



**Friends of the Earth**

**Bromley**

# June 2010 No. 270 Newsletter

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## June Meeting

Friends Meeting House,  
Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

**Linda Craig**  
**Pesticide Action Network UK**

**“Pesticides: What’s the problem, what’s the solution, how does it affect the carrot on my plate”**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June**  
7.30pm.

### *In this Issue:*

Diary Dates	2	Marinet, Save the Seas	10
Country market venue	2	FoE on the budget	10
May mtg report	3,11	FoE’s regional gathering	11
Bromley’s elections	4	WDM and Bolivia	12
FoE on Green MP	5	CYW: Fix the food chain	13
FoE on coalition	5	CYW: Climate change	13,14
Incinerator funding	6,7,9	Greenpeace & Nestle	14
Campaigns update	8	Bromley FoE contacts	15
Bromley bike blast	9	Non-members section	16

Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by  
**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**. Contact details inside front cover.

***Bromley Bike Blast – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June – see page 9***

**Diary dates:**

**June 1<sup>st</sup> (Tues)**

**Bromley FoE's June meeting:** Linda Craig from Pesticides Action Network

**June 5<sup>th</sup> (Sat)**

FoE Greater South East Regional Gathering, Bonhill House, Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4BX – see page x

**July 6<sup>th</sup> (Tues)**

**Bromley FoE's July meeting:** Transition Town Sevenoaks

**St Mary Cray country market ...**

... **has a new venue.** It's the Mary Rose Hotel, 36-50 High Street, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, BR5 3NJ, and it's between 10:30am and 2pm every Wednesday. Full details on the website <http://www.stmarycraycountrymarket.co.uk/>

The veg boxes listed below can be ordered by 9am Monday and collected from the Country Market the following Wednesday.

**Small Veg Box, £5.00**

A selection of fresh Kent-grown fruit and vegetables, varying according to the season. Should last 2 people about one week.

**Medium Veg Box, £6.00**

A selection of fresh Kent-grown fruit and vegetables, varying according to the season. Should last 3 people about one week.

**Large Veg Box, £9.00**

A selection of fresh Kent-grown fruit and vegetables, varying according to the season. Should last 5 people about one week.

**Speakers wanted**

Do you have any suggestions for speakers at our monthly meetings?

Please contact Sheila Brown if you do, [sheilabrown336@msn.com](mailto:sheilabrown336@msn.com)

**Next Newsletter - copy details:**

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor **by WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.**

**by post** to John Street, 82 Babbacombe Road, Bromley, BR1 3LS

**by phone** to: 020-8460-1078, **by email** to: [johnstreet@gn.apc.org](mailto:johnstreet@gn.apc.org).

The editor reserves the right to shorten contributions for space, or other, reasons

## May meeting report, Sue Boccock

### Tragedy on the roof of the world

Our speaker Roy Wood, a Buddhist for almost three decades, gave us his perspective on the current situation in Tibet.

He began by setting the country in its historical and geographical perspective. The name for Tibet in mandarin Chinese is "The Treasure House." China had always claimed Tibet as part of its country which it had ruled since the 13th century. This, Roy claimed was blatantly untrue.

China had invaded Tibet in 1950; Tibet had been a feudal society from which foreigners had hitherto been excluded. A very large country, almost two thirds the size of Europe and. at that time with no roads, very little infrastructure Tibet was isolated from the outside world.

The Tibetans' spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama had been exiled to India in 1957. There had been three United Nations motions in 1960 condemning China for her occupation of Tibet. The religious leaders of Tibet were opposed to industrialization which they saw as a threat to their meditative and spiritual way of life.

The reading by Steve, Roy's assistant gave an imaginative picture of Tibet which has much that is beautiful — forests, rivers, mountains and a rich wildlife.

This way of life is under threat from Chinese exploitation. Deforestation is occurring on a massive scale leading to erosion and loss of habitats and

agricultural land. Scientists have associated this with the frequent floods which have devastated parts of Bangladesh.

Before what was regarded as the Chinese invasion, there was a strict limitation on the hunting of wild animals which included many endangered species. This is said to have been largely ignored by the Chinese. Rare Tibetan animals such as the snow leopard are hunted for their pelts which are sold for large sums of money on the international market. Large numbers of antelope, gazelle, blue sheep and wild yak are being poached by hunters to supply meat to markets in China, Hong Kong, and Europe.

