



## Diary Dates

### Sun 31 May

Carnival 11-3 Beverley Railway Station Car Park. Beverley FoE stall

### Tues 2 June

7.30 upstairs Pier Luigi Princes Ave. HFOE meeting.

### Sat 20 June

Ella Street Festival. Hull FoE stall.

### Thurs 25 June

7.30 HFOE discussion Group, 170 Victoria Ave. Hull

### Sun 5 July and Sun 12 July

Avenues Open Gardens. Hull FoE stall.

### Tues 7 July

7.30 upstairs Pier Luigi Princes Ave. HFOE meeting.

### Sat 18 July

Hessle Road Fete. Possible Transition and/or Hull FoE stalls.

### Thurs 30 July

7.30 HFOE discussion Group, 170 Victoria Ave. Hull

### Tues 4 August

7.30 upstairs Pier Luigi Princes Ave. HFOE meeting

### Thurs 27 August

7.30 HFOE discussion Group 170 Victoria Ave. Hull

### Tues 1 September

7.30 upstairs Pier Luigi Princes Ave. HFOE meeting. Start of stall bookings for Green Fair.

### Sat 12 and Sun 13 September

FoE National Conference, East Midlands

### Sat 21 November

Green Fair, Spring Bank Community Centre

### Transition Towns

Meet 2nd Monday of each month at The Eagle, Coltman St, 7.30. Event planned for mid-June. For more info contact 07816 141169, email: [lausannet@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lausannet@yahoo.co.uk)

### Beverley FoE

3rd Thursday each month at White Horse (Nellies) Beverley, 7.30. Contact: [shan@voice-international.net](mailto:shan@voice-international.net)

For more info on **Hull FoE events**, contact Sue (see back page). There may be more stalls over the summer. We greatly welcome offers of help!

# Save **O**ur Seas

## MARINET Campaign news

**The MARINET Marine Reserves campaign has reached a very interesting stage. Bill Rigby reports:**

### THE EARLY DAY MOTION 337 Continuing to ask for signatures from MPs remains a key plank in our strategy.

The early day motion (EDM) is to test the enthusiasm within the House of Commons on the issue. The total of signatories has now reached 182. This is a significant milestone, and puts the issue at 16 out of over 1500 EDMs tabled in this session. We said in the last newsletter that we want over 250 MPs to sign EDM 337, and, although the rate of increase has slowed, the persistence of those writing to their local MP is bearing fruit. Click on the EDM link on the front page of the [www.marinereserves.org.uk](http://www.marinereserves.org.uk) site and see if your local MP has signed. Then please write—using the template provided if necessary.

We have leaflets explaining all of this. To get copies of leaflets, email [bill.rigby@marinereserves.org.uk](mailto:bill.rigby@marinereserves.org.uk) with your address, and I will send you some. We can send you 2-300 without any problem. The full text of the leaflet is also on the Marine Reserves web site.

The time is approaching for follow-up as the Bill will soon be in the Commons (see below).

### THE MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS BILL IN PARLIAMENT

The committee stage of the Bill has been completed and the Report stage (where there will be three

days for debate) has just begun. There is a general feeling that the government is about to make some substantial concessions in the right direction, and a meeting MARINET held with opposition peers on 7 May was very encouraging. They have been pressing hard to bring a sense of urgency into the conservation aspects, using ideas for amendments from MARINET and others.

As the politicians keep in the world of 'the possible', we are sure that the changes which will come about will still be far from the ideal. We are preparing briefing notes on this gap as we see it, which will be on our website soon.

*continued on page 2*

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Jon Capel (Hull FoE) gives Duncan Oakes (AWS Eco Plastics) his plastics for recycling

## We can recycle mixed plastics

It began with a bag of rubbish. 'Why can't I put these plastic trays and boxes in my black box; why do the Councils take only bottles?' wondered Jon Capel. We wondered too. A letter in the Hull Daily Mail prompted Duncan Oakes, Commercial Director of AWS Eco Plastics to contact us saying 'we can recycle mixed plastics'.

