

## DIARY DATES

**Sat 19 July 11am-9pm**

Oak Road Park Fair. Hull FoE stall and various activities

**Tues 5 August, 7.30pm**

HFoE meeting Recycling Unlimited 151 Newland Avenue

**Tues 2 Sept, 7.30pm**

HFoE meeting Recycling Unlimited 151 Newland Avenue

**Mon 8 Sept, 7.45pm**

Talk: "My Low Carbon Life" at Boulevard Village Hall

**Fri 26 & Sat 27 Sept**

Cornucopia at Burton Constable Hall  
www.cornucopiafestival.co.uk

**Tues 7 Oct, 7.30pm**

HFoE meeting, Recycling Unlimited 151 Newland Avenue

**Mon 13 Oct, 7.45pm**

Talk "Living Better for Less" at Boulevard Village Hall

**Tues 4 Nov, 7.30 pm**

HFoE meeting, Recycling Unlimited 151 Newland Avenue

★ **Sat 8 Nov, 10.30am-3pm**

Green Fair at Freedom Centre, Preston Road

**BEVERLEY FOE NOW MEET INFORMALLY AT GREEN DRINKS, 13TH OF EACH MONTH, 6.30-9.00 PM, AT THE GREEN DRAGON PUB IN BEVERLEY**

## Fracking: a view from the front line

**MANY PEOPLE IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN BUSY SUPPORTING THE ANTI-FRACKING CAMPS AT CRAWBERRY HILL NEAR WALKINGTON AND WEST NEWTON, EAST OF HULL.**

Two local Beverley residents, Valerie and Jon Mager, became the region's first arrests over the issue. Val is an exhibited artist at the National Academy, Jon a former Director of Children's Services for the East Riding. They were off for a break and dropped in on the camp on their way. They arrived to find police and vehicles arriving for work to take place. Three of the 'Land Protectors' blocked an industrial fork lift truck, only for it to speed up and knock one of them down! (He suffered some slight bruising to his back). Val and Jon decided at that moment to make a protest by the entranceway. This was the first time either of them had protested at this level. Jon was actually

meditating when he was arrested (both are practising Buddhists). As the entranceway was big enough to still allow vehicle access, the police could have enabled the protest. However, instead they chose confrontation and carried out two unnecessary arrests.

The arrests were carried out under s.241 of a Trades Union Act which was used widely at similar Barton Moss protests. These tend to fall apart when it comes to trial and with so many cases failing in court, the arrests may be of dubious legality themselves. There have been a few more arrests since, and other troubling incidents include action on 4 June when the camp was 'kettled', clearly preventing any legitimate protest. Complaints can be made to MPs, the papers and to the police about these actions.

One considerable issue for this area is the aquifer running under Hull

from near the coast to Brough, I understand. Many farmers use boreholes to water their animals and there is a risk of contamination. This would not be remediable due to the range and toxicity of chemicals involved in fracking. The company, Rathlin, is an exploratory company and won't be doing industrial scale fracking. Nevertheless, they are doing a fall-



Jon (with clipboard) and Val Mager (right), of Beverley, at Crawberry Hill with other anti-fracking protesters.

PHOTO: Martin Deane

continued on page 3

# eco CHIT CHAT

## Thank you, Angela, for taking on the job of Membership Secretary

and also distributing ECO, taking some of the load off Sue. We now need to send our subs to Angela; contact details on the back page.

## Flooding Talks

Following the bluebell count in May, HFOE members had an informal chat over a meal with Guy Shrubsole, Friends of the Earth's national Flooding Campaigner.

We were able to tell him about the distinct differences between the fresh water flooding in 2007 and the flooding from the Humber in the winter of 2013/14.

We are expecting another visit from national FoE campaigners in the autumn when we hope we can show them some of the affected areas, and involve the public in discussions.

## Run on Sun

is the campaign to get solar panels on school roofs. HFOE launched our campaign at Kelvin Hall School's Green Fair in June. However, I was dismayed to learn that this school, completely rebuilt 2 years ago, has only a few small 'token' solar panels. Surely a programme called 'Building Schools for the Future' ought to have the maximum renewable energy possibilities designed in?

## New Waste Contracts

have been signed by our Local Authorities. The East Riding will be sending its residual waste to be made into fuel for a new power station at Ferrybridge, joining waste from other Yorkshire LAs.

Hull's residual waste will go to Billingham 'home of the UK's first advanced gasification facility'.

Conscious that we had fought long and hard against incineration, I wondered whether this was an improvement or whether we were merely sending the problem to someone else's back yard.

Simon Bowens of FoE said 'Friends of the Earth regard the gasification technology as another, albeit more efficient, form of incineration... You need high calorific materials to get the optimum amount of energy out of the plant and so you need quantities of plastics, card and paper, which ought to be recycled instead. I would recommend a more holistic view based on the need to reduce resource consumption and recycle as much as possible.'

## Drax and Biofuels.

The Hull Daily Mail of 25 June mentions the import of biomass through the Humber ports for burning at Drax. It quotes Drax's spokesperson Matthew Willey as saying that all the material used would otherwise go to waste.

