



**friends of
the earth
Bromley**

March 2020

No 386

Our Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd March

Dr Vanessa Jenkins

**The Pharmacy
from the Amazonian Rain Forest**

Vanessa is a doctor, medical adviser and lecturer
who has travelled widely and brings us insights

following a visit to the Amazon

Also a TRAIDCRAFT STALL

7.30pm The Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

Everyone welcome

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NEWSLETTER

Diary Dates

24th Feb - 8th Mar Fairtrade Fortnight

27th Feb (Thursday) Friends of Jubilee Park. Ashley Leiman, who founded the Orangutan Foundation in 1990, will speak about orangutans and the work of the foundation. 2pm Garden Room, St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane, Bromley BR2 8AT. Refreshments available. Entry is free but a donation of £3 would be welcomed

3rd Mar (Tuesday) Bromley FoE's monthly meeting 7.30pm Dr Vanessa Jenkins - The Pharmacy from the Amazonian Rain Forest. Vanessa is a doctor, medical adviser and lecturer who has travelled widely and brings us insights following a visit to the Amazon. *Also TRAIDCRAFT STALL*

11th Mar (Wednesday) Bromley RSPB Talk 7pm Bromley United Reformed Church (Verrall Hall), 20 Widmore Road, Bromley BR1 1RY. In 2016 the RSPB's Laurence Rose journeyed from the Mediterranean to Arctic Scandinavia, keeping pace with spring's arrival and the two billion birds that migrate north. The result was his acclaimed book *The Long Spring*. Find out how a continent awakens from its winter slumber. £3.50

18th Mar (Wednesday) Greener and Cleaner catch up 7.30pm Shortlands Tavern, upstairs room.

20th Mar - 13th Apr The Great British Spring Clean

28th Mar (Saturday) Anti-Fracking Campaign Stall with Bromley FoE and Bromley Against Fracking. The Mall Precinct, Bromley 2.30pm to 4.30pm

7th Apr (Tuesday) Bromley FoE's monthly meeting 7.30pm

22nd April (Wednesday) BFoE Planning Meeting for campaign reps and key group role holders

25th April (Saturday) Bluebell Walk 11am Bethlem Hospital Monks Orchard Road West Wickham. Meet inside the main entrance. Look out for Bethlem Gallery. The walk will last approx. 1 hour. Toilet and catering facilities nearby. The 119 bus passes the end of the road. At 2pm an opportunity to also have a talk on the history of the Bethlem Hospital. A donation of £3 per person would be appreciated. At present I have booked 10 places. Let Sue Boccock know if you'd like to attend - johnbocock@hotmail.com 020 8290 0485

13th June Groundswell 2020 is on! It will be in Central London

If you need any further information on these events, you can email us on bromleyfoe@gmail.com or ask at the next monthly meeting.

Next Newsletter Copy

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views, articles for sale will all be considered for publication. Please send them to the editor via one of the methods below to arrive not later than **Wednesday 18th March**

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

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

Our February Meeting

Anne Clark

Sarah Chant, Co-ordinator of Environmental Action Coney Hall, began her talk saying that instead of lying in bed worrying about the state of the world, she must get up and do something about it.

Determined to be non-political (except for backing the school strikes for the youngsters' futures) she set up a meeting in a pub to see if anyone else cared and was surprised how many interested people attended.

As a special area on the map, it would be lovely to make Coney Hall into a "Pollinator Village" modelling simple ways for busy residents to address the issue of biodiversity loss and to make it rich in flower and tree habitats which support wildlife populations. Word was spread to local groups such as Residents Assns., local Churches, Friends of Coney Hall Park, schools & guides etc. A major launch was needed to advertise, set up a logo, Facebook page and call themselves Environmental Action Co-

ney Hall (EACH). Local MP Bob Stewart, who had made and signed a strategy pledge for the environment, sent Robert Straker to attend the launch where 25 members and over 50 on e-mail, signed up. With the help of Residents' newsletters, talks and the local press, hopefully the word would be spread, with the backing of Nature Watch and their information boards, such as "Life in a Logpile" and "the Bramble", dotted around. The local Council, IdeVerde, Cleaner & Greener, the City of London, TfL (the verges), and all, had to be approached! Due in part to the Lord Mayor's Plan and the Orchard Trust, four old Kent varieties of apple and one pear tree had been sent so far, to be planted, and hopefully they would receive some Medlars and Crab Apples. The hope was to get more volunteers on board tho' locals were enthusiastic and altering their gardens to be more eco-friendly. Also, they wished to persuade, hopefully, IdeVerde to cut the meadow at the correct time to encourage wildlife and get children interested. Bug & Bee Hotels were to be made

