

### **January Meeting**

Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

Is renewable energy up to the task?

Mike Greenough asks the question

+ our AGM

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome - bring a friend

Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by **SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**. Contact details inside front cover.

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What will Bromley be like in the future? Give your view at our January meeting

Diary dates:

January 6<sup>th</sup> (Tues) Bromley FoE's January meeting – our AGM plus speaker

Mike Greenough's different view about renewable energy. Is

it up to the task?

January 21<sup>st</sup> (Wed) Bromley Civic Society meeting on Bromley's Area Action

Plan, Bromley Library, 7.30pm.

February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tues) Bromley FoE's February meeting – The speaker will be

Richard Hines who will reveal details of FoE's new

campaign – Food and Farming

### Flying the flag - Climate change march

Thousands turned out for the annual climate change march through central London – and Bromley FoE people were there, complete with banner. Many FoE groups were present along with marchers from other environmentally concerned organisations.

The route began at Grosvenor Square and went through Berkeley Square, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square, along Whitehall and passing 10 Downing Street to Parliament Square where there were speeches from leading 'green' movement figures.

Overall, a point well made to people and politicians alike.

### Action please, for 2009 (i.e. our January meeting / AGM)

The strength of any FoE group is in the actions of its members. One of our aims for 2009 is to be more active in supporting the many campaigns being fought by National FoE. To do that we need more campaigners to be appointed at our AGM in January and also to fill one or two vacancies such as press officer.

Please volunteer!

### Next Newsletter - copy details:

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor **by SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY.** 

**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, reason

### December meeting report + A poem by Ann Garrett

#### December meeting report / Celebration time

Bromley FoE celebrated with a social evening to mark its part in persuading the government to be the first in the world to pass a law committing it to climate change targets to reduce CO2 emissions -- perhaps some compensation for the hours spend at High St demos, approaching MPs and getting postcards signed by residents.

Thanks go to Tamara, Allison, Joyce and Bill for providing the entertainment and Marina for providing prizes for a free raffle -- and, of course, to all those who brought food and drink. Below is a poem which Ann read at the December meeting -

#### Consumers, by Ann Garrett

Don't throw away anything There is no 'away'

Landfill sites are throbbing heaps Pulsating with toxics

Metal bins rattle in the night Filled with half-eaten food scraps As rats scrabble and gnaw at bones

Vast neatly stacked shelves of goodies Wait tantalizingly for consumption Shopaholics shop from dawn till night

New Look, Top Shop, Zara, Next, Primark Beckon like Alladin's caves of pleasures Dazzling lights attract us like moths Fluttering in confusion with so much choice -A dizzying range of multi-products

Elite designer labels flash their names We bounce with plastic bags to feel-good music Filled with sweat-shop-laboured garments – A dress a day for work and play

Worthy recycling efforts alleviate discarded waste Incinerators discharge poisonous fumes As the planet reaches capacity

Away is in the universe Away exists in the imagination – a delusion of hope As we 'shop until we drop'

Bromley FoE Accounts for year ending 31/12/08					
	2007	2008			
Balance at January 1st	690.74		823.08		
Receipts					
Donations	298.00	159.00			
Subscriptions	323.00	375.00			
Hall collection	290.00	266.00			
Tea profits	16.00	20.00			
Fund-raising	306.20	190.00			
	1233.20	<u>1010.00</u>			
Payments					
Hire of Hall	400.00	400.00			
Newsletter	345.77	350.00			
Goods for re-sale	0.00	114.76			
Payments to other orgs	40.00	65.00			
Stall fees	37.00	25.00			
Other (website / gifts)	278.09	56.86			
	<u>1100.86</u>	1011.62			
Difference between					
payments & receipts	+ 132.34		-1.62		
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> December <u>823.08</u>			<u>821.46</u>		
Other assets at 31/12/08					
Bromley FoE banner	55.00				
CAT shares (150)	150.00				
Digital camera	122.00				

### Pick up the challenge!

The threat to food from biofuels, GM pressures and the need to focus on the true cost of keeping livestock will be an important issue that FoE will campaign on in 2009. National FoE will be providing the ammunition on the subject but we need someone to keep the group aware of the campaign.

An interesting subject that affects us all! If you would like to discuss getting involved – devoting however much or however little time you have to spare – then please talk to Ann, Sheila or Ray.