"The forests in the USA used to be cotton plantations, but 50 or 60 years ago all the cotton industry went to India. There was a massively increasing demand for paper so they planted a lot of trees on that land... For every tree used 1.5 or 1.7 new ones are growing. As the trees grow, smaller and weaker ones are weeded out to give the strongest ones room to expand. This wood, which would traditionally have been burnt by loggers, is used at Drax."

However, the Dogwood Alliance in US has photo evidence of whole trees being cut for export to Drax, and Biofuelwatch believes wood pellets sold to Drax are linked to the destruction of ancient forests. There is pressure on the Green Investment Bank to revoke a loan for biomass at Drax.

All of which should make for a good discussion at the talk by **Sophie Bastable of Biofuelwatch** on Mon 10 November . (See *Transition News* p8)

## Hilary Byers

### In this issue

<i>Diary Dates</i>	1
<i>Fracking: view from the front line</i>	1
<i>ECO Chit Chat</i>	2
<i>Green Fair goes east</i>	3
<i>Protectors, not Protestors</i>	4
<i>Book review: Becks, Banks...</i>	5
<i>Make a Bee Hotel!</i>	5
<i>Not-so-Secret Gardens</i>	6-7
<i>Transition news</i>	8
<i>Transition Streets</i>	8
<i>Beverley FoE</i>	8
<i>Nut Wood bluebell survey</i>	9
<i>Crossword: Birdspotting</i>	9
<i>Wildlife notes</i>	10
<i>FoE Basecamp: journey to HOPE</i>	10
<i>News from local Green Groups</i>	11
<i>Membership form &amp; contact info</i>	12

# Green Fair goes east !

**The 2014 Green Fair will be on Saturday,  
8 November, from 10.30am to 3pm  
in the Freedom Centre, Preston Road, Hull HU9 3QB**

We are excited about this new venue which will give us more room, but most importantly should give us chance to get green ideas to a much wider new audience.

The centre has a regular market outside on the same day, and a library and popular café inside. (The café is going to put on extra veggie and vegan dishes). So all we need to do is to make sure their customers know that there are even more interesting stalls to see inside.

Of course, we shall be just as keen to see all our 'regulars' too and hope to have our great musicians and children's activities; there'll be more room for both!

We'll be sending out booking forms in September, but if you want a stall and think we might not have your up to date details, send an email to Hilary on:  
**hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk**

## Fracking: A View From The Front Line *continued from page1*

off test know as a 'mini-frack', and obviously are hoping to be successful and sell-on the rights to frack to one of the 'big boys'. If the police are protecting industry now, they won't be anything but harsher if that takes place.

There have been a number of talks across the area to raise awareness of the dangers. Apart

from the potential effect on the underground water supplies, fracking also has the potential to affect the air and land, from toxins blown off gas and flares, so affecting livestock and also the health of residents who may be nearby. It's also even admitted it will have **no effect** on people's bills!

The latest move by the protectors is to build a home on the entranceway. The police agree this is on private land and so will have to be dealt with by a proper eviction process.

The camps are near Walkington (at HU17 8RU), and at West Newton (at HU11 5DF). They enjoy visitors, especially anyone bringing gifts or who can stay for a cuppa. Gifts of water and of wood are particularly welcome but no supplies will be turned down! Why not drop in?

**Martin Deane**

### STOP PRESS

**11 July: Crown Prosecution Service drop charges against Valerie and Jon Mager through lack of evidence.**

PHOTO: Martin Deane



Vehicles arrive at the West Newton site to begin drilling. This is not the full extent of the equipment.

# 'Protectors not protestors'

The local fracking situation is changing all the time.

Here is a brief update:

🌿 **Rathlin Energy** say they are not fracking now, but they are exploring ('mini-fracking') and they do not deny that if the shale proves to be suitable others might come along later to frack.

🌿 The work involves drilling through the chalk layer which provides some of our drinking water. The shafts are encased in steel and concrete but Rathlin only claims a 30-40 year life, and some have failed sooner. If the toxic chemicals used in full fracking get into the water supply it will be irreversible.

🌿 Protest camps grew up during May at both sites. They are manned by a mix of local people and people with experience of similar sites elsewhere. People living near the sites may have been sceptical at first, but many now support the protestors and regard them as 'protectors'.

🌿 **HEY Frack Off** a local campaign group has been co-ordinating efforts to inform people and have run a series of very well attended talks. <http://notofracking.blogspot.co.uk>

🌿 The last round of Government exploration licences (PEDL) have opened up nearly the whole of Yorkshire to the potential of shale gas.

🌿 In the Queen's speech, the so called 'Right to Trespass' bill has been enacted to enable access to land under houses.

🌿 A protest march in Beverley on 5 July drew about 150 people, many from villages near the sites.

🌿 Drilling equipment arrived at the West Newton site on 3 July; it arrived in convoy and without

warning, in spite of planning conditions to the contrary. Drilling has now started.

