



**friends of  
the earth  
Bromley**

**February 2021**

No 397

**Our Next Meeting**

**KLO Financial  
Services**

*Representatives from these independent  
financial advisors*

Speak on:

**Socially Responsible Investment**

***Virtual meeting***

*Due to Coronavirus and following advice from Friends of the Earth, our  
next monthly meeting will be a virtual one. See page 2 for full details.*

*Usually 7.30pm The Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley*

Everyone always welcome

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**NEWSLETTER**

## Next Month's Meeting Participation

If you would like to be involved in the **February** Monthly Meeting, then it will be a virtual Zoom meeting once more. Please let us know if you'd like to attend by either emailing [bromleyfoe@gmail.com](mailto:bromleyfoe@gmail.com) or leaving a message on 020 8289 1503, and we will then send you details of how to join in, nearer the time.

You can either join using your computer (with video or without) or on a smart phone. There is usually a phone number to dial in for any other phone available.

Specific meeting content details are below. The first half will be our speaker and the second half will be for BFoE business.

*If you can't attend this meeting, or just find yourself with some spare time, perhaps we can encourage you to become 'Armchair Activists'. Do your own bit of campaigning, perhaps inspired by something in our newsletters, and let us know what response you get.*

### Diary Dates

**Please note that due to the Coronavirus, many events have had to be cancelled**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Feb (Tues)** BFoE Monthly Meeting 7.30pm. Speakers John Glavey, Matt Booton and Massimo Vanni will speak on ethical investments, what they are, when they started and how they compare to standard investments in these turbulent times. Do you know where your savings or pension money is invested?

**29th-31st Jan** RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

This is correct at the time of going to press but obviously will be updated in the next monthly newsletter. If you need any further information on any events in the meantime, you can email us on [bromleyfoe@gmail.com](mailto:bromleyfoe@gmail.com)

**If any of the items in this newsletter make you angry, delight you, enthuse you or cause you any emotion other than apathy, then please jot down a line or two and send it into the newsletter.**

**Note that there are several internet links in this newsletter which may be impractical to type into a browser. If you would like access to any of them then please let us know and we will send you an electronic copy of the newsletter where you can just click on the links.**

## Next Newsletter Copy

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views, articles for sale will all be considered for publication. Please send them to the editor via one of the methods below to arrive not later than **midnight Friday 12th February**

**Post:** 17 Everard Avenue, Hayes, Kent BR2 7LR

**Email:** Robert.clark9@btinternet.com (please write 'Newsletter' in the subject line)

**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.



## January Monthly Meeting Report

Anne Clark

Preceding our annual A.G.M., Paula Lloyd MFHT, of the Bromley Holistic Therapy Centre, kindly spoke to us about toxic free living (Pursue What's Pure), as far as essential oils & related products are concerned. These are ethically sourced, respecting and supporting communities, the earth, and our health.

Her interest began as a child when her father was ill and had bad eczema. By experimenting with different organically grown plants, food and oils he managed to cure his ailments, and was passionate about the subject.

Her mother helped in finding the best aromatherapy oils, and even a massage or spray to your own body can be so rewarding in health and mind.

Companies such as doTERRA (YouTube), On Guard, Salon Essentials and VerAge, can be found on social media, and work closely with farmers who grow plants

organically - on herbicide and pesticide - free soil too.

It is so good to back good production and sustainable jobs. It has been found that you can 'buy' an 'Organic' certificate for a high price too, if it is of any advantage to a grower, so always be wary! Side effects on the human body (and animals too) and all sorts of minor irritations can be caused by everyday products that we buy, even though we and our immune systems usually adapt. Always try and read the ingredients, and teach our children to observe what is contained in our toothpaste, hand/body wash, shampoos, and laundry products, even if it says 'pure', as although every one of us is different, some of us are sensitive or allergic to the small amount of poisonous chemicals that we (and the earth, rivers, seas and air) can accept, day to day.

