

Sun Rising News

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



Autumn/Winter 2017

News

The New Wildflower Meadow The transformation of an old field into a nature reserve takes countless small steps ... and a few very large ones. This year we're taking a large step: we're starting the creation of another 1.5 acres of wildflower meadow between the roundhouse and the pond. It will mean a large area of bare earth for some 6 months, and for the first year or so it will need careful management – but in a time the nature reserve will be significantly richer. The seed mix is slightly different from that of the established meadow near the roundhouse, so it'll be exciting to see how it develops.

The Stones Two beautiful large honey-coloured stones have been installed towards the northern boundary of the nature reserve. From the local Hornton quarry, their arrival within the Sun Rising landscape acknowledges the great number who worked and died in the local quarries, experiencing such harsh conditions, over the past centuries. These great stones also bring a deep and grounded stillness to the meadow: we hope you agree. Have a wander over and see for yourself.

Memorial Trees 2017 was perhaps the hardest year for young trees at Sun Rising since we opened in 2006. Last winter was mild but very dry and windy. The lack of rain and hard winds through spring and early summer were fine for the wildflowers, but trees need moisture deep in the soil and it was in scarce supply. When the rains eventually came it was just in time. Some

saplings were weakened, and struggled with aphids, caterpillars and mildew. We have changed a few guards and will continue to monitor each and every memorial tree, but if you are worried about a particular tree, do let us know.

The Friends of Sun Rising

The Friends' AGM was on Saturday 9 September this year, and around 60 came along for a warm and friendly occasion in the village hall. The talk on barn owls was as fascinating as we'd hoped it would be, with *very many thanks* to Paul Leadbeater.

Christmas Cards Our winter cards show six winter photographs taken at Sun Rising. They can be used as Christmas cards, gifts, or simply as greetings cards. Sold in packs of 6 for £9, 2 packs for £15, profits go to The Friends. P&P is £2.50 for up to four packs. Do order early as the number we print depends on orders. The designs are below, but if you're online, you can see them at <http://sunrisingburialground.co.uk/friends/christmascards.html>.

Sun Rising Winter / Christmas Cards 2017



Nature Reserve Burial Grounds

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Christmas Wreaths This year we have a different florist providing us with wreaths that are 100% biodegradable and beautiful. At £20 each, with profit to The Friends, they are ideal for the natural burial ground. The number is limited, so do order in good time.

The Sun Rising 2018 Wall Calendar

After much planning and design, we printed 150 of these wonderful A3 wall calendars. Each month has a stunning photograph of Sun Rising donated by someone connected with the burial ground. All 150 have sold! - But if enough new orders are received we'll print some more, so **place your order now!** They are just £10 each, plus £2.50 p&p, and all profits go to The Friends.

Events

Bulbs, Seeds and Planting on Graves

Planting Day is Saturday 21 October this year, 11 am – 3 pm. We'll have a range of native bulbs, a few perennials and our wildflower seed packs. Please let us know if you'd like bulbs *by 6 October*.

If you prefer to source your own, please remember that you'll need to follow our Acceptable Plants List. Everything not wild and native will be removed, including all daffodils except the native *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, and all bluebells that aren't clearly bonafide English.

The Butterfly Bank Up in the top corner the butterfly bank is slowly taking shape, with cinquefoil and wild strawberries, trefoils and vetch. On Sunday 22 October we shall weeding and planting up the bank. Let us know if you'd like to be involved.

Armistice Day This year 11 November falls on a Saturday, and we hope this will encourage more to attend what is a quiet and gentle occasion. We meet at 10.45 for 11 am. With so many faiths and beliefs at Sun Rising, this is a non-religious event to remember all those who have died in conflicts, near and far, old and new. All are welcome.

Tree Planting The planting of memorial trees is in late November to mid December as usual. Our deadline for placing tree orders is 10 November.

Mulled Wine on 17 December This year our carols event is slightly different. On Sunday 17 December, 11 am – 3 pm, there'll be mulled wine and mince pies, carols playing gently, and the chance to buy calendars, honey, hare pins and wreaths, all in aid of The Friends. We hope you will join us to meet with friends, both old and new. You're welcome to pop in for ten minutes or stay for much longer.

Christmas Day As usual, Sun Rising will be open on Monday 25 December. In the morning, we'll be on hand with coffee and mince pies, and support for those who may find the day particularly difficult.

Notes

Buying in Advance It is now only possible to buy a plot in advance at Sun Rising if you are over 65 years old. Let us know if you have any queries.

Spring's Arrival After a harsh winter, it is always wonderful to see the first signs of spring. Do share with us what you see – the first snowdrops, lesser celandine, blackthorn blossom, hazel catkins. Of course, the primroses may be flowering all winter!

Busy Times If you would rather visit Sun Rising on a quiet day, do give us a call and 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 newsletter and other updates but are not on our mailing list, get in touch. You are always welcome to print it or email it out to family and friends.