### Campaigns information, from Ann Garrett

Climate March, December 6<sup>th</sup>
Many thanks to those people who
supported the march and rally on Dec
6th, and to Marina and Ray for taking
the banner

I joined the rally in time to hear a good speech from the London Islamic Network for the Environment, which provided information about the importance of their action - Fasting for the Planet. The idea is to fast as an inward preparation for outward action. They are involved in peace and reconciliation work and are opposed to corporate domination, consumerism, the dominant interest in the monetary system, and dependence on fossil fuels. They support non- polluting energy and sustainable use of the earth's resources.

Another speech from the Trade Union Movement section working for opposition to climate change, emphasised how omissions targets must be increased, and that we must never stop campaigning. A very rousing speech, which drew a loud supportive response from the crowd! It was encouraging to see how many different organisations were represented - all working for a common purpose, and hoping to influence the Poznan climate change talks.

Earlier on Caroline Lucas had spoken of this government's lack of sufficient action and responsibility on climate issues as being a crime against humanity. She also stated ' we stand in solidarity with the world's poor and most vulnerable communities that suffer the worst effects of climate

change'. Kate Tansley (CACC) said - 'No to a third runway at Heathrow, to coal and agrofuels, but yes to renewable energy and all the green jobs that it will bring '.

After the speeches it was good to dance with a drumming group, and keep out some of the penetrating cold!

#### Poznan Update

UN secretary-general Ban Ki Moon opened the conference with a clear message that the world could not let the financial crisis deflect from investment in a 'green' future. At the time of writing this item, however, the talks have stalled on finding new sources of revenue for the global adaptation fund to help the most climate-vulnerable countries. At present it only has £43 million to spend. Developing countries are suggesting a new series of taxes to increase funding, but the Europeans say that they won't be in a position to agree anything new on finance till March 2009.

#### **Direct Action**

On December 1<sup>st</sup> Green activists blockaded the HQ of 'climate criminal' E.ON over its plans to burn more coal on the day that a government committee called for huge cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. The activists stormed the energy privateer's Coventry offices gluing doors shut and dumping sacks of coal in protest at the plans to build a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

/continued on page 7

### Transport info, from Ray Watson

When Mayor Boris came to Bromley to answer questions from residents, he responded firmly when Bromley FoE asked him if Bromley people had anything to fear from him regarding expansion plans at Biggin Hill Airport, saying 'No, no, no'. But now there is doubt about that commitment

A written version of the same question drew a different reply from one of the mayor's underlings writing on his behalf. It said the mayor will be reviewing London's aviation needs and while this will concentrate on the major airports, the mayor recognises that smaller airports have a role. Then comes the kicker.

The letter adds: 'However, the mayor is aware that London Borough of Bromley is the freeholder of Biggin Hill Airport and he would of course consider their views on the matter.'

Clearly, those concerned about the airport's expansion plans can have little confidence in receiving support from the mayor.

#### Biggin Hill - Never ending

It is now certain that Biggin Hill Airport will resume its long campaign to get planning permission to build a hotel on the site despite the fact that twice government ministers have rejected the idea. Look out for a new application early in the New Year.

Bromley Council also opposed the two previous applications but only on design grounds – something that many felt was a weak-kneed approach because there were much stronger planning reasons to reject the scheme,

as proved by the ministers' decisions. Their ground was primarily based on the fact that the airport was too small to support a 100-bed hotel as is required under planning rules. It is a mystery as to why the council did not also use that reason for a rejection.

The forthcoming application will be based on a 75-room property and a slight change in the siting of the block, so that it is less dominant from the road.

Some residents fear that the airport will find that the hotel is unable to support itself and the airport will then leave the council in the invidious position of having to permit more flights or be blamed for the hotel's closure. One thing is certain: the prospect of additional flights at Biggin Hill would certainly bring huge protests from residents.

#### Nice little earner...

At a time when Bromley Council is pushing hard to boost trade in the centre of town many motorists will point to the fact that the council adds to its problems by levying hefty fines for illegal parking. However, the council is probably reluctant to lose the revenue – a walloping £3 million a year.

