

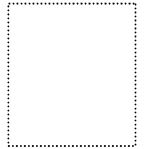


Friends of the Earth

Bromley

January 2011 No. 277 Newsletter

Bromley FoE: inquiries to Birch House, Grays Road, Westerham TN16 2JB
email: r.watson865@btinternet.com; website: www.bromleyfoe.co.uk



January Meeting

**Friends Meeting House,
Ravensbourne Road, Bromley**

Eco-poets and Seasonal Social with added AGM

Please note – if there is severe snow disruption, the meeting will be cancelled. Phone Ray or Sheila to check – phone numbers on page 15

Tuesday 4th January - 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome – bring a friend

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

Biggin Hill Olympic Expansion ?? See pages 8 and 9

Diary dates:

Jan 4th (Tues)

Bromley FoE's January meeting: Seasonal social postponed from December, Eco-poets and our AGM
FoE Greater South East regional gathering, Bonhill Street, London

Jan 29th (Sat)

Bromley FoE's February meeting

Feb 1st (Tue)

John Bocock – "Sustainable Earth" project

**Friends of the Earth Greater South-East Regional Gathering,
Bonhill Street, (near Old Street Station) London**

January 29th 2011 : 9.00 – 18.00.

A get-together for Friends of the Earth Local Groups and activists in the East of England, South East and London Regions.

A chance to meet staff and each other, share ideas, information and experiences, brush up on skills and plan for the year ahead.

Speak to Ann or Sheila if you are interested in attending.

Editor's note of grumpiness – I tried to find this event on the FoE website so that I could possibly provide a bit more information. However, I eventually gave up looking as a bad job. Am I the only person to find the new FoE website nowhere near as easy to navigate as the previous incarnation ??

Climate changes our plans

Festive season plans for the group were sent into disarray when heavy snow and icy pavements forced the cancellation of our December meeting, which was to be a social evening to mark the successes of 2010. However, the social evening will now take place at the January group meeting – so please bring all those food and drink items you volunteered to provide.

There will be no speaker but we will have a short annual meeting to elect officers and approve the accounts.

Next Newsletter - copy details:

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

Snow stops play – Sheila Brown

Rumblings of scepticism about global warming are to be heard as the country has been facing the big freeze.

Snow fell here on 30th November; the buses stopped running and there are many tales of people walking up to 7 miles home from work on that day. Despite being forecast, the Council managed not to have roads gritted so they quickly became clogged by vehicles, making access by gritting lorries impossible. Result: gridlock.

Snow continued to fall, gently but relentlessly, for the following few days. Six inches became a foot, a foot became eighteen inches. Cars did not move. The rail system ground to a halt. Commuters were stuck overnight on trains. Schools closed.

There are those of us who well remember the severe winter of 1963 (and I also grew up hearing tales of the winter of 1947 when “snow came up to the windowsills”). In those days, people continued to make their way to work, buses ran and no-one can remember a school closing.

The difference at that time was that bus drivers and schoolteachers lived within walking distance of their place of work and probably very few of them could afford to buy and run a car. Now it can be the case that buses do not run because the bus drivers cannot get to the depot, and the teachers cannot get to their school.

Our modern economic prosperity has resulted in people relying on cars and living ever greater distances from where they work. I hear of people who

commute by car to Orpington from Essex or from the coast. Friends of the Earth has always encouraged sustainable, local economies coupled with the use of public transport, but as a whole the country has moved away from this. Thus when adverse weather conditions strike, the whole thing collapses like a pack of cards.

It doesn't help us to know that we are in the right when we are standing on a draughty bus stop awaiting a non-existent bus or plod through the snow in the absence of public transport. And with a market economy, I cannot see the policy makers doing anything to change the situation.

Editor's observation - I might mention that we had one day's snow a couple of weeks ago (on November 30th), and the result is postal deliveries every other day at maximum, no recycling / waste collections for the next two weeks, snow packed to ice finally went after 10 days, and that's here in Babbacombe Road which is not exactly the back of beyond. It's 10 minutes walk from Bromley Market Square

Here we are three weeks later, we did have all our waste / recycling collected last week, but postal deliveries are still only every other day, the postman tells me that they are no longer allowed to take out their trolleys, just a bag over their shoulder, and the snow came back on Saturday.