from old pallets. Coney Hall had once been an orchard area, before being split up into sections, with a meadow, play area, orchard, churchyard, roads with verges and street trees - the treatment of which, some people were frustrated about! The big roundabout was also a mess and could be used to advantage. Wild Rattle and other wild flowers would be planted and a blue heart of recycled wood, made by a member of the Blue Campaign, could be used to mark an area where grass was left uncut and wild flowers left to grow. Money had already been donated to be put to good use, and Sarah had the backing of Bug Life, Plant Life. The Woodland Trust, RSPB, Chris Packham's Pledge for Wildlife, The RHS and London in Bloom. Others were suggested to her at the meeting ie Brogdale orchard trust, and getting the local children's Woodcraft Folk involved. The final enthusiastic motto of EACH was: "Joining will cost you nothing - Doing nothing will cost the Earth!"

Second Half

February 2nd half

We were asked to vote on a name for the new Climate Action Group made up of Greener and Cleaner Bromley and Beyond (GCBB), Bromley Friends of the Earth and others. The most votes were for **Bromley Climate Alliance**. Judy read out the group's Mission Statement:

"Sharing information and collaborating with the council, residents and other community stakeholders to reduce our borough's environmental impact, making Bromley a greener, healthier and more sustainable place to live in both now, and in the future."

Anti-Fracking – See report on page 16

Plastics – letter writing to supermarkets and approaches to entertainment venues, football club etc about plastics usage.

Trees – a question was put to a Bromley Council meeting about tree planting but there was no real answer. Letter writing to schools, resident associations, faith groups etc. is taking place. We should look for appropriate sites for tree planting.

Nature – See report on page 14

The RSPB are repeating the Swift survey this year. House Sparrow numbers are increasing. RSPB are holding a Bromley Biodiversity Evening on Wednesday 10th June, to which we are invited.

There was also a call to look out for and report any toads, hedgehogs, White Admiral and Purple Emperor butterflies locally.

Bromley Friends of the Earth have now set up Instagram and Twitter accounts. The website is being revamped; thanks to Mary Ingledew for her hard work on this. She is using the Bromley RSPB site as a model.

We have sent an objection to the Council re planning permission for an Aviation College at Biggin Hill and also letters

to the press (see the Transport Campaign column). We need to ask Bromley how they can square their pledge to reduce CO₂ emissions with promoting flying from Biggin Hill and what plans they have in place to meet their targets.

The Bonnington Square outing and lunch has been postponed till the spring, when all the vegetation will be at its best. There was interest in a guided walk at Well Wood, following Sarah's talk.

Fairtrade Fortnight 24th Feb - 8th March

Fairtrade Fortnight takes place every year at this time, and it's been our tradition to have a Traidcraft Stall at our March meeting.

25 years of the FAIRTRADE mark on supermarket shelves has meant over €1 billion in Fairtrade Premium for farmers and workers around the world. This translates into children getting an education in schools built by Fairtrade Premium payments and lives saved in clinics that would not exist without Fairtrade farmers empowered to choose what they spend their Fairtrade Premium on.

The climate emergency and rising temperatures are leading to coffee plants becoming diseased and dying with coffee prices already at rock bottom. Fairtrade gives a guaranteed price to coffee farmers and supports them to look after the environment, to access loans to improve their farms and adapt to climate chaos. The climate crisis and the low price of coffee are disastrous

for farmers, but with Fairtrade they are enabled to farm for the future.

Please support our Traidcraft stall selling Fairtrade products. Yes, the prices are higher than in Tesco, but it's a question of "putting your money where your mouth is", standing up against environmental degradation and the greed of big corporations and supporting individual small producers.

Miller's Mutterings

Steve and Chris Miller Court Lodge Farm

A shorter mutterings this month, and we are hoping for drier weather enabling us to plant spring wheat, barley and oats in March. The seed is due for delivery this month and after talking to our Agronomist, we have planned all weed and disease control. The large green section of the field from the house to the riding stables is last year's oats that were blown out of the husk before we were able to combine. This will have to be killed off before we plant with spring wheat, as it is completely riddled with disease.

That is all we have to say on the field side of the farm this month!