Not all of that is profit because it costs £1.8m to run the scheme, leaving a mere £1.2 to fill the council coffers. The money is used for road improvements, maintaining car parks and freedom passes. If you are tossing up between taking the bus and driving

### Campaigns and transport info, continued

#### Campaigns info - continued

#### Melting Ice could slow Global Warming

Scientists have discovered that minerals found in collapsing ice sheets could feed plankton and cut CO2 emissions. Professor Raiswell. a geologist at Leeds University, says that as the sheets break off the Antarctic ice, floating icebergs are produced that gouge minerals from the bedrock as they make their way to the sea. He believes that the accumulated frozen mud could breathe life into the icy waters, triggering a large natural removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This process won't solve the problem, but it is thought might ' buy some valuable time '.

#### New trials on Biochar techniques

Britain and Central America are to research the possibility of returning CO2 levels to pre-Industrial Revolution levels by 2050. This could be done by growing more trees and plants to absorb CO2 and then trapping the carbon by turning the resulting biomass into biochar, a fine-grained form of charcoal that can be buried in the soil, keeping it safely locked up for thousands of years. This would keep the carbon out of the atmosphere and nourish the soil while it is there.

### Crystal Palace development application

Rosanna Cavallo, Tamara Galloway, Karen Moran and myself were at the 3 hour Development Control meeting at the council last night, and were witness to the bad news that outline planning permission was given to the Crystal Palace Site Development

application. This will involve housing development on metropolitan open land + keeping the tram route through the park on the agenda. The gallery was full and certainly made its presence felt.

### Transport info – continued into the town centre, remember that if you infringe parking restrictions you

could be handed a ticket that will cost you anything from £80 to £120.

The rate varies according to the severity of the offence and also according to where it takes place - it is cheaper for districts outside the town centre.

So at that rate you may not want to be one of the 67.494 who were ticketed in 2007. And an argument to shop locally!

### Bob Dixon - books available at next meeting, from Joyce Pitt

You may recall that Ann and Joyce read some of Bob Dixon's poems at the December meeting.

Bob was a writer and lecturer and was interested in birds and plants.

We will bring some of Bob's books on these two subjects to the January meeting of Bromley FoE.

Perhaps anyone who is interested in them might exchange them for a small donation to the group.

### FoE Planning Bill info, supplied by Graham Hemington

The Planning Bill has now completed the parliamentary process and received royal assent to become law in December 2008. The new Planning Act will affect all major infrastructure projects such as roads, airports and power stations.

#### Our campaign

Work on the Planning Bill began two years ago with the publication of the Planning White Paper and the launch of our public campaign.

Our campaign asked for:

Climate change to be included in the Bill

Communities to have a meaningful right to influence decisions

Democratic accountability in decision-making

Over 80 local groups took part in our first day of action, which was used to collect consultation responses. A second day of action in 2008 resulted in over 1,300 lobbying postcards being collected by local groups and delivered to the Planning Bill Committee.

We helped put forward four Early Day Motions on climate change and public involvement, which were supported by hundreds of MPs. In June, our amendments on climate change resulted in a strong back-bench labour rebellion, and were defeated by just 15 votes.

During the autumn over 100 MPs were visited or written to by local groups, who asked them to support our changes to the Bill. In November we held a Parliamentary event on our

campaign issues, which was well attended by MPs, local groups and activists and instrumental in getting support for a further climate change amendment in the final Commons debate.

#### Climate change in the Planning Bill

Thanks to continued campaign pressure by you, the Government have included climate change in the Planning Bill. There will now be a general obligation to consider climate change in developing National Policy, although how this will be done is unclear. National Policy Statements will be developed on different areas such as fossil fuels and airports, and it is necessary for these to specifically take climate change into account. At the moment there is no duty to do this.

There still remains more campaigning work to be done to make sure that climate change is given significance in the new Bill. However, getting climate change into the Bill is vital step forward and results directly from the campaign and your lobbying.

The measures are not perfect, but they make the process more transparent by forcing the Government to show how expanding airports or roads can be squared with their own climate change targets.

#### Right to be heard

The campaign for a meaningful right for communities to participate in the decision making process has been less successful. In trying to retain the current process of public inquiry, all

### Cheap Insulation (Rob Clark) and Planning Bill info, continued

On recommendation from a friend we went to the website www.london.gov.uk//insulate/professio nal/index.jsp and took advantage of the offer of wall insulation for £250 with a £100 cashback from Boris for the first 30,000 households! We have just booked a survey in December through the phone number on the webpage. Loft insulation also available.

