



Friends of the Earth

Bromley

February 2009 No. 254 Newsletter

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



February Meeting

Friends Meeting House,
Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

**FoE's new campaign for 2009
Food and Farming**

Tuesday 3rd February

7.30pm.

Everyone welcome – bring a friend

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Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by
SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY. Contact details inside front cover.

Articles needed for future newsletters; please contact the editor if you can help.

Diary dates:

February 3rd (Tues)

Bromley FoE's February meeting – The speaker will be Richard Hines who will reveal details of FoE's new campaign – Food and Farming

February 19th (Thurs)

Heathrow protest outside Downing Street – see below

March 3rd (Tues)

Bromley FoE's March meeting- details to be announced later

April 4th (Sat)

Bromley FoE stall, Livestock and Factory Farming, Bromley High Street, outside Caffè Nero, 2pm-4pm

June 4th (Thurs)

Elections to European Parliament; count and results Sunday 7th June

**Heathrow protest outside Downing Street,
5.30 pm Thursday 19th February**

Organised by Campaign against Climate Change,
www.campaigncc.org/heathrow.shtml

Demonstration against the decision to expand Heathrow outside Downing Street, from 5.30pm on Thursday 19th February.

They will never build the 3rd runway but this decision shows that Brown is happy to continue in carbon-intensive-growth-as-usual mode just when we should be sending out a strong signal that we are making climate change priority number one, in advance of the critical Copenhagen Climate Talks coming up in December. This decision has to be challenged to the maximum degree possible!

Bring banners / posters / creative creations / etc that target Brown - and show him up to be anti-environmental / dinosaur / gormless-wally-that-doesn't get climate change etc.

We need to show him there will be a political cost to his decision.

Speakers to be announced later.

Next Newsletter - copy details:

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor **by SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY.**

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

January meeting report, from Sheila Brown

“Is Renewable Energy up to the task?” was the subject addressed by Mick Greenhough at our January meeting.

A mechanical engineer by training, Mick has worked as an engineer all his life and finished up working as an underwater engineer. Whilst in this area he was struck by the power of the tides and, with the looming energy crisis, thought something should be done to harness this. He put forward a scheme of moving parts, to extract energy from the tides, and, by means of an electric motor, converting this to energy. The problem is that this will only work in a limited number of places.

The problem with renewables tends to be that you don't get energy when you want it, and you cannot store it.

Mick devised a system to convert oxygen to hydrogen and storing this in hydride packs; the small hydrogen molecules infiltrate into the interstices in the metal hydride atomic structure. The pack is the size of a suitcase and could be used in cars – it has sufficient energy for 300 miles of travel before being exchanged for a new pack and produces exhaust of pure water. The drawback is the high cost needed to produce the cars that would use this. But – if the prices of electricity and of oil rise sharply, then maybe it would be considered. Further information at www.eoearth.org/article/Hydrogen_storage.

Looking at wind turbines, seen by some as the answer to all our energy problems, Mick said that true costings are not available – from which he draws the conclusion that these are

“too embarrassing”, that wind turbines are not nearly as effective as people would have us believe. A 100 megawatt wind farm only delivers 25 megawatts of energy, meaning that a back-up generator is needed and wind therefore does not replace conventional electricity generation. He concludes that wind turbines are not worthwhile and a waste of money!

A problem is that the gearbox converts from slow movement (turbine sails) to high, which is the wrong way round and results in high maintenance costs and frequent breakdowns. At sea, this constitutes an even bigger problem due to difficult access and adverse weather conditions – so the whole thing is nowhere near as attractive as first thought.

Turning to coal, there is still 500 years' supply under the UK, but the cost of extraction is excessively high. A possible solution could be the gasification of coal, whereby gas is extracted from the coal while it is still underground – but the Government has cancelled research into this.

Gasification of organic rubbish is a further area which needs basic research and might provide usable energy – the question is, whether sufficient to justify research. Another possibility is tapping into the CO₂ absorbed by bacteria and sea creatures. Here the snag is that a “pond” the size of this country would be needed.

