

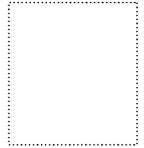


Friends of the Earth

Bromley

August 2009 No. 260 Newsletter

Bromley FoE: inquiries to Birch House, Grays Road, Westerham TN16 2JB
email: raywatson@iclway.co.uk; website: www.bromleyfoe.co.uk



August Meeting

Friends Meeting House,
Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

Doug Black

on

Bromley's Development Plans

putting forward the environmental viewpoint

Tuesday 4th August

7.30pm.

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Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by
SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST. Contact details inside front cover.

August 15th – Bromley FoE's Summer Fun Day – see page 2 for more info

Diary dates:

August 4th (Tues)

Bromley FoE's August Meeting – Doug Black re Bromley's proposed development plans

August 15th (Sat)

Bromley FoE's Summer Family Fun Day, Birch House, Grays Road Westerham, courtesy of Ray and Marina

Sept 1st (Tues)

Bromley FoE's September Meeting – Ronel Klopfer from Stop Climate Chaos coalition

Sept 26th (Sat)

Bromley FoE stall in Bromley High Street on Climate Change

October 6th (Tues)

Bromley FoE's October meeting – Howard Whitehead, London Network Developer from FoE Underwood Street

November 3rd (Tues)

Bromley FoE's November meeting – Tony Pearson on National Parks

NEWSFLASH SPECIAL – NEWSFLASH SPECIAL – NEWSFLASH SPECIAL

**Andy Atkins, Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth,
is coming to talk to us at our December meeting (Tuesday 1st December)**

Bromley FoE's Summer Fun Day - An invitation to have fun

Relax...and have fun on a summer's day. Bromley FoE will be having a Fun Day for all members on Saturday August 15 between 1pm and 5pm at Ray and Marina's garden which is in green belt land on the boundary between Bromley and Kent (where Birch House, Grays Rd, Westerham, TN16 2JB). And if it rains we will hold it on indoors.

There will be a very light lunch at no charge, though a donation to Bromley FoE funds would be appreciated. And, while you do not have to bring food, please bring your own drinks – wine, beer, soft drinks etc.

The garden has an extensive patch of ancient woodland so if you want to explore bring some stout shoes and clothing that can withstand the occasional bramble. There will also be some not-so-serious games and a raffle is being organised to boost FoE funds. Donate a prize if you can.

We are limited to 30 people so first-come-first-served. Contact Ray and Marina by email at raywatson@iclway.co.uk or phone 01959 571566.

Next Newsletter - copy details:

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor **by SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST.**

by post to John Street, 82 Babbacombe Road, Bromley, BR1 3LS

by phone to: 020-8460-1078, **by email** to: johnstreet@gn.apc.org.

The editor reserves the right to shorten contributions for space, or other, reasons

July Meeting report, by Ray Watson

An FoE group, Marinet, is fighting a battle to protect our seas – and it is a tough one, said Bill Rigby, our July meeting speaker.

He is one of a team that is pushing the Government hard to change a bill now going through parliament in order to prevent fish stocks from being wiped out. He said: 'All the fish in our diet are under threat of extinction'.

Examples he gave showed that skate had declined 99 per cent in recent years while oysters were once so plentiful in the North Sea that they were part of the diet of the poor; now they were so rare that they could only be afforded by the rich. As recently as 50 years ago we were taking 500,000 tonnes of cod annually but this was now down to nearly zero.

Overall, the UK was now landing only one tenth of the fish compared with 60 years ago.

Overseas, Japan had recognised that their delicacy blue fin tuna was getting scarcer and was now stockpiling the fish for when it became extinct.

Marinet, he said, was an offshoot of previous FoE campaigns to preserve the oceans. It had come to life again after the Royal Commission on the environment reported in 2004 that our plundering of the sea had reached a critical stage and called for urgent control measures. The Government had been slow to re-act but in 2007 introduced a bill that, in Marinet's view, was too weak to protect the oceans.