🌿 There is a petition started by **Frack Free East Yorkshire** asking East Riding Council to oppose fracking: [www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/east-riding-of-yorkshire-council-oppose-fracking](http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/east-riding-of-yorkshire-council-oppose-fracking)

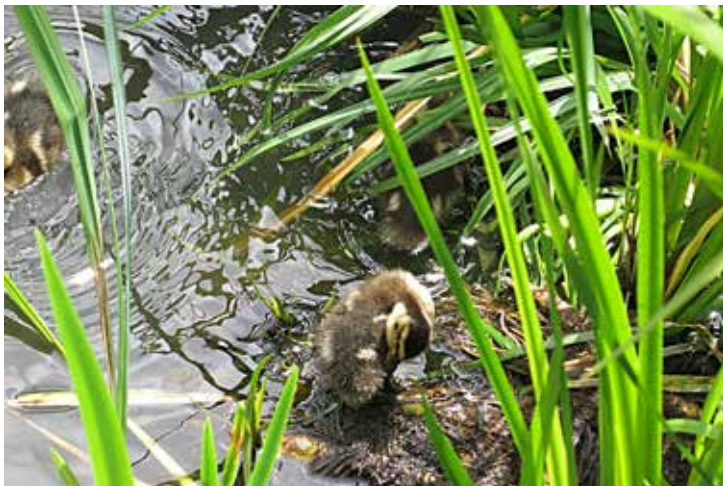
🌿 11 October is **Global Frackdown Day**. FoE will get people across the UK to take to the streets to show the public opposition to fracking.

🌿 **Friends of the Earth** is calling for a moratorium on fracking. National campaigners have visited the sites. (See [www.foe.co.uk/fracking](http://www.foe.co.uk/fracking))

🌿 Some experts think that fracking will be a short lived phenomenon and that shale production has already peaked in most US regions. And the Government Committee on Climate Change warns that increased gas consumption will wreck efforts to tackle climate change.

🌿 **Hull Friends of the Earth** is in general opposed to fracking, but is well aware that there is a question as to how future energy needs will be met. My personal view is that the government could be doing a great deal more to encourage investment in renewables and energy saving rather than supporting a 'dash for gas'. For instance, the local 'Operation Neptune' experiment in tidal energy failed, it seems, for want of a relatively small amount of development funding.

Hilary Byers



**Carol Ledgard** was an member of Hull FoE for many years. She spearheaded the campaign to save Swanland Village pond from being turned into a car park and then set to and organised its restoration. Carol had intended to write about this for ECO. Sadly, she died before she was able to do so. But the pond is a lovely legacy to leave for her village.

Sue Jolliffe

## Becks, Banks, Drains and Brains, The Drainage History of the River Hull Valley

By The River Hull Valley Drainage Heritage Group, February 2014

### BOOK REVIEW

This book accompanies an exhibition of the same title, which has appeared at Hull History Centre and The Treasure House in Beverley. However, this 87 page book, attractively illustrated with historic and modern photographs and clear maps, is highly readable on its own, and a must for anyone who wants to understand flooding in East Yorkshire.

The book looks first at the geology which created an area of marshland subject to inundation by both salt water and fresh water springs. Our early ancestors found that the area was mainly suitable for fishing and wildfowling. However, people did manage to inhabit and farm patches of slightly higher land. Further chapters then trace the progress with drainage, from the activities of monks and nuns during Mediaeval periods, through the work of landowners, surveyors and engineers in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, when a powerful Court of Sewers could fine landowners who did not maintain the banks, to the role of statutory bodies in the 20th and 21st century.

Case studies look in more detail at changes in Wawne and North Frodingham, and at the role of water mills.

Throughout, it has been a matter of maintaining a balance between the needs of water supply, drainage and navigation. To dredge or not to dredge has been an argument for hundreds of years.

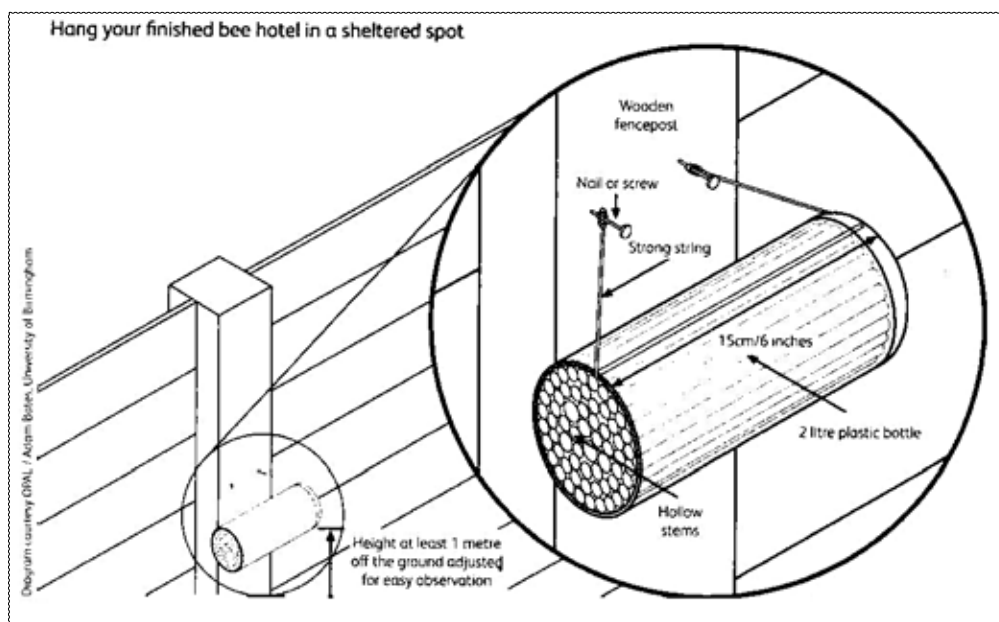
Contributions to the cost of publication have come from, among others, the EU, East Riding Council and the Lissett Community Wind Farm Fund, meaning that the book is free of charge, although the River Hull Valley Drainage Heritage Group would appreciate donations.