Climate March, December 4th

Only Patrick and I from our group were able to make this march for a zero-carbon Britain as other people were snowbound, but glad we did as there were as usual some excellent speeches and creative displays including a 'Sing for the World' ball game and the musical tricycle.

The march was organised by the Campaign Against Climate Change and its aim was to raise awareness of the importance of decarbonising the economy and creating green jobs.

Andy Atkins FoE director who spoke at the rally said that "alarm bells are ringing" and that urgent action was needed to stop climate change, while Caroline Lucas MP said she was tired of marching and called for direct action in the future. CACC asked for a 10% cut in carbon emissions by the end of this year and for the government to work towards a zero-carbon Britain by 2030.

Action for Climate Emergency, October 30th

This conference was held at the Friends Meeting House in Euston Road and had a good range of stalls including FoE. Speakers included George Marshall who provided facts on what the latest science is telling us and Ben Brangwyn from Transition Towns.

Ben referred to the success of the Sipson Village community and said there was a new spirit of hope since the cancellation of the third runway at Heathrow and many new converts to the environmental and green

movement. John Stewart from Airport Watch HACAN also supported these views. Vicky Hurd from the FoE Real Food Campaign warned of the danger of the use of pesticides, the importance of monitoring the use of GM, and finally suggested that many people who are concerned about intensive farming are becoming vegetarian.

In the evening there was an enjoyable concert /social event with music from Seize the Day, Jess Gold (who sang at the FoE conference in Reading) and Carbon Town Crier. The E11 Eco poets also read a mix of prose and poetry from their satirical and serious repertoire.

Cancun Conference

One of the difficult issues discussed at the conference was that Britain is supporting plans to give the World Bank management of billions of pounds ear-marked for helping poor countries cope with climate change.

Concerns about this, however, were expressed by British-based Action Aid, Friends of the Earth, the Jubilee Debt Campaign and the World Development Movement - all important non-political organisations working together for the same aims.

They are worried that the World Bank is not to be trusted with the money because it continues to support fossil fuel projects, insists on climate projects being funded by loans rather than grants and has a track record of imposing economic policies which

/continued on next page

Climate info, *continued*

/continued from previous page

increase inequality. The NGOs want to see a climate fund under the auspices of the UN which prioritises money for those who need it most, operates with full transparency and accountability and provides direct access to funding.

The conference ended on Dec 11th after delegates agreed to establish a global Green Fund to help poorer countries fuel their economic growth with renewable energy. It was decided that from 2020 rich states should contribute a total of £60 billion a year to speed up technology transfer. The Green Fund will be steered by a board

of 24 members picked from developed and developing states.

The conference also called for urgent action to cap temperature rises at no more than 2C - but did not establish hard targets for rich countries. Delegates agreed to "recognise" targets set by scientists that call for industrialised states to reduce Co2 emissions by up to 40 % of 1990 levels by 2020. Another key outcome was an outline new world wide agreement to halt deforestation.

All this at least was a positive move forward from Copenhagen, and saved the climate change negotiating process from collapse.

The picture below was taken at the Get Serious stall in Bromley High Street



Bromley FoE Accounts for year ended 31 Dec 2010

Bromley FoE Accounts for year ended 31 Dec 2010

	2010 £	2009 £	2008 £
Balance at 1 January	£966.15	£821.46	£823.08
Income			
Subscriptions	£389.00	£464.00	£375.00
Donations	£158.34	£191.00	£159.00
Hall collection	£293.12	£288.00	£266.00
Tea profits	£25.00	£28.00	£20.00
Stall income & other fundraising	£114.96	£189.48	£190.00
Donations for National FoE	£620.00	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£1,600.42</u>	<u>£1,160.48</u>	<u>£1,010.00</u>
Expenditure			
Hall hire	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00
Newsletter	£365.60	£375.80	£350.00
Stall rentals & other expenses	£35.00	£55.00	£35.00
Goods for resale	£0.00	£0.00	£114.76
Conference subsidy	£90.00	£0.00	£0.00
Payments to other organisations	£187.50	£70.00	£65.00
Donations to National FoE	£620.00	£0.00	£0.00
Other	£12.99	£114.99	£46.86
	<u>£1,711.09</u>	<u>£1,015.79</u>	<u>£1,011.62</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for year	<u>(£110.67)</u>	<u>£144.69</u>	<u>(£1.62)</u>
Balance at 31 December	<u>£855.48</u>	<u>£966.15</u>	<u>£821.46</u>
Bank balance	£1,456.73		

Transport info – Ray Watson

Airport jobs: Figure it out

Over in East London where City Airport lives, environmentalists have exposed a situation which has a parallel for those in Bromley affected by noise and potential danger from Biggin Hill Airport.