The bill had passed through the House of Lords after much argument and was now before the Commons. Marinet's main aim was to strengthen the bill by calling for the introduction of 'set-aside' zones in 30 per cent of UK waters where any fighting activity would be totally prohibited. Scientists around the world approved the plan and its introduction in other countries had proved that such a measure resulted in a speedy recovery of fish stocks.

In fact, there are two small fish reserves in the UK. One, 40 acres off Lundy Island, came into being because local fishermen saw the dangers of not acting. The venture, and another off the Isle of Man, had produced positive results

The problem is deciding where such protected zones would be located. The Government, he said, was up against many vested fishing industry interests who would suffer if set-aside control zones were created. But he pointed out that fishing was now a small industry; its 10,000 workers meant it was smaller than those making lawn mowers. However, it still carried clout with the Government.

The forecast was that new bill would not have powers to compel the Government to set up control zones though it would have provisions to allow the Minister to create such areas – so that would be Marinet's aim once the bill became law. 'This is just the beginning', he said.

/continued on page 8

Transport report – Ray Watson, transport campaigner

Polluter pays – but not the airline

Talk about stating the obvious! British Airways chief Willie Walsh declares that airline passengers would have to pay in higher fares to meet the cost of efforts to reduce the aviation industry's carbon emissions. Well now, that *is* a surprise!

Airlines are in the polluting business – and yet they want someone else to pay! We certainly did not expect the cost to come out of Mr Walsh's pay packet. You can be sure any costs will be loaded on to passenger ticket prices.

BA and other major airline are building up a case against the aviation industry suffering restrictions when the world's nations get together in Copenhagen to thrash out a replacement for the Kyoto agreement.

He is also pleading poverty, given that most airlines are in the red because of the downturn. In the 'good' days when these same companies were making handsome profits how many parted up with cash to say, help the developing world clean up their carbon emissions? A big, fat NIL.

A downturn plus

While the recession has terrible side effects such as unemployment, it also has a plus. Many are now arguing that because loss-making companies – including airlines - are pushing up prices, this has the desirable effect of reducing consumption and also encourages 'green' ideas like growing your own food.

As far as aviation is concerned, all the world's major airlines are cutting flights, thus reducing the speed of climate change. The same result applies following increases in the price of the oil that fuels the flights.

As they say, every cloud has a silver lining...

It also raises a further question. Last year's oil price rise reduced the number of passengers using UK airports – the first time after many years of growth, while this year's recession is now adding to the decline. So where does that leave the Government's Aviation White Paper of 2003?

Grounded perhaps? Many argue that it is so now so wildly out of date that a further review is necessary – one that would provide ammunition for the next Government to at least slow down airport expansion, something which, in turn, might help it meet the carbon reduction targets enshrined in law following the success of FoE's Big Ask campaign.

It would also give the opportunity for promoting policies that encourage more UK travel and for expanding high-speed rail to replace domestic flights.

Road to poor health

There is a transport problem that usually escapes the headlines, but it essential to tackle it to protect our health. It is the outpouring of particulates from cars, buses and lorries.

/continued on page 8

From Airport Watch's July bulletin

Plane protesters lock down jet with 'human wheel clamp' at City airport

Five protesters in pinstriped suits and bowler hats chained themselves to a private jet at London City Airport on 6th June. Plane Stupid activists used bolt cutters to saw through the perimeter fence by the runway at 2.30am, at a security blind spot. They were found by security guards chained together in a circle around one of the planes.

The protest and "human wheel clamp" using arm locks was to highlight the selfishness of private jet use. BizJets jets emit between 5 and 10 times more carbon per passenger than commercial flights. Plane Stupid said it was time these private jets were grounded for good.

There is considerable local frustration that the planning system is failing people of their democratic rights to protect their communities, futures and their environment from 'runaway' airport and flight expansion.

Just under a 100,000 residents in east and south east London will be affected by the increasing excessive noise levels from London City Airport upon expansion, and yet less than 10,000 were claimed to have been consulted by the London Borough of Newham. Most will not be entitled to any noise insulation.

They will have to live with the consequences every day of their lives, each time a flight takes off and lands. The majority do not have the option to move, and many lived in the area long before the airport's creation.