If you can't pick up a copy at the exhibition, you may need to send for it from **Joy Harris, Treasurer, 89 Main Street, North Frodingham, East Yorkshire YO25 8LJ**. It is well worth the trouble, and the Heritage Group are to be congratulated on producing such an informative and attractive publication.

Hilary Byers

## Make a Bee Hotel! See [www.foe.co.uk/beenbees](http://www.foe.co.uk/beenbees)

- 1 Cut both ends off a plastic pop bottle to make a cylinder.
- 2 Thread string through to hang it with.
- 3 Then pack it tightly with hollow plant stems (tall, fast-growing plants such as angelica, cow parsley or bamboo have hollow stems, or cut garden canes, or use drinking straws, or corrugated
- 4 Hang in a sheltered spot at least 1m from ground. Under an overhang that protects it from rain would be ideal.
- 5 This provides a nesting place for solitary bees and other pollinators.



cardboard; a mix is best). Cut them slightly shorter than the cylinder to protect from rain; sand ends if they are rough.

- 6 Tell us where you have put your Hotel and whether you have attracted any guests!

Hilary

from info in FoE leaflet

# NOT-SO-SECRET GARDENS



PHOTO: Hilary Byers

Wilson Centre, Alfred Gelder Street. There is nothing secret about this garden, which is part of the Council's policy to help people on low incomes to eat healthily and see the possibilities of growing vegetables in a small space. Planted up on 5 June by volunteers from Hull FoE, the Rainbow Garden and some who joined us from the Volunteers Fair the day before. (See Wildlife Report p10)



PHOTO: Hilary Byers

Young fruit trees developing in Constable Street Field. The bees like the underplanting of white clover. (See Local Green Groups news, p11)

## ...ECO explores the greenery in the heart of Hull

PHOTO: Hilary Byers



Visitors to the Wildlife Garden in Pearson Park at Avenues Open Gardens. There are activities for children over the summer. (See Local Green groups news, p11)

PHOTO: Hilary Byers



The garden next to Western Library, Boulevard Hull now has a 'Friends' group. Lausanne Tranter will take classes in Permaculture and Growing in Small Spaces beginning on Monday 21 July. (See Local Green Groups news, p11)



# Transition news

**The annual Family Fun Day organised by Transition Hull at Constable Street Field will be held on Wed 13 August 2014, 12 to 4 pm.** There will be a range of activities for children and refreshments and a raffle for all. Help on the day much appreciated.

The **autumn programme of speakers** for Transition Hull/Friends of the Earth Talks will include:

**Mon 8 Sept** John Cossall from Transition York talking about 'My Low Carbon Life'

**Mon 13 Oct** Andy Paxton from the Search project 'Living Better for Less in Hull'

**Mon 10 Nov** Sophie Bastable talking about the work of Biofuelwatch

These will take place at 7.45 pm at Boulevard Village Hall, Boulevard, Hull, HU3 3EJ

**The Hull Permaculture Network** is now up and running, with regular meetings, events and visits to sites. To find out more contact Lausanne on 07816 141169 or lausannet@yahoo.co.uk

Transition Hull is exploring the possibility of starting up **Transition Streets projects** in Hull. The idea is that you get together with your neighbours to support each other in reducing your reliance on fossil fuels, and at the same time build social cohesion and strengthen your community's resilience. Fynn reports below on the first Transition Streets event in Worthing Street in Hull.

## Jenny Parsons

*Treasurer, Transition Hull*

01482 845356

<http://www.transitionhull.co.uk/>

## Our first Transition Worthing Street gathering

Ideas were shared and discussions were had about how community could be built, how neighbours could get to know each other, and how relationships could be formed on a street. **Transition Streets**, a project founded by the Transition Network, appeared to be an exciting model to follow.

A poster was made, and an enthusiastic neighbour printed one for every house on the street. We went knocking on every door; two young girls took an interest in what we were doing and joined in knocking, smiling, dancing and giving out leaflets. The leaflet talked about 'supporting each other in reducing reliance on fossil fuels, building social cohesion and strengthening community resilience' among other things.

