



Campaign to Protect  
Rural England  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

# Outlook

Number 25 Summer 2010

## STOP THE DROP AT CARLSBERG



*The President of CPRE and celebrated author **Bill Bryson** (on the left) and the CEO of Carlsberg UK, **Isaac Sheps** go litter picking*

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Carlsberg UK's top management team and the national President of the CPRE, Bill Bryson, changed into jeans and high-visibility jackets to support 'Stop the Drop' in Northampton last month. The respected author and countryside campaigner joined Isaac Sheps, CEO of Carlsberg UK, and his Board to clear up litter along the banks of the Nene surrounding Carlsberg's Northampton brewery.

CPRE and the world famous brewer came together in April this year to help tackle the

growing problem of litter. As the country geared up for the World Cup, CPRE and Carlsberg UK wanted to remind people to think twice before they 'drink and drop': in addition to responsible drinking, drinkers should also consider a 'responsible' way of disposing of their cans and bottles.

At the event in June Bill Bryson, author and CPRE President, said: "I've lived in this country for 25 years and I will be having palpitations with the rest of the nation when England play their World Cup games. As the tournament gets going many people will be heading out to the countryside to kick a ball about themselves and we want to remind them to take their rubbish home with them. England is home to the beautiful game and we want to keep it a beautiful country as well."

Isaac Sheps, CEO Carlsberg UK, said: "As part of our commitment to our Corporate Social Responsibility programme and in particular to the local community, Carlsberg UK are proud to play a part in encouraging Carlsberg drinkers not to 'drink and drop'. We have allowed staff time out of the business to support this cause and are pleased that we can support the CPRE in their campaign."

### **A Guided Walk through Salcey Forest** led by wildlife range and forest expert **Andy Patmore**

Join us on Tuesday, 7 September at 6.00 pm

*The Royal Forest of Salcey is magnificent ancient woodland with excellent walking, wildlife and birds. The walk will include the Tree Top Way and should last just over an hour.*

For tickets see the invitation enclosed with your printed copy of Outlook, or if [online click here](#).

## GONE WITH THE WIND?

### IS IT TIME TO RE-APPRAISE HOW WE MEET CARBON EMISSION TARGETS AND DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE ENERGY?

***Wind farms are great for the developers and landowners.....but not for the rest of us.*** That is the stark message of a report from CPRE Northamptonshire's Wind Farm Working Group, which calls on the Government to look again at the costs and benefits of inland wind power generation. You can read their report on our website (there is a link on the home page), or if you are reading [Outlook online, click here](#).

We all favour renewable energy and the reduction of carbon emissions. But wind power fails to live up to expectations on both counts. Because of wind's variability and unreliability, wind power cannot meet base load requirements for electricity or respond to the pattern of electricity demand. It can therefore only supplement, not replace, other forms of power generation. Coal-fired and nuclear plant however cannot be turned on and off to respond to the vagaries of the wind, so a duplication of capacity - mainly gas-fired plant - is unavoidable. Inefficiencies in operation are therefore inevitable.

The countryside is at risk of being carpeted with 400-foot high turbines in an endeavour to meet the Government's renewable obligations, causing long-lasting damage to the rural environment. There are currently more than a dozen proposals for wind farms in Northamptonshire alone, a county with a record of very low wind speeds. The motivation for these projects is not the quantity of electricity they will produce (which will be very modest). It is, rather, the handsome profit they will generate for the developers and their landlords through subsidies (the Renewable Obligation Certificates – ROC's). These guarantee an artificially high price for each unit of the power produced. Planning authorities are hamstrung in their response to these proposals by the Government's endorsement of wind power, and other forms of renewable energy are disadvantaged.

Sir Paul Hayter, Chairman of CPRE Northamptonshire, says: "It is time to re-assess the true value and cost of onshore wind farms, especially in counties with low wind speeds like Northamptonshire. I am worried about the damage they cause to the countryside, and about what will happen when they go out of fashion. Will the money be there to remove them, or will they be treated as brownfield sites for housing or industrial development?"

### In Brief

#### Local Food Heroes

Please support your Branch by nominating your local farm shop, jam- or cake-maker, local food pub or restaurant or other similar enterprise for the Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards.. Nominations close on August 31; details are on the home page of our website [CPRENorthants.org](http://CPRENorthants.org).

#### Town & Country Awards

Nominations close at the end of September, so you still have a little time to enter your favourite building or landscape project for our 2010 Awards. Download an application form from [CPRENorthants.org](http://CPRENorthants.org) or phone 01858 433136.

#### Buy Local Eat Local Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire on Buy Local, Eat Local. We are currently analysing the results and will publish them in the autumn.

## FUNDRAISING

### A PLEA FROM SUE BAYLIS, EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

In order to keep our branch active and maintain our high profile in campaigning activities – such as the litter, High Speed rail and wind farms, etc – it is very important that we are financially viable.



*Sywell reservoir in summer - June Middleton*

Only part of our income comes from National Office in the rebate of our membership subscriptions – the balance comes from grants and, most importantly, our county fundraising activities. There has recently been a shortfall in our income.