Repairs are about to take place on the gable part of the old stable buildings. Unfortunately, a lorry driver failed to see the telephone cable and drove straight through it. The cable was pulled out of the wall and in the process took

down about 6' of gable end brickwork. It also cracked the wall further up, so this has all got to be carefully taken down and rebuilt. Some of the new tin roof that Peter only erected about six weeks ago has also got to be replaced!

The annual spray workshop course in Faversham was completed in January and Peter continues to take straw down to Chart for the deer.

Great grandfather's letters mention that the tractor we wrote about last month, arrived at last in February 1916. The man who was going to start it was unable to come, so they tried to get it going themselves. Unfortunately, it backfired and one of the men received "a nasty knock but was getting on all right again".

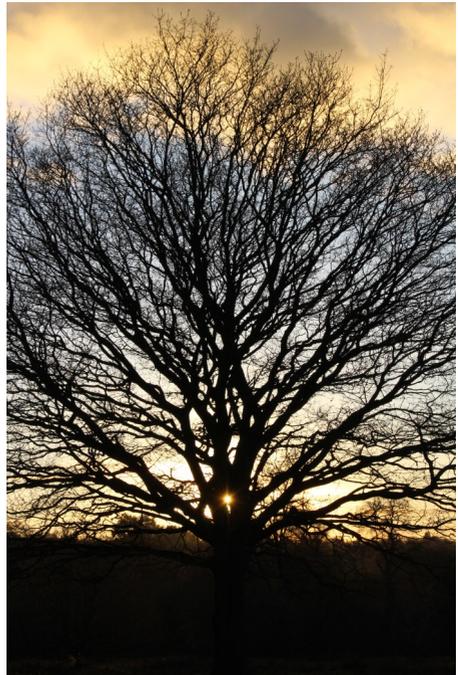
They tried ploughing and apparently she did well, drawing a three furrowed plough when the land was dry but useless when wet. Just after the plough arrived they had nearly 3' of snow so everything came to a grinding halt. One of the men was taken bad on the engine whilst going to market and had to be taken into the Plough on Bromley Common and put to bed. George had to send another driver up to the engine and by that time the snow was so deep, that he could not get beyond Mill Lane, Deptford where the engine was stuck for 24 hours. George man-

aged to sell some of the produce off the vans there and another man took the rest to market with his rubber tyred Foden. The weather does have a great impact on farming whatever year it is.

We think spring is just around the corner, snowdrops and crocus are appearing and at the end of January we heard our first sky lark, Hurrah!

Here is a quote for Candlemas Day, 2nd February, which apparently used to be regarded as being half-way through the winter:

If Candlemas Day is bright and clear,
There'll be two winters in that year; But
if Candlemas Day is mild or brings rain,
Winter is gone and will not come again.



Brief Story of a Tree

By Herbie Johnson 11 1/12

There I was one day just minding my own tree business
when some human came along with a chainsaw and started cutting at me.
It was very painful and then I suddenly hit the ground with a huge thud.
I woke up having been transported to a factory.

Here I was put on a traveller where I was compressed by many different machines,
this was very painful! I was separated, my arm and legs going everywhere.
I was finally reunited with them, but in a rather odd shape,
I was a chair!

After that traumatic experience I was shipped off to another country where I was put on sale.

It was a bit depressing really,
everybody walking around not taking the slightest interest in what I had been through.

There were a couple of "ooo that looks nice," but nothing.

Eventually, a man came in and said he needed some chairs.

He took one look at me and my friends and decided we were the chairs for him.

At first, we were really excited, but it went downhill fast.

We were aching like crazy from people sitting on us, and to this day I have been bored to death by meetings!

With thanks to Ann Johnson

GCBB SCHOOLS' ECO IDEAS SWAP EVENT



Tuesday 3rd March, 6pm - 9.30pm

The Drawing Room & Dining Room, Beckenham Place Park Mansion, BR3 5BN

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

We bring local schools together to share their green changes and identify easy wins for reducing environmental impact. Schools and experts will present their efforts, experiences and top tips to inspire more vital changes - working towards a healthier environment for children and school staff now and in the future.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Each school can send up to three delegates ideally from their headteachers, deputies, teachers, PTA members, eco leads, school governors and trustees. NB: Numbers per school may be reduced if oversubscribed. All places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



HOW DO WE GET INVOLVED?

