

# Fernhurst Furnace Preservation Group

[www.fernhurstfurnace.co.uk](http://www.fernhurstfurnace.co.uk)

Issue 16

Newsletter

July 2017

---

## Open Weekend 2017



### Open Weekend 2017.

**September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>** are not that far away. **Please come** and learn more about the **Furnace Preservation Project** and the **iron industry** in general. We are part of the national **Heritage Open Days** event.

See **Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's Regiment of Foote** re-enacting a skirmish. See the wonderful **Hawking About** flying demonstrations. There are many other interesting attractions as well as refreshments etc.

**Gates will be open from 10.30 – 5.00** with **Free parking and Free entrance.**

BUT don't forget that **donations** are gratefully received. Although this is partly an 'awareness raising' event it is also our only **fund raising** event.

**Engineers' Report.** **Historic England** (HE), asked for an up-to-date **Engineer's Report** with costings of our **Preservation Project**. This has been carried out by SFK Consulting of Southampton and is about to be complete following a final check by HE. The result is an excellent **low profile method** of preserving our unique site for the future. If

our grant application to HE is good enough then we would only have to fundraise for an **achievable sum**.

**AGM 2017.** The Eleventh **FFPG AGM** will be held in the **Fernhurst Centre, Crossfields Shops, Vann Road, Fernhurst**, on **Wednesday 2nd August at 7.30pm**. Following the business there will be a short talk on proposals within **Feasibility Study**.

**Archaeology** Over **Open Weekend** we are hoping to show a small area of **archaeology**. Assuming we have been granted a **Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC)** we will clean the stream bank at the working end and record what appears to be the **workshop floors**.

To do this **West Sussex Archaeology** will be our professional archaeologists led by George Anely and we will need **volunteers** to carry out the work. **Anyone** wishing to spend a day with trowel in hand please email me, subject line **'Furnace Recording'** and I will make up a **rota** when we see the numbers.

**Reclaim Day.** **Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>**. What is Reclaim Day I hear you say. In the **Engineers Report** which sets out a simple and cost effective way to preserve our site **all the stone and brick work** in the working area should be **'capped'**. This means adding a course or two using modern cement to prevent any further erosion. **Brick and stone** will be required for this so why don't we use the **originals you may ask**. The originals have been washed **down stream** maybe up to 100 yards so **'Reclaim Day'** is to **collect** these bricks and stones for **re-use**.

We will all need full length **wellies** and probably a **garden fork** to extract the bricks from the stream bed.

**Anyone thinking** that this could be a bit of fun please **get in touch – Barnes@haslemere.com** If you are lucky someone will turn up with a **cake!**

**Who wants to help?** Open Weekend is always a busy time. **Setting up the event** as well as carrying out essential tasks over the weekend needs **people**. If you want to **support the Furnace** please help us at **Open Weekend**. We have a small group of very loyal volunteers but many of us are not getting any younger or fitter. **Please offer to help for just a few hours** - [Barnes@haslemere.com](mailto:Barnes@haslemere.com) And if you aren't fit enough to run around bodily we also love capable minds and enthusiasm.



Southern Spillway in c.1930