

# Farm

Focus on May • Issue 3

Hackney  
City Farm

Volunteers, please come along to the Summer Birthday Party, open day **Planning Meeting**. Weds 29th June, 6pm at the Farm.

## Farm Manager's Introduction



Here's the third issue of The Farm – a monthly news-sheet giving our users and supporters an update of just some of the things that have happened over the past few weeks. Already we've received some great feedback. If you have any comments on this, or any of the Farm's services, please let us know in the Farm office, visitor book, or via our website: [www.hackneycityfarm.co.uk](http://www.hackneycityfarm.co.uk) *Chris Pounds – Farm Manager*

## A Close Shave

It's shearing time again and we were lucky enough to have Jonathan Edwards back to provide two days of shearing demonstrations. Jonathan, the Farm's former manger and a skilled shearer is also a very experienced spinner and weaver.

During the demonstrations, Jonathan was able to describe the process from removing the fleece, right through to carding and spinning woollen yarns. The sheep were very pleased to have their fleeces removed for the summer and reduce the risk of 'fly strike' – although it's amusing to see that the lambs cannot recognise their mums after the ewes are shorn!



## Farm Wedding!

The end of May saw the wedding of Farm livestock worker **Helen Jeakins** and former Farm volunteer **Colin Wells**.

The wedding was held in Bow with the reception back at the Farm. One of the guests was Helen's great aunt, who held *her* reception at the Farm nearly 70 yrs ago, when it was a lorry yard run by Helen's family. What a great connection!

Staff, volunteers and friends of the Farm all wish Helen and Colin a very happy future together.

## Welcome back Cookie! – by Rachel

We're proud to announce that after an absence of 6 months, Cookie the Cat is back in the building!!! Poor Cookie was attacked by a fox whilst defending his territory and protecting the chickens. The first time he ended up with a hole in his leg and a few nasty scratches on his face...

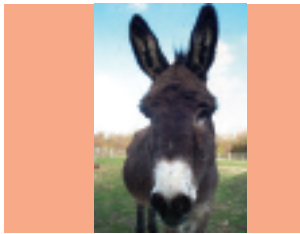


## Smile Please

A local photographer has recently taken a series of portrait pictures of the Farm animals. We are hoping that the pictures taken by 'Steveo' a Broadway Market resident will be available as postcards or even framed pictures. Look out in the Farm Café for more information. Steveo is available for portraits etc and his work can be seen on [www.photosteveo.co.uk](http://www.photosteveo.co.uk)



Cookie then disappeared for a further 3 days until staff finally found him hiding underneath one of the desks in our office on Christmas Day. He was in a bad way. Unfortunately he had been attacked again by a fox that targeted Shed 1; killing 15 hens and 3 cockerels. Cookie had bravely gone to the rescue but paid sorely for his heroics. His leg was almost entirely ripped apart and unfortunately our vet had to amputate. Poor old Cooks' then had to go to Helen's (Education/Livestock) house to recuperate, but he's back now and as sparky as ever, despite missing a leg! **Cookie is now our 3-legged no-tailed Farm Mascot.**



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A living community resource

May • the season for • asparagus • cauliflower • carrots • new potatoes  
 raspberries • cherries • duck • sardines • parsley • mint • sea bass • peas

### Front Garden Pond

The E2E trainees have been working hard revamping the front garden pond next to the café terrace. This raised pond feature has become overgrown over the last few years. However, with some hard graft, the young trainees have relined it and hope to have it back as a wildlife habitat very soon.

If you would like to find out more about the E2E horticultural construction training course for 16-25 year olds, please contact **Bryan Lowman on 020-7729-6381** or call into the Farm.



### Well Done and Thank You!

To **Susannah**, our school placement student, for all her hard work.

To volunteer **Kathleen**, for all her timeless work with the small animals.

#### My time at the Farm – by Susannah

I came to HCF to do my work experience placement (for school) for the first 2 wks of May. I really enjoyed my time here and learnt loads! I helped with 'animal husbandry': feeding, cleaning out and generally helping out. This is what I'd hoped to do, as I want to be a vet when I'm older. Everyone at the Farm was very friendly and helped me when I needed advice. I intend to come back and help as a volunteer because I enjoyed it so much!



**Development Funding** The Farm has received funding from the **Baring Foundation Trust** for help in developing the Farm Business Plan, Education, Training and Volunteer initiatives. This will certainly assist us to develop these key areas and enable us to buy in expert help where required.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY



#### Early July (date tbc)

Laburnum Street Party – 12.00-6pm. A local community feast of fun!

#### 16 & 17 July

Mile of Art from The Farm to the Town Hall, celebrating E2's artists.

#### 18 July (Sat)

24hrs in Ridley Road – Free Family workshop. Part of **Architecture week 2005** an activity run by the building exploratory centre. 10.30-1pm.

### Early Summer...

watch... tadpoles turn to froglets and toadlets... dragonflies emerge to hunt... and fledgling birds try out their wings.

harvest... salads, the first carrots, peas and potatoes, strawberries and other soft fruit.

### SUMMER BIRTHDAY PARTY – SATURDAY 20TH AUGUST

Already the summer is shaping up with lots of events and activities.

### Coming Soon

#### THE BIG "FARM BIRTHDAY" EVENT

Keep your diaries free for the Farm's Summer Birthday Party celebrating 20 years as a City Farm. There are lots of ideas for the day and if you would like to join the team organising it, **please come along to the open day 'planning meeting' on Wednesday 29th June at 6.00pm at the Farm.**



### eco-logic

DID YOU KNOW THAT DISPOSABLE NAPPIES MAKE UP 2.6% OF ALL HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH? DOESN'T SOUND MUCH UNTIL YOU REALISE THAT'S THE EQUIVALENT OF 70,000 DOUBLE DECKER BUSES ... LINED UP FROM EDINBURGH TO LONDON! ACCORDING TO WASTE WATCH, OVER 8 MILLION DISPOSABLE NAPPIES ARE PUT IN THE BIN EVERY DAY. REAL NAPPIES REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF WASTE SENT FOR INCINERATION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES USED TO PRODUCE THE DISPOSABLES. FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE 08458500606 OR SEE WWW.REALNAPPYCAMPAIGN.COM