



Community Services  
Cogges Manor Farm Museum  
Cogges Bulletin – April 2010

**1. Cogges Manor Farm – looking to the future.**

The trustees of the trust being set up to oversee the operation of Cogges Manor Farm are finalising their plans for 2010 and beyond.

They are looking forward to taking control of Cogges as soon as the final negotiations with Oxfordshire County Council are completed. This could be as early as June 2010.

The plans they are developing, based on consultation with a wide range of local residents, day visitors, schools and other stakeholders, will ensure that Cogges can remain open to the public and enjoyed by the local community in the medium and long term.

Cogges needs capital development in order to flourish in the future. This will take time and money. Architectural plans must be drawn up and approved by English Heritage and the local planning authority, and grants, sponsorship and donations must be secured before much of the necessary work can even start.

In the meantime, the trustees are keen to ensure that at least part of the site remains accessible to local people. In 2010 there will be a number of small scale, pre-booked, schools and community learning events. However, the site will not be open on a daily basis.

The trustees have taken extensive professional advice and are determined to make Cogges work. Progress will at times seem slow, but securing the long-term future of this remarkable Witney/Oxfordshire treasure is their overriding priority.

**2. Learning at Cogges**

A programme of creative learning opportunities is being planned for 2010. The Schools Programme will offer 5 days in June and July for schools to book up to work on site with three artists. There will also be a Community Programme in June, July and October.

Details are below and will be posted on the Cogges website. Please note advance booking will be essential.

### 3. Details of the Schools Programme

#### Learning @ Cogges 2010

KS2 classes are invited to take part in 5 special learning days  
Working with an Artist Jeweller, Film-maker and Visual Artist, explore the History, Archaeology and Stories of Cogges Manor Farm.

During the day children will be able to take part in the following activities:

*Jewellery making: “**Hand-forge recycled copper to create your own jewellery, inspired by the history and archaeology of Cogges**”*

*Film-making: “**Turn the camera on Cogges and create your very own video stories based on the fascinating location of this ancient dwelling.**”*

*Weaving: “**From sheep to blankets – the cycle of wool – work together to form a human loom and create a massive weaving**”*

**Artists: Tamsin Leighton-Boyce / Arabella Warner / Sally Howkins**

Our three artist’s will work with children and teachers on site to explore the ancient history of people living at Cogges and the things they left behind; learn about farming and agriculture and the things we can make; and discover the stories the Manor House and farm buildings can tell.

All visitors will take part in a workshop using the history of Cogges and the local wool trade to explore weaving, wool making and traditional agricultural activities on the farm.

Children can then choose one of two further workshops – (classes will be split into groups of 15 between these activities):

Either tell your story at Cogges through film making OR explore working with copper and tools to make your own artefacts.

The day will include an introduction and reflection session, time to explore the gardens and picnic in the orchard.

A Cogges blog will be created as a learning environment to allow children and teachers to upload and share with the rest of their school, families and other schools their films and stories of their visit. The blog will give your day an ongoing legacy – a way of returning to Cogges later from the classroom.

Teachers & teaching assistants: We hope as our learning partners you will enjoy the day, take some creative learning back to your schools to enhance your own teaching practice and help us to reflect on the pilot learning programme for future years.

We hope that children visiting the site will have a rich and rewarding creative learning experience, which will generate ideas, new approaches and skills for them to take back to school and into their home lives.

## BOOKING INFORMATION

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup>, Wed 7<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Ticket price: £50 per school group/class of 30 children plus teachers/teaching assistants. Maximum of 2 classes on site per day.

**Booking essential and on a first come/first serve basis.**

To book your school's place email the Project Co-ordinator:

[janinecharles@hotmail.com](mailto:janinecharles@hotmail.com) or tel: 07939 108480

Please bring your own picnic lunch/drinks to have in the orchard or indoors if rainy. Children should wear old outdoor clothing and bring waterproofs – the site can get muddy!

Learning @ Cogges is a Creative Learning Project funded by Oxfordshire County Council which aims to pilot new approaches to Creative Learning at Cogges in order to inform future developments. It is supported by Creative Junction ([www.creativejunction.org.uk](http://www.creativejunction.org.uk)) and the new Trust being formed to take on the management of Cogges in future ([www.cogges.org.uk](http://www.cogges.org.uk)).

---

Further information and progress reports are available at [www.cogges.org.uk](http://www.cogges.org.uk) where you can sign up to receive our e-newsletter. Comments and communications can be sent to: [future@cogges.org.uk](mailto:future@cogges.org.uk)

Cogges Bulletin is edited by Martyn Brown, County Heritage and Arts Officer. Tel: 01993 814114 e mail: [martyn.brown@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:martyn.brown@oxfordshire.gov.uk)