



ABBOT'S MILL PROJECT

A BEACON OF SUSTAINABILITY

International Mother Earth Day Mini Festival 2015

For the past four years we have been working in partnership with the United Nations Association (UNA) Canterbury to celebrate International Mother Earth Day.

International Mother Earth Day promotes a view of the Earth as the entity that sustains all living things found in nature. It honors the Earth as a whole and our place within it. Here is more information about International Mother Earth Day: <http://www.un.org/en/events/motherearthday/>

Each year the UNA in Canterbury focuses on the 'Think Global' part of the day and Abbot's Mill Project focuses on the 'Act Local' part.

Last year we organised a world café style afternoon as part of the conference that was organised by the UNA Canterbury. You can see a report about this here: <http://www.centreforwelfarereform.org/library/by-date/abbots-mill-project.html>

This year we decided to hold a mini festival on our site. Our aim was to raise awareness about International Mother Earth Day to a wide range of people.



We wanted to hold a welcoming event that would be peaceful and inclusive, showing how we can live in harmony with our natural environment, with non-human animals and with each other.

We certainly achieved that!

From delicious vegan food and cakes...



...an animal craft cafe and storytelling,



...mellow tunes,



...a stall selling eco-products, from recycled materials, to attract wildlife into your garden,



...eco massages,



And a wildlife trail and a permaculture talk and walk and forage;



...there was something for everyone!



We would like to thank everyone for making the festival such a success. Special thanks go to:

- ☺ Canterbury Wholefoods,
- ☺ Double Crossing,
- ☺ Paul Babra and Canterbury Curry Club,
- ☺ Crab and Winkle Trust,
- ☺ Skillnet Group,
- ☺ Poppies Cakes,
- ☺ UNA Canterbury,
- ☺ Eco Bliss,
- ☺ Dik Ng (for the great photos),
- ☺ Helen and Fran Long,
- ☺ Liberation Nuts,
- ☺ Jo Barker (Dynamic Equilibrium),
- ☺ And everyone from the Abbot's Mill Project who worked so hard.



Big thanks also to Helen Simpson for doing an evaluation of the day.



