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*August 2016
No. 344*

newsletter

August Meeting

Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

Seasons' Quiz

Come and see how much you know about our Seasons

*Have fun testing your seasonal general knowledge,
followed by lots of campaigning chat*

Tuesday 2nd August – 7.30pm

Everyone welcome – bring a friend

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Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by

***** SUNDAY 21ST AUGUST *****

Contact details inside front cover.

Diary dates:

Aug 2 (Tues)	Bromley FoE's August meeting: Nature Quiz and Campaigning
Aug 29 (Mon)	Cudham Village Fete (FoE stall)
Sept 6 (Tues)	Bromley FoE's September meeting: Asad Rehman (postponed from May)
Sept 21 (Wed)	Bromley Peace One day event, Bromley Parish Church rooms. Contact Ann Garrett for more info.

Advance notice - September meeting – Speaker is Asad Rehman

Climate change is one of the most important environmental campaigns this year and we are lucky to have the Friends of the Earth international climate campaigner, Asad Rehman, come to speak to us at our September meeting. Hopefully, we will be able to reach a wider audience than normal.

Asad was originally scheduled to talk to us at our May meeting, but unfortunately his international schedule didn't quite allow him to fit us in.

“Good Energy” now supplies Gas

Graham Hemington writes: The firm Good Energy is now supplying green gas as well as green electricity. The gas fuel mix includes a growing proportion of bio-methane, all of which is neutralised through a range of carbon reduction schemes that come with environmental and social benefits.

Disclaimer: Please note that any opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of Bromley Friends of the Earth or of Friends of the Earth

Next Newsletter - copy details:

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor by *** **SUNDAY 21ST AUGUST** ***

by post to John Street, 82 Babacombe 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.

How can we make Brexit work for the environment?

Craig Bennett, FoE's CEO

This article was first published in The Guardian on Saturday 25th June

And so, Brexit has happened. I, like many people reading this, feel desperately sad today.

Friends of the Earth campaigned vigorously to remain in the EU. Membership of Europe has been good for our ‘green and pleasant land’, and the plain truth is that pollution doesn’t recognise national boundaries. It seems obvious to me that the best way of solving anything other than very local environmental problems is for countries to cooperate and develop solutions under a common framework.

About 70% of our environmental safeguards and legislation is European legislation – and this is now at risk. The rhetoric from some on the leave campaign indicates that, what you and I might call environmental protection, they see as ‘red tape’. That’s why today I issued a ‘red alert’ for the environment. How did this result happen, and what does it mean next for those of us in Britain campaigning for a better world?

I might be on the losing side today, but I do understand some of the reasons that motivated 52% of the country to vote leave. Not immigration. Personally, I believe my children’s lives are hugely enriched by having friends and classmates from Poland, Turkey, Estonia and elsewhere.

But I do understand the more general frustration that’s been building during

decades of neoliberalism, that politics has been something done to people, rather than with them or from them. The elite have benefited while the poorest in society have not. This is true of environmental issues too. It is the poorest who have least access to green space, suffer the worst air pollution, are hit hardest by climate change induced flooding.

For too long, too many people have been told, by too many market fundamentalists that if it’s good for the economy, then stuff the consequences. Remarkably, during the campaign, it was Nigel Farage that finally said the words I’ve wanted so many politicians to say for so many years; “Some things are more important than the economy”. But why didn’t the leaders of remain say that during the campaign, in the context of the environment?

For me the number one lesson from today is that change will have no chance of enduring if it is done to people. It has to be done by people and with people.

Within my own movement, the environmental movement, we have spent far too much time in the Westminster or Brussels bubbles talking to each other about science and policy. We’ve debated countless cost curves and transition pathways. As a collective, we’ve not spent nearly enough time talking, engaging and most importantly listening to what I call “people”, and professional politicians

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Campaigns, Climate and Energy – *Ann Garrett*

Campaigns

Biggin Hill airport

On June 15th Sue and John Bocock and myself joined Marina and Ray Watson in Bromley Council chamber to hear the debate on Biggin Hill airport.

The News Shopper gave us good publicity and reported:

"Representatives from anti-airport expansion group Flightpathwatch and Friends of the Earth said they fear the extended operating hours will open the door to more disruption".

The Council in fact voted to put a cap on the 50,000 flights per year, after deciding as Ray Watson reported last month, to approve plans to extend operating hours. This has, however, been criticised as being 'too flexible and elastic' and there are worries that the Council have 'fabricated' a lot of the conditions.