And this is what it says --

### Professionally fitted insulation

With the Mayor of London's professionally fitted insulation offer you could get cavity wall insulation from as little as £250 and fully fitted loft insulation from only £274.

Plus once your installation is completed you will also receive £100 cashback from the Mayor and British Gas. If you are over 70 or are in receipt of qualifying benefits you may also be entitled to free insulation.

Everyone living in Greater London can take up this offer regardless of which company supplies your energy.

Simply call 0845 070 5059 to check eligibility. Alternatively you can complete the professionally fitted insulation request form and a dedicated advisor will contact you to discuss your requirements in more detail.

Five easy steps to professionally fitted insulation in your home:

\* Complete the professionally fitted insulation request form or call 0845

070 5059 quoting WEB GLA to check eligibility and arrange a survey.

- \* Book an installation it normally takes only half a day.
- \* Insulation completed with no fuss and no mess, as installation teams always clean up afterwards.
- \* Receive your certificate of insulation and 25-year guarantee for cavity wall insulations.
- \* Receive your £100 cashback from the Mayor of London and British Gas.

Planning Bill info – continued amendments were rejected in the Commons by a small margin.

#### This means that:

- The decision making process will no longer be democratic, with all decisions now made by the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), who will be appointed by Government.
- You will now be consulted on planning applications by the developer themselves, not an independent body.
- There will be no guarantee of a public inquiry.

We made one victory, with the right to request an open floor hearing now returned to the Bill. The Lords also made amendments to ensure that the right to bring expert witnesses is now not only in 'exceptional' cases.

#### Thank You

We'd like to say a big THANK YOU for all your hard work and support throughout the campaign. Without you, climate change would not be in the Planning Bill, and it was only because of your help that we could make this happen.

### Waste and Recycling info from Bromley Council

#### Kitchen waste trial

A big 'thank-you' to the residents who have been taking part in our 'Composting for All' kitchen waste collection trial. We have been separately collecting their kitchen waste every week, and have also changed them to a weekly paper and card collection. This has worked so well that we can now collect their non-recyclable refuse every other week.

Since the trial began, the amount of non-recyclable refuse has almost halved. Before the trial, 76% of all household waste put out for collection was being sent to landfill or incineration. In the trial area, this has fallen to only 39%. And, as people become more aware of how much food they are throwing away, the amount of waste produced by these households has fallen by 12%.

We are planning to extend these kitchen waste collections to other parts of the borough over the coming year.

#### Millions of pounds wasted

Since April 2008 we have had to pay £32 in tax for every tonne of waste we send to landfill —this is on top of the disposal cost! Last year the council landfilled 55,000 tonnes of waste and the tax on this alone cost us £1.3m. The proposed annual increase in landfill tax means that Bromley could be paying a further f1.4 million a year by 2010/11. By then, it will cost more than £100 to landfill just one tonne of waste. As residents currently produce more than 150.000 tonnes of

household waste a year, you can see that recycling makes financial sense.

Regionally, these costs are also likely to increase as landfill space runs out. There may only be enough landfill in the South East for the next five years. This puts more pressure on council budgets. The average Bromley household pays just over f2 a week for its waste services. But with more than 130,000 properties and millions of collections every year, the annual cost is about £15m. This is good value for money, but keeping the cost down will help us contain future council tax increases and protect council services.

#### Kitchen waste collection trials

Some Bromley households are now recycling more than half their waste! During 2008, about 5,000 households have been trialling different collection arrangements.

The 'Composting for All' trial provides weekly kitchen waste and paper collections. We give residents kitchen caddies for their food waste and a sealable outdoor container that we collect every week for composting. We still collect green boxes every fortnight and these residents can now recycle all types of plastic container (for example, food trays, voghurt pots, and margarine tubs) and tin foil. Anything that isn't recyclable is now collected every other week. With more items than ever being recycled, and kitchen waste and paper collected every week, very little is left in the dustbin.