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January meeting report, continued

Mick's personal conclusion, after looking at the various alternatives, is that the only solution to achieving the amount of energy we need without bankrupting the country is nuclear energy. The two methods of obtaining this are fission, which splits atoms and is the method in current use, or fusion, the process which takes place inside the sun and which would produce no toxic waste products. Some research is taking place into how to control this procedure using laser techniques.

Why do we need alternative energy? It is obviously not good practice to have dirty coal-fired power stations pouring out sulphurous muck. Other areas to look at might be reflective mirrors, splitting ammonia (high cost), and converting rotting vegetation to methane (not particularly good).

A whole industry has grown up around climate change – but there is still a debate as to whether the world is getting hotter or colder [ironically this talk was given on possibly the coldest night of the year, with snow outside and a temperature of -8°C!]; in the past we have had ice ages and periods of rapid warming.

Mick was personally not convinced that humans are responsible for climate change. His own view was that there are “too many people in the world” and this is the cause of all our problems. The population of Europe was actually decreasing whereas the population of south Asia was expanding enormously. This is “the elephant in the room” and not being talked about.

We have managed to achieve cleaner rivers and cleaner air, but people's lifestyles should be examined – do we need such high energy usage? People used to survive quite happily without central heating. Even doing as we are urged and turning off lights and turning down the heating by a couple of degrees, amounts to a drop in the ocean when compared with the colossal energy use by industry.

We need to reduce our reliance on energy from overseas – we can see how easy it is for Russia to turn the tap off. Reliance on the Middle East is also uncertain as it is such an unstable area. Therefore this dependence on overseas energy needs to be re-assessed. Also more research needs to be done on the cause of climate change.

A lively discussion session followed, with challenges about the long-term consequences of following the nuclear route.

UK renewable energy strategy – request for action by FoE supporters (Graham Hemington)

The Renewable Energy strategy is being drafted now and is due for publication in the Spring. In 2007 the government promised to meet the EU target of 15% of UK energy to come from renewable energy sources by 2020. However, since making that promise, the government has tried to wriggle out of it.

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Campaigns information, from Ann Garrett

CO2 Dangers

Anti-poverty campaigners have warned that the average Briton has already caused more carbon dioxide emissions in 2009 than a person in the poorest countries will create all year.

According to the World Development Movement, the average British carbon footprint was 9.66 tonnes in 2006 as a result of fossil fuels, compared to 0.23 tonnes for developing countries. In effect the world's poorest countries contribute little to climate change, but will suffer most from its consequences.

Beating Feet for Power

The beating of a patient's heart, the shudder of a tube train, and the pounding of thousands of commuters feet on crowded platforms are being exploited as a new source of power.

Engineers and scientists are developing tiny generators that turn the kinetic energy of everyday movements into electricity, which can then power sensors or provide electricity for remote installations. The technology, known as power harvesting in already being tested in helicopter frames, the halls of discos and in volunteer's knee joints in order to generate electricity.

Dr Steve Beeby of Southampton University has fitted harvesters to oil refineries. Vibrations from pipes and pumps drive the devices which in turn generate electricity for sensors. The wind-up radio is an example of the use of human energy, widely used in poorer parts of the world.

Harvesters are also being tried out in dance floors, and installed on a large scale in tube and railway stations these underfloor harvesters could provide a considerable amount of energy in the UK.

How about generating our own energy as we clean the house or have a go on our work-out cycles then?

Soot and Global Warming

According to NASA scientists governments could slow the process of global warming drastically and avert the dangers of climate change by slashing one of the greatest pollutants - soot, known as black carbon.

The NASA study concludes that tackling soot pollution provides substantial benefits for air quality while simultaneously contributing to climate change mitigation, and may present a unique opportunity to engage parties and nations not yet fully committed to climate change mitigation for its own sake.

UK renewable energy strategy (continued)

Underwood Street is asking supporters to write to their MP asking them to request that the government:

- 1) stick to its promise of 15% renewable energy production by 2020 and
- 2) ensure that the Energy Regulator's main job is to cut climate change emissions by prioritising renewables and energy efficiency.

Transport info – Airport night flying threat, *from Ray Watson*

Bromley FoE has uncovered a threat by Biggin Hill Airport to allow night flying by helicopters of the Metropolitan Police Air Support Unit.