The result was a visit on Thursday 23 April by four members of Hull and Beverley FoEs to AWS Eco Plastics' factory near Caenby Corner in Lincolnshire. We saw bales of mixed plastics arriving and being broken onto conveyors. The firm can deal with most types of plastic packaging apart from plastic film, bags and polystyrene. A laser sorter separated the clear, white and pale blue plastic from other colours. This is because these are the colours wanted for food and drink packaging, the highest grade recycled plastic. This explained why Councils often collect only bottles; bottles contain a higher proportion of these colours so the Council is paid a higher price. But the other colours, once sorted, can go for other uses such as garden furniture.

The sorted plastics were then chopped into flakes. At present these flakes are sent to China where most plastic goods are manufactured. But AWS has recently invested in plant to produce food grade pellets. When the plant is fully operational the pellets will be sterile enough to be made into new food and drink containers.

We will be comparing notes and then meeting with the Councils' Waste Managers to discuss whether they should be collecting a wider range of plastic waste and sending it to this relatively local firm.

Hilary

### **You do read Hull Eco!**

Following last ECO's article about the Marinet campaign, John Walford recruited over 100 signatures to support the campaign. **Well done and many thanks John!** John is one of our members who, having moved away from Hull, still likes to keep in touch via ECO. We are very happy to keep contact via post (for subs payers!) or email.

*MARINET report, continued from page 1*

We will also publish on the web a full list of the amendments achieved as soon as the Report stage is completed.

### **KEY MEETINGS**

The government minister responsible for the Bill's progress through Parliament, Huw Irranca Davies, met a group from the Campaign Team on 5 May. The government's stance has been resistant to making concessions of any kind so far in the Lords, and we needed to gauge whether this resistance will continue in the Commons.

We were granted a generous amount of time, and we detected a little of the 'warming' which has become apparent in the Lords' debates. However, he clearly wants as few inescapable commitments as possible 'on the face of the Bill' as he put it. He implied that the full extent of our expectations could be met from the legislation, as he wants it published.

In the meantime, we are briefing opposition representatives on the shortcomings, as we see them. This is where the EDM count is significant, as it provides an indication of support should there be a division in the Commons. The EDM itself asks for the Bill to be 'strong' on the science and to listen to the advice of the Royal Commission about the urgency of the marine ecological crisis. The approach by government so far has been indifferent to this.

### **KEY POINTS FOR ACTION AT THIS STAGE**

The Bill, possibly with some amendments, will come to the House of Commons after the Whitsun break.

We want the opposition to feel that, if there is a fight on this issue of the 'strength' of the Bill, they have a chance to outvote government—so every Labour MP signing improves the chances of an upset.

Please, therefore, continue to press your local MP to sign EDM 337, please talk to other groups with an interest in the sea in your locality—not necessarily the usual suspects, and encourage them to visit the website and sign up to the campaign. If you feel you need someone to speak on your behalf, please get in touch, and we will try to find someone who can come to your locality, whether it is to a local group or an open meeting.

### **CAMPAIGN WEB SITE**

The web site address is:

**<http://www.marinereserves.org.uk/>**

Interest in the site continued to improve in February and March—but we levelled out in April. We have tried to provide a balance of information, but it does not pretend to be a tabloid! We hope you are sending the link to your friends to draw them in to the campaign.

### **CONTACT**

Don't hesitate to contact the Campaign through an email to me [bill.rigby@marinereserves.org.uk](mailto:bill.rigby@marinereserves.org.uk) or by adding a comment to an entry on the web (the site is built in a blog format to encourage this sort of interaction).

Bill Rigby

# Climate change challenge

## Hull City Council Renewable Energy Seminar, 17 March in the Guildhall

This event was billed as aiming to 'produce a basis of a city-wide response to the issues of tackling climate change' and 'an opportunity for you to express your views and help shape Hull's future'. However, it turned out to be more a series of talks by speakers from various public bodies and private industry with little time for questions or discussion.

○ Dr David Calvert of Hull University gave the statistical background to increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions related to world wide increased industrial activity, while John Bell of Hull City Council outlined the situation in Hull. The city does well relative to other local authority areas in keeping emissions low, though this probably has more to do with low car ownership and relative poverty than any deliberate policy. The Renewable Energy White Paper requires a cut in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 60% by 2050, while maintaining the reliability of energy supplies and ensuring that every home is adequately and affordably heated.

