

**FRIENDS OF THE RIVER CRANE ENVIRONMENT (FORCE)  
NEWSLETTER FOUR: APRIL 2004**



Dear Friends,

The Friends of the River Crane Environment (FORCE) has been formed by local groups and individuals to represent the interests and views of local people regarding the River Crane and its corridor within the London Borough of Richmond. FORCE was formed in direct response to the Council's proposals to remove Metropolitan Open Land status, and subsequently develop, council owned green spaces within the Crane Valley between Kneller Gardens and London Road.

This month we received the Inspector's Report from last year's Public Inquiry into the Council's proposals and this has largely vindicated our stance and stated that the two key areas of Open Land under threat from the Council, Mereway Allotments and Twickenham Rifle Club, should be retained as open space.

Our argument at the Inquiry was based on our belief that the Crane valley is an important environmental resource for local people and visitors alike and, by the combined efforts of the community and the Council, and with the support of grant monies from third parties, can be managed and improved for the benefit of everyone as well as the local wildlife. We now have the opportunity to make this happen but we will need the help of a broad alliance of local people and community groups as well as the Council and others.

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<b>FORCE - Application For Membership</b>	
<p>Mr/Mrs/etc. _____</p> <p>First Name(s) _____</p> <p>Last Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Postcode _____</p> <p>Home Telephone _____</p> <p>Fax _____</p> <p>Mobile _____</p> <p>E-mail _____</p>	<p>How would you like to be kept informed about FORCE activities?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">By e-mail <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">By Post <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Would you like to be a FORCE volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Are you:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Under 18 years old? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Over 75 years old? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>How did you hear about FORCE? _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORCE will not pass your personal details to any other organisation.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>P. T. O.</b></p>

FORCE is putting together a programme of events and activities in support of this as follows:

- 18<sup>th</sup> April: a volunteer work day at Twickenham Rifle Club from 10-30am
- 28<sup>th</sup> April: a Public meeting and workshop at All Hallows Church from 7-30pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> June: an Open Day on Craneford Playing Fields as part of the Twickenham Festival from 1pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> June: a volunteer work day, probably on Mereway Allotments

Everyone is welcome for all or part of any of these events.

We are also in ongoing negotiations with a large number of groups and organisations regarding the future of the Crane Valley area. One thing looks certain, the area is likely to change considerably over the next ten years. We have formed FORCE to influence these changes and ensure that the interests of local residents and the wider environment are protected and enhanced.

In order to do this we shall need the help of everyone who has the best interests of our community and its green spaces at heart. Please fill out the application form and join us; come to our meetings and events, e-mail us with your idea and opinions and GET INVOLVED.

Yours,

Rob Gray (Chair FORCE)

Website: [www.twickenham-online.co.uk/forceweb](http://www.twickenham-online.co.uk/forceweb)

E-mail: [FORCE@twickenham-online.co.uk](mailto:FORCE@twickenham-online.co.uk)

FORCE - Application For Membership (Continued)			
Type of Membership (please tick only one)		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Organisation Membership</b> £10.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	£5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name of Organisation _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 Membership	£2.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Role within Organisation _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Household Membership	£8.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose my subscription of    £_____
Other members of household	<18	>75	(Optional) a Donation of    £_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>TOTAL</b> £_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please make cheques payable to FORCE and send, with a Stamped Self Addressed Envelope(SSAE), to:
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Day, FORCE Membership Sec.
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	89 Third Cross Road
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TWICKENHAM
			TW2 5DY
			Telephone: 020 8893 3503