Questions were asked and plants named that produce essential oils ie

## SHAMPOO

Average Number of Chemicals: 15

**MOST WORRYING:** Sodium Lauryl Sulphate; propylene Glycol, Methylisothiazoline

**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Neurological damage in fetus, irritation, possible eye damage

## EYE SHADOW

Chemicals: 26

**MOST WORRYING:** Polyethylene terephthalate  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** linked to cancer, infertility, hormone disruption, damage to body's organs

## FOUNDATION

Chemicals: 24

**MOST WORRYING:** Polymethyl Methacrylate  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Disrupts immune system, allergies, links to cancer

## LIPSTICK

Chemicals: 33

**MOST WORRYING:** Polymethyl, Methacrylate  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Allergies, linked to cancer

## PERFUME

Chemicals: 250

**MOST WORRYING:** Benzaldehyde, Toluene  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Sperm damage, linked to cancer, organ irritant, hormone disruption

## BODY LOTION

Chemicals: 32

**MOST WORRYING:** Methylparaben, Propylparaben, Polyethylene glycol (also found in cleaners)  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** rashes, irritation, hormone disruption

## HAIRSPRAY

Average Number of Chemicals: 11

**MOST WORRYING:** octinoxate, isophthalates  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Allergies, hormone disruption, irritation to eyes, nose, & throat, changes in cell structure

## BLUSH

Chemicals: 16

**MOST WORRYING:** Ethylparabens, Methylparabens, Propylparaben  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** rash, irritation, hormone disruption

## DEODORANT

Chemicals: 32

**MOST WORRYING:** Aluminum Zirconium, Isopropyl Myristate  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** organ irritation, hormone disruption

## NAIL POLISH

Chemicals: 31

**MOST WORRYING:** Phthalates  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** Linked to hormone disruption, fertility issues, linked to cancer and problems in developing babies

## FAKE TAN

Chemicals: 22

**MOST WORRYING:** Ethylparaben, Methylparaben, Propylparaben  
**POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS:** rashes, irritation, hormone disruption

**PINK** = Linked to Cancer  
**BLUE** = Could Affect Your Fetus

Geranium, Lavender, Cloves, and many more - all with their special qualities. Paula personally advised not heating oils, or honey, and she herself only used coconut oil in cooking.

## **Part Two**

Sheila Brown

### **AGM Report 2021**

This took place on Zoom and 23 members participated.

There was a brief review of 2020 which started normally with 3 'live' meetings in the Friends Meeting House, two with speakers. Since May we have had online meetings and now have a Zoom subscription (following an unsuccessful experimentation with Jitsi!) so now have unlimited time for meetings as the free meetings terminate after 40 minutes and some people did not log in a second time. In May we watched and discussed The Story Of Plastic film, then had four meetings with online speakers including Professor Alan Aylward of The Woodland Trust and Professor Frank Kelly, Director of the Environment Group at Imperial College. We continue to network with Greener and Cleaner Bromley and Beyond and have been involved in various initiatives, consultations and responses. Full details in the Round-up on page 7.

### **Approval of accounts**

The Treasurer presented the accounts, which were approved, and a donation of £120 to Friends of the Earth was proposed and agreed, and also the usual £50 donation to Marinet. Further comments on accounts follow.

## **Election of officers**

Last year Ann and Sheila had agreed to continue as Mentor Co-ordinators, hoping others would come forward to take over. Unfortunately, two people who might have done so have become more involved elsewhere and are no longer able to do this. We very much hope that someone/two people might think about stepping up and we will happily mentor them for a gradual transition to ease them into the role. Thanks were recorded to Ann and Sheila. Those serving in the Admin team (Judy, Annette and Rob) were happy to continue. Ann and Sheila expressed grateful thanks for all that they do behind the scenes. Sheila was happy to continue as Treasurer. These positions were all agreed.