City, like Biggin Hill, always puts forward the argument that airport expansion means more jobs. For example, BH used it to secure planning permission to build a hotel but, as we all know, the hotel is still not even a hole in the ground.

In the case of City, the managing company is supposed to allocate 35 per cent of all jobs to local residents. But groups opposed to the airport's growth plan have discovered that the true figure is 23%, a deficit of 200 jobs.

At BH, some people include as airport jobs those at companies based nearby, when, in fact, their trade has nothing to do with aviation. And, of course, even where a job is aviation-related it may be impossible to fill it with a local person because there are few skilled specialists in the area who are unemployed.

But the idea of local jobs for local people has merit. It might be something Bromley Council, as owners of the airport, might insist on.

On the home strait

The year 2011 looks like being a true test for the electric car. Specimen models have been around for a while but nine different types will begin to go on sale over the next few months.

The test will be about price – they are more expensive than petrol-driven vehicles, even allowing for the Government subsidy of up to £5000 per car.

The good news is that as the year proceeds, more and more battery re-charging points will appear in our streets, thus reducing the ever-present anxiety of running out of fuel.

A taxing time...

As reported here previously, increased air passenger duty taxes (APD) are now in force, in spite of grumblings from the aviation industry. But do not shed a tear for them. The Treasury is losing £10 billion because aviation fuel is tax-free in Britain and the industry pays no VAT. The maths are simple: the loss to the exchequer is far greater than APD brings in.

And it is worth noting that APD is not an environmental tax. It was brought in by Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer, Ken Clarke, in the early 1990's to help make up the shortfall in aviation's contribution to general taxation.

Speak up!

Bromley Council is getting towards the end of a detailed exercise to demonstrate how it will meet transport challenges in the next year or two – how it will implement policies laid down by the Mayor of London.

/continued on page 11

Opposition builds to airport plans – Ray Watson

Residents associations and other groups in Bromley, including Bromley FoE, are beginning to organise opposition to a plan by Biggin Hill Airport to open for much longer hours for six weeks to handle more than 660 additional jet and helicopter flights for the Olympic Games. If approved by Bromley Council it would mean the airport would be operating for almost 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The airport also want to bring in fare-paying passengers – something totally banned under its lease from the council.

After being pushed by residents, the council has agreed a consultation period and a decision will be made in February. Bromley FoE will be among those making submissions to the council.

Apart from additional sleep disturbance, more noise, more traffic congestion and more air pollution, residents have three main fears:

****Bringing in fare-paying passengers will up-end the lease, approved by the Appeal Court, which gives protection from some expansion plans – such as scheduled jet flights -- sought by the airport.**

****If the council approve longer operating hours for the Olympics period, the airport will use that as a precedent to make the change permanent.**

****More flights and larger jets add to local anxieties about safety, particularly as the flight path is over densely-packed suburbs, a major hospital and more than a dozen schools.**

The extended hours proposal has particularly incensed residents associations – especially the attempt to extend longer weekday hours into the weekend. Already, Biggin Hill has far longer hours than most similar airports in the UK. (See attached statement).

The airport also wants to bring in larger jets, seating up to 76 passengers. Although more modern large jets are sometimes quieter than smaller but older planes, the worry is that the council does not currently monitor which type of aircraft and what noise each flight is making, in landing and taking off at Biggin Hill. Nor does it check to verify if operating hours are being adhered to. (See statement).

Monitoring crops up again when considering the airport's sweetener: an offer to impose a £3 'tax' on passengers during the Olympic period, with the money going to the council. Some say this will raise very little money because not all passengers will be eligible to pay it, and furthermore the questions are asked: How will council monitor the collection? Why hasn't the airport given an estimate as to how much the 'tax' is likely to yield?