Just email Greenerandcleaneruk@gmail.com to book your spot and confirm:

1. **names and roles of attendees** (attendance of at least one senior leader from the school is strongly recommended)
2. **who is presenting** the five minute summary of your school's efforts to reduce its environmental impact including "easy wins" and future plans - anything from improved insulation or anti-idling campaigns to green energy tariffs and reusable PTA cups etc (let us know if you would prefer not to present).
3. **which three expert talks** are of most interest to your school: School Travel Plans; Air Quality Improvement Projects; Recycling & Food Waste Management; Setting Up Eco Schools; Forest Schools; Co-Op Community Funding; Green Energy Switch.

*There will be a Q&A / networking reception with refreshments kindly sponsored by Veolia. Please do bring reusable water bottles and travel by train, bus or lift share if walking isn't possible.



Corrected Bromley FoE Accounts for year ending 31st Dec 2019

There was a mistake in the 2019 Year End accounts published in the February newsletter, which one of our eagle-eyed readers spotted. Below is the corrected version, with apologies.

	2019	2018	2017
Balance at January 1st	1,408.65	1,250.38	1,021.30
Income			
Subscriptions	423	383	388.01
2018 Subs via PayPal	65	0	0
Donations	*216,60	*332.50	160
Hall collection	496.36	446.94	428.08
Tea profits	92.8	69.98	67.21
Stall income	160.36	131.96	59.2
Open Garden	687.4	413.3	545.25
Unpresented cheque wr/back	0	15	0
	2,141.52	1,792.68	1,647.75
Expenditure			
Hall hire	500	500	506.35
Newsletter	486.3	459.3	462
Stall rentals & other expenses	93.16	20	73.5
Campaign expenses	116.26	385.11	0
Speaker expenses/gifts	166.82	45	44.55
Payments to other organisations	100	105	102.5
Donations to National FoE	120	120	220
Other (including gifts)	149.74	0	9.77
	1,732.28	1,634.41	1,418.67
Surplus / (deficit) for year	409.24	158.27	229.08
Balance at December 31st	1,937.39	1,408.65	1,250.38

Planning Meeting Report

Sheila Brown

At a recent Planning Meeting in January the following was decided/reported:

- Garden Day on 26th April, at Bill's or possibly Parisa's. Stalls at Keston and Cudham.
- Delegation to visit new Orpington MP, plus all MPs re Plastics.
- Work on new website underway. Group also to set up Twitter and Instagram accounts.
- Bill suggested the group have a competition for ideas on how to achieve 'net zero' in the Borough, to be open to groups and individuals.
- There were updates on the main campaigns – Climate, with the new Bromley Climate Alliance, Trees, Plastics and Anti-Fracking. It was felt that we should challenge the Council about the incompatibility of their expansion plans at Biggin Hill Airport and their undertaking to achieve Zero Carbon by 2029. Re Plastics, we will approach shops, entertainment venues and Fete and event organisers about eliminating single-use plastics.

Salad Crop Shortages

Many people reading about the devastation caused by Storm Gloria in Spain, and the imminent veg shortages it will cause, will use it as a sign that we should diversify our supply chain. Spain

is by far the dominant supplier to the UK for winter salad vegetables, as well as many outdoor field crops. You only have to look at Google Earth overhead footage of the huge scale of glasshouses in the Almeria region. But a kneejerk suggestion to simply stop buying from Spain isn't realistic, if even desirable. The fact is many of these products are staples, like tomatoes, lettuce, and courgettes, and like anywhere, some are sustainably produced, and some not. There is no easy answer, but understanding the complexity and intertwined nature of supply and demand, plus the very real impact of extreme weather caused by climate change, is a very good starting point – along with empathy for those growers who have lost months of work in an hour.

More on this subject can be found at:

<https://wickedleeks.riverford.co.uk/news/farming-news-farm/growers-hit-devastating-storm-gloria>

See the full Wicked Leeks newsletter at:

www.wickedleeks.com/#join

Wicked Leeks is the magazine published by Riverford.

Campaigns

Planning Monitoring Team

Checking the monthly planning applications that the council publish is a really interesting job especially if you know your local area well. The current team are looking for help from people who

would be willing to keep an eye on the applications in their own back yard from the comfort of your home, and alert them to anything which may require us to make an official comment.

If you would like to find out a little more about what is involved, then please contact Tamara Galloway at: tamaragalloway@yahoo.com

Climate, Energy and Transport

Ann Garrett

Davos World Economic Forum

Prince Charles in his first speech to the Davos Forum said that big business must be more aligned with consumers who want to protect the environment. In his address he said that with 2020 being seen as a super year for kick starting a decade of action for people and the planet, 'I intend to do my utmost to ensure that the message of urgency, systemic change, collaboration and integration, is heard.'