The following positions were agreed en bloc:

Membership Secretary: Dan Sloan

Newsletter Editor: Rob Clark

Newsletter production/distribution:  
Dan Sloan

Instagram and Twitter: Emmanuelle Coetzee

Website and Technical support: Peter Gandolfi

Programme Organiser: Sheila Brown

Press Officer/ Press Team: existing team  
Ann Garrett, Annette Rose

Outings: John and Sue Bocock

Merchandising: Anne Clark

Planning Monitor: Tamara Galloway

**Bromley FoE Accounts for year ended December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**  
**PROVISIONAL - UNAUDITE**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Balance at January 1st</b>	<b>1,937.89</b>	<b>1,408.65</b>	<b>1,250.38</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions	336.00	423.00	383.00
Subs via PayPal	170.00	65.00	0.00
Donations	174.00	*216.60	*332.50
Hall collection	170.20	496.36	446.94
Tea profits	25.64	92.80	69.98
Stall income/goods sold	68.00	160.36	131.96
Open Garden	0.00	687.40	413.30
Miscellaneous, adjustments	5.77	120.00	15.00
	<b>949.61</b>	<b>2,261.52</b>	<b>1,792.68</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Hall hire/meeting expenses	293.88	500.00	500.00
Newsletter	530.90	486.30	459.30
Stall rentals & other expenses	0.00	93.16	20.00
Campaign expenses	0.00	116.26	385.11
Speaker expenses/gifts	25.00	166.82	45.00
Payments to other organisations	150.00	100.00	105.00
Donations to National FoE	150.00	120.00	120.00
Other (including gifts)	20.00	149.74	0.00
	<b>1,169.78</b>	<b>1,732.28</b>	<b>1,634.41</b>
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for year</b>	<b>(220.17)</b>	<b>529.24</b>	<b>158.27</b>
<b>Balance at December 31st</b>	<b>1,717.72</b>	<b>1,937.89</b>	<b>1,408.65</b>

Teas: suspended while no meetings in the hall

Meeting Reporters: John and Sue Bockock, Anne Clark, Annette Rose, Peter Gandolfi, Tom Coling, Sheila Brown. Further additions to this team are sought.

**Thanks** were recorded to Bill Priestley who had served as Fundraising Officer since 2014, holding six Open Garden days which raised phenomenal amounts of money. Bill is possibly moving away from the area so will be unable to continue in this role. Grateful thanks also to Mary Ingledew who has been serving refreshments at our meetings for several years, ably assisted by Sylvia Chance. Over the past couple of years, Mary also put in a great deal of work towards revamping our website, for which we are very grateful. Unfortunately, due to ill health, Mary has had to step down so we are now looking for someone with interest and expertise in this area to take this forward.

### **New Campaign Categories and Teams**

In October, Friends of the Earth re-organised their campaigning areas into the following categories:

**Climate** - which includes Heathrow/Airport Expansion; Green and Fair recovery; Climate Friendly Communities; Renewable Energy

**Nature** - concentrating mainly on Trees and Bees

**System Change** - Trade; Planning and Environmental Law; Anti-Racism

**Consumption** - Food and the Environment; Plastics

Volunteers signed up for most of these areas. Please see List of Roles on page 19.

### **Round-up of 2020**

11 monthly meetings - 3 'live' meetings in hall, 8 online

2 'live' speakers in hall, 1 film online, 5 speakers online

12 Newsletters

Involvement in set-up of Bromley Environmental Network

Working with Greener and Cleaner Bromley and Beyond

Working on Air Quality Action Plan

Ongoing participation in Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan

Involvement in London Borough of Bromley Open Space Strategy Consultation

Response to Bromley Environmental Plan and Town Centre Consultation - emphasising the need to look at Infrastructure with regard to meeting its CO<sub>2</sub> targets and suggesting looking at Zero Carbon homes

Campaigning re Bromley Town Centre Development

Great British September Clean - Litter picking in various locations

Participation in London Co-ordinator Zoom meetings

Participation in FoE Metro Mayor Election workshop ahead of May's GLA elections

Continued participation in Global Schools Strikes and Youth 4 Climate

Saw the opening of more waste free and refill shops locally

Ongoing plastics campaigning

Support for Horse Hill anti-fracking camp

Outings and walks

### Comments on Year-End Accounts

A very unusual year with only three meetings in the hall, therefore a saving on hall rental. However, we did invest in a subscription to Zoom to allow unlimited time for meetings. There was a significant drop in our overall expenditure: as there were no fêtes or fairs during the year, there was no expenditure on stall rental, and there was no campaigning expenditure.

Our income, however, was significantly down with only three 'live' meetings before Lockdown, although we had very high attendance at these three meetings and extremely generous donations. The 'tea' profits for these months were also well above average.