London City Airport set to up flights by 50%

London City Airport is to be allowed (9th July) to increase its flights by 50% by the end of next year, ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games.

The Borough of Newham said it has agreed to raise the number of flights in and out of the airport, located just two miles from the Olympic site, to a maximum of 120,000 per year from the current 73,000. The increase could increase the number of passengers per year to 3.9 million from 3.3 million. The airport is making (probably exaggerated) claims that there may create around 950 new jobs, and could boost the local economy by £26 million.

The airport has 10 airlines serving over 30 destinations. BA recently announced (23rd June) the launch of the first transatlantic flights from City Airport. Flights start on September 29. The new all-business class service is a daily return to New York, except Saturdays when London City airport is closed, increasing to 2 flights a day from mid-October.

The aircraft Airbus A318 is the largest aircraft that can be flown from City. It is designed for more but fitted with just 32 seats, and has to make a re-fuelling stop in Ireland as it cannot take off from City full of fuel, en route, thereby further increasing the carbon emissions of the trip.

Campaigns info, from Ann Garrett, campaigns co-ordinator

Campaigning stalls

Much appreciation to all those people who have helped with the Bromley Food Chain stall (photo – below - and press release in July 8th News Shopper) and also at Keston and Foad Farm. Special thanks to Anne Clark for the latter two, as she had to load a lot of stuff into her car beforehand, as well as being present all day.

The next Bromley High Street stall is scheduled for September 26th - as usual outside or across the precinct from Caffe Nero (2.00 - 4.00 pm).

G8 emissions cuts challenges

The G8 negotiations were a demanding process in L'Aquila. The world's richest states and developing countries failed to set a goal on July

8th to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Negotiations broke down after China and India opposed any mention of the target. They demanded that the G8 richest states first commit to making deep cuts in their own emissions by 2020. They also expect them to work out plans to provide short-term financial aid to help them deal with extreme weather events and rising sea level.

However in the end there was a positive outcome in securing a preliminary agreement by the world's richest countries to make significant cuts by the middle of the century. It is uncertain whether this will be an 80% target though.



Campaigns info, *continued*

The UK is still committed to achieving a 30% cut in emissions by 2020 which is an encouraging example. At least there is a reasonable basis for the vital green summit in Copenhagen in November.

Energy plan to harness African sun

The world's most ambitious energy plan is about to take shape. It is a plan for a chain of mammoth sun-powered energy plants in the deserts of North Africa to supply power to Europe's homes and factories by the end of the next decade. A consortium of 20 German firms will be meeting in Munich to negotiate funding the project [£343bn] named Desertec. Energy experts have calculated that Desertec could meet up to 15% of Europe's needs and be up and running by 2019. By 2050 they estimate the contribution could be between 20 and 25 per cent.

The plants would use mirrors to focus the sun's rays , which would be used to heat water to power steam turbines. This would be cheaper than using photovoltaic cells to convert the sun's rays into electricity.

Faults at nuclear power plants

It has been reported in a newly published survey that there is great concern over the scale of safety problems in Britain's nuclear power plants. There have been 1,750 leaks, breakdowns or other 'events' over the past seven years. This raises serious questions about the dangers of expanding the industry. The managers at Sellafield admit that they have finally halted a radioactive leak that many believe has been going on for 50 years!

FoE calls for new green deal

FoE have claimed that at least 70,000 'green' jobs could be created if local authorities take action to cut carbon emissions. It has said that the jobs would include loft ladders, builders, electricians and administrative posts.

These ideas have been published in an FoE survey calling on local authorities to insulate homes and businesses and install green technology on buildings.

This is part of the new FoE campaign 'Get Serious about CO2 '. At present it appears that there are too many barriers and strings attached to funding which are preventing councils from launching big 'green' initiatives.

Bromley FoE's Summer Fun Day

Saturday 15th August

See page 2 for details

December meeting

Special guest

**Andy Atkins,
Chief Exec, Friends of the Earth**

Tuesday 1st December

Raglan report + July report *cont'd* + Transport info *cont'd*

Raglan Primary School Celebrate Green Britain Day - *Annette Rose writes* -

Thank you to Ann, Ray and Tamara for helping Raglan with their green activities recently. Ann and Tamara set the week off with an assembly in which they told the children about Friends of the Earth and their work. They included the children and made it fun and interactive when talking about the Food Chain Campaign. Ray spoke to year 5 on Green Britain Day about what they could do to lead a greener lifestyle.