The first gathering was held on a Tuesday night, and three people turned up: an elderly lady, lonely and looking for company, a young woman enthusiastic about meeting her neighbours and having a street party, and a man with stories about life in



a village. We spoke about turning off our televisions and leaving our houses, about sharing skills and helping each other, about our children getting to know each other, about growing vegetables and eating communal meals, about living sustainably, about listening to the birds call and seeking to understand.

It wasn't the revolution we were hoping for, but two young girls had a fun afternoon in the sun, an old lady cuddled a baby and wore a smile, a young woman shared common thoughts and invited us around for tea, another knitted rows of a green jumper and made a friend, a man reminisced and a young man did something positive. A seed had been sown, the next gathering was arranged and a smaller leaflet made, inviting neighbours for tea and cake as opposed to the words quoted above.

If you are interested in starting up a project on your street with the hope of planting flowers, consuming less, baking extra and sharing, using less

## Many GREEN THANKS to Bill and Shan

Bill and Shan Rigby have now moved to live in Knaresborough, leaving a 'big hole' in all things green in Beverley. Many of us are grateful for their participation in campaigns in Beverley, like trying to save historic Norwood House for public use, supporting Beverley Arts Trust, instigating the Beverley Green Fair, saving the setts in Saturday Market place and trying to get East Riding Council to see reason on many environmental issues. They were 'leading lights' in our wider FoE campaigns like Marinets, Climate Change, Bee-Cause, Anti-Fracking, the list is endless. They also worked tirelessly here and around Yorkshire for the Green Party, seeing that as the political expression of many of FoE's principles.

They will be greatly missed as campaigners and friends, but we look forward to keeping in touch with them and hearing about their participation in FoE in Knaresborough, Harrogate and York.

## The future of Beverley FoE

The small remaining group of active FoE members in Beverley have decided to meet on an informal basis, combining with Beverley Green Drinks on the 13th of each month, 6.30 - 9.00pm, at The Green Dragon pub in Beverley. Hopefully we will continue to meet up there with people of a 'green' persuasion, and all are very welcome to join us. If we continue to receive campaign information from national FoE, we can discuss it there and decide how much to participate e.g. with stalls, letter-writing, leafletting etc.

We hope to continue our contact with Hull FoE and participate in some of their meetings and activities.

**For now, the contact number for Beverley FoE is Sue Dack, 01482 864215**

**Email:** [normandyave@normandyave.karoo.co.uk](mailto:normandyave@normandyave.karoo.co.uk)

## Sue Dack

energy, buying locally and reducing your community's carbon footprint you can contact me on the email address below.

## Fynn Ralph Hopper

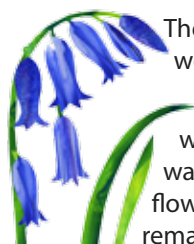
[fynnralf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fynnralf@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.transitionstreets.org.uk](http://www.transitionstreets.org.uk)



# Nut Wood bluebell survey 2014

JON CAPEL IS A VOLUNTEER WARDEN IN NUT WOOD, WHICH IS NEAR RAYWELL. EACH YEAR HE DOES A SURVEY OF BLUEBELL NUMBERS. THIS YEAR HE RECRUITED THE HELP OF HULL FOE MEMBERS WHO REPLACED THEIR USUAL MONTHLY MEETING WITH THIS PRACTICAL OUTDOOR ACTIVITY. HERE IS HIS REPORT

On 6 May seven people from Hull FoE kicked off the 2014 bluebell survey. The density of bluebells was assessed by counting the number of flower spikes in a 0.5 m. square quadrat frame. Hull FoE performed over 330 quadrat counts containing 2060 flower spikes at the east end of Nut Wood (formerly the densest area of bluebells). This was followed a week later when 9 local naturalists performed 200 quadrats in specific 5x50m strips of the wood, counting 571 individual spikes over a wider area. Photos were taken at both sessions, and the data totalled and analysed over the following week.



The results were quite interesting. Overall there were great variations in bluebell density.

In particular there were lower densities where wild garlic (Ramsons, *Galium ursinum*) was very dense. This was easy to see, as it was in flower, showing white, and highlighting the few remaining bluebells.

When the data is presented with more informal survey data from earlier years it is obvious that despite the underlying variation in distribution, there has been a strong trend downward over the last twenty years. Most of this area (all but the extreme south eastern corner) appears to have been colonised by competing Ramsons to the detriment of the bluebell cover, probably assisted by trampling/soil compaction, and picking of the bluebell flowers. The area is now characterised by a strong garlic smell, and the former bluebell colony is now a shadow of what it was. The

area now appears almost white on colour photographs, compared with dense blue in, for instance, 1994.

The main query is, have bluebells been replaced actively or reactively? That is, has the advancing garlic been taking the place of a receding population, or directly replacing it by competition or through producing some sort of toxin? No research aimed at answering this has been found so far, but one of the naturalist volunteers stated that she has seen this reported from elsewhere. Either way, it seems that we cannot do anything practical now, as it is unrealistic to control the spread of the garlic at this late stage. Unfortunately, twenty years ago we did not foresee this happening!