The summer ball is our major fundraising event, but it is not widely supported by members. We do need your ideas and suggestions on the kind of fundraising activities that you would support. Any new events would be in addition to those currently arranged by our North and West Districts. Please send me your suggestions, by email

([Sue.Baylis@CPRENorthants.org](mailto:Sue.Baylis@CPRENorthants.org)) or phone (01858 433136 - do leave a message on the answer-phone if I am not able to take the call).

We very much look forward to hearing from you. Thank you in advance.

## SUMMER EVENINGS WITH CPRE NORTHANTS

**David Charlton-Jones** writes: The **North Northants District** held an evening at **Deene Park**, the home of the Brudenell family, on Friday 11th June, which was attended by 75 members and friends. Our misgivings about the weather proved groundless as we enjoyed Pimms and canapés in the long-awaited sunshine in the beautiful gardens overlooking the lake. Our guests were able to visit the main rooms of the house where a team of guides were at hand to enliven the tour with stories of the house and the Brudenell family.

Our thanks go to our splendid team of helpers who made the evening such a success and, of course, to the Hon. Mrs Brudenell for generously allowing us the use of the house and gardens, raising over £1,000 for Branch funds.

**David Montagu-Smith** writes: The **West Northants District** held their summer party at **Little Houghton House** on Friday 9th July, thanks to the generosity of Mr & Mrs Christopher Davidge. The combined efforts of Sally Hanrahan, Deborah Hayter, Penny Brae, Susan Castle and Jill Montagu-Smith produced an excellent supper, and Christopher Davidge kindly donated wine to top up the supply. A most agreeable event on a perfect summer evening raised welcome funds for the Branch and filled the glasses for the guests.

## HIGH SPEED TWO: AN UPDATE

In the spring edition of Outlook our Chairman, Sir Paul Hayter, set out the views of the Branch on this project. We said it was contentious: along with wind farms, the issue is causing considerable anguish in the south west of the county. The response included both extremes: “you need to have a re-think” and “thanks for nothing” to “thank you for clarifying misunderstandings” and “please may we re-print the article in our parish magazine”.

Currently we are waiting for the new coalition government to take a position (as we go to press a Written Ministerial Statement on the HS2 Exceptional Hardship Scheme is imminent). In the meantime, we are setting up meetings in the affected villages to confirm that CPRE is unreservedly committed to defending the environment and quality of rural life in South Northamptonshire in the face of this project. Whatever proposals eventually emerge, we in this CPRE Branch are determined to work closely with all the communities which would be affected by them, in defence of our countryside and everyone living in it, while stopping short of opposing the principle of High Speed Rail.

CPRE had an intensive involvement in the first HS project, in Kent, where we were able to support and assist the local groups directly affected. This resulted in the achievement of significant changes to the route and its impact on local communities.

## SUMMER BALL & STOP THE DROP

### PRESENTATION OF AWARDS IN HONOUR OF OUR LITTER HERO PARISHES



*Left to right: Alex Zielinski from Little Houghton; Samantha Harding, national campaign manager of Stop the Drop; Vicki Smith from Mears Ashby and Jenny Shaw from the Bringtons*

This year's Ball as usual made a major contribution to our running costs, so thank you to everyone who supported it. In a departure from previous years, a major event at the Ball was the presentation of our Litter Hero Awards, which were sponsored by our partners Carlsberg UK. The 2010 winning award, a cheque to the Parish Council or Community Group for £500 to be spent on litter issues in the village, went to Little Houghton PC, and the runners-up who received £200 each were the Bringtons & Nobottle News and Mears Ashby PC.

Selecting the winners wasn't easy: many villages throughout the county organised very successful litter picks during our spring

Stop the Drop campaign. The winners were chosen on the basis of the number of people who participated in the village pick relative to its size, the range of ages represented, the enthusiasm of the pickers and the volume of litter collected. Perhaps surprisingly, the number of bags collected is not a sole indicator of success, because this also depends the level of drive-through traffic in the village, how successful the previous organised pick has been, and whether litter pickers (official or unofficial) are active all year round.

We plan to repeat our Litter Heroes Awards after the 2011 Stop the Drop campaign – so start planning now!

**Outlook editors:** Sue Baylis and Sally Hanrahan

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**Comments to** [info@CPRENorthants.org](mailto:info@CPRENorthants.org)

### Autumn dates for your calendar

Our Events Coordinator can be reached at [Sue.Baylis@CPRENorthants.org](mailto:Sue.Baylis@CPRENorthants.org) or 01858 433136

#### Tuesday September 7 – 6.00 pm

A guided walk of Salcey Forest, led by Andy Patmore. Please book in advance, and then meet at entrance of Salcey Forest Café. Tickets are £5, including tea or coffee and cake

#### Friday October 22

Dinner at the Northants Club in George Row, Northampton; guest speaker Andrea Leadsom MP. Ticket enquiries to John Day, 01604 636238 (W) or 01604 847369 (H)

#### Thursday December 16

Carols for Christmas and the presentation of the CPRE Town & Country Awards at Cranford Hall. Tickets are £20, including supper