We had a successful day in which we asked parents to make eco pledges on large feet cut outs. This led to some good discussions. We also launched the recycling of CDs to our long list. The children came dressed in green or as eco superheroes and prizes were awarded in assembly.

Raglan has also recently had the excellent news that we have achieved Green Flag Eco schools status for a further 2 years. This is Eco schools highest award.

July meeting report, *cont'd from p3*

Getting people to sign an early day motion would help put pressure on the fisheries Minister. It had already been signed by 214 MPs.

Taking questions, Bill said that the EU set out fish quotas and it was felt that this was the best way of handling a thorny subject because fishing knew no boundaries. He said that the EU

had embarked on a revision of its fishing policy because it recognised that the system was not working – proven, he said, by the fact that 88 per cent of fish species were being overfished.

A frightening thought!

Transport report, *cont'd from page 4*

New studies by London and Lancaster University teams of inner-city areas show that children are suffering chest problems from inhaling particulates – small metal pieces thinner than a human hair. Lung capacity is reduced and asthma may develop. The scientists found that the presence of particulates in busy roads was very much worse at child height than at adult height.

Britain is currently facing penalties from the EU for multiple breaches of standards for particulate pollution – and so are 23 other members of the EU.

But that does not making it excusable. We have all experienced choking fumes from vehicle exhaust in Bromley's main roads. The council has a responsibility to monitor air quality and it might be as well to report any examples you believe are particularly bad.

Info from CAAT – Campaign Against Arms Trade

Countdown to DSEI - only 50 days to go (less by the time you read this) DSEi, the world's largest arms fair, is now less than two months away. DSEi opens on 8 September and continues to 11 September. CAAT is already organising to meet the DSEi challenge. An arms bazaar like DSEi takes place only because the government allows it. Even worse, the UK government gives active support through UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO). More info is available online.

Take action on DSEI
It's crucial to highlight the government's role in making DSEI happen. We must challenge the concept that helping private companies profit from conflict is a legitimate use of public resources. CAAT will be protesting at the ExCel centre on the morning of 8 September then taking our protest to UKTI's office in central London in the afternoon. We hope you'll be able to join us.

CAAT on twitter

If you want to keep up with the very latest on DSEi and CAAT's other campaigning activities, why not follow CAAT on social networking service, Twitter? Each tweet is a maximum of 140 characters so there is not too much to digest. Join the twitter revolution in the leadup to DSEi online.

You can also spread our messages to new audiences by becoming a Local Media Contact - email David - or by blogging for CAAT - contact Kaye.

(CAAT's web and email addresses – www.caat.org.uk, info@caat.org.uk)

UK revokes arms export licences to Israel

In a surprise move, the government has announced that it is revoking five arms export licences to Israel. The licences were for naval equipment used in the bombardment of Gaza at the beginning of 2009. It's a welcome move but far too little, far too late. CAAT maintains that the only ethical and effective stance is a complete arms embargo on Israel. Learn more online.

Lonely Joe Parker Bike Tour 2009

CAAT's very own wandering minstrel, singer and guitarist Lonely Joe Parker will be taking to his bike and gigging around the southern counties in the weeks leading up to DSEi to raise much needed funds for CAAT. His tour starts and ends in Southampton, with stops in Winchester, London and Brighton among others. Joe would love to see some CAAT supporters at each venue. For a full tour itinerary and to sample Joe's sounds visit his MySpace page.

To support Joe and CAAT visit the Bike Tour online fundraising page on the BmyCharity website.

CAAT's National Gathering will take place on 31 October 2009.

This year we will meet at Toynbee Studios at 28 Commercial Street, London E1, just two minutes walk from Aldgate East tube. Book your place now for a great day of speakers, discussions and inspiration. Online booking will be available shortly but in the meantime email Julia. More information is available online.

