

Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook: Occasional Titbits, No. 4, October 2009

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If you have items suitable for inclusion please let me have them as they arise. If you wish to be taken off this group email list please let me know.



<http://www.colc.co.uk/cambridge/tours/article3.htm>

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1. **Grand Autumn Litter Pick** **Sunday 8 November** **10.30am to 1pm.**

Arrangements for this event are well in hand. We shall start in Burnside, pass this bridge (date of photograph??) and proceed downstream towards Sainsbury. Some committee members recently walked the walk with Andrew Walters of Keep Britain Tidy, to discuss strategy and aspects of safety.

(See 2006 article on history of Romsey by Allan Brigham at

2. **Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall** <http://www.cherryhintonhall.com> held their third public meeting on 21 October in the Hall itself with the permission of the Principal of the Cambridge International School. Their agenda combined 'business' with an exploration of future activity. The guest speaker was Guy Belcher, the City's Nature Conservation Projects Officer. He fielded a battery of questions with aplomb. During the evening specific mention was made of the need to give attention to the Brook within the grounds, both with respect to litter and overgrown vegetation.

3. **Cambridge Natural History Society.** Fungal foray, 2pm Sunday 25 October. Meet at eastern entrance to Cherry Hinton Hall, off Cherry Hinton Road.

4. **Coldhams Common Local Nature Reserve.** Ellis Selway, Community Reserves Officer, (ellis.selway@cambridge.gov.uk) reports that the Environment Scrutiny Committee has approved the decision to declare Coldhams Common a Local Nature Reserve. It is hoped that its boundary will accommodate a proposed link parallel to the railway line connecting the northern section of the Common. This would allow easier movement of grazing animals between different compartments of the Common.

A check of the existing infrastructure i.e. fencing/gates has been made to check the viability of introducing cattle onto the site in spring 2010. A project appraisal report will be prepared following assessment of the capital expenditure required to establish the LNR. This will then be submitted to committee for approval to release the Section 106 funding under the 'Improve your Neighbourhood' scheme. Designation is expected by March 2010.

5. The **City Council's draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2009 to 2013.** Our response to this rather turgid document was that it overlooks the CHBrook green corridor viewed as a whole. This busy transport corridor consists of a necklace of stream channel, stream banks, foot paths/verges, cycle route, tiny 'open spaces', rough overgrown bramble-strewn areas, the road Burnside, Sainsbury car park, bridges of various shapes and sizes, not to mention its contiguous allotments, school playing field, large lakes, gardens of private houses, grounds of Cherry Hinton Hall, and a military training ground. Some of these latter land use categories admittedly have their independent places in the 'strategy'.