### January meeting and Bromley's Area Action Plan

## Bromley's Area Action Plan - Say what you think!

An important item for discussion at out January meeting will be the latest version of the council's plans to revamp the town centre, details of which were published in last month's Newsletter. The council have put the scheme out for consultation until early February and group is requested to make comments that we will relay to Bromley.

There are some crucial principles at stake:

Should the town centre have more retail space -- or should efforts be directed at improving outlying centres such as Beckenham, Orpington etc so as to reduce traffic congestion in the centre?

**Should** public transport be improved before more shops and homes are added to the area?

Is it necessary to have the Civic Centre in the middle of Bromley? Are the newly-proposed homes affordable housing? Should Bromley go for tall buildings like Croydon?

There are many other vital questions to be raised, so please air your views when we meet in January.

#### Sustainable Communities Act

Bromley Council is still undecided as to what to do about the Sustainable Communities Act which Parliament passed in the autumn. The Act puts a legal obligation on the Government to work with local councils towards sustainability, thus driving central

Government policy with the objective of reversing local community decline by demanding greater support for items like local transport, local shops etc.

Bromley FoE wrote to the leader of the council asking that the council opt into the scheme. He did not reply to the letter - nor to one sent by Graham Hemington -- but, after some chasing, a senior staff member of the council revealed that a paper would be put before the council in the New Year.

Waste and Recycling - continued It's still early days, but since the trial began the amount of recycling has more than doubled and the amount of non-recyclable refuse has halved. In the trial area, over 60% of waste is now recycled. We'll continue to evaluate the trial and think about other ways we can improve our recycling services to all residents over the coming year.

## What happens to this kitchen waste?

The weekly kitchen waste is sent in large containers from Veolia's Greenwich Transfer Station to Countrystyle Group's newly opened £4m composting site at Ridham Dock, Sittingbourne. The waste is processed in six bunkers that compost and pasteurise it. The whole process takes six to eight weeks and the plant can process 35,000 tonnes a year. The composted product made from our kitchen waste is used in farming and landscaping.

### FoE's Review of the last year - a platform for success

2007/08 was the final year of our fiveyear Plan. Here are the highlights:

#### Sustainable economics

Five years ago we set out to get the Government to commit to a sustainable economic agenda. One outstanding result is the Climate Change Act, which became law in 2008.

Among our other impacts: we helped campaigners across Europe influence EU policy on transport through a website launched with other NGOs. And we played a part in securing general EU recycling targets for the first time. We also set up the UK Without Incineration Network (UKWIN) which now has funding and a part-time co-ordinator.

We published research by the Tyndall Centre in Manchester to show that proposals to include aviation in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) will have little impact on its contribution to climate change. And in December we published a briefing with the Aldersgate Group which explains how the EU ETS can maximise the economic benefits of higher environmental standards.

#### **Environmental justice**

We have been campaigning for environmental rights for everyone.

A film made with other NGOs documented experiences of those at risk from palm oil companies in Indonesia. It was distributed to indigenous communities who went on to reject 50,000 hectares of plantation development.

Working with a coalition of NGOs we have continued to campaign for a fair and democratic planning system that helps tackle climate change. Our Rights & Justice Team has had a number of legal successes working for local and community groups.

In June 2007 our lawyers won a High Court ruling to stop the destruction of 7,000 trees in the Great North Forest — one of only 13 community forests in the UK

In August 2007 we acted for No Third Runway Action Group and Airportwatch to defeat BAA's application for a High Court injunction to prevent people travelling to climate camp at Heathrow.

In June 2008 our legal centre acted for a resident near Corus Steelworks, Port Talbot, to make sure Welsh Assembly Government meets legal obligations by adopting an air quality plan.

#### **Environmental limits**

We've highlighted the urgent need for legally-binding emissions reduction targets in the UK and EU.

Local groups persuaded backbench MPs to support a stronger Climate Change Bill: 258 MPs signed an EDM; a further 80 signed an amendment asking for the 80 per cent reduction target. In February 2008 Government tabled amendments asking for an indicative annual range for emissions, and aviation and shipping to be included from the second budget period.

### FoE's Review of the year - continued

Groups have also run successful renewables campaigns. The UK's first community-owned hydroelectricity project supported by the High Peak group got the go-ahead, and groups in Mansfield and Milton Keynes got plans for local wind farms approved.