The airport is expected to apply soon for a change in the terms of its lease which currently bans night flights. The approval has to be sought from Bromley council, who own the airport on behalf of the borough's residents.

The matter came to light following a letter from BFoE to the borough's Greater London Assembly member James Cleverly, who is also a member of the GLA's police authority. We wrote asking about rumours that the Met's Air Support Unit wanted to move its headquarters from east London to Biggin Hill. In denying such a move was on the cards, the Met revealed in a letter to Mr Cleverly that they had requested permission to use Biggin Hill to re-fuel their helicopters at night.

The airport has confirmed that it has received the request and is now working on a proposal to be submitted to the council to change its lease.

Night flying by helicopters would affect a large part of the borough because of noise levels that exceed that of fixed-wing aircraft due to rotor blades forcing engine noise downwards. Also, helicopters are not restricted to set routes like fixed-wing aircraft.

BFoE has stated: 'While the change would bring extra revenue for the airport, the residents would suffer sleep disturbance, noise and air pollution and a cut in the value of their

homes. Arguments put forward by the police regarding saving time though using Biggin Hill are not convincing and will need to be thoroughly researched by those with detailed knowledge of helicopters'

There is also the question of safety. The approach path for landing and the route for taking-off are over densely populated areas and there have been a number of incidents close to the airport involving both helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, some involving fatalities.

Residents have a further concern. If the lease is revised to accommodate night flying, will the airport use the opportunity to demand loosening of other restrictions in the lease which it has been pushing for over a long period? Much will depend on councillors being willing to protect the interests of their constituents.

ITEM WANTED

Portable television, 1990s style, with teletext and remote control.

Contact Sheila Brown, 01689-851605

BROMLEY FoE STALL

Saturday 4th April
Livestock and Factory Farming

Bromley High Street,
outside Caffe Nero, 2pm – 4pm

Cheaper insulation, more from Rob Clarke

Following last month's tip on getting subsidised wall and roof insulation care of the GLA and British Gas I have found another offer on the Bromley local authority website in cooperation with London Warm Zones. This offer is even cheaper! We've decided to get a survey from both sources and see which takes our fancy but the difference in cost has already weighed the argument heavily in the direction of the Bromley offer.

This is the LBB website reference and below is what it says:
http://www.bromley.gov.uk/housing/energy/grants/discounted_insulation_scheme_london_warm_zone.htm

Discounted Insulation Scheme - London Warm Zone

You can have your home insulated for as little as £94.50 for cavity wall insulation and £105 for loft insulation. These prices are based on the average three bed semi-detached house with no existing insulation. If you are over 70 years of age, you can have loft and cavity wall insulation installed free of charge.

Details

London Warm Zone is a not for profit organisation working in partnership with us to bring you low cost loft and cavity wall insulation. We have made it easy for you to make energy efficiency home improvements that will save you money and reduce the effects of climate change.

The loft and cavity wall insulation is supplied and fitted by London Warm Zone's contractor Osborne Energy. The contractors all carry identity cards

and if you have any doubts, call the London Warm Zone hotline. The funding for the scheme is provided by EDF Energy.

Cost

The guide prices for the installation of loft and cavity wall insulation are as follows:

Cavity Wall Insulation	Full Price	You Pay*
4 bed detached house	£483	£115.50
3 bed semi-detached house	£378	£94.50
2 bed mid terrace house	£263	£115.50
1 bedroom flat	£231	£136.50

Loft Insulation	Full Price	You Pay*
4 bed detached house	£462	£126
3 bed semi-detached house	£305	£105
2 bed mid terrace house	£305	£105
1 bedroom flat	£278	£84

*Prices include VAT at 5% and full installation. Costs are based on non-insulated lofts, prices may vary for lofts that are part insulated. Cavity wall insulation is subject to survey and prices are based on properties built pre-1976.

London Warm Zone, 0800 587 2251,
www.londonwarmzones.co.uk.

CROYDON FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

PRESENT

Live music by the lively

Knock Knead Bumble Bees

Barn Dance!

Saturday 7th March

Doors open 7pm, until 10.30pm

St Augustine's Hall, St Augustine's Rd, Croydon

2 minute walk from Brighton Road bus stops; free on-street parking

Ticket price includes vegetarian supper

Adults - £10

Child (u-16) - £5

Advanced booking strongly recommended due to high demand.