Some argue that the council is very much sympathetic to the airport, but that does not apply to all councillors. One has said the council is selling out 'for a ha'porth of tar'. Others are on record as saying the needs of residents should come first. BFOE members can support these views by writing or emailing Airport Consultation at the Civic Centre (see www.bromley.gov.uk)

Bromley Friends of the Earth Statement re Biggin Hill Airport Expansion Plans

Bromley Friends of the Earth calls on councillors to protect the interests of residents and reject plans by Biggin Hill Airport to expand its operations during the Olympic Games, which would involve more than 660 flights and thousands of passengers over a six-week period.

The airport is demanding additional opening hours that would result in an almost round-the-clock, seven-days-a-week operation. It wants to begin flights at 0630 on both weekdays and weekends which, in effect, means that disturbance for Bromley people would begin at 0530 or earlier as staff and passengers arrive. It also wants to extend its closing time to 23.30, again seven days a week, effectively meaning a closing time of gone midnight. Only the airport's profits benefit from this.

However, as the airport admits in its application to Bromley Council – owners of the airport – many Games events do not finish in East London until 11.30 pm and spectators would then have to find their way to Biggin Hill to board their flight. What chance is there that the 23.00 deadline would be adhered to? The council currently does not monitor airport operating hours, nor the number of movements.

The airport also says it anticipates that planes carrying up to 76 passengers would use the airport, indicating that bigger jets would be involved. Noisy helicopters would also be flying low over the crowded suburbs, hospital and schools near the airport.

The airport also reveals that some of the thousands of extra passengers would be fare-paying, something that is banned under the current lease. The airport wants this barrier to be lifted but this would create a dangerous precedent for the future. The Court of Appeal has previously rejected efforts by the airport to allow fare-paying passenger flights and it would be wrong to undo this arrangement.

Once again, residents are faced with more noise, more road traffic, more pollution and more danger of accidents, of which we have had too many in recent years. How does this scheme benefit them?

As a sweetener, the airport is offering a small passenger tax with revenue going to the council, but it admits that not all passengers would be liable to pay it and has not given an indication of how much money would be collected. It also claims that some temporary jobs would be created – but we have heard that story before. The 'job-creating' hotel planned for the airport still has not been built.

We call upon our councillors to remember that for the last decade their electorate have strongly opposed expansion at Biggin Hill. Now is the time for them to put the residents of the borough first rather than be tempted by a handful of the airport's silver.

Ray Watson (Secretary)

What in fact would happen if we didn't concentrate so much on global warming?

Michael Payne asks: Would it be controversial to raise the issue of “what in fact would happen if we didn't concentrate so much on global warming”. You don't need reminding that there are many out there who hold the view that it is not a scientifically proven fact or, is actually happening and the vast majority out there couldn't give a monkey's anyway.

The argument put over by FoE has been that we need to Reuse, Recycle & Reduce what we can. This means carrying out tasks requiring a certain amount of thought process that is intended for the benefit of all of us on this earth. This message simply doesn't register with most, who are far more interested in the individual than they are about communities, never mind the global scenario.

Instead of lecturing people (for that is how the general populous sometimes see us) to save the earth, is it now time to argue that people save themselves. Saving souls, has worked reasonable well by a variety of religions for many a year now, so how about getting round to saving the body.

It doesn't need me to remind all who read this newsletter the importance of insulating ones home to Reduce energy costs, Recycling articles for other uses or Repairing articles thus preventing the need to purchase a new one and to look for and purchase locally grown food, for its taste, never mind its carbon footprint. All this could be done under the umbrella of Saving Oneself instead of Saving the Earth.

I do, however, have a great deal of sympathy with those active in Bromley FoE for I know only too well what it feels like to fully participate in a community based organisation only to find that most of your members seem indifferent to your cause. In fact some don't even read the bl...y newsletters you spend time and effort to prepare and deliver through their front door. Frustrating it can be.

So, what can be done to change attitudes and get more people actively involved? Could it be a rethink? In any event it will need to be broadcast through a newsletter, so how about a future edition concentrating more on the mundane, like:

- Listing local charity shops and commenting on what they sell – as a product of Recycling.
- Regular articles on running an allotment and its benefits – as a product of Sustainability
- Instances of how members have repaired particular products and instructions on how others may go about it – as a product of Reuse.
- Ideas on saving energy, with comparisons of costs between what you are doing now and what you could be doing – as a product of Reduce.