Our subscription income held up well and with added donations covered our meeting costs. (The majority of people add a donation to their sub, ranging from £2 to £17). In 2018 and 2019 our donation income was boosted by donations in memory of Sylvia Priestley.

Our normal stall income was this year replaced by income from re-user items from Graham and plants sold by Anne and Bill. Unfortunately, the significant income from Bill's Open Gardens has come to an end, but leaves us with a healthy legacy.

### Part Three

**Bromley Open Space Strategy:** An official response from Bromley Friends of the Earth has been sent, but John Pavitt emphasised how important it was for people to make individual responses as the number of responses received seems to carry more weight than the weight of the arguments put forward. Respondents were encouraged to send a copy to Colin Brand (Director of Environment and Public Protection) as well. Diana reported she had followed the link to the Survey Monkey questionnaire and said that answers by this method were somewhat impersonal and she'd not been confident that the survey had gone through, but did subsequently receive confirmation that it had.

**Heathrow Airport:** The court had ruled that expansion (3<sup>rd</sup> runway) could go ahead. However, given the current economic climate and dramatic pull back from air travel and with airports running at a fraction of their normal capacity, it may be hoped that this may be stalled for quite some time, and then hopefully reviewed.

Friends of the Earth list **Heathrow** as an issue under the Climate campaign heading. Ann felt that, rather than just focussing on Heathrow, the campaign should be called **Airport Expansion** and cover all possible expansion, eg City Airport.

**Walks/Outings :** Sue and John tried the Farthing Downs Coulsdon walk (described by Rob in the December Newsletter) and further recommend

this. The Café at Bonnington Square keep sending out notifications; they were currently only offering takeaway but Sue suggested that, once restrictions are lifted and we are able to travel and mix freely again, we hold a celebratory meal there in their downstairs room. Something to look forward to! Please do email any ideas for walks (or future outings) to Sue and John.

**Planning:** Ann had sent in a further objection from us to development of the Maplin site, where a multi-storey building was proposed; this has now been reduced from 16 to 12 storeys, but is still massively out of keeping with the area and would have a detrimental effect on the character of the town. It would dominate the area, plus it would overlook the conservation area. The three Bromley Town Centre councillors are also opposed to this. Bromley Civic Society had produced graphics illustrating how the development would look.

Meetings will continue on Zoom for the foreseeable future. We are grateful to Rob for facilitating and co-ordinating these.

## Subscriptions

We have a button on our web page which allows people to pay a joining fee or renew their subscription to BFoE using paypal, the online payment method. Annoyingly, paypal charge us a hefty percentage for each transaction and so the usual £8 fee is eaten away by the time it hits our bank account.

Therefore we have agreed to increase the subscription amount when paying via paypal to £9 to cover these associated charges. The online messaging will reflect this.

## Miller's Mutterings

Chris Miller - Court Lodge Farm

Happy New Year to you all! Some of you may have passed the farm and noticed that "Bertie" has returned. We felt that we all needed cheering up so Peter and Steve rebuilt him.

The chickens were rehoused in the greenhouse on the 14<sup>th</sup> December following government rules on the avian flu. With the windows and door open and covered with mesh to stop wild birds entering, they seem quite happy in there. At least they keep dry.

December was another wet month with 120 mms of rain which, as you can imagine, has made the ground very wet, so nothing has been done in the fields.

The trees from the farm to the main road are quite large now and are in need of urgent attention but it is so dangerous trying to work on them. With the forthcoming roadworks for the new roundabout, we hope that our part of the road will be closed and then the boys can work on them safely.

The famous lines of John Keats reflect

the fact that St. Agnes Eve, 20<sup>th</sup> January, is reputedly the coldest day of the year in southern Britain. St. Hilary's Day, 12th January, has the same reputation in the North.

St Agnes Day, ah bitter chill it was

The owl for all his feathers was so cold

The hare limped trembling through the

frozen grass

And silent stood the sheep in dusky fold.

## Nice Things

During this rather miserable time of pandemic and lockdown, it would be nice if we could have a column dedicated to the small things that cheer us up. If

you have anything to mention, then do please send it in, if only to make others smile.