Planning policies already in place require local authorities to promote and encourage (rather than restrict) renewable energy sources. Clearly this is not always happening, and anyone wanting to support windfarms etc would do well to quote PPS1 Climate Change Supplement and PPS 22.

The most interesting talks, in my opinion, were those by people involved in the practicalities of developing and installing renewables. The 'Energy From Waste Project', what we know as the waste incinerator, was included in this category, and our members were particularly disappointed not to have the opportunity to ask Project Director Huw Roberts some pertinent questions.

○ I've enjoyed watching Croda's wind turbine become a feature of the city's skyline, so I was interested to learn from Croda's Energy Manager Mike Bayston that, at 80m from base to hub it is the biggest in the UK. It has a 2MW maximum capacity and on average performs at 30% of capacity, meeting 40% of the site's electricity needs, the equivalent of the electricity usage of 600 houses. It has been calculated to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the site by approximately 2,000 tons per annum.

The firm enjoys the considerable public interest and takes school visits.

○ Meanwhile from June this year Hull University will be harnessing the tidal stream power of the Humber. Jack Hardisty explained that, because the tides are predictable, tidal stream turbines can be engineered to operate at a higher level of efficiency than wind turbines, and the higher density of water means they can be much smaller. The Humber is considered a prime site for shallow water devices, with no need to construct large and controversial barrages. The proposed St Andrews project will use 10 vertical axis drag devices to generate 300 to 350 kw/hr, equivalent to 15% of Hull City Council's total demand, and will be used to power the Ice Arena. The project is part of project Neptune Proteus which aims to produce 4.5% of



Croda's wind turbine. Photo: Hilary Byers

the £10bn UK annual electricity demand from shallow water tidal power from 11 sites around the UK.

○ Clive Gray from Gowers Bell Architects showed how developers can save money if energy saving measures are designed into a new building from the start, and Tim Page of Natural England emphasized the need for developers of renewables to take advice from ecological experts at an early stage to avoid delays in getting permissions. Malcolm Joslyn of BP and John Bell both talked about the economic benefits to the city of encouraging renewable energy businesses.

Generally, the event was more an occasion for learning than for participating, and we have asked Environment Portfolio Holder Councillor David Woods for a follow up event allowing for more discussion and feedback of ideas.

Hilary

### adaqua - rainwater management scheme



This is a proposal for a city-wide scheme to promote the domestic collection of rainwater. The purpose is to make it easier to have rainwater available for garden and household use, particularly during drought. Importantly, it can reduce the risk of flood by helping to prevent the main drains from becoming overloaded.

It is intended that this scheme will be subsidised from partnership funds, working with various relevant organisations, including Hull Friends of the Earth. We are carrying out a pilot survey to sample public opinion.

The key question at this stage is, **"Would you be interested in receiving a subsidised water butt to install at the rear of your house?"**

More information at [www.adaqua.org](http://www.adaqua.org)

Alan Worsley

# My wasps' nest

My balcony is about 2 metres by 1 metre, but I've covered it in tubs with lots of plants in them and over the years a lot of little creatures have moved in - centipedes, millipedes, woodlice and garden spiders. In some years the spiders have produced silken egg capsules and in mid-summer hundreds of spiderlings have hatched out and proceeded to cooperatively build massive (for them) engineering works to enable them to escape to the roof where they can catch the breeze and float away on silken parachutes. In the evening their tiny bodies would catch the light like a million spots of gold, well earning their Latin name *Araneus diadematus*.

On summer evenings, I usually leave the balcony door open to cool down my flat. Moths, lacewings and the occasional daddy longlegs fly in, attracted by the light. Eventually they settle down, and in the morning I let them out, unless my house-spiders have got them, in which case I find their beautiful corpses on the carpet. This especially happens to the lacewings, which seem particularly vulnerable to my voracious sub-tenants. Occasionally less welcome guests come in - the odd bee or wasp, which I capture with a glass and card and put outside.

Last summer I seemed to be getting more wasps than usual—one or two on most evenings, sometimes three. Obviously there must be a nest nearby, but presumably not on my balcony or I would be getting a lot more. Once I got stung, when I put my hand on one that was sitting on my trousers, but usually they were very calm and allowed me to catch them without any trouble.

