

Yare Valley Society Newsletter

Issue 63 April 2004

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 11 MAY 2004, 7.30 pm

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, CHURCH LANE, EATON

Following which there will be a talk by

PROFESSOR TREVOR DAVIES, SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES UEA on the subject of CRed

Norwich Replacement Local Plan

You will remember that in our February newsletter we reported that a government inspector had recommended that the 'river valley' designation be removed from the Bartram Mowers' site in Bluebell Road. You will be pleased to know that the executive of the City Council has now considered this proposal and decided not to accept it.

As one of the councillors said, 'It is one of the last green lots in the city. We have been defending it like Custer's Last Stand and have agreed to disagree with the inspector'.

There could be an appeal of course against the city's decision but we hope not.

In the words of the Evening News 'Opinion' column (25 March 04), 'Let's keep the Yare valley just the way it is'.

FORTHCOMING WALKS

SUNDAY 25 APRIL Glen Collier will lead a walk along the valley towards UEA looking at birds and other wildlife. Meet at 2.30 pm at Cringleford bridge car park. Stout footwear is recommended and do bring binoculars if you have them. Any queries, please ring Glen on 01603 451193.

THURSDAY 20 MAY A walk round the Colney Wood Burial Park, where the bluebells should be in bloom, to be led by the Services Manager. Meet at the entrance to the Park at 6.45 pm. If you plan to go on this walk, please let Alison Ward know (01603 452330).

SUNDAY 11 JULY A walk in Whitlingham Country Park which will be led by Matt Davies from the Norwich Fringe Project and the Park ranger, 2.00-4.00 pm. Meet at the Little Broad pay and display car park. Matt says to look out for the Fringe Project truck!

Guide to the Yare Valley Walk

The second edition of this very attractive guide to the walk along the Yare between Harford and Bowthorpe is at the printers and it is hoped that it will be ready for the annual general meeting. Apart from large scale maps, original drawings and photographs, the booklet contains short, informative sections on the history, architecture and wildlife of the area.

To obtain a copy of the guide, please send a cheque for £1 payable to the Yare Valley Society, together with a self-addressed envelope (16cm by 23cm minimum), with standard first or second class postage stamp affixed, to Yare Valley Publishers, 20 Bluebell Road, Norwich NR4 7LF

St Andrew's Church, Eaton

Mention is made in the Yare Valley Walk Guide of this historic church whose original nave and chancel date from the 13th century. It is set right in the valley. In 1962 Nikolaus Pevsner commented in his book *The Buildings of England. North-East Norfolk and Norwich*, that 'it still lies in the open country'. It is the only thatched roof church in Norwich. However the thatch is now in a poor state. Over 3,000 bundles of Norfolk reed are required to replace the existing thatch roof over both the chancel and the nave. It is hoped that local people will support this appeal.