FoE says - Low-carbon strategy is major step towards a cleaner, safer future

In response to the low-carbon strategies recently announced by the Government, Friends of the Earth's Executive Director Andy Atkins said:

"Today's announcements are a significant step towards the creation of a safe, clean and low-carbon future.

"Developing the UK's world class renewable energy potential and getting tough on energy waste will create new green jobs and industries, tackle fuel poverty and reduce our dependence on fossil fuel.

"Paying homes, businesses and communities for generating clean power will enable millions of people to make money from the green energy revolution - we're pleased that ministers have pledged to protect vulnerable people from unfair energy price hikes.

"We're delighted that the Government has adopted many of the measures that Friends of the Earth has been calling for including feed-in tariffs and putting tackling climate change at the heart of energy regulator Ofgem's remit.

"But bolder measures are still required to ensure that the UK plays its full part in combating climate change - we need more ambitious emissions cuts, greater levels of investment and an industrial strategy that really delivers.

"In particular the Government must listen to scientific advice and agree to cut UK emissions by at least 42 per cent by 2020 - and ensure these

targets are met by real action at home and not by buying offsets from abroad.

"Ed Miliband should be congratulated for the genuine leadership he has shown ahead of crucial UN climate negotiations in Copenhagen in December - we hope he can persuade the rest of Government to go even further."

FoE reaction to today's strategies

Good

- The Government has announced that the principle objective of the energy regulator Ofgem will be amended to include tackling climate change and security of supply. Friends of the Earth has been calling for a change to Ofgem's remit.
- We welcome the creation of a low carbon economic area in the west country.
- The Government has agreed to update its planning policy guidelines on renewable energy and climate change. Friends of the Earth and the Town and Country Planning Association have been leading the call for this to happen.
- The commitment to a joined-up approach across Government is very welcome, as is the commitment to delivering 15% of renewable energy by 2020 from domestic sources. There appears to be a genuine commitment to a radical transformation of UK energy generation.

/continued on next page

FoE and its Rights and Justice team - Queen's Market saved

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has directed Newham Council to refuse planning permission to redevelop Queen's Market.

Queen's Market is a 110-year-old award-winning market in Upton Park, London. It sells a wide range of affordable, healthy and diverse produce in one of London's poorest boroughs.

The original plans to redevelop it included building a 96 metre high rise block of luxury flats and a major supermarket. An impressive campaign group was set up by Friends of Queen's Market. They are fighting for a better future for the Market.

Through their awareness-raising, the scheme received a record number of objections:

- * Over 2,500 individually written objection letters

- * Over 12,000 people signed a petition

Rights and Justice Centre gets involved

We worked with Maria, who is a local Mum with two young children. Maria relies on the market for fresh fruit and vegetables for her family. Maria and our lawyers brought a legal challenge against the Council, who hadn't done a proper Race Equality Impact Assessment (EIA).

EIAs are used to assess the impact of the proposals, with the Council having a legal requirement to:

- * Promote good race relations
- * Promote equal opportunities

- * Eliminate unlawful discrimination for all racial groups.

Saif and Pauline from Friends of Queens Market also came to our Power Up 2008 weekend. The knowledge and skills from the weekend has really helped their campaign: "It's local community versus big business in the fight to stop Queens Market from being demolished. After Power Up we feel like we have a louder voice - and know how to use it." - Pauline and Saif, Friends of Queens Market

The Rights and Justice team have continued to work closely with the group. We helped form planning objections and campaign tactics to empower local people to take action.

As Iqbal Chohan, a regular shopper says: "Newham Council should now start looking after Queen's Market rather than letting it fall into disrepair, as our markets are an important part of local life and the local economy."

FoE on low carbon strategy – cont'd Not so good

- Targets/offsetting - we are disappointed that the Government has only committed to a target of a 34 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions on 1990 levels by 2020.

- It was announced today that the green turbine manufacturing plant on the Isle of Wight, Vestas, will close tomorrow. Whilst announcing the new low carbon industrial strategy, the Government is failing to provide the measures to support Vestas.