We will be supporting Flightpathwatch in the future in whatever way we can and will be anxious to hear how the application for a judicial review proceeds.

Friends of Community G

Another of our local campaigns has been to support Friends of Community G over their concerns about compulsory purchase of their houses in Ethelbert Close, Bromley and possible future planning application to build a high rise block on the site which would have an environmental impact on Church House Gardens.

On March 23rd the Council's Executive Committee agreed to proceed with the

procurement of a development partner. The competition for this will conclude in September with a decision being made in October. Meanwhile a blight continues to exist on the Ethelbert Close properties. A compulsory purchase Inquiry is planned for Autumn 2018 and development would commence in 2019 with completion in 2021. This is an estimated timetable.

Climate and Energy

Pollution

A London artist Kasia Molga has designed high-tech clothing which changes colour to reveal air pollution around the wearer. The prototype "Human Sensor" cape and mask will display a moving animation with a red colour seeping through it and growing larger if the nitrogen dioxide levels are above normal.

Colour-coded cups of free soup are also being served up to Londoners in a bid to raise awareness of the capital's pollution - with the broth's flavour reflecting the day's air quality. This is part of a pop-up installation, Pea Soup House, inside the Royal Institute of British Architects. This is about doing something a bit humorous to increase consciousness of the impact of pollution. The structure will be taken to pollution hotspots.

Nuclear Power

On June 21st, an agreement was announced in California between Pacific Gas and Electric, Friends of the Earth and other environmental and labour organisations, to replace the

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Craig Bennett on making Brexit work for the environment - *continued*

seem to call “hard-working people”. We have to broaden our movement from a largely narrow white middle-class movement to one that includes the full diversity of the UK population, embracing all classes, all backgrounds, and all colours.

There is one silver-lining from the Brexit result. The failure of the leave and the remain campaigns to discuss the environment means that no-one can argue today's result is a mandate to remove hard fought environmental protections. No-one can claim that the soaring rhetoric that we needed to “take back control” means there is a green light for the UK to again become the dirty man of Europe. If we really want “to make Britain great again”, surely that means making this a green and pleasant land in more than just song. We can be a world leader.

Energy minister and leave campaigner Andrea Leadsom has previously

pointed out that “our own UK Climate Change Act of 2008, [is] world leading.” Let's build on this and be a world leader in nature protection, air pollution and the transformation to a truly sustainable economy that puts people first.

The need for this course of action, for this generation and the next, is clear. The Brexit result shows an appalling intergenerational democratic deficit; early indications are that 70% of 18-25 year olds, the generation of voters most affected by the environment crisis, voted to remain.

Friends of the Earth believes passionately in democracy, and we will now strive with all our might to make Brexit work for the environment. But we're going to be doing it from the grassroots up. Please join us. Right now, the Earth needs all the Friends it can get.



Sue and John Bocock and Ann Garrett outside Bromley Council Chamber on June 15th before the Executive meeting on Biggin Hill Airport's bid to increase operating hours

July meeting report – Annette Rose

Orpington Priory Regeneration Project

The Priory originated in the 13th century, was rebuilt in the 15th century and enlarged in the 17th century. Orpington Priory housed the Bromley Museum until its doors were closed on 25 September 2015. The council now intends to place the building and surrounding land on the open market.

Sally Pennington, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Orpington Priory Community Hub gave us a very good presentation about plans being put forward for this important building so that it can be used by the local community.

Sally began by outlining how the work has progressed to put forward a viable alternative plan. The steering group was first formed at the beginning of 2015, at first to attempt to stop the closure of the museum. The council were not interested at this stage and the closure went ahead. Then the steering group looked at the building to see how it could be made into a viable concern. It was possible that Bromley council might help with a lease but not with the ongoing costs of running the building and repairs. A business plan needed to be put together that would be a not for profit organisation.

Sally explained that there was a rush at the end of 2015 to set up a company and register with Companies House. They only had six weeks to register their interest and put together a business plan to present to Bromley Council.

We then heard about the members of the board of trustees. There is a very impressive range of information and knowledge held by the members. This includes experienced people holding posts for buildings and infrastructure, public relations, events strategy, exhibitions management and more. If you would like to know more about the Board of Trustees, you can go to www.orpingtoncommunityhub.org.uk for detailed information.

