



Barracks Lane Community Garden

Charity No. 1116544 and incorporated as Company No. 05945388

PRESS RELEASE

12th July 2010

Creating a buzz in the garden

Members of the local community took part in workshops demonstrating beekeeping and what plants to grow plants for bees, at Barracks Lane Community Garden, last Saturday.

People got the chance to view an observation hive up close and learn about the equipment used in beekeeping. “Hopefully, the workshop has dispelled some of the misconceptions but not the wonder of keeping bees, and has helped local people who are considering beginning beekeeping” said Terry Thomas, an [Oxfordshire beekeeper](#) for 44 years, who ran the workshop.

Esther Pozzani, a beekeeper living in Wolvercote, gave a talk and took people around the garden, discussing the best plants to grow for bees in early spring and June, when there is less pollen for bees around. Esther said “it doesn’t matter whether you only have a small balcony or garden, or an allotment, it’s really easy to grow plants to support bees”.

Children made bee finger puppets with recycled materials and felt in a craft workshop run by local artist [Gemma Burditt](#), and in the evening there was storytelling and music. [Eric Maddern](#), performed his show “What the Bee Knows”, a provocative look at the roots of our current global crisis, threaded around the story of the bee, and local band [Telling the Bees](#), performed songs inspired by folklore, English landscape and the politics of protest to an enthusiastic audience.

Barracks Lane Community Garden’s Bee Day event is part of a series of [Local Food](#) events being put on at the garden between 2010 and 2012. The workshops are free and open to all. The garden is situated on Barracks Lane, off Cumberland Road, in Cowley/East Oxford. See website <http://www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk> for further details.

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Notes

1. Attached Photo 1: Izzy & Aisha show off their finger puppets with Terry Thomas and his observation hive. A full sized photo can be supplied.
2. Attached Photo 2: Esther Pozzani demonstrates useful plants for bees in a walk around the garden. A full sized photo can be supplied.

3. Barracks Lane Community Garden is a community-run green space off the Cowley Road in Cowley/East Oxford. It hosts many regular events as well as special and annual events. It is also open every weekend from Easter to autumn for all to visit and enjoy. The garden can be booked for children's parties, meetings, workshops, and other community events. Barracks Lane Community Garden, Barracks Lane, off Cumberland Road, Oxford OX4 2AP, E: barrackslanegarden@yahoo.co.uk, W: <http://www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk/>
4. Local Food: has been developed by a consortium of 15 national environmental organisations, and is managed on their behalf by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT). Supported by the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme, Local Food will distribute grants to a variety of food related projects to make locally grown food more accessible. www.localfood.org

The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT): is a registered charity, incorporated by Royal Charter, to promote conservation and manage environmental programmes throughout the whole of the UK. It has established management systems for holding and distributing funds totalling more than £20 million annually to environmental projects across the UK.

The Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme was launched in November 2005 to help communities enjoy and improve their local environments. The programme funds a range of activities from local food schemes and farmers markets, to education projects teaching people about the local environment. The Big Lottery Fund, the largest of the National Lottery good cause distributors, has been rolling out £2 million in Lottery good cause money every 24 hours to health, education, environment and charitable causes across the UK.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

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