

# Farm

## Hackney City Farm

### Focus on June • Issue 4

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#### Farm Manager's Introduction



Welcome to **Issue 4** of **The Farm**, where you'll hear about all the activities that we got up to in June. With the summer upon us, there are many more plans for the coming two months. In particular, we will be running **Children's Activity Days** on Thursdays and Fridays throughout August. Look out for more details!

On a more sombre note, like everyone else we were distressed to hear of the recent events in London. Our thoughts go out to all those involved and in particular, to our colleagues at J.P. Morgan.

#### Thanks for helping out

A big "thank you" this month goes to **Maria** for all her help in the Farm Office. Maria has been employed as a temporary, part-time admin assistant and is helping to improve our filing and office management systems.

Also thanks to volunteers from **Merrill Lynch** and **Buzzacott**, who've helped us build a new pig shelter and a retaining wall for the new plant nursery.

We're looking forward to having volunteers from **EHS Brann**, **Reuters**, **Linklaters** and **Pricewaterhouse Coopers** in the near future.



#### Out and about

In June the Farm attended **Camden Green 'Fair and Bike Festival'**, as well as the **Mile End Park 'Fun Day'**.

At both events we took animals and provided sheep shearing demonstrations.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped prepare and show the animals. We received some great complements!

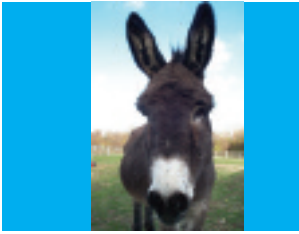


#### Chicks! Surprise hatching of 4 chicks to 4 hens !!!

Out of the blue, we heard the little chirps of baby chickens and two very proud mums parading them about shed 6.

To be on the safe side, the mums and chicks were moved to the shed next door. THEN, much to our surprise, two more chicks appeared with not one but 'two' mums! Both families now live in shed 5 with Boo the white rabbit.





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A living community resource

**June** • the season for • **gooseberries** • **courgettes** • **broad beans** • **peas**  
**lettuce** • **strawberries** • **peppers** • **asparagus** • **redcurrants** • **aubergines**

## Stairway to ..... Sure Start

We now have a new staircase from the ground floor to the first floor Sure Start offices. These replace the rather old set that have given great service over the years. Improved lighting is also being installed to make the stairs feel safer too. Eventually we hope to secure funding for a lift or ramp to improve disability access.



## Glastonbury 2005

It's that time again when almost half of Hackney heads off to Somerset for a weekend of green fields, music and sunshine.... and in between, the occasional thunderstorm causing a powercut, a new lake to be formed in the middle of one camp site and of course mud, mud and more mud – and that's what we got!!

Chris, the Farm's Manager, represents the **Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens** in the festivals "green-environmental fields", promoting community activities based around farming and gardening.



**Summer activities.** July is an exciting month for young people, when the school year ends and the summer holidays begin. Here at the Farm, most of our craft workshops will be taking a break through the summer months (with the exceptions below), but we've been lucky enough to get funding from **Hackney Council** for some great summer activities. We will be providing eight days of activities throughout August with two sessions each day. They will all have environmental themes and include sessions with the animals, mini beast hunts, pond dipping, spinning and weaving and willow sculpture..... **Watch out for more details!**



**SUMMER BIRTHDAY PARTY – SATURDAY 20TH AUGUST**

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Upholstery classes are held on **Tuesday & Wednesday evenings**, 7-9pm and will begin again on **Sept. 27th**.

## THE BIG "FARM BIRTHDAY" EVENT

Keep your diaries free for the Farm's Summer Birthday Party celebrating **20 years** as a City Farm!

**Summer Upholstery Course.** We will be running a **special four day course in traditional upholstery**. The course runs **30th Aug. to 2nd Sept. inclusive**, and teaching hours will be **10am to 4pm**. If you have an armchair that needs some TLC or you are interested in antiques, this could be for you. You can either bring along your own piece, or we can provide a footstool frame at a reasonable cost.

You will learn all the basic techniques and how to fix top covers and trimmings. You will learn about different materials used in traditional and modern upholstery. The course costs £180.00 and includes all the structural materials you will use in your chair or stool. You can use your own covering fabric and we can advise on sourcing fabric and trimmings. For more details, and to book, contact **Amanda Girling-Budd on 07970 149 395**. There are only six places on this course so booking early is advised!

## eco-logic

**DID YOU KNOW THAT LEAVING YOUR TV OR VIDEO IN 'STANDBY' MODE USES LOTS OF ELECTRICITY? IN FACT, NEARLY 5% OF TOTAL RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY IS CONSUMED JUST THROUGH THE USE OF 'STANDBY', OR 'LEAKING ELECTRICITY' AS IT IS BETTER DESCRIBED.**  
**THINK ABOUT IT.... IN A LIFETIME, (80 YEARS OR SO), WE'VE GONE FROM HAVING ELECTRICITY IN OUR HOMES FOR THE FIRST TIME – (WHAT A BREAKTHROUGH!), TO USING 5% OF IT ON A DEVICE THAT ENABLES US TO CHANGE CHANNEL WITHOUT GETTING OUT OF OUR CHAIRS (AN OUTRAGE!).**