Mining and the accelerating extraction of minerals, copper, gold and uranium are also devastating the land and disrupting the traditional Tibetan way of life. China's supplies of many key minerals are expected to run out within the next decade threatening their rapidly increasing industrial growth and output.

The massive influx of mostly Han Chinese and the military is seriously affecting Tibetan culture and language. In Lhasa, the capital, the Tibetans are becoming increasingly marginalized and are now outnumbered by a factor of two to one.

During the evening Roy played a mantra, long associated with the Buddhist religion. Whose calming effects may have a role to play in cognitive therapy? And is currently being trialed in a Scottish hospital.

**ELECTION PEOPLE**

Congratulations to Tamara Galloway and Ann Garrett, both Bromley FoE members, who stood for the Green Party in Orpington and Beckenham constituencies respectively. They did not win but they certainly put the message out and about!

**Bromley's elections 2010**

In the general election, the Tories swept the board in the three all-Bromley constituencies. In Lewisham West and Penge, shared between Bromley and Lewisham, Labour's Jim Dowd triumphed. In Bexley, the Tories held the two all-Bexley parliamentary seats, while in Erith and Thamesmead, shared with Greenwich, Labour came top.

In the local elections, the Conservatives strengthened their control of Bromley Council and now have 53 of the 60 seats on Bromley council; the remaining seats are split between the LibDems (4) and Labour (3). In the subsequent distribution of cabinet posts, Cllr Colin Smith retained the Environment portfolio.

Interesting headlines in two of Bromley's newspapers the week after the election: the Bromley News Shopper headline was "First seat for Labour", referring to the Lewisham West and Penge result and that in the Bromley Times was "Tory MP is gagged over political unrest on our streets."

**Friends of the Earth welcomes first Green MP**

Andy Atkins, executive director of FoE, said: "The election of the first Green MP is a major breakthrough for the Green Party and for environmental politics overall.

"For such a small party to have triumphed over our current electoral system is testament to Caroline Lucas's hard work over many years - and means she will now be able to get environmental issues even better heard on the national stage.

"But Caroline won't be the only green MP in Parliament - a handful of politicians from across the board have always championed our right to a safe, clean future, often against party lines.

"By the end of this parliament we need to have turned the tide on climate change and our devastation of the natural world - and with such a tight election outcome, these MPs are in a great position to keep the next Government focussed on environmental challenges and opportunities."

"The current electoral system means parties focus on winning over small numbers of voters rather than grasping the long-term challenges and opportunities our country faces - such as climate change and green jobs.

"We need a fairer way of voting to restore public confidence and ensure peoples' concerns are properly represented by the politicians that win seats."

## **FoE statement - Coalition government: Could blue plus yellow equal green?**

As the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats inched towards a coalition government over the past few days, much was made of the issues they differ on.

But one of the key things they agree about is the urgent need to develop a low-carbon economy and reap the huge economic benefits this will bring.

With a coalition representing more than half of those who voted and 362 of 650 parliamentary seats, there is a clear mandate and opportunity to deliver a greener, safer future.

An examination of the Lib Dem and Tory election manifestos and recent policy pledges shows significant common ground on green initiatives which could form the basis of a programme to cut emissions.

Based on this, the Queen's speech should contain at least two new green laws.

A new energy bill would deliver on pledges to boost green energy development, with both parties agreeing similar 2020 targets - the Tories want 15% of UK energy to come from renewable sources by this date, the LibDems 40% of electricity.

There is agreement on the need for new rules to limit climate-changing pollution from fossil fuel power stations and develop a smart electricity grid.

Nuclear is less clear - but if new legislation guarantees the Conservative commitment not to

provide public money for new nuclear plants, it will be economically very difficult to build new reactors.

And a housing and local government bill would help deliver on pledges for more energy-efficient homes. It would also ensure local councils play their part in meeting UK climate targets by establishing local carbon budgets and thus limiting the carbon emissions their area can emit.

