue and encourage more dog walkers to pick up.



Price £5.50 Available from the Visitor Centre. Pick up your copy today!

Craig

Autumn Talks and Activities at Ogden Water.

Saturday 23rd September 'Moth Morning"

Ever wondered what flies around at night time? Meet at the Ogden Countryside Classroom at 10:00am for an introduction to moths and then a short walk to discover some of the local species that have been caught the previous night in a specialised trap.

Wednesday 27th September 'The Red Kite'

Join expert David Pearson from the RSPB for an evening talk about this stunning bird and the recent conservation efforts to secure its long term future. Refreshments available and donations welcome to RSPB. Everyone welcome. Starts 7:30pm in the classroom.

Wednesday 25th October 'The Wildlife Police'

A talk by Sally Smart, West Yorkshires Police Wildlife Officer. A fascinating insight into the challenges of police involvement in protecting wildlife and understanding and enforcing current legislation. Everyone Welcome. Starts at 7:00pm in the Ogden Classroom. Refreshments available.

Tuesday 31st October 'Halloween'.

Dare you join us for a walk with the ghosts and ghouls around the Ogden reservoir? Follow the Woodland Wizard around the haunted paths. For your own safety and protection in the dark, please bring a torch! Starts at 19:00. No dogs. 50p charge. Fancy Dress Welcome.

Monday 13th November 'Enthralling Walling'.

A fascinating and highly entertaining talk by Master Craftsmen Nigel Goody and David Griffiths. Sit back and enjoy as they share their anecdotes and experiences gained from years as professional wallers throughout West Yorkshire. All your walling questions answered! Come and get stoned! Everyone Welcome. Starts at 7:00pm in the Ogden Classroom. Refreshments available.

Thanks to Jan and Craig for organising the talks.

Brave Spirits Wanted.

Once again, Halloween approaches and this year promises to be more action packed than ever, with a



special visit by the Loch Ness Monster. However, as usual, it will be a case of all hands on deck. So, if you can spare anytime on the evening (probably from 6:30 to 9:00pm), please get in touch with Robin, Dave or Craig. Marshalls, event staff, ticketing staff and car park stewards all wanted! Let us know by calling (01422) 249136, or if you are able/want to be more involved, why not attend the talk/meeting on **4th Ocotber** at 7:00pm



Dave Welcomes Nessie to Ogden. Practical Works.

Forthcoming projects include step construction on the woodland trail and hopefully also pond works if the BIFFA Award grant comes through. If this sounds like it could be too heavy for you, don't worry there's lighter options!! Dates for future events are below, all beginning at 1pm.

October 14th November 18th

Anyone wishing to help, please contact Jan on 01422 243761 (eve). If you wish to be contacted by e-mail with reminders and updates please send me your e-mail address to buckley080@aol.com and I'll add you to the list. Also keep an eye on the website www.ogdenwater.org.uk.

Regards,

Jan Buckley, Practical Co-ordinator.

Please send any future newsletter articles to: The News Desk c/o Ogden Water Ogden Lane Halifax, HX2 8YA Ogden.water@calderdale.gov.uk