And if there is anyone out there who can draw cartoons, to emphasise the points made above, all the better – people engage with pictures much better than mere words. How would the public respond?

Eco-Warrior Kate, 1903 model! (Sheila's organic farming aunt)

I recently came across a 1989 newspaper article I'd saved about my Aunt Kate writing to her local paper, very put out that they had described another farm on the Isle of Wight as being "the only organic farm on the Island".

She wanted to put the record straight. She and her husband had bought their farm fifty years previously in 1939 and it had continued as an organic farm throughout the ensuing years.

Growing crops naturally, she told the paper, with dung as the only additive to the soil, was a way of life. "We couldn't afford chemical fertilisers even if we hadn't hated them like the poison they are."

When war broke out, the "War Ag" came round, ordering them to plough 60 acres, never ploughed in living memory. They bought a Fordson tractor and "lived on it". When Reg, her husband was not ploughing but on business off the farm, he used to fill the tractor, oil it and set it going for Kate. At 6 stone 11 lbs she was unable to swing the starting handle so kept going all day, eating her sandwiches as she ploughed.

After she and her husband retired from the farm in 1966, passing it on to their son, she grew her own organic vegetables and tomatoes. She told the paper, "I am still ready to kill anyone as painfully as possible if they dared to put any chemicals on my garden. I am healthy and strong, not a speck of rheumatism about me. Nor had Reg, and we credit organic farming for that."

She went on to add that once the war was over they got a grist mill and ground their corn to feed pigs, cows and chickens. The animals all had warm beds with plenty of straw which they turned into organic manure.

So now I know that the eggs I ate as a child were totally organic. And Aunt Kate? After her husband died, she lived on her own until aged 99½, celebrated her 100th Birthday with greetings from the Queen, and died following a stroke a few months before her 101st birthday.

Transport info, *continued from page 7*

You can have a say in shaping these policies when a consultation document is published early this year. Perhaps pressing for more public transport?

You can get the details when the draft is published from traffic@bromley.gov.uk.

Nothing changes

A new year but no new thinking from Mayor Boris. He is still rambling on about the need for a fourth London airport to be built in the Thames. Perhaps his New Year resolution should be to clam up because his Prime Minister has rejected the scheme outright. Boris is in danger of ruining his political career prematurely.

Jo Johnson and the Sustainable Livestock Bill, from Peter Gandolfi

As mentioned last month, Rob Fleelo MP's Sustainable Livestock Bill was supported by 62 MPs, falling short of the 100 needed for it to pass to the next stage. While 176 MPs had pledged to back the Bill, a handful of opposing MPs were unfortunately able to delay the vote until after many MPs had returned to their constituencies. During the debate the Government conceded that action is needed to tackle the environmental impacts of factory farming. They just didn't want a legal commitment.

Over the past few months, we have been disappointed that our Orpington MP, has not supported the sustainable livestock bill, with those FoE members writing to him asking for support, receiving letters saying that he was opposed to it. It is therefore pleasing to hear that he apparently changed his mind, as the following parliamentary transcript shows.

"I am sure that my hon. Friend will appreciate the extent to which our farmed landscape, the visual beauty of which we enjoy every day, is owed to the farming practice of grazing. If we continue to go down the road that our farming industry has been going down of penning ever greater numbers of cows into industrial sheds to be fed imported soya, we will lose the entire warp and weft of our rural countryside, and we will lose much of the visual beauty that so many people, including farmers themselves, appreciate.

"Coming from a constituency that includes part of the Kent downs, I urge my hon. Friend to visit them and realise quite how much we owe to the

traditional farming practices that created the country as it is. Profit is important, but it cannot be the sole determinant of Government farming policy. I should prefer my hon. Friend to give some consideration to biodiversity.

"At our current rate, half of all existing species on the planet will be eliminated within 50 years, and if we continue down that track we will be moving to a world in which there are farmers, cows, people and not much else. I am sure that my constituents in Orpington, which gave the world Charles Darwin, the father of evolutionary biology, do not want that to happen".

Could it be that our letters and cards have influenced his decision? It is not known if he was one of the 65 MP's who managed to vote.

Utah waste firm to incinerate German nuclear waste.