The business plan was submitted to Bromley Council in May this year. It is hoped that there will be a decision about whether the lease will be available by September or October. In the meantime, private companies have been invited to offer tenders for the building. The Council has said it will decide on the best use for the building and not necessarily the one that makes the most money.

The biggest hurdle to be overcome is raising the money to refurbish the building. It has been estimated that this could cost £1.7 million. The money could be found through grants, fundraising and pledges of capital investment.

While waiting for a decision, the Trustees are busy making links with lots of other groups such as ours, and exploring what the hub could offer the local community. We were asked to fill in a sheet, ticking those activities we would like to see offered.

Here are just some of the proposed uses of the building:

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July meeting report - *continued*

- A preschool and parent and toddlers group.
- Clubs and events for young people. Visits from schools.
- For seniors and adults, an afternoon club and arts and crafts.
- Exhibitions and displays on local themes such as History of the Priory, Crofton Roman Villa, local places.
- Priory Pantry Tea Rooms.
- Shop and information Centre
- Community Hire for adult classes and local groups.
- Fairs and Markets.
- Temporary exhibitions on local comedians, actors, writers, musicians and artists.

There could be opportunities for work experience and a link with JTL apprenticeships and Bromley College.

Sally feels that things are looking reasonably promising for the future. Jo Johnson is in support of the plans. If the go ahead is given it would take two to three years to be fully up and running.

Questions were asked at the end of the talk about funding and maintenance of the building. Sally felt that if the building was one third filled, it would break even. There was also a question about sustainability. This is still being discussed but there is a possibility of installing solar panels on some roof areas, increasing insulation and improving windows in the library.

To conclude, Sally showed us some projections of what the future might hold if things go well. We also saw

some photos of some of the beautiful rooms that would make excellent meeting places for group events.

The following statement is on their website: "We are a community group and registered charity set up to try to preserve The Priory and continue its use as a community asset. Our vision is '... to ensure the future of Orpington Priory, and its conservation and restoration as an historic building, with increased public access.'

"We want to persuade the council to let us run The Priory as an Arts & Heritage Centre, Community, Education and Business Hub which will be enjoyed by both the local and the wider community. We hope to provide Orpington with a much needed cultural centre with improved facilities, tea rooms, exhibitions and events."

Campaign News, *continued*

Diablo Canyon nuclear reactors with green-house-free renewable energy and energy storage resources. The Diablo Canyon reactors are the only ones still operating in California.

Greenpeace says that setting an end date of 2024 and 2025, will provide an orderly transition. Friends of the Earth states that the project lays out an effective roadmap for a nuclear phase-out in the world's sixth largest economy and could make California a global leader in fighting climate change.

Bees / Nature update - Judy Palmer

Good news for bees! The recent application from the National Farmers Union to use neonics has been turned down by the Government. The application was supported by two pesticide manufacturers (*what a surprise*) and would have seen two banned pesticides be used on oilseed rape crops in 15 counties in England later this year.

Apparently the Government's expert pesticide advisors said a) the evidence wasn't strong enough to justify the scale of application and b) the application didn't show work being done to develop non-chemical alternative ways of controlling pests to avoid repeated requests for neonics in future. Long may it continue.

Also in the news – Dorset County Council has followed in the footsteps of Devon CC and passed a motion to adopt a Pollinator Action Plan, which includes a ban on neonics use on council owned land; could Kent be next I wonder?

A very big cheer from the bees anyway!



3rd Annual Bee Count

Well the results are in and an enormous thank you to everyone who took part in this – over 370,000 were counted! The results are being analysed, but for now if you follow this hyperlink

<https://www.foe.co.uk/news/counting-bees-great-british-bee-count> you can see some brilliant bee photos,

together with photos of activities from various groups who took part in the Bee Count (including one of our group from the bee breakfast up at Tugmutton Common).

Tugmutton Common

And talking of **Tugmutton Common**, I attended the AGM of the Friends Group at the end of June and caught up on all the news from them. The wildflower meadows/grassland areas are looking good, and we hope to be helping them fund-raise soon to have some biodiversity boards put in place there.

As the area is so well used by the local school children, information could be shown on hedgerows, wildflower meadows, log piles and woodland. The boards are expensive though - £900-£1000, but they are an enormous asset for our local parks.

Friends of Havelock Rec

The **Friends of Havelock Rec** recently had a 'bird and bug box' activity half-day which Annette and I were invited to have a stall at – oh boy was it windy! It was an interesting few hours though, with the local school children taking part in bug hunts.