### Owls

We've lived in Hayes for 18 years but this month for the first time we have heard an owl in the trees lining our street. We don't have a particularly rural street but it is close to Hayes Farm.

The twit twooing is very clear and listening carefully I could hear a response from some distance away. I've no idea what type of owl it is, as it's usually very dark, but the sound is somehow uplifting.

### Bromley Church House Gardens

Kari Sylvester of the Friends of Bromley Town Centre Parks and Gardens group took





the following photo of the lake in Bromley Church House Gardens on a cold January morning when it was even snowing a little !

## **Metal Farming (Agromining)**

Peter Gandolfi

It has been known for decades that certain plant species are capable of absorbing high concentrations of metals, probably to act as a defence against pests.

This is only possible in certain areas with soils that in the past have originated from deep down in the Earth's crust and pushed to the surface

by tectonic activity, with its content of metals and other rare earth elements.

In 1997, Rufus Chaney from the US Dept of Agriculture, demonstrated that certain plants could be harvested, and that nickel could be extracted.

More recently, a shrub has been found in Borneo that contains up to 25% by weight of nickel in its sap, and now this specific shrub is being used there to farm metal, yielding 250 kg of nickel a year per hectare, with a current value around \$4000.

(A hectare is about 1.5 football pitches, or the ground inside a 400 metre athletic track).

Agromining is now being tried nearer home. In Albania, where the soils are suitable, a plant is used that looks rather like kale. Yields are not as good as those in tropical Borneo, but still around 200kg of nickel per hectare, worth around \$3000, which could be a sustainable price. In the UK, a hectare of wheat sells for around \$2100.

This process also scores well environmentally. The plants take up CO2 which is released when burnt as part of the extraction process, but this is used to heat nearby buildings. So the process can be carbon neutral.

A team from the University of Lorraine have been assessing the use of a fern that grows naturally on the waste heaps from rare earth metal mines in China with the aim of harvesting around 300 kg of mixed rare earth metals per hectare.

Suitable soils can be quite poor quality for normal farming, and many farms on suitable land for agromining in Greece, Albania and Bulgaria are now being abandoned.

This technique will work with a range of metals, including the rare earth elements now in great demand for our essential everyday technologies.

*Based on a recent article from New Scientist*

## **Maplin High Street Site Objection**

Dear Planning Officer,

Bromley Friends of the Earth still wish to object to the proposal.

We are pleased to see the heritage frontage is to be maintained, that the height has been reduced to 12 storeys and the building moved further back from the High Street.

However, even at 12 storeys this is still far too high and seems very oppressive, setting a precedent for future new buildings in this part of the High Street, especially as the site is adjacent to a conservation area.

The design is still unimaginative, aesthetically unpleasing, and an extremely ugly design. It is also detrimental to the heritage of central Bromley.

Surely improvements could have been made to the design after our original objection. There is a feeling that costs dictate, but this is detrimental to the environment and the legacy we are leaving to future generations.

A number of younger people will also be having to live in another 'concrete monster'. Although this is a planning application by a private developer, can the LBB be proud of this type of design?

We think not, especially as the town centre ward councillors are opposed to it.

Where are the visionary architects and town planners that Bromley and our country so badly needs?

It is yet another example of Bromley's piecemeal development and lack of a co-ordinated planning strategy, where financial gain is paramount.

### **Fracking by Stealth**

Ann Garrett

Energy company Rathlin is drilling for oil and gas in the Yorkshire village of West Newton. The process is virtually the same as fracking, and the community's rural home is under threat.

Swathes of stunning Yorkshire countryside are about to be turned into a massive gas and oil field.

For years, Rathlin Energy has been taking over the countryside surrounding the small village of West Newton. It's about to double operation and build two more oil wells.