Contact John on 020 8651 3552 or john.sheilak@tiscali.co.uk

The market for recycled materials

Letter from WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) to Local Authority Portfolio Holders

I imagine you will share WRAP's concern about the damage which recent media comment is having on public confidence in recycling. This letter is to alert you to the work WRAP is undertaking, to redress the balance, give reassurance to consumers and to seek your support.

The monitoring which we have been doing in conjunction with the LGA, the Environment Agency and Defra, and with individual local authorities, makes us fairly confident that, while market conditions are difficult, the great majority of material collected for recycling is finding a market. Reports of extensive stockpiling are not justified by the facts. There has been a significant reduction in the prices paid for recycled materials – as there has for virgin materials - which will have implications for local authority finances but even here there is evidence that prices are starting to stabilise.

Paper has clearly borne the brunt of the downturn, however demand does still exist for newspapers and magazines, glass, organic waste, and plastic bottles. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide you and your officers with updates.

Reassuring the public

We are concerned by the risk that media reports will persuade significant numbers of people to stop participating in recycling services and indeed may make it difficult for local authorities to

introduce necessary service improvements. This would inevitably increase the volume, and associated cost to council tax payers, of waste sent to landfill.

On a national level, we are, therefore, planning to remind the public of the benefits of recycling, including through paid advertising if necessary. In 2007/2008, recycled household waste is estimated to have saved 6.5 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent, equal to taking 2 million cars off the road for a year.

Our evidence shows that recycling remains a better option than landfill or incineration, financially and environmentally for the majority of household waste.

It seems likely that it will be easier to get a fair hearing for these issues in regional and local media and we would like to engage your help in this to the extent that you are not doing so already. To help you and your officers proactively communicate these messages to residents, we propose to provide a package of support including media materials that can be tailored for local use. This will be available to them from the end of this week on the Recycle Now partners' website, www.recyclenowpartners.org.uk.

In the current circumstances, information specific to local conditions will be far more influential on the public than general assurances about the national picture and I hope, therefore,

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Waste and Recycling info from Bromley Council

that you will be able to help us in getting these messages across.

I should add that we fully recognise the importance of waste prevention both to the current situation and to the longer term policies for waste. We are increasing our efforts on this too. For example, you may have seen our announcement yesterday of the rapid progress being made by the Love Food Hate Waste campaign we have been running in conjunction with local authorities, in persuading an additional 2 million consumers to cut back on the 6.7m tonnes of food waste and we plan further developments in that campaign shortly. This is a good example of success from working together.

Additional support

WRAP also provides fully-funded support to help councils across England deliver cost and resource efficient recycling services, and to aid

them in communicating with residents. If you would like to find out more about WRAP, or discuss the current market situation in more detail, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me directly. You can email me at phillip.ward@wrap.org.uk, or call me on 01295 819 621.

In conclusion...

It is crucial that the public and the media – on a national, regional and local level – hear the message that continued recycling, along with waste prevention, is key in helping make better use of our natural resources and preventing valuable materials from ending up in costly landfill. We would very much like to work with you in getting this message across.

Thanks to Bromley's Environment Portfolio holder, Cllr Colin Smith, for making this letter available

FoE's Change Your World - Climate Update – Power to the People

We did it! We've won not only the world's first Climate Change Law with legally binding targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but we've also won all three of our big demands.

Due to become law this month, the Climate Change Act 2008 mandates a Committee on Climate Change (CCC) - an expert body to advise the Government on setting and reporting on greenhouse gas budgets. The CCC will set 'indicative annual ranges' - that's the annual targets we always wanted - which the Government must hit over the 5-year budgets.

These budgets must result in us hitting at least an 80 per cent cut in greenhouse gases by 2050 - our second big win. Finally, the UK's international aviation and shipping emissions must be counted - our third big win.

These won't be covered in the budgets, but if these emissions don't reduce fast enough then cuts need to be made in other sectors to make ensure that, overall, we stay on track to hit our targets. Well done and thanks to everyone who contributed to this campaign over the last 3 years!