We had colouring in sheets for them to do, plus other bee related info. We did need to anchor all our materials down though, which wasn't always successful. Hopefully our stall at the **Friends of Whitehall Rec** Summer Fun Day in a couple of weeks, will be calmer.

More on Bees – ‘Great News for Bees’

FoE - Rejection of NFU application to use banned pesticides is 'great news for bees'

The Government's has rejected a second application by the NFU to allow farmers in some parts of England to use two banned bee-harming neonicotinoid pesticides. The move has been warmly welcomed by Friends of the Earth.

Friends of the Earth bee campaigner Dave Timms said: “This is great news for bees and other wildlife. We are delighted the application has been refused. Despite having the advantage of secrecy, the evidence submitted by the NFU failed to convince the Government’s pesticide advisors.

“The NFU risks damaging public trust in British farming with its repeated attempts to get these dangerous pesticides back into our fields – instead they should concentrate on promoting bee-friendly ways to control crop pests. The Government must do all it can to safeguard our under-threat pollinators. This should include maintaining the current ban on bee-harming pesticides - and committing to upholding and enforcing EU nature protection rules, which are now at risk as we plan our Brexit.”

Friends of the Earth had urged the government to refuse the application, pointing out that:

- Government figures show the average UK oilseed rape yield rose nearly 7% last year, in the first harvest after the ban was introduced

- Recent scientific evidence has added to the concerns about the impact of the three neonicotinoid pesticides on bees and other pollinators
- The neonicotinoid seed treatments allowed last year may not have been effective against Cabbage Stem Flea Beetle
- Crop losses due to Cabbage Stem Flea Beetle were lower this autumn, compared to the previous one
- Non-chemical means of minimizing pest damage to crops are available to farmers

Focus on Food – Sheila Brown

Real junk food project at Basecamp

This has now become a tradition for the Saturday evening meal. The Real Junk Food Project intercepts food from supermarkets, restaurants and a number of other sources, that would otherwise go to waste.

This is turned into healthy, nutritious meals for those in need on a pay-as-you-feel donation basis. Volunteers are invited to come along and help prepare and cook the meal.

All food served at Basecamp is either vegetarian or vegan, and clearly marked as such. The meal included an extensive array of delicious salads plus various savoury hot dishes of a high quality.

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Bees – and this is what Emi and FoE's Bee team said

Bees – And this is what Emi and FoE's bee team said

I can't wait to tell you this: yesterday, following advice from its own pesticide experts, the Government rejected another application to use banned bee-harming pesticides. This is a huge win for our bees.

But while our bees can breathe a sigh of relief now, I'm really concerned about what Brexit means for bees and nature in general.

The National Farmers' Union (which already had a similar request to use neonicotinoid pesticides turned down this year) won't be too happy about this. Nor the two giant pesticide companies who supported the proposal (no prizes for guessing why).

Thanks to your support we were able to pull together a stack of evidence to oppose the application and show that bee-friendly methods of farming without neonics are available.

The use of neonics is currently restricted at a European level, but that could all change outside the EU. And that would be catastrophic for bees.

More and more scientific evidence is showing the threat to bee species and other pollinators like butterflies from neonics. As we figure out what Brexit really means for the UK, one thing we can't do is let the Government lift the ban on neonics - there's just no reason to do it.

Just this week we heard more great news that Dorset County Council will ban neonics from council-owned land. Another win for bees and evidence of a growing determination that neonics mustn't be allowed to threaten our green and pleasant land.

Together we can create a future that's better for our bees.

Focus on Food, *continued*

Love Food Hate Waste 10 cities campaign

The Love Food Hate Waste's Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) was rolled out over 10 cities in the UK - targeting Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, Greater Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool City Region, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield and reaching over eight million people across the UK to focus attention on food waste.

The 10 Cities campaign set out to tackle the enormous amount of food and drink thrown away from our homes every year in the UK (that's 7 million tonnes). Partnering with supermarkets, local authorities and community groups in these 10 major UK cities, they organised roadshows, cookery workshops and pop-up cafés to help people to reduce food waste, save their pennies and the planet. Their thanks to everyone who got involved and helped to make the 10 Cities campaign a success.

Marinet – What's been going on ??

Sheila Brown writes: Bromley

Friends of the Earth is a member of Marinet, which campaigns for the marine environment and conservation of fish stocks. Here are some recent new stories from them.