The emergency budget must have the development of a low-carbon economy at its heart. New green jobs and industries could be created by developing the UK's vast renewable energy potential - one of Europe's best - and slashing energy waste. This would also help tackle fuel poverty and increase fuel security by reducing our reliance on overseas fossil fuels.

Of course other policies are clearly needed. Friends of the Earth is calling for new laws to tackle the greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation caused by the UK's dependence on imported feeds for meat and dairy.

The UK must also play a leading role in securing a strong and fair international agreement to cut global emissions - with the richest countries making the deepest cuts first.

And there must be a much stronger 2020 UK climate change target. Scientists have warned that the current policy, to curb UK emissions by 34%, is inadequate - and must be increased to at least 42% if the UK is to play its fair part in tackling climate change.

## Stop government funding for incinerators – a follow-up

Graham Hemington

The March newsletter reported that “FoE says Stop government funding for incinerators.” Graham sent the recommended letter to the three MPs and below are extracts from all three letters. What this I implies for the current government’s view on the matter is probably best left as an exercise for those reading this item.

### Tim Farron, LibDem

The Liberal Democrats want to see an overall reduction in the amount of waste produced in the UK, which is why we have set ourselves a target of sending zero waste to landfill. We believe that to achieve this there needs to be genuine incentives for waste prevention and reuse. As a result we agree that incinerators are not an effective and environmental sustainable method of waste disposal.

The Government provides £2billion per year in funding for Council waste disposal, part of which, as you highlight, goes to incinerators. We believe that it would be counterproductive to reject this funding but do believe that it should be spent on environmentally sustainable methods of waste disposal such as Anaerobic Digestion. Although we do not plan to introduce a tax on incinerators, we will ensure that waste is firstly reduced, then reused and then finally recycled.

In order to reduce the amount of waste we produce, the Liberal Democrats will replace the numerous existing government-funded agencies with a Resource Efficiency Trust (RET) to

support business efficiencies. We will also set up an independent Resource Efficiency Committee (REC) charged with identifying the key resources being used unsustainably.

They will also have a duty to recommend legally-binding targets for reducing their net consumption, based on the same principles put in practice by the Climate Change Act. The REC will aim for 'cradle-to-cradle' design where resources are continually reused and recycled in a perpetual cycle.

Some manufacturers will also be held responsible for the disposal of their products, such as washing machines, which would encourage them to ensure that the parts used in the product are recyclable and reusable.

The REC will also have the power to recommend loans to small businesses to make resource efficiency investments or VAT reductions on products that facilitate resource efficiency. Furthermore, they will be given the responsibility for driving up the level of resource recovery and advising on the most effective technologies.

Cheap loans will also be provided for farmers to invest in anaerobic digestion facilities on their farms so they can use agricultural waste to generate green energy and a new source of income.

*/continued on next page*

## Stop government funding for incinerators- *continued*

### **Nick Herbert, Conservative**

Conservatives are determined to end the UK's addiction to landfill and are committed to driving waste up the waste hierarchy, towards energy recovery, recycling, re-use and, most importantly, the prevention of waste in the first place.

Consequently, energy recovery plants have a role to play, but I agree with you that we must ensure that materials that could be recycled or re-used are not being used to generate energy. It is also important to appreciate that re-use or recycling is only practical if there is a market for the materials, so we need to ensure that what we are doing makes environmental and economic sense.

We need to do far more to capture the benefits of technologies such as Anaerobic Digestion (AD), which has huge potential. While Germany already has over 2,500 plants we have fewer than 30. More are now coming on stream, but we need to move faster to harness this beneficial technology.

More generally, energy recovery plants are only acceptable if they gain community consent; provide efficient energy recovery, meeting at least the European Union's proposed energy efficiency thresholds; and that they adhere to appropriate emissions standards on the basis of transparent emissions reporting.

We must also reduce the amount, of waste generated and make alternatives to landfill, such as recycling and re-use, more attractive.

We are considering a number of ways to do this, including how to make fiscal and regulatory waste regimes reflect the waste hierarchy, and are also pursuing the development of a 'Responsibility Deal' which would encourage manufacturers and retailers to cut the amount of waste produced at the point of production.