Local community campaigners are having a tough time sustaining their opposition

### **Oil Drilling Chant**

**They're drilling here and they're drilling there**

**The oil rig's engines shunt and whirr**

**The USA the drilling rigs stretch across skylines far**

**The earth is scorched by the sticky black tar**

**The air is polluted from the chemicals used**

**Fresh waterbeds mingle with the toxics infused**

**Energy companies say it's perfectly safe**

**But it's profits they're after - all part of the race**

**At Horse Hill, the Gatwick Gusher churns away**

**It's tough keeping UK Oil and Gas at bay**

**They're drilling here and they're drilling there**

**It's just like fracking, so be very aware**

**In Yorkshire brave campaigners have begun to protest**

**West Newton is top of the oil company's quest**

**More investments in alternatives is the only way**

**if we're to save our lands from future decay**

**Ann Garrett Ashley [Nov 2020]**

during the pandemic and the cold winter months, and require support. [See poem ' Oil Drilling Chant' ].

## **Open Space Strategy Letter**

Dear Councillor William Huntington-Thresher

We are writing on behalf of Bromley Friends of the Earth. We have seen your recent press release and are so pleased that you have received over 800 responses to the Draft Open Space Strategy. It is a good indication of how the public value our open spaces. It will be very interesting to see the results of the analysis of the responses.

We have not seen any of the deliberately misleading comments on social media that you refer to. It is good to hear your confirmation that there is no intention to sell any park. It would be appreciated if you would also confirm that there is no intention to sell any other categories of open space. Other categories including woodlands, countryside, cemeteries, allotments, sportsgrounds, meadows, and a variety of simple green space, all of which is valuable to the community in its own way.

Certainly, a number of members of the public have been concerned about the meaning of some of the words used in

the Draft Open Space Strategy. It would be extremely helpful if you could clarify what is meant by terms such as reconfiguration, repurpose, alteration, reassignment, development, disposal etc. It would also be helpful to know where and why these actions will take place. It is possible that some of these terms may have been the reason for any misinterpretation. So clarification will be helpful.

As you are aware, Bromley Friends of the Earth have for many years been committed to working towards environmental improvements. Our group will be very pleased to work positively with you, the Council and Ideverde with the aim of promoting and enhancing the Borough's open spaces.

Yours faithfully,

Ann Garrett and Sheila Brown [ Joint Coordinators of Bromley Friends of the Earth ]

## **Campaigns**

New FoE campaign areas!

Recently, Friends of the Earth have reorganised their campaign areas into the following:

- Climate - this covers
- Heathrow
- Green & fair recovery
- Climate friendly communities
- Renewable Energy

Nature -

Trees & bees

System Change -

Trade

Planning & Environmental law

Anti-racism

Consumption -

Food & the environment

Plastics

## **Climate**

### ***Global Experts Question UK's Climate Commitment***

Boris Johnson's government is investing only 12% of what is needed to tackle the climate emergency and the growing threat to nature, according to a new report which raises concerns about the UK's commitment to the green agenda.

The study says that ministers need to commit £33bn each year to green causes.

In 2021, the UK will chair the Glasgow COP26 climate change summit, and their initiatives will be influential. It is seen by Biden and other leaders as a critical test of the world's determination to limit global warming.

Ann Garrett

### ***Nuclear Energy***

It is estimated in an MP's report that nuclear sites will take 120 years to dismantle.

The cost will also be very high - decommissioning the UK's civil nuclear sites will cost generations of taxpayers £132 billion.

The Public Accounts Committee blamed a 'sorry saga' of failed contracts, 'weak' government oversight and 'perpetual' lack of knowledge of the state of nuclear sites. A clear break with the failures of the past is needed for the project to progress.

Meanwhile there is the ongoing problem of how past and present nuclear waste should be safely dealt with.

Ann Garrett

### ***Heathrow Expansion***

Heathrow has won the latest battle in its bid for a third runway. - but campaigners are vowing to pursue their challenge in Europe.

Supreme Court judges backed airport chiefs and the government, who say the expansion will allow global Britain to become a reality.

Environmental campaigners say they will launch a new appeal with the European Court of Human Rights. They are a mixture of groups including Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and Plan B earth, and mayor Sadiq Khan.

On December 17th an earlier Court of Appeal ruling was overturned which said that the government had failed to take into account its own climate commitments and adhere to the Paris Agreement.