Ann Garrett found this at recycle.co.uk

A firm in Utah is looking for permission to burn radioactive waste shipped from Germany at its Oak Ridge incinerator facility. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has opened up a forum for comments at the request of EnergySolutions, which wants to burn around 1,000 tonnes of German hazardous waste at its plant in Oak Ridge. It would then return the waste ashes back to Germany for further disposal.

/continued on page 14

FoE - Localism Bill fails vital green test

Local democracy and action to tackle climate change will be undermined, not boosted, by the Government's much-heralded overhaul of the planning system, Friends of the Earth has warned.

The environmental campaigning charity has been urging the Government to create a fairer, greener planning system capable of protecting wildlife and delivering the substantial cuts in greenhouse gas emissions the UK is legally obliged to meet. But Friends of the Earth says localism will only thrive if the proposals unveiled today are significantly improved, including:

****Clearer guidance to councils to give the green light to developments that cut carbon emissions, like greener transport and renewable energy schemes.**

****A tougher 'presumption against' developments that cause environmental damage;**

****Boosting public participation in decision making. Under the proposals local communities wanting to shape development in their area will have to fund the writing of neighbourhood plans - which sets out the type of developments that communities want - which could create an unfair planning system. Those that can't afford to draw up a plan will be at risk of unchecked development in their area.**

Friends of the Earth's planning campaigner Anna Watson said:

"If localism is to thrive more must be done to allow people to participate fairly in the planning process - these Government plans could create a postcode lottery, two-tier planning system, where cash-strapped communities struggle to make their voices heard.

"And these proposed planning reforms are far too flimsy to ensure the UK builds the strong, low-carbon and wildlife-rich future that the Government has promised.

"If Ministers are serious about being the greenest government ever they must ensure local councils favour developments that help slash UK emissions and create new green jobs - and strongly encourage them to reject schemes that damage our environment.

"This is the third major shake-up of planning in a decade and the Government still hasn't got it right - this Bill must be radically amended to boost localism and make planning a key part of a greener Britain."

Notes to editors

****Planning reform in England is a prominent part of the Government's bill. The environmental campaigning charity has set out three tests for the planning shake-up:**

****Responsible development: all development must actively contribute to reducing carbon emissions and restoring nature in England.**

FoE - Radical approach needed to secure green energy future

Commenting on reforms to the UK's electricity market, on which the Government launched a consultation today, Friends of the Earth's Senior Climate Change campaigner Tony Bosworth said:

"Our failure to significantly cut climate-changing carbon emissions in the last 15 years means we need a radical new approach to create a secure, clean power supply fit for the 21st century. These proposals could provide the route map to a safe, green future - but Ministers mustn't get led astray by lack of ambition or vested interests.

"Failing to tackle climate challenge will have enormous economic and environmental impacts that will dwarf our current financial problems. If Britain harnesses its massive renewable electricity potential it could create tens of thousands of jobs and help free us from our dependency on overseas fossil fuels."

He added:

"The Government must slash emissions from the electricity sector by at least 90 per cent by 2030 to create the green power we'll depend on to drive our cars and heat our homes of the future. Long-term low-carbon electricity contracts, set at the right levels, could boost more green power - but these should only support clean renewable schemes, not breathe new life into the failed nuclear experiment.

"Capping polluting carbon dioxide from new coal and gas-fired power stations is not enough - the Government must

also tackle those already belching out climate-changing emissions."

Note to editors

1. The Government's Committee on Climate Change recommended decarbonising the power sector by around 90 per cent by 2030 in a recent report:

German nuclear waste, *continued*

A spokesman for the NRC, David McIntyre said on Tuesday that the request was received on 30 November and the NRC would allow a 30-day window for comments. The public will also have a chance to request a hearing over the matter. According to McIntyre the company has already handled foreign waste incineration in the past, including hazardous waste shipments from Canada, Brazil and Mexico.

However, a federal court ruling makes it illegal for foreign waste to be disposed in Utah. EnergySolutions spokesman Mark Walker said that since the ban prevents the waste from actually being disposed in Utah, whatever is left over after processing is required to be returned to the country of origin.

Once the incineration process is complete, all residual waste is set to be shipped back to Germany should the move be approved by local authorities. Incineration is quickly becoming a popular option among waste managers as an alternative to sending waste to landfills.

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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 r.watson865@btinternet.com.

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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