Dredging the Goodwin Sands

A campaign group "Goodwin Sands SOS" has launched a petition to stop dredging by the Port of Dover. The Port of Dover is expected to lodge an application imminently with the Marine Management Organisation in order to seek permission to dredge the Goodwin Sands, scheduled for future designation as a Marine Conservation Zone, in order to obtain sand for the Port's development. The campaign group Goodwin Sands SOS is challenging the Port's right to despoil the Goodwins, and is organising both the arguments and the public opposition to this proposal.

Isle of Wight tidal power scheme approved by the Marine Management Organisation

A tidal power site off the Isle of Wight has been given the green light. Perpetuus has been given the go-ahead from the Marine Management Organisation to place turbines off the south coast of the Island.

The turbines, which will sit on the sea bed 2km from St Catherines Point, are expected to generate enough power for 25 per cent of Island homes, fed from the turbines to a sub-station at Ventnor. It is estimated that work on the project will begin in six to 12 months time, with the aim of producing power within three years.

Floating offshore windfarm gains planning approval

The world's largest floating windfarm is set to be built off the coast of Scotland after its developers were granted a seabed lease on Monday. Statoil, the Norwegian energy company, expects to have five 6MW turbines bobbing in the North Sea and generating electricity by the end of 2017. The company has already operated a single turbine off Norway.

The Hywind turbine is one of the frontrunners in a global race to develop flotillas of floating wind turbines that can conquer the deep oceans and reap the strongest winds on the planet. Existing offshore wind turbines, standing on concrete and steel foundations driven into the ocean floor, flounder on heavy costs when depths are greater than about 40 metres.

More than 40 projects around the world are in various stages of development. Most are inspired by rugged oil and gas rigs that have weathered storms for decades.

Offshore windfarms also largely avoid the difficulties caused by the visual impact of windfarms on land. "Floating offshore wind is an exciting technology with huge, global potential, and it's great to have this world first in Scottish waters," said Lindsay Roberts, at Scottish Renewables.

Marinet's AGM will be held in Bristol on Saturday 10th September, 10.00 am at the Bristol Youth Hostel Conference Room, Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA. Please let me know if you are interested in going.

International Development / International Citizen Service

Oliver Brabner writes: The UK is considered the financial capital of Europe and in 2015 reached the target of spending 0.7% of the GDP towards International Aid. This is selected through the Department for International Development (DFID).

In 2012 DFID funded and piloted the International Citizens Service (ICS) program aimed at engaging young volunteers in working overseas to reduce poverty whilst contributing to the Millennium Development Goal's (MDG) set by the UN back in 2000.

MDG's, now the Global Goals, consist of 17 areas for considerable improvement including, but not exclusive to *Gender Equality, Clean water and sanitation and Climate Action*.

The ICS program is led by VSO working with a consortium of charitable organisations. Each organisation has a specific focus and together they cover a wide variety of sectors.

For example, VSO aims to address a low youth involvement in business development as well as improving health awareness, whereas Y-Care International focuses its efforts in building and strengthening resilience to environmental impacts in smaller, poorer and more vulnerable communities such as the impacts of flooding from sea level rise.

However the consortium is required to meet seven key principles such as *Shared working and learning* - bringing volunteers from the UK and volunteers from the country in focus together.

Additionally, *Active Citizenship* requires the volunteers from both countries to volunteer, fundraise or promote to bring positive change within their community after each placement.

With such a variety of partner organisations focusing on numerous sectors of development each volunteer can select the organisation they would like to work with that best fits their own interest.

The program is aimed for younger people aged 18-25 and 90% is funded by DFID allowing volunteers from a diverse range of backgrounds to take part. Each volunteer is required to attend pre-departure training and fundraising to raise a sum of a minimum of £800. The volunteers then will take part in a 10-12 week placement working and living within a community alongside in-country volunteers.

Once returning to the UK and subsequently returning home for the in-country volunteers, each individual is required to take part in Action@Home and become an active citizen by promoting awareness of the ICS program, continue volunteering or fundraising for a cause of their choice. Since the program was first introduced more than 20,000 young people have volunteered.

