

# Sun Rising News

The twice-yearly newsletter of  
Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground and Nature Reserve



## Autumn/Winter 2019

### Events

**Planting Day** This year our Planting Day is on Saturday 19 October, 11 am – 3 pm. This is an opportunity for families to plant bulbs and perennials, and sow specially selected wildflower seed, on and around a loved one's grave. There'll be wild daffodils, snowdrops, English bluebells, as well as primroses, wild basil, yarrow, oxeye daisies and many more little plants in pots. Let us know what you want *by 30 September*, or just come along on the day and see what we have. We can also plant for you, if you aren't able to attend.

If you'd rather buy your own, you'll need to let us know. To ensure the integrity of the nature reserve, anything we aren't sure is native will be removed.

**Armistice Day** Monday 11 November 2019, 10.45 for 11 am. This is a short, traditional but non-religious event, to acknowledge all who have died in conflict, near and far, in past and recent times.

**Planting of Memorial Trees** If you're expecting to plant a memorial tree this year, you'll be notified in the autumn with the planting schedule. Trees are planted in late November to mid-December. Our deadline for placing tree orders is Sunday 3 November.

**Volunteers for Tree Planting** This winter we are planting around 100 trees along the edge of our new woodland burial area. There's

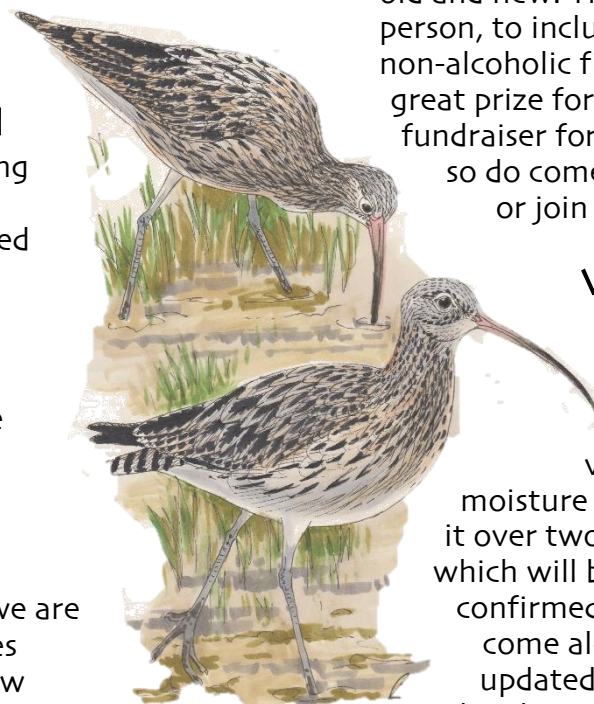
an opportunity for just six helpers: get in touch if you'd like to be one of them.

**Mulled Wine and Mince Pies** Sunday 16 December, 11 am – 3 pm. Our Friends of Sun Rising pre-Christmas event is a chance to visit graves, share mulled wine and mince pies, have fun with our seasonal tombola, as well as buy honey, tea towels and other Sun Rising items as gifts for friends and family, whilst raising money for The Friends.

**Christmas Day** Sun Rising is open on 25 December. If the weather isn't too bad, we'll be here in the morning, 10 am – 12.30 pm, with hot coffee, mince pies, and support for those who find the day hard.

**Tapas and Quiz Night** Saturday 7 March 2020, 6 – 9.30 pm. With plenty of regular quiz questions, and some Sun Rising rounds as well, this will be a chance to show off your knowledge, with Sun Rising friends, old and new. Tickets in advance, £10 per person, to include a glass of wine, beer or non-alcoholic fizz and delicious tapas, and a great prize for the winning team. It's a fundraiser for The Friends of Sun Rising, so do come along. Bring a team of four or join a team when you arrive.

**Volunteers for Mulching** All our young trees are mulched with composted bark each spring, helping to suppress competing vegetation and retain moisture in the soil. This year we'll do it over two weekend dates in March, which will be publicized when confirmed. Let us know if you'd like to come along and we'll keep you updated. We want the soil to be lovely and damp before we mulch.