Ann Garrett

## Consumption

### Facts and figures about what we eat

**14.5%**

of global climate changing gases are due to meat and dairy production<sup>24</sup> (more than all forms of transport)

**50%**

of habitable land<sup>25</sup> around the world is used to produce food

**45,000**

early deaths could be prevented in the UK every year if we ate low meat diets

**£42.43**

is the average weekly food spend<sup>26</sup> per person in the UK

**Over 10 m**

tonnes of food<sup>27</sup> is wasted in the UK annually

**8 bn**

animals are killed for meat<sup>28</sup> every year in the UK

## System Change

### How does what we buy and sell impact the environment?

The impacts of the things we buy go far beyond profits or consumer satisfaction.

- Was the person who produced that product paid properly and treated fairly?
- Did its production, transportation or use cause pollution, deforestation, or climate breakdown?
- Can it be reused or disposed of safely?

The decisions made by governments, businesses and individuals about which goods and services enter the country, the shops and our homes can mean the difference between sustainable, low-carbon production or increased damage to our planet.

## Nature

### **Bees**

It has been widely reported in the press that the government is allowing

the use of pesticides containing neonicotinoid thiamethoxam on sugar beet in this country, chemicals that are

banned in the EU. The government has bowed to pressure from the sugar lobby it seems.

There is a petition here to protest against this decision.

[https://secure.avaaz.org/campaign/en/uk\\_neonics\\_loc/?cdZxKab](https://secure.avaaz.org/campaign/en/uk_neonics_loc/?cdZxKab)

Robert Clark

## More Than Weeds

An interesting project to be involved in, I would think, for those of us who are **not** tidy gardeners! More Than Weeds is a project aimed at changing people's perception of urban plants which grow on walls and in the cracks of paving.

The founder, Sophie Leguil who is a French botanist living in London, would like to work with local authorities, community groups and nature conservation organisations to 'embrace urban biodiversity'. You can join in by sending in photos via all social media platforms. Here is their website but there is also a link on our Facebook page.

[www.morethanweeds.co.uk](http://www.morethanweeds.co.uk)

## Feathers

Aeropower is a start-up company based in London, dreaming of a more sustainable world, but one with many feathers! They believe in the circular economy and wish to unlock the potential of hidden waste streams – starting with millions of tonnes of

feathers. These are generated every year by the global poultry industry and they have developed a patent-pending process to create sustainable insulation materials from them. Sounds like a good idea!

<https://www.aeropowder.com/>

## Occasional Columns

There are a few columns that we print occasionally when there are articles that suit. So they are not forgotten they are listed here. If you have something to contribute then please send it to the Editor via the contact means on the inside of the front cover of this newsletter. Ed.

**Reuse:** Lists items for reuse. BFoE would appreciate a donation from any money raised.

**Lockdown Walks:** Local walks or places of interest for people to enjoy while restricted by lockdown restrictions.

**Nice Things:** This is where we can mention anything, large or small, that cheers us up during this rather miserable time. If anything vaguely nature or environmentally related makes you smile, then please share it.

## Supplies That Don't Cost the Earth

*This is a regular reference point for useful and practical resources, helping us to sustain the greenest lifestyles we can. These are not recommendations from Bromley or National FoE, but are just suggested by BFoE members. Any suggestions or reviews gratefully received. [bromleyfoe@gmail.com](mailto:bromleyfoe@gmail.com)*

## Allganics and Moore

*I felt it important to put this in, reviewing another zero waste shop. However, I have lost details of who sent it to me or where I got it from. If it was you, then please let me know and I'll credit it to you in a later newsletter.*  
Ed

Another visit to Allganics and Moore in Royal Parade Mews, Chislehurst - they stock beautiful soaps, cleaning products, rice-husk re-usable cups, and lunch boxes, and yes they will be doing refills of cleaning liquids! It's well worth a visit and a chat with Ahmet, who's really passionate about good food and sustainability in general. Even his organic refill dry goods come in sustainable packaging! I'm so impressed with this lovely little shop!

## No/Low Waste Shops

Alexander Stores, 61 Beckenham Road.

Green Room, Station Approach, Hayes.

The Burlington Food Hall, Chislehurst High Street (Next to the Post Office):  
[www.burlingtonfood.co.uk](http://www.burlingtonfood.co.uk)

Allganics & Moore, Royal Parade Mews, Chislehurst.

