

Sun Rising News

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

Autumn/Winter 2022-2023



News

Developments After many years of planning and preparation, during 2022 we started the last stage of creating the infrastructure at Sun Rising. At the north end of the burial ground, the Longhouse, Robin's Cabin and the toilet were built over the summer. We hope to complete the paths and ramps during the autumn and winter. The last stretch of stone tracks is going in through the autumn, with another section of drainage. The north entrance and car park, with gates and fences, will be brought up to scratch; there'll be trees, shrubs and bulbs to be planted, and seed to sow. The aim is to have all the work completed by summer 2023.

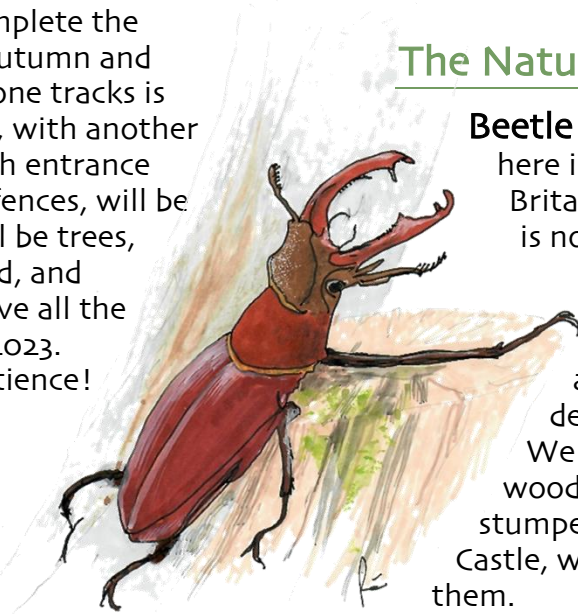
Thank you for your patience!

Unpaid Reservations

In order to be sure that all reserved plots are fully secured, we have recently reached out to everyone who has an informal, unpaid reservation here at Sun Rising. These reservations can be formalised through the completion of paperwork and payment of

the associated fee. We can then issue a Reservation document and peace of mind for all.

There are still a number of people who have not responded. If you are one of these, please note: if we cannot reach you by the end of 2022, your informal reservation will be let go.



The Nature Reserve

Beetle Castle The illustration here is of a stag beetle, Britain's largest beetle which is now all too rare. Like many beetles, these amazing creatures will spend some years as a grub, feeding on dead or decaying wood.

We are hoping our various wood piles, including the stumpery we call the Beetle Castle, will be an ideal habitat for them.

Bird Feeders Over the last few years, prioritising our Tree Sparrow project, we've not been filling the large seed feeders near

the south car park – as these have attracted the more dominant House Sparrow. This winter, however, we'll be putting these feeders back up to support the local bird population more generally. We'll also be filling the large farmland bird bucket feeders and continuing to ground feed. If you'd like to support the project, any contributions towards the high cost of seed would be most appreciated!

Volunteer Mailing List This list is specifically for those who would like to get involved with volunteer tasks. Last year, tasks included a great range, from making a cake for an event, cleaning plaques, planting bulbs, to raking hay and clearing the pond. Let us know if you'd like to be on the list!

Events

Planting Weekend Saturday 15 – Sunday 16 October, 10 am until 3 pm. If you'd like to come along, do get in touch and we can send you the list of what is available. We hope to have plenty of native daffodils, English bluebells, snowdrops, cowslips, oxeye daisies, cornflowers and more. You do need to place your order in advance and

book a slot in the schedule to collect your order: this avoids long queues and disappointment. Or, for a small fee, we can plant your order for you.

To maintain the integrity of the nature reserve, please remember that we do remove all garden variety daffodils, tulips, crocuses, Spanish bluebells and other non-native plants. You need our permission if you want to plant or sow anything on a grave: please ask!

Armistice Day Friday 11 November
This autumn we'll be holding our usual gathering at the Cairn, remembering all who have died in conflicts, near and far. Please be with us by 10.45 for 11 am.

Memorial Trees Planting If you are expecting to plant a tree this year, you'll hear from us by mid-October, inviting you to come along, and letting you know any necessary conditions.

Christmas As usual, we'll be open on Christmas Day for families to visit graves.

The Friends of Sun Rising

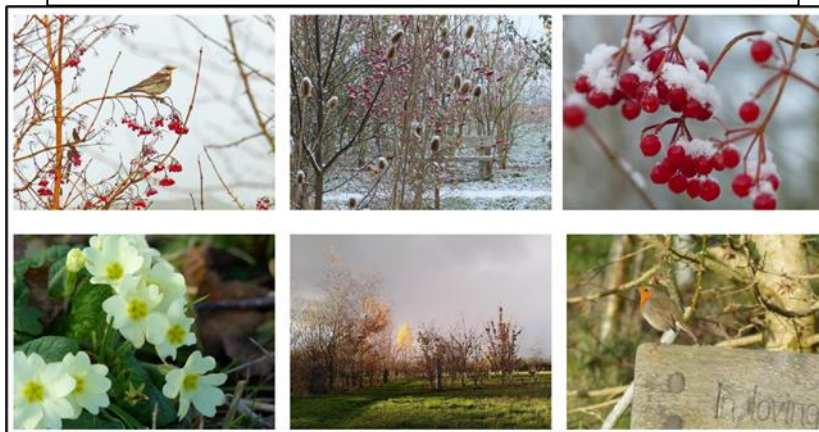
The Friends' AGM This year our AGM was held on Saturday 3 September, with an update on fundraising and developments at Sun Rising. We then had Josh Courtley of Learn Ecology give a marvelous talk on

small mammals – the hopelessly cute, little furry creatures that are so plentiful in the long grasses and woodlands of Sun Rising.

The AGM presentation was filmed and will be available to watch on the website.

Christmas Cards or winter notelets, every pack contains one of each of the 6 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.

Sun Rising Winter / Christmas Cards 2022



Jute Bags We now have a smart and practical jute bag on sale, with the Friends' hare logo printed on both sides. Made in England, these are just what you need for carrying all your delicious homemade Sun Rising **jams, jellies and chutneys!** (£7 each)

Don't forget our other Sun Rising products: the **perennial calendar, honey, tea towels, key rings, purses** and more: perfect little gifts for family and friends.

Visitors

No Dogs Despite the sign on the gates, people were still walking their dogs at Sun Rising, leaving dog mess behind. Our dog permit system was only confusing the situation. As a result, we have made the decision not to allow any dogs at Sun Rising (except registered guide dogs). All dog permits were withdrawn on 31 August 2022. If you see a dog at Sun Rising (without a member of staff), it is not allowed. Please report it to us if you can.

Christmas Wreaths and Tributes The festive season can be extremely hard when you're grieving, and leaving a wreath at a loved one's grave can help ease the pain. Please remember that only 100% natural, biodegradable tributes are permitted: these will remain in place until 6 January. Anything made with wire, plastic, oasis, glitter, paint, or other non-biodegradable materials will be removed immediately. Check our **Approved Florists** list online or ask us to send you a copy.

Busy Times To avoid visiting whilst a funeral is taking place, call us, or check the 'Busy Times' diary online.

Notes

Mailing List If you'd like to receive this newsletter and other updates but are not on our mailing list, please get in touch.