The work of this program is setup to tackle global issues therefore works on an international level but working within some of the most vulnerable and poorest communities in locations in

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Light pollution and the danger of cool-white (blue rich) lighting

At Basecamp, Tanja Rebel gave a talk about The Harmful Effects of Blue-Rich Lighting. Light Pollution might seem a small issue among all the crises facing us, Tanja, who calls herself a Light Warrior, enlightened us about the need to find sustainable solutions that are not only energy saving, but also benign to Humans, Flora and Fauna - as well as aesthetically pleasing.

Cool-white (blue-rich) LEDs are being rolled out over the country at an alarming pace, often without proper health- or environmental impact assessments. These cool-white LEDs are detrimental to human and wildlife circadian rhythms as well as the view of the night sky.

Light affects our health and well-being in more ways than one, not to mention the aesthetic component. There are currently very few solutions that successfully combine an understanding of the physiological effects of light with efficiency and aesthetics.

It would seem that outdoor lighting has a multitude of often detrimental effects on the built and natural environments as well as on our health. New lighting technologies offer exciting advances in energy efficiency and cost savings, but also come with potential costs. If existing standards are not adjusted to account for the spectral characteristics of the LED lighting being created and promoted by the lighting industry today, we could, ironically, be faced with higher levels of light pollution, glare, and overlighting.

Outdoor lighting should be installed to minimize its effect on the environment. Good, ecologically responsible outdoor lighting will employ colour temperatures that are as "warm" as feasible, while also eliminating glare and light trespass.

While consumer preference may favour "white" light over HPS and low pressure sodium (LPS) light sources, evidence also clearly shows that the public dislikes blue-rich white light. Fortunately, LED technology is capable of providing all of these requirements efficiently.

Good LED lighting design illuminates the night-time environment while reducing light pollution and energy waste. LED technology allows us to dynamically "tune" the spectrum of the fixture to minimize its impact on the environment, including human health. Therefore, a reasonable balance between maximum energy efficiency and adverse ecological impact can be achieved. Being "green" is not just a question of energy savings.

The choice is clear: we can use responsible standards to guide lighting design, or we can continue to allow uncontrolled lighting to degrade our quality of life and negatively impact human health and ecology. Planners have important roles to play in making the former scenario a reality in their communities. Whilst Air Pollution features high on the environmental Agenda (after Climate Change), Tanja is pushing for Light Pollution to receive the same status.

Mutterings from the Millers - Chris Miller

I thought last month that we may have started haymaking but you can guess what I am going to say. In fact, the grass has now been knocked over by all that rain/hail and the peas have taken a bit of a bashing too. The forecast doesn't look too good for this week either so the haymaking will be delayed again. It will be made, I am sure; some years we have been harvesting wheat and haymaking at the same time. The wheat and barley are putting up with the weather and are looking good.

Steve visited a trial on a farm in Shottenden, near Chilham to see new varieties of wheat being grown. This is a good way of finding out how the new varieties cope with different conditions etc. and this has helped to decide which varieties we will grow for harvest 2017.

He also, besides having lunch there, discussed the possibility of baling the pea straw. We are pleased to report that this can be done and it looks like we have found a buyer down the West Country, which will be feed for cattle. Great stuff.

For those of you who walk the footpath from the church to Warren Road, you may have noticed that the crop on the sides of the path has turned yellow. This is due to the fact that Steve has had to spray the barley to kill it, as the footpath has to measure 1 metre wide. We were fined last year, as the footpath didn't quite measure the required width. Ooops

The first of the swallows have fledged and it is lovely to see them flying around the farm. A sparrow hawk swooped down onto a sparrow right in front of the kitchen window, bad for the sparrow but a great close up of the sparrow hawk!

There is a lovely show of orchids on Chelsfield Green, is it a Pyramidal orchid? Perhaps one of the residents can enlighten us. Not going to say much about the weather forecast other than let's hope St Swithin's Day, 15th July is dry!

*Oh St Swithin if thou'll be fair,
For forty days shall rain nae mair,
But if St Swithin's thou be wet,
For forty days it raineth yet!*

International Development, cont'd

Central America, East and South-East Asia and Africa. The program is conducted at a grassroots level and communities in more than 39 countries have seen the benefits of programs like this. ICS primarily was to run until 2015 but after evaluation of the impact the program will continue to run until at least 2018 where it will be re-evaluated.

To find out more visit:
<http://www.volunteerics.org/>

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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, and 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, and Kent, BR6 7RN.** Other enquiries regarding the group: may be sent by email to bromleyfoe@gmail.com, or telephone our co-ordinators at the telephone numbers above.

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..... Telephone Number.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Email Address.....

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