



## Summer Field Trip to Whetstone Fruit Farm, Leicestershire

Christian Rural and Environmental Studies (CRES), The John Ray Initiative (JRI) and Christian Rural Concern (CRuC)

**Saturday 10th July 2010 (11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.)**

### Introduction

For some years now CRES, in association with JRI and CRuC have run summer field trips around England. These visits have varied from farms to woodlands, from urban to very rural, and we aim to vary our content every year. The visits are run by the CRES distance learning course, but anyone associated with CRES, JRI or CRuC, plus their friends and family will be very welcome. Also if you are interested in joining CRES this day will be perfect for you.

This year we are visiting Anthony & Sandra Herbert at Whetstone Fruit Farm in Leicestershire. Anthony & Sandra are looking forward to our CRES visit, and say. "We run a pick your own fruit enterprise (with tearoom & playbarn) in addition to 600 acres of arable crops. We are in two agri-environmental schemes and have ponds, woods, a brook, and disused railway line. We host a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) scheme called Community Harvest Whetstone - the first vegetable crops should be visible at your visit. We are active further afield - both of us involved with the charity Send a Cow (which includes goats, poultry, bees and sustainable natural agriculture!). Sandra is chair of Leicestershire Food Links - Leading the Field in Local Food, besides being part of the Christian Muslim Forum. We will give you a warm welcome, a stimulating day, some fresh air - and the chance to pick very tasty strawberries!"

The cost per person is £10 for the day, including a £2.50 donation to Send a Cow. Spaces on this wonderful field trip are limited to the first 25 people who book in, so book now or risk being disappointed!

### Timetable

11.00 Arrival - coffee

11.15 Introductory talk- linking themes from the CRES course with farming, and Hilary Benn's new food policy.

11.45 Farm/environmental walk- with stops en route for mini talks and discussion. Arable crops, woodland, ponds, hedges, game-keeping, grassland and conservation



meadow, disused railway line, PYO fruit & Community Supported Agriculture project.

1.30 Lunch Ploughman's + fruity something! (all home made by Sandra herself!!)

2.30 Send a Cow talk and discussion, followed by time to pick your own (this is NOT included in the £10 booking fee!).

4.00 pm Tea and cake at departure.

### Directions

DO NOT USE POSTCODE with SAT NAV or Google maps. Instead use Whetstone Gorse Lane. Satnav + postcode takes you to the wrong farm!!

The venue (Whetstone Fruit Farm) is situated on Whetstone Gorse Lane, approx 3 miles south of Blaby on the A 426 due south of Leicester, and just south of the Cosby-Countesthorpe cross roads. From the **North** leave M1 at junction 21; keep in the left lane, bear left and then turn left at roundabout. Straight on at first lights takes you to a square roundabout! Turn right, heading for Narborough. At the next roundabout (Mr Toby pub) turn left for Whetstone. Straight through the top of Whetstone until you hit the A426 (Leicester to Rugby road); turn right at this roundabout. Continue south to the end of the dual carriageway; keep on south and take the 3rd turn left - Whetstone Gorse Lane. Look for fruit signs!

From the **West Midlands** take the M69 to junction 21 on M1 and follow above instructions.

From the **South** leave the M1 at junction 20. First exit, and then right at the Spitfire roundabout. Go through Lutterworth, northwards on A 426. Straight on at maxi tall traffic light. Cross the M1 and after three quarters of a mile look for strawberry sign on right - turn right into Whetstone Gorse Lane.

From the **East** it is challenging! It is easiest to head for Lutterworth and then north as above.

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### Booking- CRES/JRI/CRuC Summer Field Trip to Whetstone Fruit Farm Field Trip.

Please book me a place for the Summer Field Trip to Whetstone Fruit Farm on Saturday 10th July 2010 at Whetstone Fruit Farm, Leicestershire. Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and complete a separate form for each person, if you are part of a group.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special dietary requirements? Yes / No

If yes, please indicate \_\_\_\_\_

The cost is £10, including lunch. Please book your place at least 7 days before the event, in order to help with catering (but note that places are limited and early booking is advised).

I enclose a cheque for £10 payable to the John Ray Initiative.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your completed form to: Mrs. Lynda McKeown, The John Ray Initiative, University of Gloucestershire, QW212, Francis Close Hall, Swindon Road, Cheltenham GL50 4AZ, UK.

Email: admin@jri.org.uk Web: www.cres.org.uk