



Yare Valley Society Newsletter

Issue 59

April 2003

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 13 MAY 2003 AT 7.30 PM

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, CHURCH LANE, EATON

followed by an illustrated talk

REFLECTIONS ON RIVERS FROM THE YARE TO THE AMUDARYA AND BACK

given by

MIKE AND CAROL BLACKWELL

Bartram Mowers site, Bluebell Road

Our secretary has forwarded over 30 letters from members to the Inspector in respect of Bartram Mowers' appeal at the public inquiry into the Norwich Replacement Local Plan which starts in May 2003. Thank you very much to all the members who have taken the trouble to write. As yet we do not know the date when the Inspector will consider this appeal.

Archives at John Innes Institute

John Thurman is collecting names of members who would be interested in viewing the archive collection at John Innes Institute. It is a collection of books and prints stretching back five centuries. Please contact John on 01603 455329 if you are interested.

Committee members needed

If you would like to nominate someone or volunteer yourself for election to the committee, please contact Alison Ward before 6 May. There are two vacancies.

Colney to Bowthorpe Bridleway

We wish to apologise to Jim Moore for an error in the previous newsletter concerning this bridleway. He tells us that in the course of his submission, he had to prove beyond any doubt that not only was the bridleway used by the public but also that they had crossed the ford on foot either paddling or wading, depending on the river conditions and time of year (mostly in spring/summer months). Jim comments further that car/vehicular crossing ceased in the late 1960s early 1970s, when the ford was illegally dredged on the Colney side of the river.

Local Elections

Elaine Tucker, chairman of the Yare Valley Society, will be standing for re-election to Cringleford Parish Council. An environmentalist with an excellent track record, she would welcome your vote on 1 May, if there is a poll.

REMINDER ABOUT WALKS THIS SPRING

Sunday 27 April 2003

MIKE FREER will be taking a group to Colney Hall to visit the heronry there.

Walk starts at 9.30 am and will last 2-3 hours. No dogs please

Numbers will be limited to 15. Please book with Mike on 01603 458084.

Sunday 18 May 2003

TOM GREEN, author of *Birds of the Yare Valley* will lead a walk around UEA.

Meet at Cringleford bridge car park at 10.00 am.

No need to book, just turn up and bring binoculars if you have them.

Sunday 15 June 2003

GLEN COLLIER will lead an afternoon walk on Bowthorpe Marshes to look at birds and other wildlife.

Meet at 1.30 pm at the lay-by on Watton Road by St Mary's Church, Earlham.

Please ring Glen on 01603 451193 for further details and to book a place.

Cross valley street lights—Bad news and better news

The planning committee of South Norfolk District Council met on 31 March to discuss the application by UEA to erect street lights across the valley, from the river to Colney Lane. Elaine Tucker attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the Society against it, suggesting that the lighting could be improved by an increased amount of small bollard lighting, as opposed to the tall street lights. However the planning committee agreed to the application by 4 votes to 3.

On 3 April, the application was considered by Norwich City planning committee for the section between Chancellor's Drive and the river. After considerable agreement on the value of the Yare valley, the committee unanimously deferred its decision, so that officers could investigate lighting that would be more sensitive to the character of the valley.

*Articles, comments and letters for possible publication in future newsletters can be sent to Alison Ward,
20 Brettingham Avenue, Cringleford, Norwich, NR4 6XG*