



THE FRIENDS OF HORSTED VALLEY
Protecting the Medway Smile

Chairman: Angela Watson

NEWSLETTER NO 7

October 2012

Annual General Meeting, 7 November

You are cordially invited to attend the AGM on Wednesday 7 November at St Stephen's Church, Maidstone Road, Chatham. Doors will open at 7.30 pm for an 8 pm start. Free tea, coffee and biscuits will be served and there will be a display of photos, maps and other material relating to the Valley. The evening will also provide an opportunity for attendees to renew their membership for 2013 and for new members to sign up. **Please put the date in your diary now and do try to come along on the night.** Do also try to encourage a friend or neighbour to attend with you so that we can boost our membership, which currently stands at 87. A formal AGM notification, including a copy of the Agenda will be sent to all members shortly.

Committee - Volunteers Needed

At the AGM we will be looking for volunteers to join the Committee for 2013 and beyond. We know already that vacancies exist for the posts of Vice-Chair, web master, publicity and several other positions. If you or someone you know would like to be actively involved in the administration of the FHV, or if you have special skills that would be of benefit to the organisation, please attend the AGM and put your name forward for election.

Fort Horsted

As a result of FHV's on-going liaison with Avondale, the company that manages Fort Horsted, we are currently undertaking a year-long survey of flora and fauna at the site. Several visits have already taken place and numerous species of plants and wildlife have been recorded. Further visits are planned for next spring.

Litter Clearance in the Valley

There have been more litter picks in the Valley over the last couple of months. Firstly, we have been fortunate to attract the services of a group of ATC volunteers. They have already carried out a couple of litter picks, and we are looking at other ways in which they might provide assistance. Secondly, a number of FHV members joined ASDA staff recently for a litter pick that was organised by ASDA Community Life. Areas where litter has now been cleared include the Southern field, Vale Drive playground, and the newly opened Birch Path bordering the BORA playing field. We are hopeful that the clean areas will remain clean as people are less likely to be the first to drop litter where none exists already. With this in mind it would be much appreciated if any members using the Valley for walking or dog-exercising would consider carrying a plastic carrier bag with them to pick up any litter they come across. This would help greatly to maintain a clean Valley.

Junior Member Joins Committee

Henry Worthy, one of our junior members, was recently co-opted onto the Committee to provide a young person's perspective during the committee's deliberations. Henry has already put forward some useful ideas and is proving to be a valuable asset.

Promoting the FHV

The FHV exhibit and information stand has been successfully manned at three separate events during the summer and has attracted much interest. The venues were St George's Centre, Chatham, the Davis Estate Jubilee party; and Luton Junior School.

Angela Watson, Chairman.

Find out more about FHV – Visit our Website: www.fhv.btck.co.uk including Photo Gallery, History, Wildlife, Guest Book and much more....