My balcony is covered over and doesn't get the rain, so I have to water it. One evening I went out and started tipping bowls of water over my tubs. As I watered the ones in the far

corner, a cloud of wasps suddenly rose up and buzzed around me. I fled indoors, shutting the balcony door behind me. That evening I had to remove seven wasps from my flat, and in the morning, while I was having my breakfast, an eighth climbed sleepily up the arm of my chair. Clearly I'd found the nest, but despite the fact that I'd accidentally thrown a bowlful of water over it, they still hadn't stung me, although they obviously weren't pleased.

John Beardmore used to be a pest controller and many times he's told me how sad he used to be when he was asked to destroy wasps' nests. He described these wonderful constructions, and said there was no need to be afraid of their occupants. So, remembering this, and how gentle my own wasps had been with me, I wasn't concerned to discover a wasps' nest less than two metres from my back door. In fact, I felt privileged that they regarded my balcony as a good place to rear their young. I stopped watering my balcony apart from a few trays of seedlings which I did carefully with a watering can. I took to standing in the doorway, watching the wasps flying to and fro, ringing food to the nest. They were too busy to be interested in me. One day, when I was watering a plant near my balcony door, a returning wasp found my arm was in the way, and, without hesitation, flew under it! Only in the evening, when I put the light on, did they get confused and wander in, and I continued having to put one or two out a night. Considering that a nest can contain 1,000 wasps, this was a remarkably small proportion.

Eventually, as the weather became colder, I saw fewer and fewer wasps, and some time in November, they vanished altogether. Presumably, some of the young ones reared in my nest will have survived and will found colonies of their own in the spring. I hope they too will find tolerant landlords.

Louise Muston

## Who killed Hull's electric vehicles?

Hull Friends of the Earth has learned electrically powered vehicles belonging to Hull City Council can no longer be used because manufacturers Peugeot are unwilling to maintain them. The Council operated a fleet of electric vans and other vehicles which were quiet and helped the Council to reduce its carbon footprint. But in a move reminiscent of the attitude of car manufacturers illustrated in the film 'Who Killed the

Electric Car', the manufacturers appear to have forced the Council back to using petrol and diesel driven vehicles.



## Success of our Water Walk

We held a successful Water Walk last year, joining some 20,000 people from across the UK who also walked for water to raise awareness of the 1.1 billion people worldwide who still don't have access to clean water, and to raise funds to change that reality.

We divided our funds, sending half to Samaritan's Purse, which people in Hull will know about from their Children's Christmas boxes. We have received a message from Simon Barrington, the Executive Director of Samaritan's Purse UK, with his thanks and an update about what was achieved with all the funds collected in this country:

"Because of you, we have been able to provide 4,165 water filters, 856 latrines, 18 boreholes, 5 hand-dug wells and 8 springs for around 140,000 people in Ethiopia, Liberia, Mozambique, Niger and Uganda - people who previously had access to nothing but the worst kind of water and sanitation."

I think we can be proud of ourselves for helping to achieve this stunning success.

Haris

# China & the environment

## Public Lecture by Sir Crispin Tickell<sup>1</sup>

The Ferens Distinguished Lecture  
1 April 2009 Hull University

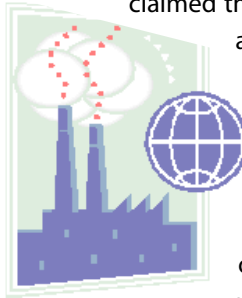
*This was a public lecture given by an eminent environmentalist—these are some of the highlights of his talk.*

China (and other parts of Asia) has come in for a lot of stick for producing large amounts of carbon dioxide in recent years. However, their per capita emissions are still far lower than the EU (and much lower still than the USA). Additionally, there is the aspect of how much of this is derived from the west exporting the manufacturing processes of goods and with the corresponding industrial carbon emissions. In CT's words some western attitudes are to "demonise to distract from their own shortcomings".

***So what is really happening in China? This is what CT's talk was about - effectively subtitled "Threat, model or danger to itself?"***

The environment of China is very vulnerable particularly with respect to water shortages, dust storms (the brown cloud that sits over East Asia<sup>2</sup>), sea level rises, earthquakes. The traditional Chinese values of harmony with nature, ie something to be placated, controlled or mastered, is being tested as the country undergoes its industrial revolution. This is leading to issues due to the effects of mass production, mass transport and mass waste as the population shifts to cities.