We will also take a different approach to recycling, focusing on giving people incentives to go green instead of punishing families. In the United States, the RecycleBank scheme has been very effective by paying the public to recycle, and this is now being trialled by Windsor & Maidenhead Council, where people receive rewards such as M&S vouchers. The results have been just as impressive as those achieved by the initiative in the US. Recycling rates in the Borough have risen significantly and the average household is set to be given £130 in vouchers.

### **Ashwin Bolar, Defra Customer Contact Unit**

It is encouraging to hear your interest in this issue. It is important that waste is managed in the most sustainable way. This means managing waste as far up the waste hierarchy as possible, with energy from waste ranking higher than landfill but below waste prevention, reuse and recycling. Sustainable and effective waste management requires the application of many technologies.

*/concluded on page 9*

## Campaigns Update, Ann Garrett, campaigns co-ordinator

### Get Serious Campaign Stall

Another of these has been planned for June 26th from 2.00 - 4.00 pm outside Caffe Nero as usual, or in the Mall precinct near Argos as a back-up if the weather is bad. Help would be much appreciated as always.

### Cudham Bluebell Walk

Many thanks to Ivy Smith for organising this most enjoyable walk on May 9<sup>th</sup>, which was in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care. They were aware that the seven of us were from Bromley Friends of the Earth which was a bit of publicity for our group, as some photos were taken which might appear in their local magazine, and is important for us linking with different organisations.

We completed the three mile walk beginning in Cudham recreation ground where there were stalls and information, and then proceeded to Caketts Farm across three fields and several styles, eventually reaching Newyears Wood where there were masses of bluebells ; the scent and the sight were quite overwhelming.

John Bocock as usual was most informative about identifying wild flowers, the age and species of trees, types of soil and fungi. After walking alongside High and Broom Woods and past Mace Farm, we passed a field of lambs, and finally ended up back at Cudham for some welcome refreshments!

### Renewable Energy Grid

A plan called Roadmap 2050 is being set up by the European Climate Foundation as part of a drastic intervention to mitigate climate change through giving more power to the European Union. Its aims are to achieve an 80% reduction in carbon emissions by 2050.

The proposal's starting point is the fact that since renewable energy sources such as wind, sun and wave power are unreliable and erratic, a power network grid should be created across the continent linking all these sources. This is a political as well as technical proposal, and would certainly gain respect from Eurosceptics, setting a strong, realistic green agenda, which could eventually be an example to other parts of the world. For example if North Africa with all its sunshine were included in the grid, this would be a major energy contribution.

The idea is to show a map of Europe redrawn as 'Eneropa' with regions defined by their energy source. For instance Ireland and the western half of the UK would become the 'tidal states', while the eastern half would form part of the 'isles of wind'. Most of Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece would be 'Solaria'.

The proposal is being considered by the EU Council of Ministers, for their possible endorsement.



## **Stop government funding for incinerators- *concluded***

We have long identified anaerobic digestion (AD) as the preferred method of treating organic materials, such as livestock manures and slurries, sewage sludge and food wastes. We are heavily committed to developing AD capacity for the treatment of these organic wastes.

We also need to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. Government aims to support authorities in doing this but it is local authorities who are responsible for deciding how waste is managed in their respective areas.

Even after the significant increases we want to see in waste prevention, reuse and recycling, there will always be some residual waste. We therefore need to build the required infrastructure to manage this residual waste. All intermediate technologies have residues which either go to landfill or energy recovery. Energy recovery, from either residual waste or a prepared fuel like solid recovered fuel (SRF), provides a considerable climate change benefit compared to

the alternative of landfill, through avoided landfill methane emissions and with renewable energy from the biodegradable fraction of waste displacing fossil fuel based power generation.

All applications for Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits were required to demonstrate how they supported the whole waste hierarchy - from increasing recycling and composting rates (to at least the national target), to improving waste minimisation and increasing diversion from landfill. Authorities are also required to explore Combined Heat and Power (CHP) potential during their procurement process. Any energy from waste facility will be part of an integrated waste management solution. Recovering energy from waste is complementary to and will not displace waste reduction methods further up the waste hierarchy; and these principles are enshrined in the outline business cases being submitted by local authorities seeking PFI credit support for their waste procurements.