**Nature Reserve Burial Grounds**

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A few dates to put in the diary for 2020 ...

Sat 30 May: **Sun Rising Open Day**

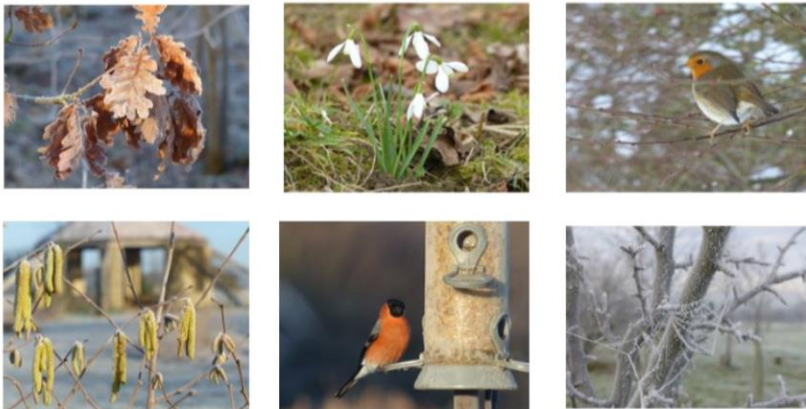
Sat 4 July: **Alexandra's Washboard Trio**, an afternoon of jazz in the roundhouse

Sat 8 August: **Moth Night**, a talk followed by moth trapping onsite

## The Friends of Sun Rising

**The Friends' AGM** was on Saturday 14 September 2019, with around 80 people attending. After news on the charity and the developments at Sun Rising, there was a marvelous talk on bees by entomologist and artist, Steven Falk. The 2020 AGM will be held on Saturday 5 September.

### Sun Rising Winter / Christmas Cards 2019



**Christmas Cards** Whether you use our winter cards as notelets or Christmas cards, they're a great way of supporting The Friends. Each pack has 6 different winter photographs taken at Sun Rising - £9 a pack or £7.50 per pack for two or more. Please get in touch for P&P and order information.

### Friends of Sun Rising Music Sponsors

Having a band play in the roundhouse, whether a jazz trio or classical quartet, as a fundraiser for The Friends, needs money to pay the musicians. If you'd like to be one of our sponsors, contributing £10 - £500, please get in touch. It all helps!

**Calendar** Having asked for photos of Sun Rising for our Friends of Sun Rising wall calendar, we received some beautiful ones taken in summer, just not enough of other

months. Please keep sending us photos, taken all year round!

**Wreaths and other Tributes** Over the past year we've been more strictly enforcing our policy of only allowing floral tributes of natural and biodegradable materials. This means no oasis, plastic, wire, glitter, dyed or painted flowers and other ornaments.

*This also applies to Christmas wreaths.*

This year we aren't selling our own wreaths. Instead, we've a list of Approved Florists who can provide wreaths allowed at Sun Rising. These can stay on graves until 6 January. Unacceptable wreaths and tributes will be removed immediately.

## News

**The Butterfly Stones** Created last summer and planted up in the autumn, we hope butterflies will be attracted to the warm stones and plants. The area will continue to develop, with a few benches installed nearby so you can sit quietly and watch the butterflies.

**Bats at Sun Rising** Working with Warwickshire Bat Group, we are now offering opportunities to families to sponsor a bat box. Let us know if you'd like to be involved.

**Curlews**, pictured in this newsletter, are a species in serious trouble. They depend on large areas of hay meadow - an increasingly rare habitat. We're really lucky to have a few pairs nearby. Listen out for their distinctive calls as winter slips into spring.

## Notes

**Busy Times** If you would rather visit Sun Rising on a quiet day, do give us a call: we can let you know if there's a funeral or something else is going on.

**Mailing List** If you'd like to receive this and other updates but are not on our mailing list, get in touch. Feel free to print or email it to family and friends. If you're receiving it by post, but are happy to do so by email, paper-free, please let us know.