Pollution and cars are predictable effects of this but, as the Western diet becomes more popular, meat consumption has gone up fourfold in the last 20 years such that there is now insufficient domestic feedstock. It is



claimed that meat production accounts for 18% of carbon emissions. To mitigate these effects China is investing heavily in renewable energy of all sorts including solar, biomass, "clean coal", and new nuclear—the latter interestingly using an improved pebble bed technology invented in the UK.

The issues with water supply are not just down to urbanisation but China having to deal with a 40% decrease in rainfall, exhaustion of aquifers and disappearing glaciers.

***What are the consequences and what actions are the Chinese taking?***

One is spread of global influence particularly driven by scarcity of natural resources, which is leading to activities in Africa and the Arctic.

Ecological factors are a high priority in the leadership, however there is expansion in the areas of GM, nano-technology and nuclear fields. Population control, which has been exercised for some years, has led to a levelling off of population growth and

should result in a decline as the effects work through. Politically China is moving from its "socialist market economy" to a new economic growth model, which CT explained is to avoid the extremes of rich and poor with short and long-term strategies around a "green GDP". One of the tenets is the consideration of the cost of human well-being instead of just productivity. This is stimulated by the estimate that the cost of environmental damage is greater than GDP by 14%.

Legislation was enacted in 2005, as China considered the state of the country to be grave and a specific ministry set up to combine agriculture, water and forestry and to co-ordinate environmental policy—however a model of ecological structure has since been put on hold.

CT considers that China is no longer the "monolithic culture" it was and the government is worried by local discontent eg with respect to dam building.

This was a wide-ranging talk, which gave an expert insight into an area where opinions are often based on little knowledge

These are interesting times in China—they are very aware of environmental issues and are working on them. China's activities are going to have global consequences and although we might see them as environmental threats there are some models the rest of the world could learn from.

lan

## Subs reminder

***Thanks to all our members who regularly pay their subscriptions.***

In the last year a substantial number of members failed to pay.

Subs are now due for this year—so, if you have "Subs due" on your newsletter address label, please will you pay as soon as possible. If your membership lapses for more than one year we shall assume that you no longer wish to be a member. **If you find it difficult to remember to pay why not take out a Standing Order mandate?** We haven't raised our membership fee for many years and it's still a snip at £5 waged (or £2 unwaged)!

Thanks - Sue

<sup>1</sup> Leading international environmentalist who has been advisor to successive British prime ministers as well as being Ambassador to various countries and the UN and having a close association with activities in China

<sup>2</sup> But paradoxically, if it wasn't there shielding the sun, global warming would be occurring faster

# Wildlife Notes

## A Day Out in the Cemetery



Japanese Knotweed. Some hedgerow trees (hawthorn, hazel, guelder rose and field maple) have been planted along with alder buckthorn for the Brimstone butterflies. Wildflowers are now appearing as spaces open up and the aim is to enhance the process by

The weather forecast warned of a possible shower, but the dry, sunny spell continued. It was the day of action in **Sculcoates Cemetery** (Sat 25 April, 2009) arranged by the Sculcoates Neighbourhood Association and about 30+ people turned up to help. Volunteers were sent off to gather rubbish or to plant wildflowers.

Since late 2007 the main path through the cemetery has been opened up and a start made on clearing the

introducing more varieties, eg foxglove and woundwort in shady places, ox-eye daisy and knapweed etc in the sunny spots.

Some of the plants were used to create a display bed by the main entrance. If successful, this should be a source of seeds and young plants to spread around the site. Walk through the gate, collect a handful of seeds in summer or plants in autumn or spring and continue down the path with a

spade and hey presto, self-service plant-your-own.

People are sometimes puzzled about the wildlife value of a site. One individual was very disappointed that the cemetery would not be cleared entirely and kept mown. I began thinking of an army of Nora Battys, complete with donkey stone, polishing the gravestones and raking the stone chippings. Community payback has been mentioned as a source of labour.