We avoided the worst of the rain, and agreed that an enjoyable and interesting time had been had by all. A lot of other woodland flowers were out, and a lot of birds, bees and butterflies were seen. A novel alternative experience to the usual monthly meeting! I would like to add my personal thanks for everybody's attendance and help, as I couldn't have done this year's survey without members' involvement, and it looks as though the results could be important.

Jon Capel

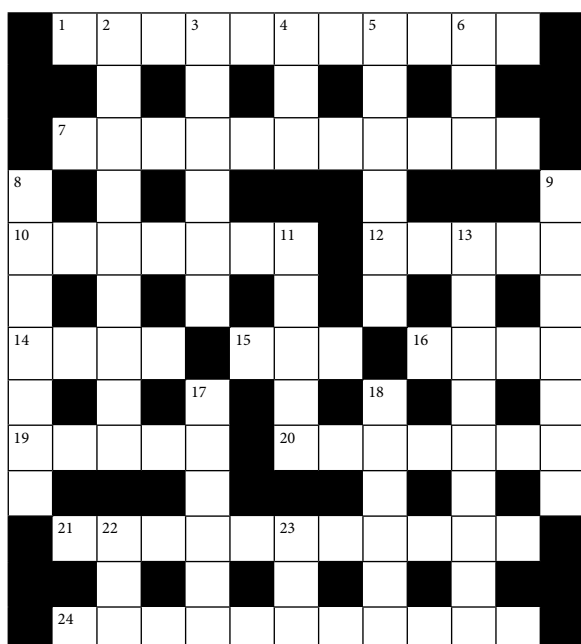
WE ALSO APPRECIATED THE VERY ENJOYABLE SUPPER AFTERWARDS, PREPARED BY JON'S WIFE JAN!

## Environmental Crossword No 6

### Birdspotting

by Chlodowig

Most of the answers are British birds



#### Across

- 1 Mare ("Rigel") and me mangled by bearded vulture (11)
- 7 Seabird caws wrong note in city (7, 4)
- 10 Daughter missing from wedding. Right, rearrange singer (7)
- 12 High-flying father of five (5)
- 14 Any sound, and I return to Indian tree (4)
- 15 Swan quill (3)
- 16 You'll get this if you nibble my bar of chocolate! (4)
- 19 Dry ice confused his warbler (5)
- 20 Choose, not carbon, people, maybe air or water (7)
- 21 Cows enthusiastically greet me (6, 5)
- 24 Native American in bay, perhaps, a hunter in bark (11)

#### Down

- 2 ...and this makes DNA (9)
- 3 A wizard bird (6)
- 4 A cassowary can? Get away! (3)
- 5 Get ale brewed for fierce offspring (6)
- 6 Hear a Frenchman fish? (3)
- 8 Woodpecker found in wreck? Yes and no (7)
- 9 Ed played with trike, a colourful toy (3, 4)
- 11 Diver concealed by young rebels (5)
- 13 Bond vehicle - Duck! (9)
- 17 Single woman will identify this thrush (6)
- 18 Dog that sailed with Darwin (6)
- 22 Call up Channel 20, perhaps, for broadcasts (3)
- 23 After wheat, bird needs this bit of barley (3)

# It's that plan again

The **Hull Local Plan** was open for consultation during June and my particular interest was in the map showing green spaces in the city ([http://hullcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/local chapter 10](http://hullcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/local%20chapter%2010)). The search was on for any missing sites which could be included and my suggestion was for parts of the Cottingham Drain which ran through Sculcoates and Myton to join the River Hull at High Flags and also the section of the old Hornsea/Withernsea railway line from Stepney to Wilmington. Both routes form paths which help to connect existing corridors. Another suggestion was to open the gate under the high level railway line so allowing access from Abbey Way to Ryedales and so giving a safer route from the city centre to the north of Hull.

The Local Plan aims to identify land suitable for housing, industry, open space, business and transport up to 2030 ([http://](http://hullcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/local%20chapter%2010)

[hullcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/local plan](http://hullcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/local%20chapter%2010)). The value of open space is recognised for its many benefits but only two sites have statutory protection: Noddle Hill and Rockford Fields, and plans can change.

Friends groups should play a useful part in monitoring other sites, working for the benefit of all the users, including wildlife. As with farming, leave a few awkward corners, hedgerows and clumps of trees to grow freely to provide a bio-diverse refuge. A happy example is the Constable Street orchard, which was planted earlier this year and is now surrounded by a rich growth of grasses and wild flowers, all provided at no extra charge. The rest of the site is kept cut by the regular council team. Just keep the trimmer away.

What about other sites such as school fields? Should each have a hedgerow, a patch of rough

grass, a clump of trees, and a boggy area?

Put all that wildness away and get out the garden line and tape measure. It was time, early June, to plant out the vegetable patch outside the Wilson Centre on Alfred Gelder Street. Volunteers from the Rainbow Garden and Hull FoE along with recruits from London—*local workers being hard to find*—planted up a mixture of summer salad and winter greens, some bright red chard and climbing beans. This is part of the "Planning sustainable cities for community food growing" project, with the aim of passers-by collecting the produce as it is ready.

