



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

SPRING 2014



A Dash of Diary Dates

(A complete list with
contact information is at
the end of this newsletter)

2014

2nd-5th May:
National Singing
Circle Meet
(still places available)

16th-18th May:
Musical Madness
(still places available)

6th-8th June
FSC Weekend

14th-16th November
FSC Weekend

CONTACT US

Who would you like to
see leading future
weekends?

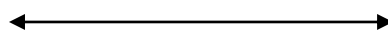
Do you have suggestions
or comments?

Please email us at
[foxleasesingingcircle@
gmail.com](mailto:foxleasesingingcircle@gmail.com)

or pass your thoughts to
any committee member.

In this issue:

Greetings from the Chair
Secretary's Report
Members' Corner: "In the Beginning"
Acrostic Thoughts of a Newcomer
Coming to you in June
News from around the Singing Circles



GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Janet Hodges

Hello Foxlease Singing Friends,

As I write this the sun is shining – at last! And warm air has catapulted green leaves and my spring flowers into action – bliss! - and the bird song is glorious, if sometimes a little too early in the day! I hope if any of you have had major or minor problems with flooding that things are beginning to become better for you.

Sorry I wasn't able to be with you in November, I really did miss seeing you all as well as the singing, but thank you so much for your kind, caring words, thoughts and prayers – what a difference they made. Guiding singing friends are truly wonderful and we are privileged to have each other.

I am pleased we were able to extend our Singing Circle Friendship with the provision from our Special Fund of a laptop to a young lady desperate to become independent, despite her disabilities, to help her begin the challenge of employment. A big thank you must go to Rachel for all the work she did researching appropriate laptops and sorting everything out.



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

SPRING 2014

Greetings from the Chair, continued

As you have heard Foxlease has a new manager, Rachel Jarman. We extend a warm welcome to her and hope she enjoys herself here and is able to build the way ahead for Foxlease to be an effective, fun place for Girls and Adults to enjoy their Foxlease experience with a true Guiding Spirit.

I look forward to seeing you all again in June. It really doesn't seem 9 months since we sat on daisy covered grass in very warm sunshine enjoying delicious cream teas. What a treat that was.

Enjoy the Spring and Easter Hols,
Janet



SECRETARY'S REPORT from Rachel Clare

Time has flown by and it is now time to get organised for another FSC weekend! I am very much looking forward to seeing all my FSC friends again.

Thank you to everyone who responded in regards to the Special Fund application. I am in the final stages of sorting the laptop for Sindy and yesterday received a card from her, thanking us for our kindness and generous donation and explaining how it will help her to improve her future.

Please note the change of address for correspondence, particularly the return of booking forms: 70 Copperfield Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO16 3NY. Telephone numbers remain the same at present.

Looking forward to June!
Rachel.





FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

SPRING 2014

MEMBERS' CORNER

In the beginning...

Hilary Jenkins

While the London Guiders' Singing group and some County Groups were in action, music activities were taking place at Foxlease, even before the inauguration of FSC. In the late 60s and early 70s, music weekends were held in Beaverbrook Lodge; they were led by Hettie Smith, Margaret Newman and of course Sue Stevens. She was training to be a music teacher and already arranging and composing songs. Guitar weekends were also held and it was from these events that the idea of a Singing Circle at Foxlease was born.

In 1983, about 30 people received an invitation to what was to be the inaugural meeting of FSC; in those days it was 'mattresses on the floor' (all stacked up in the corner during the day.) I don't remember much else about the domestic arrangements but we went out for Saturday lunch – some of us ended up in Christchurch. Our copies were handwritten and duplicated on the Banda duplicator – a far cry from today's professional-looking prints. Nevertheless, we managed to sing all weekend, as we do today.

Sadly, after an all too short association with FSC, Sue Stevens died in 1985. Quite a large contingent were able to travel to her memorial service in Wells Cathedral, to lead the singing and perform Sue's arrangement of 'Lead me Lord'. The following year, Marjorie King retired as Guider in charge of Foxlease; it was decided that we should record a tape of favourite songs, by Sue and others. This required a certain amount of subterfuge as it was to be kept secret from Marjorie. Amazingly, the first she knew of it was when she received the first copy of the completed tape. Despite competition from birds, buses, aeroplanes, trains, whistling dog-walkers and of course fireworks, we achieved our aim by about 8pm and the result was quite acceptable!



Marjorie King and Sue Stevens



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

SPRING 2014

Acrostic Thoughts of a Newcomer

by Verena Leppard

Friendship
Occasion
Xenium
Love
Elation
Adventure
Songs
Extra special

Solace
Inspiration
Nationwide
Girl Guiding
Imagination
Nostalgia
Giving praise

Co-operation
Ideas
Respect
Challenge
Laughter
Ever thankful

COMING TO YOU IN JUNE



Our leader for the June weekend, Yolanda Bovine, comes to us from Eastbourne after immigrating from the Tibetan Himalayas. She lives by the motto, "A Hairy Yak is a Happy Yak" and loves musical "Torch and Twang"... that is, country/folk ballads. Here's hoping "Yolanda the Yak" brings all her friends for our amusement. No doubt we will be chortling all the way through the weekend and long after we head home



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

SPRING 2014

OTHER NEWS FROM AROUND THE SINGING CIRCLES

Netherurd is the latest Singing Circle to join Facebook. You can say hello @Netherurd Singing Circle

There are still places available at Musical Madness and the upcoming Meet. Contacts are listed below or email foxleasesingingcircle@gmail.com.

Month	Date	Event	Leader	Contact name
March	15 th 18 th 22 nd 28 th – 30 th	London Guiders' Singing Group Sussex East Singing Circle Broneirion Singing Circle (day event) Waddow Singing Circle	Mary Gentry	Marion Easton Verena Leppard Glenys Conneely Sandra Taylor
April	12 th 12 th 16 th	London Guiders' Singing Group Midlands Region Singing Day Sussex West Guide Choir/Kent East Choir joint concert – Tower Theatre Folkestone		Marion Easton Tarina Farmer Tower Theatre website
May	2 nd – 5 th 16 th – 18 th	National Meet, Wyboston Lakes Musical Madness, Lorne	Hilary Stokes	Sylvia Partridge Fay McMullan
June	20 th – 22 nd 21 st 21 st ?	Broneirion Singing Circle London Guiders' Singing Group Notes for Notes – Bedfordshire Sussex East Singing Circle	Sue Mann	Glenys Conneely Marion Easton Sue Carpenter Verena Leppard
July	19 th 25 th – 27 th	London Guiders' Singing Group Hautbois Minstrels/Netherurd Singing Circle 'Netherbois 3' – at Broneirion		Marion Easton Ann Robinson
August				
September	19 th – 21 st 20 th	Music in the Programme (Netherurd Singing Circle) London Guiders' Singing Group		Netherurd House/ Sheila Turner Marion Easton
October	4 th 18 th 31 st – 2 nd Nov ?	Broneirion Singing Circle (day event) London Guiders' Singing Group Waddow Singing Circle Sussex East Singing Circle	Philippa Sharratt	Glenys Conneely Marion Easton Sandra Taylor Verena Leppard
November	22 nd	London Guiders' Singing Group		Marion Easton
December	13 th	London Guiders' Singing Group		Marion Easton

*Many thanks to R Clare for assembling this table