Earlier in March there was a meeting at the **Preston Road Freedom Centre** about the Holderness Road Corridor action plan. Holderness Drain and East Park are both recognised green areas in this part of Hull and I put a word in for the old Withernsea railway and adjoining land to be included in the planning, to be valued as a green corridor and recreation area for walking and cycling. This area has been highlighted by the Hull Biodiversity Partnership for its wildlife value and they intend to keep a watch on any plans for this site.

Meanwhile, there's still not been any significant rain, just enough to make the banks of the drain slippery. So here goes!

David

## What is an *Eco Home*?



Eco house in Long Riston

**What qualifies a house to be called an eco home?** This was a subject for discussion by Sarah Morris and me after we had visited two new houses being built at Long Riston in the East Riding. We had been invited by builder Roger Coates of Greenline Homes Ltd, following a 'Greener Living' event at the Freedom Centre, Preston Road on 5 March.

From the outside the houses looked like conventional detached houses, deliberately so, as the builder was aiming at the ordinary house buyer. Closer inspection revealed solar panels almost flush with the roof, which supplied the hot water system. Less obvious was that the brick walls were only a cladding; structural well-insulated panels formed the actual construction, a system widely used in USA and Canada and minimizing heat loss.

We were shown a tank under the back garden where rainwater from the roof was collected and used, via a pump in the garage, to flush the toilets. Most interesting was the Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery [MVHR] system which collected used air from the rooms to heat incoming



Heat exchanger

air from outside. As well as resulting in minimal need for additional heating, the air was filtered, an added benefit for people with allergies.

As Sarah pointed out after our visit, a great deal of energy had still gone into the brick and concrete tile exterior, and I had doubts about whether plastic window frames should be considered 'eco friendly'. But the Energy Efficiency Rating and Environmental Impact [CO2] Rating were both 'B', much better than most houses. Given that the house building industry is generally very conservative, I felt that the builder should be congratulated for demonstrating one approach to reducing future energy use and CO2 emissions.

Most of the equipment and materials were sourced locally. Further details are available from Roger Coates on 01482 657105 or 07941 222499.

Hilary

# Wind energy or hot air?

I was asked to write a short article summarising where we are at with wind farms in the East Riding. However, the controversial nature of the subject makes that a tall order. Much has been said and written and much hot air generated and it appears that those for and those against have adopted a bunker mentality and steadfastly ignore the viewpoints of their opponents. Those who oppose wind farm developments for various reasons, mainly that they deface the beauty of the countryside, make a noise, interfere with TV signals, or kill birds, are branded as 'nimbys', perhaps unfairly in some cases.

Over the last two or three years the majority of wind farm development applications for rural East Yorkshire have been rejected by the ERYC. It does leave one wondering if the council is truly representing the views of the majority in doing so. The 'opposition' seems to have a disproportionate influence on the council, when you consider that whenever the subject is broached in the local press, those in favour usually outnumber the opposers by about 4 to 1 in the ensuing debate. It may be that the opposers have formed themselves into very vocal and articulate groups, whereas the 'pro' side is fairly random and unorganised.

Wind farm developer 'Your Energy Ltd', in its appeal against the decision to reject the Sixpenny Wood Wind Farm project argued that, with almost 2,500 letters sent in favour, support

outweighed objections by nearly five to one.

In recent months a new development has taken the wind out of the sails of the opposition groups and the ERYC when the government has stepped in and overturned the rejections. Two separate decisions by the council to reject high-profile renewable energy schemes at Routh and Aldbrough were both recently overturned on appeal. At Routh, a 12-turbine wind farm was given the go-ahead in February after initially being refused permission by East Riding councillors. There are currently appeals pending on three more wind farms in the East Riding, which have previously been refused by the council.

On Wednesday, April 22, 2009, The Hull Daily Mail reported: "New plans for three wind turbines at Monkwith, between Tunstall and Hilston, have been unveiled to residents in the Roos area.

*Plans for seven 121-metre turbines by EnergieKontor were rejected in early 2007. Now the company has unveiled details of three turbines, of 111 metres, at an exhibition in the Roos Memorial Institute.*

*The exhibition, which was an opportunity for residents to have their say on the proposed plans, was met with a mixed response".* The same day the Mail reported that proposals for a nine-turbine wind farm at Witherwick, near Hornsea, were given the go-ahead on appeal.