Other similar ventures already operate: Rainbow and Thoresby Street and now a new site on Sculcoates Lane. Any more? Will it be possible, in the near future, to gather the daily diet for free?

**David Longthorn**

BASECAMP 2014

## Journey to HOPE

This year's conference was the second year of Basecamp. Snuggled in the western end of the Hope Valley, Castleton Youth Hostel was this year's venue, a beautiful Victorian gothic mansion set in 27 areas of parkland.

Some of the more esoteric items on the session list included sketching with Andy Atkins, star gazing, yoga, wellbeing and burnout. The kids had loads of fun making wooden spoons, campaign materials, big knitting and a giant bee!

Here are some of the many topical issues covered:

► **Fracking:** This was a coming together of all groups (not just FoE groups) involved with front line drilling issues: Northern Ireland, Manchester (Barton Moss and Blackpool), West Sussex (Balcombe), Hull (West Newton and Crawberry Hill). Campaigners from Balcombe told how their sleepy village 30 miles away from London suddenly found drilling was happening on their doorstep. Groups are coming together to resist,

not just in the UK but internationally. The whole of Yorkshire is up for grabs/at risk. FoE are calling for a moratorium on fracking: <http://www.foe.co.uk/blog/fracking>

► **TTiP:** Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is not a sexy name by any stretch of the imagination and TTiP gives even less away. It is a trade deal instigated by the US, supposedly to 'harmonise' regulations across US and Europe and reduce barriers to trade. However, the likely result will be the loss of many of the hard won regulations protecting our environment and health. Worse still, there are moves to make it possible for investors to sue states if they introduce regulations which lead to losses. FoE Europe is calling on EU states and Parliament to resist. The reason this is not big news is that it is being developed, planned and discussed behind closed doors. News comes only via leaks.

*More from* <http://www.wdm.org.uk/trade-campaign/transatlantic-trade-and-investment-partnership-ttip>

► **Run on Sun:** is FoE's campaign to get solar panels on to the roofs of schools. They are looking at

*continued on page 11*

# LOCAL GREEN GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

🌱 If the Tour de France has inspired you to get on your bike, **Sky Ride** is organising lots of free guided bike rides in Hull throughout the summer for all abilities. **More info from** [www.goskyride.com](http://www.goskyride.com)

🌱 If you have got children to amuse over the holidays you might want to look at events organised by the **Yorkshire Wildlife Trust** (YWT) in Pearson Park. They include making a mini insect hotel, 'Marine Madness' brings the seaside to Hull, a meadow safari, and lots of chance to get mucky! **Info from** [harriet.linfoot@ywt.org.uk](mailto:harriet.linfoot@ywt.org.uk) or 01904 659570.

🌱 YWT do, of course, organise events at lots of local sites. One that took my eye was the **Spurn Migration Festival** in early September—talks, guided walks, workshops etc. **More information and tickets from** [www.ywt.org.uk/events](http://www.ywt.org.uk/events)

🌱 **Timebank** has a Breakfast Club meeting on the first Saturday of the month at a different venue each month. **More from:** [www.timebankhullandeastriding.co.uk](http://www.timebankhullandeastriding.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/TimeBankHullandEastRiding](https://www.facebook.com/TimeBankHullandEastRiding) [https://twitter.com/TimeBank\\_HER](https://twitter.com/TimeBank_HER)

🌱 **Food4Hull** is starting a regular informal monthly meeting open to everyone interested in sustainable, local food. You can also sign up to their newsletter: [www.food4hull.co.uk](http://www.food4hull.co.uk)

🌱 **Arthur's Organics and TimeBank Hull & East Riding** are collaborating on a special food project which is designed to inspire, upskill or simply introduce members of the public to organic, local and seasonal cooking.

Based at Lonsdale Centre, Anlaby Road, with the help of funding from NHS Healthier Hull,

Newington residents can get cut price veg boxes: [info@arthursorganics.com](mailto:info@arthursorganics.com) or Graham on 07949805695.

🌱 **Lonsdale Community Centre** also organise a craft fair every Wednesday morning, free to stallholders and the public. They offer training courses on how to make and market saleable products, start a small business and set up your own website to sell your products: [office@lonsdalecc.org.uk](mailto:office@lonsdalecc.org.uk) or Dave on 01482 564691.

🌱 **Groundwork** want donations to help their growing projects with homeless and other marginalised groups in the city. They need seeds, old tools, large containers, timber for raised beds and off-cuts of guttering pipe to create vertical growing systems. They also very much welcome firms or individuals who want to volunteer: [hull@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:hull@groundwork.org.uk) or 01482 216188.

🌱 **Friends of Constable Street Field and Groundwork** planted a small orchard in the corner of the field in February, with mainly Yorkshire Heritage trees, eg Hesse Pear and Hornsea apples. Some damage is inevitable but they are surviving under the watchful eye of Lausanne.