### **BROMLEY BIKE BLAST 2010**

Bromley Bike Blast is a free fun day for all the family held in Norman Park Bromley on 19th June 2010 from 12.00pm until 4.30pm to celebrate Bike Week, the UK's annual celebration of cycling.

This exciting event will bring together all aspects of cycling and healthy lifestyles and is being organised by Bromley Council in partnership with Bromley Cyclists, supported by Transport for London, British Cycling London Cycling Campaign and Sustrans.

The Bromley Bike Blast will feature Bromley Cyclist of the Year in the morning, with stabiliser sessions, bike displays, live music, competitions, face painting, bouncy castles, bike skills sessions, fun cycling activities; including guided bike rides, free bike maintenance checks, stalls and free bike storage from 12.00pm.

For more information email [mikebike2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikebike2010@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone 07852 371988.

## Save the Seas campaign (MARINET) +++ FoE on Emergency Budget

Bromley FoE is continuing its support of Marinet, an alliance of FoE groups and others who campaign to protect the oceans. Stephen Eades outlined the next objectives of the campaign:

We are continuing with our Marine Reserves campaign, following the passing into law of the Marine and Coastal Access Act, in order to ensure that the marine reserve network (Marine Conservation Zones or MCZs) which are established in UK seas do actually serve the purpose of restoring the marine ecosystem of UK seas out to 200 nautical miles

We are now developing a campaign in conjunction with the EU's declared intention to undertake a Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

This MARINET campaign seeks to ensure that the ecosystem-based approach to marine management becomes the guiding principle for the future management of European commercial fish stocks, and that marine reserves are used in the new Common Fisheries Policy as one of the main tools for protecting the spawning and nursery grounds of commercial fish species, thus leading to a restoration of the stocks of commercial species to a sound condition.

At present, the EU's Reform of the Common fisheries Policy is not proposing to use marine reserves, and is employing a very limited understanding of the meaning of the ecosystem-based approach to marine management.

MARINET's policy of the Reform of the CFP can be seen on our website at our Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy page, see <http://www.marinet.org.uk/rocfp.html>.

The definition of the ecosystem-based approach to marine management which we want the EU and governments to adopt can be seen on our website's Ecosystem-based Approach to Marine Management page: <http://www.marinet.org.uk/eatinm.html>.

### **FoE on the Emergency Budget (Andy Atkins, FoE's Exec Director)**

"The Emergency Budget is a crucial opportunity to deliver on David Cameron's pledge to preside over the greenest Government ever - the Chancellor must seize it.

"The creation of our future prosperity must be built on the firm foundations of a low-carbon economy.

"Developing the UK's vast renewable energy potential and stamping out energy waste will create new green jobs and industries, increase energy security and help end the scourge of fuel poverty."

Friends of the Earth is calling on the Chancellor to protect spending on energy efficiency - which saves households and businesses money; drop wasteful spending on road building - which wrecks our climate and countryside; raise taxes on pollution and increase tax incentives for green technologies.

## Greater South East regional gathering, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June

A day of campaigning activities is planned on Saturday June 5 by Friends of the Earth for group members in the south-east of England. The morning will be devoted to a series of workshops including one to assess what the General Election result will have on FoE's activities.

After lunch there will be an opportunity to network with other groups and to have short discussions on a dozen different subjects ranging from campaigning techniques to the next stages for the current food campaign.

Registration is from 10.30am to 11am and there is no charge. The place: Bonhill House, which is near Old Street tube station. More details from Tom Wright at FoE [tom.wright@foe.co.uk](mailto:tom.wright@foe.co.uk) or 020-7566-1673.

### Here's the latest agenda for the day from the FoE website:

9.40 Welcome to Friends of the Earth: Introductory session for those new to Friends of the Earth  
10.30 Registration and workshop sign up  
11.00 Opening Plenary. Reflections and implications of the election for Friends of the Earth and the national priority campaigns. The session will highlight and explain the uncertainties that still exist because of the election.

12.00 Lightning talks. Short presentations on a variety of topics from local group members in the Friends of the Earth network. Contact Tom Wright on [tom.wright@foe.co.uk](mailto:tom.wright@foe.co.uk)

or 020 7566 1673 to get involved and present a talk yourself.

OR

12.00 Skills workshops: At the same time as the lightning talks we'll be running a variety of skills-based workshops. Exact content to be confirmed.

