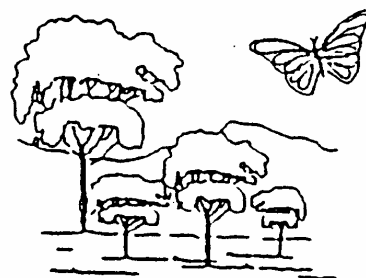


2008
40 years



Yare Valley Society Newsletter

Issue 77

April 2008

A talk entitled

NORFOLK RIVER LANDSCAPES— PUTTING THE YARE IN CONTEXT

by Professor Tom Williamson, UEA

will follow the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 7 May 2008 at 7.30 pm

**Cringleford Playing Field Pavilion,
off Oakfields Road**

Walk

Under the auspices of Central Norfolk Health Walks, on **Sunday 20 April, 2.00 pm**, there is a level 3 river valley walk via Marston Marsh, 2.8 miles, 40% soft ground, moderate/steep gradient. Footpaths likely to be muddy. Meeting point is Waitrose Eaton car park (far right, away from store near Church). Please ring Mrs Carrie Kerry on 01603 423377 for further information and to indicate you would like to go on the walk.

Eaton Conservation Area

The Society has replied to a consultation from the City Council on the draft Eaton Conservation Area Appraisal. We said that we should like to see more emphasis on the protection of the valley parts of the area and also suggested that consideration might be given to extending the area to include land between Bluebell Road and the river.

Consultation by SNDC

We have also been consulted by SNDC on a “scoping” proposal (ie, as a preliminary to a possible planning

application) for two 125 metre high wind turbines which, although sited in Caistor next to the bypass, would have a major visual impact on the Yare valley (as well as the Tas valley).

Elaine’s memorial

Frank Tucker writes on behalf of his family and himself: ‘I wish to thank all those Yare Valley Society members who contributed to the cost of providing a bench, tree and plaque in memory of and respect for Elaine’s long and diligent service to the preservation of the lovely Yare valley. In doing so as a member of the Society, she brought to good use her professionalism as a Chartered Town Planner and a geographer. But it was her personal conviction of the necessity to retain this vital green lung from development pressure for all to continue to enjoy it, that drove her to pursue with vigour this aim. May the words on the plaque remind all those who read it that the valley is worth defending and that the efforts, by all of us, must go on to keep it so’.

Photograph overleaf

REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE

Is the familiar mantra of those who see the need to lessen the consumption of resources and reduce waste.

Did you know that the average UK household produces 1.2 tonnes of refuse a year and that over 60% of it goes to landfill, in Norfolk's case to one of the three landfill sites still in active use? The national target is to recycle or compost 40% of household waste by 2010 – a very modest figure by European standards. Norfolk is in fact ahead of the game, with the 40% figure likely to be achieved this year thanks in part to an energetic waste management team at County Hall and improved kerbside recycling collections by district councils. But very much more needs to be done.

One initiative has been to train local people as 'Master Composters' (there are now about 40 of us in the county) who spread the word about the value of home composting in their local area and help people improve their technique. Recent research at Imperial College revealed that *even with only one household in five active in composting*, 10% of solid domestic waste could be diverted from landfill. You can see the massive potential.

The short training course I did in June was good fun as well as very informative. The trainers and resources were provided by Garden Organic (the new name of the Henry Doubleday Trust) and I've found a lot of interest from a great variety of people since, at fetes, fairs, farmers' markets etc. Similar themes crop up regularly and I'll try to deal with them (and any others you send in) in a regular Compost Corner in this newsletter. If you're still a non-composter, please think again, and look at www.recyclenow.com/compost or contact me on 01603 455329.

If you are interested in training as a Master Composter, contact david.hawkyard@norfolk.gov.uk, tel. 01603 223328

John Thurman

COMPOST CORNER

Q. *I don't put newspaper in my compost because I'm afraid the print may be toxic.*

A. *No worries here. The Centre for Alternative Technology has tested slurry from newsprint recycling plants and found very low levels of toxins. So you can safely add shredded newspaper, cardboard boxes etc to compost to restore the balance if your bin contents are too green or too wet.*



Over 20 Yare Valley Society members attended the tree planting and installation of a bench and plaque on 3 March in memory of Elaine Tucker

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