## Internet

Peep Eyewear revitalise vintage frames or recycle those that can't be reused.  
<https://www.peepeyewear.co.uk/peep-donation-address>

If You Care products including recycled tin foil and sandwich bags: <https://>

[buyifyoucare.com/](http://buyifyoucare.com/)

<https://www.peacewiththewild.co.uk/>

Wide range of biodegradable and natural products: <https://www.mygreenpod.com/>

Ethical' products news and advice:  
<https://www.ethicalsuperstore.com/>

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

- a useful directory of environmental companies for all kinds of things.

*Naturallythinking*, Unit 2 Mill Lane Trading Estate, Mill Lane, Croydon, CR0 4AA, 020 3856 3588: <https://naturallythinking.com/>

*Crowdfarming*, wide selection of directly supplied products from farmers around the world, many organic: <https://www.crowdfarming.com/en>

## Facebook

*Greener & Cleaner Bromley (& Beyond)*  
Consumer action!

*Hayes Life Freebeecyclers* There may be something similar in your area.

## Reuse

If you have any items that you no longer need that could be of use to someone, then please let us know and we will publish them in the Newsletter. Alternatively, you could bring them along to our monthly meeting, when we can do this again, and put them on the table in reception. Any donations to BFoE from sales will be greatly appreciated.

## List Of Roles

Everyone can be contacted via the groups email address: **bromleyfoe@gmail.com**

### Acting Co-ordinators/Mentors:

Sheila Brown 01689 851605  
Ann Garrett 020 8460 1295

### Treasurer:

Sheila Brown

### Press Team:

Ann Garrett, Annette Rose

### Programme Organiser:

Sheila Brown

### Outings Organisers:

John & Sue Bocock 0208 290 0485

### Merchandising: Anne Clark

### Membership Secretary:

Dan Sloan 07414 920920

### Instagram and Twitter Admin:

Emmanuelle Coetzee

### Admin Team:

Judy Palmer, Rob Clark, Annette Rose

### Bromley Environmental Network BEN Reps:

John Pavitt, Judy Palmer

### Web Site & Technical Support:

Peter Gandolfi

### Meeting Reporters:

John & Sue Bocock, Anne Clark, Annette Rose, Peter Gandolfi, Sheila Brown, Tom Coling - further volunteers for this team always welcome.

### Refreshments

Pending due to no live meetings

### Newsletter Production:

Dan Sloan

### Newsletter Editor:

Rob Clark 020 8289 1503  
[robert.clark9@btinternet.com](mailto:robert.clark9@btinternet.com)

**Campaigns:** You can join one of these new campaign teams at any point if you are interested. Just contact us via our main email address or see one of us at a meeting.

*Those in bold head up each campaign and subjects in brackets are specialities.*

### Climate:

#### **Ann Garrett**

Sheila Brown  
Ruth Fabricant  
Paul Garrett

### Nature:

#### **Diana Hurd** (trees)

Ruth Fabricant  
Paul Garrett

### System Change:

#### **Tamara Galloway** (Planning)

Ruth Fabricant (Anti racism)  
Ann Garrett (Planning)  
John Pavitt

### Consumption:

#### **Annette Rose**

Ruth Fabricant  
John Pavitt (Food)  
Emmanuelle Coetzee (Food)



## Non-members Section

If you are not a member of Bromley Friends of the Earth (BFoE) then hello to you. 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 us using the email address at the bottom of this page. Alternatively you can come along to one of our 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, on the right going down. If you would like to join us then please fill in and send us the form below.

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## Membership Application/Renewal\* Form (\*delete as appropriate)

I would like to support Friends of the Earth Bromley and enclose a cheque or have paid via bank transfer for my annual subscription (£8 single/£15 couple/family.) I also enclose a donation (optional) of £.. to help towards the work of our local group.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: ..... Phone No: .....

Email address: .....

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

.....

**Bank Details:** Name - Bromley Friends of the Earth A/C - 06342260 S/C - 77 91 48

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 bromleyfoe@gmail.com or contact one of our co-ordinators via their details inside.