Instant resolutions from Friends of the Earth

Get 2009 off to a fresh start with 9 quick ideas to help you go a little greener in the New Year

1. Pull the plug

Switch electrical appliances off at the wall, rather than leave them on standby. If everybody took this simple step, we'd make an annual saving in carbon dioxide equivalent to 1.4 million long-haul flights.

2. Say no to junk mail

The Mailing Preference Service will help you cut back on the amount of wasted paper in circulation by removing your name from UK direct mailing lists. Visit their website to register.

3. Click for victory

Join one of our email campaigns pressing for better laws to protect the planet. These take just a couple of minutes to complete and make a real difference.

4. Make your mark

A quarter of all energy used in domestic cooking goes to heating electric kettles. Avoid overfilling the kettle and wasting energy. Mark the outside with a felt-tip to show how much you'll need for one, two, three and four cups.

5. Eat locally and seasonally

Support home-grown quality produce and avoid excessive food miles by eating seasonal UK produce. Check out Eat the Seasons online to see what's available each month.

6. Friendly flushing

Avoid wasting water by reducing the amount of water your toilet uses. Fill a plastic bottle with water, seal it, and then place it in your cistern. The toilet will still flush effectively but will use much less water. Conserving water helps to preserve wetland habitats and rivers that are vitally important for wildlife.

7. Power without the struggle

If you haven't already switched to a green electricity tariff, why not make the change today? You'll be getting your electricity from clean, renewable sources like wind turbines - saving masses of carbon emissions.

Guidelines on green energy tariffs are changing, so visit the Green Electricity website for up-to-date advice. Once you've decided which one suits you best, you can switch to green power at the uSwitch website.

8. Eat less meat

According to the UN, the global livestock industry creates more carbon emissions than all forms of transport. In addition to this, large areas of South American rainforest are being cleared to grow soy for animal feed - making the problem worse. If you do eat meat, try buying less but better-quality produce from local organic sources.

9. Better by bike

Ditch the car for short-distance journeys and use pedal power. You'll slash personal carbon emissions, beat traffic and get fitter. What's not to like? See our transport advice for more info on getting from A to B the green way.

FoE's CYW - Turning words into action

December 2009 may seem a long way off, but it's frighteningly close when the world has a global climate deal to agree. International climate campaigner Tom Picken tells us what needs to happen

More than 30 Friends of the Earth groups from our international network are currently in Poland for the annual UN Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations (1 - 12 December). Top of the agenda is agreeing tough new targets for the next phase of the Kyoto Protocol - and deciding how to achieve them.

We are already half-way through the two-year 'Bali Roadmap' - a process agreed in Indonesia last year to culminate in a global agreement at the Copenhagen climate talks in December 2009. But progress is well behind schedule.

So what needs to happen?

The heart of our international climate work is campaigning for a fair and effective agreement. As well as sufficiently ambitious targets, we need sound policies: we need to prevent dangerous climate change, while supporting the billions of people who live in poverty across the world without access to energy to achieve clean sustainable development.

Three parts of the emissions reductions puzzle must come together.

- Industrial emissions must get close to zero by the middle of the century - with a peak and steep decline as early as 2015 in wealthy countries

- Emissions resulting from food production must reduce to sustainable levels
- The world's remaining forests must stay standing.

This must happen hand-in-hand with stronger regulation to make our global economics more equitable - clean investment must become the norm and industrialised countries must support a just global transition to a low carbon future whilst also compensating those at risk from inevitable climate impacts.

Countdown to Copenhagen 2009

Next December thousands of people from all over the world are expected to converge on the city of Copenhagen for the UN's crucial climate talks. We'll be there with Friends of the Earth International alongside world leaders, lobbyists, other NGOs and activists to call for urgent action at this pivotal summit.

We're currently developing our activism plans for Copenhagen 2009 and working closely with the Stop Climate Chaos coalition, Friends of the Earth Europe and NOAH (Friends of the Earth Denmark). What is certain is that, like previous summits, there will be lots of creative ways to take action.

ARTICLES WANTED

FOR BROMLEY FoE NEWSLETTER

If you can help, please contact John Street at the address on page 2

FoE's CYW – Fuel Poverty and Feed-in Tariffs

Fuel poverty case update

The High Court has ruled that the Government has not broken the law by failing to keep homes warm, despite allowing the number of households in fuel poverty to reach the highest level in ten years.