🌱 Lausanne is starting courses in the **Basics of Permaculture and Growing in Small Spaces** towards the end of July; they will be free and held at the Western Library. **Ring Lausanne on** 07816141169.

🌱 **Friends of Western Library** (FOWL!) are now looking after the new garden next door to the library. Anyone can call in when the library is open. While you are there, have a look at the indicator which tells you how much energy the new solar panels on the roof are producing.

Journey to HOPE, *continued from page 10*

helping schools to cut through the red tape which sometimes makes it difficult. Hull FoE launched their local campaign at Kelvin Hall Secondary School's Green Fair on Saturday 21 June. We made some useful contacts but came to the conclusion that primary schools are likely to be more receptive. We are following up some promising leads with local primaries and will report further. See [www.foe.co.uk/runonsun](http://www.foe.co.uk/runonsun)

▶ **The Real Junk Food Project:** A highlight of Basecamp was helping to make a meal for 350 people entirely out of 'junk food'. That is perfectly healthy food that has been rejected by wholesalers or supermarkets, eg because it's the wrong size, the packaging is damaged, or one or

two rotten or damaged items have caused a whole pallet to be rejected. In Leeds the **Real Junk Food Project** is cooking and serving meals made from 'junk food' on a 'pay as you feel' basis; people who can't pay often offer help in kind. Manchester has a similar scheme. **Food4Hull** is looking at whether we can introduce something here. There is also a 'gleaning network' developing, where farmers invite people to help themselves to crops left in their fields after harvest or because they have been rejected.

See <http://therealjunkfoodproject.co.uk> and [www.feeding5k.org/gleaning.php](http://www.feeding5k.org/gleaning.php)

Lee-ann Williams



# Hull Friends of the Earth

## MEMBERSHIP

I wish to become a member of Hull FoE <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>PAYMENT</b>	
I wish to renew my Hull FoE membership <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Please note: subs are due by 1 April each year</b>	
<b>Name</b> (Mr/Mrs/Ms)		I enclose:	
<b>Address</b>		Membership or subscription fee (£5 waged, £2 unwaged)	£
		Donation	£
<b>Postcode</b>		<b>Total</b>	£
<b>Telephone</b>		<i>Please make cheques payable to:</i>	
<b>Email</b>		<b>Hull Friends of the Earth &amp; send to Membership Secretary</b>	

### I WANT TO PAY BY STANDING ORDER

We encourage you to pay your subscription by annual Standing Order. This prevents you from forgetting to pay and saves us sending reminders. But because of problems with fraud we are no longer printing the form here. Please contact Angela (details below) if you want to pay by Standing Order.

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 NOT receive this information from us, please tick here

#### How do you want to get ECO?

- by email (in colour?)

- in print by post?

Tick either, or both

#### We welcome your donations!

Many of our members are very generous and give us a donation on top of their membership fee; if you can spare a bit extra we really appreciate it. It all helps our campaigning efforts and to keep you informed through ECO. (See below...)

### Hull FoE membership

#### SUBS WERE DUE FOR 2014 BY 1 APRIL

**Thanks to everyone who paid their 2014 Hull FoE subs. If you are a national Friends of the Earth member you do need to pay separately to be a Local Group member. Subs remain at £2 unwaged and £5 waged. And if you are inclined to forget, please take out a Standing Order (see above).**

#### Keep in touch between ECOS



Let Angela know (details below) if you are not on our email list and want to be kept informed.

#### Thanks for all those donations!

**Membership of HullFoE** stays remarkably stable at around 60 paid up members. But you lovely people doubled your donations last year, so many thanks! This means **we can keep the subs at £5 waged and £2 unwaged for yet another year**, hopefully

ensuring we are in reach of everyone. Of course we could always do with more members; perhaps you could pass your copy of ECO on to a friend with a strong hint!

We are also on **Facebook**: To get to it: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

Register—if you haven't already and then go to the box at

the top called "search for people places and things". Just type in "Hull Friends of the Earth" and you are off! It will tell you how to get accepted into the group (Lee-Ann is the owner of the site). Alternatively existing "friends" on Facebook can invite you to join.

#### Hilary

## Share your news?

Hull ECO welcomes news and views of all things environmental in Hull and East Yorkshire.

**Deadlines are the first Tuesday in January, April, July, October.**

Please send to **Hilary (details below). Offers of help to deliver newsletters in your area are very welcome!**

#### HULL FRIENDS OF THE EARTH - CONTACTS

<b>Coordinator</b>	Sue Jolliffe, 47 Kingsway, Cottingham HU16 5BB	Tel: (01482) 845958	Email: <a href="mailto:sue@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk">sue@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Angela Needham, 124 Etherington Road, Hull HU6 7JP	Tel: 07737 249461 (text preferred)	Email: <a href="mailto:angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org">angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Hilary Byers, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY	Tel: (01482) 445747	Email: <a href="mailto:hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk">hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.foe.co.uk/hull">www.foe.co.uk/hull</a> or <a href="http://www.hfoe.org.uk">www.hfoe.org.uk</a>		Email: <a href="mailto:jolliffe@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk">jolliffe@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk</a>