WDM (World Development Movement) – What will you do if the government goes ahead with dirty coal power?

IF the government allows coal power stations like Kingsnorth in Kent, the UK will fail to meet the targets for carbon emissions reduction set out in the Climate Change Act..

IF Kingsnorth goes ahead, the power station will contribute the equivalent of Tanzania's emissions every year.

IF the government allows a new generation of dirty coal power stations, it will have no credibility at international climate talks in Copenhagen in December.

IF the international community allows global temperatures to rise by more than two degrees, hundreds of millions of livelihoods around the world will be lost.

But none of this is inevitable. We can prevent the worst impacts. But only IF industrialised countries like ours lead the way towards a low carbon world. And only IF enough people demand it.

Even Ed Miliband, the UK's energy and climate minister, says he wants to see a "Make Poverty History-style mass popular campaign on climate change".

"We do need to be pushed," he told the Observer newspaper in April. "Political change doesn't happen simply because leaders want it to happen, but because people make it happen... I am very fearful if we don't get the framework we need in December, because I think we will miss a historic opportunity."

Ed Miliband was talking about the UN climate talks happening in Copenhagen in December this year, a crucial landmark which WDM and other campaigners are also working towards.

The Copenhagen conference is important as it will see a new international climate deal agreed that will set the international framework to combat climate change into the next decade and beyond.

Ed Miliband is right that a strong global deal is desirable. It needs to be fair and effective in keeping global temperature rises below 2°C.

But in order for this to happen it is critical for rich countries to demonstrate their leadership by taking the first step and reducing their own carbon emissions. This is a matter not only of justice but also of pragmatism. Developing countries are unlikely to agree a global deal if rich countries, who are historically responsible for climate change, do not demonstrate they are prepared to lead the way in taking action.

Well we have good news for Ed Miliband. WDM and others will mobilise huge public pressure on climate change between now and December. But if he hoped that mass public campaigning on the international agreement was a handy way of diverting attention away from the UK's incoherent domestic policy, he will be disappointed.

/continued on pages 13 & 14

WDM on dirty coal power - *continued*

With Copenhagen getting closer, it is critical that we hold our leaders to account on what they are doing to cut emissions right here at home. They will not have any credibility in pushing for action from other countries if they are not taking meaningful action themselves.

So, how is the government faring so far on tackling UK emissions?

The passing of the Climate Change Act last December was a major step forward in recognising the need to cut UK emissions by 80 per cent. But in terms of real action, there are two major litmus tests for the government's commitment to their targets: aviation expansion and coal power.

The government is dearly failing the first test. It remains committed to its plans for a third runway at London's Heathrow Airport, despite strong and wide public opposition. The third runway would double the number of flights leaving Heathrow and emit as much carbon every year as Kenya, a country of nearly 40 million people.

The second test is around how we generate energy in future. As many of the UK's coal-fired power stations are coming to the end of their lives, the government is considering building new ones, starting at Kingsnorth in Kent. If approved, this would open the door for a new generation of coal-fired power stations.

Coal is the very dirtiest option and the biggest single cause of climate change, historically responsible for 80 per cent of the UK's carbon emissions. Cleaner options include gas and renewable technologies, especially

solar and wind. NASA scientist James Hansen puts it simply: "Coal-fired power stations are death factories".

Recently, Ed Miliband proposed that any new coal power stations would have to capture and store at least some of the carbon they produced from the outset. This was a step in the right direction — and would not have happened without strong pressure from campaigners across the country. However, even if it is put in place, Ed's proposal would still allow three tonnes of carbon to be released into the atmosphere for every tonne that was buried. Not good enough.

WDM is Launching the Big If to give everyone the opportunity to say what you will do if the government consents Kingsnorth coal power station.

Actor and Age of Stupid star Pete Postlethwaite was the first person to join The Big If, promising to "very sadly" return his OBE to the Queen if Kingsnorth goes ahead.

Pete told Ed Miliband, "If you commission a new dirty coal power station at Kingsnorth, thereby increasing our emissions when we should be massively decreasing them, then you are clearly unfit to represent the people of Britain at the Copenhagen climate summit... I don't believe I can be a real Officer of the British Empire if that is what is going to happen."