This was in response to Friends of the Earth and Help the Aged taking the Government to court in early October - challenging its failure to meet its legal obligation to do everything reasonably possible to eradicate fuel poverty.

The result reveals a huge loophole in the law - the Court ruled that the Government only needed to spend money already allocated to fuel poverty and that, despite the growing scale of the problem, it was allowed to decide that other measures would not be reasonably practicable.

The Court also ruled that the Government's duty was simply to implement its fuel poverty strategy, but didn't comment on the quality of the strategy. In fact, the Government's fuel poverty strategy is out of date and never set out a costed plan to help all households struggling to heat and power their homes.

Friends of the Earth and Help the Aged will now put pressure on the Government to revise its fuel poverty strategy, to include a far more effective and comprehensive programme of domestic energy efficiency - to simultaneously end suffering from fuel poverty and help tackle climate change.

Feed-in tariffs success

Investment in renewable energy is desperately needed to combat climate change. However, the Government currently gives little support to smaller scale renewable projects - like solar panels on roofs of homes and businesses or community wind farms and water turbines.

A study by the Energy Saving Trust showed that over 40 per cent of the UK's electricity could come from smaller scale renewables like these. Currently, only 5 per cent of our electricity comes from renewable sources. Friends of the Earth has been campaigning for a 'feed-in tariff' that rewards homes, businesses, and communities that generate green energy.

Campaign success

When Friends of the Earth first started talking about feed-in tariffs, the government said they would never do it. Now, thanks to all your hard work, we've changed their minds. Ed Miliband, Minister for the new department for Energy and Climate Change, promised to introduce a feed-in tariff to the Energy Bill in October 2008.

But we still need the government to deliver on its promises. They must confirm how the scheme will work, what payment it will give for each renewable technology, and how long the payment will be guaranteed for.

FoE's CYW - Campaign wins in 2008

Together we've delivered some very effective and hard-hitting campaigns in 2008. There have been so many campaigns that we can't list them all here - but here's a brief look back at some of the highlights of 2008.

Rights and justice

We've spoken up together for people's right to be heard within the planning system, as the Government has sought to limit community involvement over major new projects like motorways and airports.

In June, we acted for a resident of Port Talbot who lives near the Corus Steelworks - a place with one of the worst air qualities in the UK. Our lawyers made sure that the Welsh Assembly Government met their legal obligations and got them to adopt an air quality action plan.

Also in June, and acting for the Alliance Against Urban 4x4s, our lawyers got the Government to change the rules on car advertisements so that, in future, all billboards will need to contain clear and prominent carbon dioxide emission information for cars.

Biofuels summer of action

119 local groups took part in the Biofuels Summer of Action, lobbying MEPs and raising public awareness of the issues. As a result, we have shaped the biofuels debate at a European level and MEPs have acknowledged our concerns about the impacts of biofuels on the environment and communities.

Now the European Parliament has included safeguards in the legislation,

and has reduced the target for the amount of transport fuel that must come from biofuels by 2020.

GM

In March 2008 the Food Standards Agency declared that GM rice was "unsafe" thanks to Friends of the Earth taking them to the High Court: <http://snipurl.com/4qpp4>

Resource use

The new European Waste Framework Directive was finalised after MEPs voted in June to accept a deal with member state governments - and we improved it considerably compared to the draft Directive published in December 2005. The final deal includes Europe's first ever general recycling targets, and will become law by the end of 2008.

The UK Without Incineration Network of anti- incineration groups has gone from strength to strength, with over 30 member groups signed up. Find out more about the network at <http://www.ukwin.org.uk>

Tackling the role of supermarkets

Throughout its enquiry into supermarkets' trading practices, the Competition Commission has remained under consistent pressure from Friends of the Earth to stick up for smaller shops - it received around 11,500 postcards and emails. The Commission's final report agreed to toughen up the Code of Practice governing dealings between supermarkets and their suppliers; and to recommend the appointment of an independent Ombudsman to police it.

Bromley Friends of the Earth - List of Contacts

Co-ordinators:

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Press Officer:

vacant

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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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