Andy Wainwright, the council's head of strategic development control, said

"I think this clearly shows the weight the Government is now attaching to the national need for renewable energy which appears to outweigh any local considerations," he added. (HDM Saturday, 2 May 2009)

There are those who do not oppose wind turbines for purely aesthetic reasons, but put forward an informed case against them based on their 'inefficiency' and question their 'greenness'. Although this kind of argument is more challenging than the 'blot on the landscape' contention, it is somewhat disingenuous, because wind energy should be viewed as part of a system of renewable energy sources. No-one can seriously argue that wind energy alone can provide all of our energy needs.

The most damning indictment against wind-farm development in my opinion is the economic one. It is said that the wind turbine companies get massive subsidies from the government, ie the taxpayer. Perhaps that is the reason for the government's recent interventions. Of course, rather than bolster the profits of these companies the public cash could be used to launch a massive public works program to build wind farms and other sources of renewable energy. That would have a twofold benefit. It would offset the unemployment caused by the recession and help ensure the survival of future generations.

Dave Callaghan

## ECO CHIT CHAT

### Food campaign

Intensive livestock farming methods in Europe depend on soy feed, most of it imported from Latin America where vast farms are destroying natural habitats, including Amazon rainforest. FoE's latest campaign attacks this problem on several levels from calling on the Government to stop subsidizing

intensive livestock farming, to ensuring food for schools, care homes etc does not include environmentally damaging products. There might be a leaflet or postcard in with this Hull ECO. If not they will be on a stall near you soon. Most of us care about our food and animal welfare; please contact us to volunteer to help on our stalls.

See:

[www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefings/livestock-impacts](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefings/livestock-impacts)

### 'Love Local'

Not a dating agency, but the title of a day of activities organized by Newland Avenue Traders on Saturday 2 May encouraging everyone to support their local businesses. From goat's cheese tasting outside Grain Wholefoods to children's activities in the church there was something for everyone. You could even get your hair cut in the street! The attractive hessian 'Love Local' shopping bags, given away free, are now seen everywhere.



# Hull Friends of the Earth Membership

To renew membership or to join/support Hull Friends of the Earth, please fill in the following form:		<b>Payment</b>	
<b>Name</b> (Mr/Mrs/Ms)		I enclose:	
<b>Address</b>		Membership fee (£5 waged, £2 unwaged)	£
		Donation	£
<b>Postcode</b>		<b>Total</b>	£
<b>Telephone</b>		<i>Please make cheques payable to Hull Friends of the Earth</i>	
<b>Email</b>			

<b>Standing Order Mandate</b>		<b>Happy to help?</b>
<p><b>Hull Friends of the Earth</b>          Standing Order Mandate <b>OR</b> (delete one or the other as appropriate)          Amendment cancelling any previous instructions to pay money to Hull Friends of the Earth.          (Please fill in the details of your own account and the bank where it is held.)</p>		<p>Volunteers are always needed. If you might be able to help, please underline what you would be able to help with:</p>
Your account name		
Your account number		
Your bank		
Bank branch		
Bank address		
Bank postcode		
<p>Upon receipt of this order and then every year following on or about the _____ day of _____ (month) until otherwise instructed, please pay to Hull Friends of the Earth Yorkshire Bank plc, 38 Prince's Avenue, Hull HU5 3QQ          Account number: 27534801 Branch sort code: 05 05 25          the sum of TWO POUNDS (unwaged) or FIVE POUNDS (waged) or _____          (delete and/or fill in as required - donations over the minimum amount are welcome)          mentioning the reference _____          (your own name or something short we can identify you by on the bank statements!)</p>		<p>► <b>Stalls</b></p> <p>► <b>Letter writing</b></p> <p>► <b>Delivering newsletters</b></p> <p>► <b>Other ways</b> (please specify)</p>
<p>Signed _____          Date _____</p>		<p>We will use the contact details you have provided to keep you up to date on our campaigns and how you can help us. If you'd rather <b>NOT</b> receive this information from us, please tick here <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><i>Please return to the Membership Secretary, Sue Jolliffe, 47 Kingsway, Cottingham, HU16 5BB</i></p>		

<b>Hull Friends of the Earth: Contacts</b>		
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