#### **Activism**

In 2007/08 we welcomed 15 new local groups, bringing the total to 233. We launched the Campaign Champions network — giving those who cannot commit to joining a local group the chance to get involved. To date 2,000 people have signed up.

More groups are taking an innovative approach towards campaigns, engaging wider and more diverse audiences.

- Camden's Big Green Curry raised funds for a summer of campaigning.
- Manchester held a pub quiz and gave the winning team compost crocks, can crushers and ladybird houses.
- Leeds dressed up as mermaids and went on a road show around Yorkshire to rally MP support for The Big Ask.

#### Solutions

We continue to champion solutions to climate change.

In April 2008 more than 160 local groups staged a Day of Action to put pressure on the Government to include emissions from aviation and shipping in the Climate Change Bill. They dressed up as Gordon Brown and

pretended to ignore cardboard aeroplane props. The day resulted in 300 media hits across local newspapers, radio and TV.

We also helped win backing for a wind energy development at Keadby, near Scunthorpe, which will supply 38,000 homes

#### Telling it like it is

Our communications strategy is far reaching.

An unprecedented effort helped drive The Big Ask Climate Campaign. During summer 2008 we collected 14,000 signed postcards by taking The Big Ask to the Wychwood Festival, the Innocent Village Fete, and on tour with James Blunt, Portishead, Razorlight, as well as across the continent with Radiohead

The Big Ask website was given an aviation theme encouraging almost 3,000 supporters to sign up. And visitor numbers to the Friends of the Earth website peaked at 200,005 in April 2008.

We tested innovative new ways of engaging people. We co-produced an exhibition at the Whitechapel Gallery in London showcasing Turner Prizenominee Cornelia Parker's work. Landscape artist Kurt Jackson donated 27 paintings to Friends of the Earth which raised £85,000 in private auction. And our 2007 Green Film Competition attracted 112 entries via our YouTube site which was the most viewed not-for-profit channel at the time.

### FoE's CYW - Go Green to get out of the Red

Market turmoil and talk of recession have historically spelt tough times for environmental policy making. This time things are different, our solutions are taking root. Sustainable Economics Campaigner Tim Jenkins explains.

Previous economic downturns have led to green issues being seen as luxuries rather than necessities, but this time the impending 'climate crunch' is refusing to take a back seat for economic as well as environmental reasons. As the scientific evidence about the scale of the climate challenge we face grows stronger, so the economic consequences of failing to act and the economic opportunity of taking decisive action have become clearer

All three main UK party leaders reiterated their commitment to climate targets to bite, and over the pond both presidential candidates promised investment in creating new green jobs to lift the US out of the economic doldrums. Big business is also joining the chorus of pro-green voices, with the University of Cambridge-hosted Corporate Leaders Group calling for bold Government decisions to "stimulate activity and job creation". This is not to say that green groups such as Friends of the Earth can sit back on our laurels - just that we have clear economic as well as scientific and justice arguments on our side.

The policies used by the Government to find a solution to the financial crisis have broken the spell of the 'market' as the prime solution to everything. It is the state that must rescue the economy from the catastrophic cost of

the private sector's financial mess. As this year's Economics Nobel Laureate Paul Krugman put it, "the distorted ideology ... of 'private good, public bad'" has been discredited. Government is now turning to the judicious use of public ownership and tougher regulations to harness the power of the markets rather than simply letting them rip. Climate change demands similar positive governance that manages markets in the public interest rather than trying vainly to sweep up behind them.

Many of our solutions to climate change are solutions to the recession. In recession, the Government's most effective role has been to create jobs, help those in poverty, and invest to boost the economy for a more secure future. Our campaigns on fuel poverty, renewable energy and implementing the new Climate Change Law in practice all fit the bill.

An extensive programme of home insulation across the UK will cut fuel bills and emissions. Modernising how the energy market is regulated - for example through a feed-in tariff - and investing in renewable energy would create jobs, increase energy security and stimulate the economy.

The current financial crisis should also make the Government reassess its reliance on counting overseas projects towards our own climate targets. In tough economic times such as these we need investment in efficiency and renewable energy at home - which will create new green jobs and lower costs and lead Britain to a greener and more prosperous future.

### **Bromley Friends of the Earth - List of Contacts**

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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.

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### 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 inter	ests that may be of use to the group?