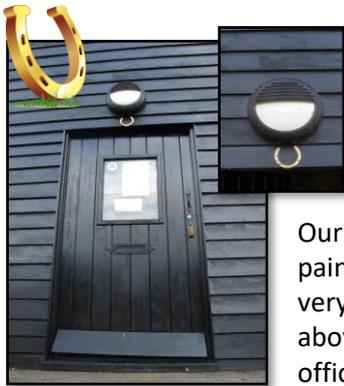
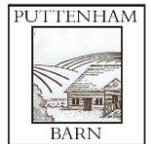


# PUTTENHAM BARN BUNKHOUSE

## Newsletter – Autumn 2022



Remember the lucky find in our barnyard, as featured in our last newsletter?

Our horseshoe is now painted gold and looks very smart mounted above the warden's office door.

*Job completed and photo by Dave Williamson*



Another enhancement to the barnyard, replacing a couple of our old half barrels: two cement-encrusted builders' wheel-barrows have been given a new lease of life.

The barrows were kindly gifted and planted up with flowers by Hazel, and Dave Williams then spruced them up with two coats of green paint donated by Tish. They now look pretty jolly!

*Photo by Dave Williamson*

### **A reminder that you are all warmly invited to a Review Meeting to be held from 2.15 pm on Saturday 15 October in the Marwick Hall, School Lane, Puttenham**

The aim of this event is informally to celebrate the Barn's journey and to consider the way forward. If you would like to bring your own lunch, the Bunkhouse Barn will be open over the lunchtime for anyone wishing to visit.

If you plan to attend but have not yet notified us please confirm to

Tish at [support@puttenhambarn.uk](mailto:support@puttenhambarn.uk) or Chris at [chrismEEKs@chrisjm.plus.com](mailto:chrismEEKs@chrisjm.plus.com) / tel 01483 422774

### ***The 2022 season - lingering Covid precautions and a Summer scorcher***

With the effects of Covid still making some people a little cautious it is taking a while to bring the barn back to full function, nevertheless there has been a steady stream of walkers, cyclists and local people looking for 'something a little different' in our wonderful countryside. Visitors have included an intrepid German teacher aiming for Ireland on her electric Brompton, a lone traveller just glad to escape the city and recharge batteries and a cyclist who had found us via a recommendation by a previous visitor on the Facebook page 'Cycle Touring Festival'.

Most remarkable was our blind visitor Dave H, who was doing a sponsored walk in aid of the hospice that had treated his Dad. He stayed overnight at the barn in May after navigating The Downs Link as far as Bramley, then having to finish that leg of his trip by taxi as he was running out of time to check in. His only aids were his white stick and a smart phone which guided him along his route. Next morning warden Dave Williamson launched him in the direction of Farnham and he set off with complete confidence.

During his stay, warden Dave had to work the unfamiliar kitchen equipment for him but otherwise he was totally independent. An amazing achievement!

### ***Spreading the word....***

As well as welcoming 16 people to the barn for our recent **Heritage Open Day**, the following two events manned by volunteers created a lot of interest:



We attended the **Jubilee Puttenham Fete** (above left) at the beginning of June, and met many local residents who had not heard of us. We held engaging games such as 'Can you find the barn?' which tested how many knew exactly where we were situated in their village.

Out of 7 correct guesses, Simon H was drawn as the winner of a free 2-night stay for 4 people at the barn. Simon looks forward to staying with us next year.

*Photo by Dave Williams*



During the heatwave of mid August, we joined other green organisations at **Godalming Green Gala** (above right) on the Burys Field to share our Barn with the green community. Alongside the Godalming Cycle Campaign and the Ramblers' Association, we were in good company. Children and adults alike enjoyed our big compost challenge, where they had to identify what items can go in different kinds of compost bins.

*Photo by Tish Piwowarek*



Follow our latest activities throughout the year on our Facebook page  
<https://facebook.com/puttenhambarn>

## SERENITY, SWEETNESS AND STUDY IN THE BARNYARD



Mid-summer and the barnyard is a peaceful haven. The wildflower areas have thrived and have been popular with the local bee population. This purple *Phacelia* should seed around and provide a pretty display in future years.



Four interested participants attended the **Warden training day** in July, and we are happy to confirm Hilary Carvell and Hayley Warren as our new wardens this season. Thanks to Chris, Morag and Betty for holding the event, supported by Tish.

*Photo by Tish Piwowarek*



A further touch of colour in the barnyard - Dave Williamson donated two lovely hanging baskets which were hung up in the warden's porch area. Anyone passing was asked to give them a good watering, and when we were closed for more than a day or two our neighbours kindly ensured they did not dry out at any time during the long heatwave.

*Photo by Tish Piwowarek*

### VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

- We are always keen to expand our list of volunteer wardens and would be pleased to organise another training day in 2023.
- Along with most other voluntary organisations we are eager to welcome new people to fill various interesting roles. We are currently, for example, seeking people to look after some of our admin as well as our marketing – could you be tempted or do you know anyone who might help us in these roles?
- If you would prefer a more 'hands-on' role we are also always glad to have extra help with gardening jobs in our lovely but ever vigorously-growing barnyard!

For all of the above please email [support@puttenhambarn.uk](mailto:support@puttenhambarn.uk)

### MORE COMPLIMENTARY COMMENTS IN OUR VISITORS BOOK

There is only space here for two of the comments in our visitors book from the 2022 season. Invariably our volunteer wardens are acknowledged individually and we are indebted to them all for their welcoming and customer care skills!

- *'Great stay, lovely place, peaceful. Warden Sukey was very kind and welcoming. Thanks for the hot water bottle!*  
*Anna, Norwich – May 2022'*
- *'Dear Dave and Wardens, Thank you so much for an amazing stay at the camping barn. We were super comfortable and Dave the warden looked after us very well after we came back from hiking the North Downs Way and had a lovely dinner at the Good Intent and a lovely breakfast at the Barn, with the barn shop food! We will come back definitely.'*

*From Duncan, Anouk and Penny in Farnham – August 2022'*

*~~ Newsletter contributions welcomed by Hilary – [hjerry88@gmail.com](mailto:hjerry88@gmail.com) ~~*

**This newsletter is published by Project Oasis North Downs, the registered charity that manages Puttenham Barn Bunkhouse**

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