There are a lot of 'ifs' when it comes to climate change and getting politicians to take action. But one thing is certain. */concluded on next page*

Message from the Director of WDM

I would like to welcome Deborah Doane as the new director of the World Development Movement. Deborah comes to us from WWF-UK. She was previously head of corporate accountability at the New Economics Foundation and has chaired CORE, the Corporate Responsibility Coalition. I am excited about what she brings to the movement.

It has been a great honour to be the director of the World Development Movement. I have been continually astonished and energised by our supporters' ability to maintain strong, vocal campaigns. It is this energy and enthusiasm that bind us together.

Together we have made unimaginable progress. Since I joined the movement, we have seen the UK government move towards public solutions to the global water crisis, pass a new climate change law, and, more recently, promise it will not let new coal power continue unabated.

I'd like to thank you for everything you have achieved over the last four years. It is gratifying to be leaving when we have made such a breakthrough in our climate work and the opportunities for the fundamental change we want are so high.

I am pleased to be leaving behind a new strategic framework, which sets out a clear sense of purpose and direction for the next ten years. As a movement of people who believe a better world is within reach, I am confident that by working together we can continue to achieve our goals.

In this edition of Action you'll see how we are responding to the need to reshape globalisation, especially given the huge threat of climate change and worldwide recession.

Benedict Southworth, Director WDM

WDM on dirty coal power- *concluded*

People power can change the course of history.

There is still time to prevent the worst impacts of climate change from happening if rich countries take real action to reduce our own emissions. The UK can make a good start by saying no to dirty coal.

Climate change: what's in store?

Experts predict that the following will happen if we do not drastically reduce our emissions:

- By 2020, over 200 million people in Africa could have less access to water due to drought. By 2050, this could rise to 350-600 million people.
- Between 40 and 80 million more people could be exposed to malaria in Africa alone.
- Up to 550 million more people could be at risk of hunger due to drought and lower crop yields, one to three million more of whom could die each year due to malnutrition.

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Letters to the Editor

Why not write us a letter if you have a strong opinion on something or just want to share your thoughts. Send them in and perhaps even start a discussion - who knows.

Need a lift to meetings?

If you require a lift to Bromley FoE meetings, please contact Ray Watson or Sheila Brown on the numbers shown above.

Disclaimer

Please note that any opinion expressed in this Newsletter is not necessarily that of Bromley Friends of the Earth or Friends of the Earth.

Reuser Column
Don't throw It away - Reuse It!

If you have any items to sell, or anything that you require, please send details to the Editor. Items will be displayed for three months, the number in brackets after an item indicating for how long it has appeared. Could you please contact us if an item has been sold/obtained, so that it can be removed from the newsletter.

Any donations to Bromley FoE generated from this column gratefully received!

Non-members' Section

If you are not a member of Bromley Friends of the Earth, BFoE, then hello. We are an active local group affiliated to national Friends of the Earth concerned with promoting the understanding of environmental issues. We also campaign on these issues at a local, national and international level.

If you would like to know more about who we are and what we do please contact either of our co-ordinators, Sheila Brown (01689-851605) or Ann Garrett (020-8460-1295); their email addresses are on the previous page. Alternatively, you can come along to one of our free monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday of every month at the Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley (that's towards the bottom of the High Street and on the right going south). If you would like to join us then please fill in and send us the form below.

Membership Application/Renewal* Form (*please delete as appropriate.)

Please return this form to: **Bromley FoE, 2 Bucks Cross Cottages, Chelsfield Village, Orpington, Kent, BR6 7RN**. Other enquiries regarding the group should be sent to: Birch House, Grays Road, Westerham, Kent, TN16 2JB; phone 01959-571566, email raywatson@iclway.co.uk.

I wish to support Bromley Friends of the Earth and enclose my £8 annual subscription. I also enclose a donation (optional) of To help towards the cost of producing and distributing the monthly Newsletter.

Name.....

Address.....

..... Postcode.....

Email Address.....

Do you have any hobbies or interests that may be of use to the group?

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