13.15 Lunch: We advise you to bring your own lunch as options for local sandwiches are limited on Saturdays

14.15 Campaign Sessions: Food Chain OR Get Serious. Each session will be: An hour-long session; more of a surgery/info exchange than a workshop; focus on local campaigns and sharing tips/plans

15.15 Break: Tea and coffee will be provided

15.30 Local and national campaign and issues networking surgeries: A chance to meet with staff and activists to discuss both local and national campaigns and issues.

17.15 Closing plenary/action Final details to be confirmed.

17.30 Social: Join us for drinks at a local pub.

### May meeting report final para –

We hope Roy and the many other people throughout the world will be successful in bringing awareness of Tibet's plight to the fore and saving a valuable part of the world's heritage.

## WDM and Bolivia – The People’s Summit

Kirsty Wright, WDM’s climate change campaigner, has been in Bolivia at The People’s Summit on Climate Change and Mother Earth Rights in Cochabamba, Bolivia. This is one of her blog reports.

“Sin preguntas, sin negociar, el agua es vida” read one of the last billboards I saw as I was leaving La Paz.

“Without question, without negotiation: water is life”. The right to water, and the fear of losing it, has been a common theme since I arrived in Bolivia. Realising the right to water has long been a struggle for people here, even before the famous water wars in 2000. Now climate change brings a new threats, with melting glaciers and erratic rainfalls putting new pressures on the already scarce resources.

Yesterday, I went to visit the Khapi community at the foothills of the Illimani glacier that overlooks La Paz, dominating the skyline. Illimani has long been said by indigenous Aymara communities to be a guardian of the people. There’s certainly some wisdom in this. Not only is the glacier the source of water for the hundred of communities who live in the hills below it, as well as upwards of twenty percent of La Paz’s water supply (some estimate that it is closer to forty percent), but these agricultural communities are also the gardens of the La Paz, providing fruit and vegetables to the city dwellers below.

“The snow used to come down to there” said the village leader I was speaking with said pointing to the bottom of a thin slither of snow, as the sun set behind us, layering the glacier

with a warm orange glow. “When we were children we used to be able to walk up and touch the snow. Now you can’t get to the snow at all.”

Though the people of the small Khapi community have only recently heard about climate change through the work of Auga Sustentable, based in La Paz, they’ve been aware that things are changing for a long time now. Plagues, the melting snow, and stronger sun, burning fiercely at the high altitude, have all pushed people to leave the community. Now there are about forty families living here. Just a few years ago there were over seventy.

Sitting in this beautiful place, seeing these hard but simple lives that I found it hard not to envy, I found it really difficult that these people, who have only had access to the smallest amount of electricity for the past fifteen years, may soon be forced to leave. Access to water is not the main issue at the moment, as the melting glaciers have meant that they actually have more water. But once the snow disappears, as has already happened in other places, life here will become unliveable.

It’s clear that in Bolivia climate change is not a problem for the future, but a problem for now. Though I knew this before, experiencing it, really feeling what it means for the first time, has been a harsh confrontation with reality. For many people who have been here in Bolivia for the cumbre, this reality will go home with them, as it will go home with me, and strengthen the struggle for climate justice around the world.

## FoE's CYW – How Private Members Bills can fix the food chain

Private Members' Bills are public bills introduced by MPs and Lords who aren't Government ministers. They are the main opportunity for backbenchers to create legislation.

Like all bills, the main purpose of a Private Members' Bill is to change the law. Not all manage it, but they can still affect future legislation by creating a publicity buzz. There are three ways an MP can introduce a Private Members' Bill in the House of Commons:

- the Ballot
- the Ten Minute Rule
- Presentation

Ballot bills have the best chance of becoming law, as they get priority for the limited amount of debating time available.

The names of members applying for a bill are drawn in a ballot held at the beginning of the parliamentary year and — crucially — immediately after general elections. Normally, the first seven ballot bills get a day's debate.

We have an inspiring track record of using ballot bills to create real world change. Many of you worked towards securing the Road Traffic Reduction Act (1997), Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act (2000) and the Household Waste Recycling Act (2003).

### **Our next action**

We'll be lobbying those MPs chosen in the ballot (around 3 June) to take forward a Sustainable Livestock Bill. This bill would give the Government two years to create robust plans to

increase the sustainability of the impacts of livestock food and farming. In other words, we're asking the Government to fix the food chain.

When the ballot takes place, we're going to need to be nimble and lobby hard. There are only three and a half weeks before those lucky seven MPs table their bills. We'll be providing particular support for groups in and around the seven MPs' constituencies, but we'll need lobbying action countrywide.

Thanks to your campaigning, Tory MP Peter Ainsworth tabled a Sustainable Livestock Bill on 23 March. As a presentation bill it has very little chance of becoming law, but it will show the MPs selected in the ballot how much support exists for new legislation. The momentum generated by this bill could prove invaluable.

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## **FoE's CYW – Demand Climate Change**

What now post Copenhagen? Our International Climate team inspire us with the urgent need to build a climate justice campaign that unites national, European, and global action on climate change. Now.

The campaign's aims are:

- Exert pressure at the UK, EU and international level for legally binding emissions cuts from rich countries.
- Secure adequate public finance for developing countries to adapt to the effects of climate change, and develop cleanly.

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## Message from Greenpeace re Nestlé and use of palm oil

We are thrilled to bring you some wonderful news. Thanks to Greenpeace supporters, we have won our Nestlé campaign! We can barely believe it. In all our years of campaigning, we've never turned around a global company so quickly.

It took just eight weeks for Nestlé to answer our demands.

Today, the world's biggest food and beverage company announced it would stop using products from rainforest destruction. The move follows our international campaign exposing Nestlé's use of palm oil in products like KitKat. Nestlé, through its links to supplier Sinar Mas, has been responsible for destroying rainforests and pushing orang-utans toward extinction.

Nestlé now promises to change its destructive ways.

Under its new policy, Nestlé will identify and exclude from its supply chain companies that own or manage 'high risk plantations or farms linked to deforestation. This exclusion would apply to companies such as Sinar Mas, Indonesia's most notorious forest destroyer, if it fails to meet the criteria set out in the policy. It also has implications for palm oil traders, such as Cargill, which continue to buy from Sinar Mas.

But we mustn't stop here. Moving the world's largest food and beverage company is an awesome first step. Greenpeace will continue to campaign against companies globally involved in rainforest destruction.

This historic decision is thanks to the 300,000 people worldwide who took action and contacted Nestlé. It's days like today that remind us we all have the power to make a positive difference.

*Valerie Phillips, Forest Campaign Coordinator, Greenpeace Australia Pacific*

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### **FoE's CYW – Demand Climate Change - continued**

We will only be able to do this by building a campaign that creates an unstoppable movement, demanding that political leaders commit to a fair and equitable low carbon future through a strong and just global agreement.

We will put pressure on Europe to increase its targets through the Big Ask Europe campaign, which is calling for national climate laws and an increase in the EU's emissions cuts target from 20 per cent to at least 40 per cent. We will increase support for the latter through seminars, direct contact and lobbying MEPs. Visit [www.thebigask.eu](http://www.thebigask.eu).

Alongside development and faith groups, trade unions and Southern campaigners, we will call for public climate finance to be in addition to existing overseas development aid.

We also want to see Governments take forward the views of the people they represent at climate negotiations. So we are campaigning to expose and minimise the impact of vested interests in lobbying for a weak climate agreement, such as European business - that claim they would lose out to new legislation.

## Bromley Friends of the Earth - List of Contacts

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### Press Officer:

vacant

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### Membership Secretary:

Dan Sloan 01689-838819

### Merchandising:

Anne Clark 020-8289-8483

### Teas:

Anne Clark / Ivy Smith

### Campaigns –

### Transport:

Ray Watson 01959-571566

### Climate and Energy:

Ann Garrett 020-8460-1295

### Food and Ethical Farming:

Peter Gandolfi details below

### Planning and development:

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### Energy and Renewables

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### Waste and Recycling

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### Bromley FoE web site:

**[www.bromleyfoe.co.uk](http://www.bromleyfoe.co.uk)**

Peter Gandolfi  
*famgando@hotmail.com*

### 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!

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**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.

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**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](mailto: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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