He urged big business to invest trillions into environmental schemes that promote economic sustainability, and he believes that wise investment is at the heart of resolving the crisis.

Charles plans to launch a Sustainable Markets Council and said that 'with consumers controlling an estimated 60% of the global GDP, people around the world have a chance to really influence and change things.'

Solar Powering for 'Super Market' Site

The proposals for the merger of new

Smithfield, Billingsgate and New Spitalfields markets at a site formerly occupied by Barking power station, include harnessing solar power to help run them.

Early designs show that each market will have its own entrance leading to an atrium, which will provide daylight to the stalls below and serve as 'renewable energy generators' with hundreds of solar panels.

A 'green corridor' will link the site to nearby roads and the Thames, which could be used as a more environmentally friendly way to ship goods to and from the markets.

The development will be built with sustainable materials, using the latest environmental technology. The aim is to create a scheme that places the health and wellbeing of its workers and occupants at its heart.

Transport

HS2 Approved

Boris Johnson has now signed off the £106 billion HS2 rail project - despite admitting costs have exploded from the original budget of £32.7 billion.

He has vowed that trains will run on the London to Birmingham stretch of the high-speed route by 'the end of the decade'.

A dedicated HS2 minister will be appointed, and the building of the first stretch will begin in April, with much of the preparatory work already done.

HS2 trains are expected to carry 300,000 passengers a day at up to 225mph.

Critics, which include many environmental and residents groups, say the benefits are not worth the cost of the environmental damage and destruction of homes involved. Friends of the Earth have a long record of opposing HS2 from the initial proposal.

Petrol and Diesel Vehicles face a Ban

The ban on their sale could be operational in just 12 years.

The plan, part of the government's drive against climate change, would include a possible cut-off date by 2032 .

If the government is really serious about this, then a vast funding subsidy for electric vehicles will have to be introduced, in order for the public and businesses to purchase vehicles at a reasonable price.

Biggin Hill Airport Expansion by Ann Garrett

The following letter from myself and Sheila Brown was published in the Bromley Borough News and County Border News, and registered Bromley FoE's concern at the final expansion outcome.

Dear Editor

Biggin Hill Aerospace and Technology College

Bromley Friends of the Earth are very

disappointed that Bromley Council have given the final go ahead for the Aerospace and Technology College, and also a new hotel, by granting landlord's consent.

While we acknowledge that this will create new jobs, due to the serious matter of climate change, we are opposed to any facility which encourages aviation expansion in any way.

Locally there has been increased noise pollution and local traffic congestion as a result of expansion of the airport's opening hours. Students practising in aircraft will only exacerbate this situation.

Friends of the Earth think that the council should be working for more local job creation in the green renewables industries, especially as they have voted to reduce carbon emissions by 2029. This would be positive for employment and development of skills for people of all ages, and contribute to reducing transport pollution, including that of aviation.

Yours faithfully,

Sheila Brown and Ann Garrett [Joint Co-ordinators of Bromley Friends of the Earth]

Plastics in the Environment

Annette Rose

Webinar

In January I took part in an online Webinar on the plastics campaign run by FoE. I found myself rather centre stage as I was the only local campaigner who joined in and all the others were members of staff of FoE! However it was a great opportunity to get the latest news on the campaign from the top and to ask some questions which I had luckily prepared beforehand.

Political

We began with the political side of the campaign. They were interested to hear that Gareth Bacon MP for Orpington didn't even attend the Environmental Hustings. We will be asked to visit our local MPs in the coming months and there will be guidance to follow on this. The Plastics Pollution Bill will be part of the Environmental Bill and we will be pushing for rigorous targets. The crunch time will be in about a year when we will see what the amendments there are.

Football Clubs

We then discussed the football stadiums focus. Quite a lot of work has already taken place with Premier League Football Clubs to encourage them to reduce their single-use plastics and changes are happening. It was thought to be a good idea to approach our local Bromley Football club. It was emphasised it is a good idea to congratulate anything positive that is happening and then make suggestions on improvements that they could make. It is important to approach the supporters' club as well. Reusable cups are an easy win for most clubs. I asked if we could have a fact sheet with more specific information, for example a list of suppliers they could use and it was thought this would be a good idea. There is an online 'Plastics Pledge' to sign. Twitter and Instagram are useful tools.

Events and Catering

FoE will be pushing for more legislation for the catering industry. It was thought a good idea to tackle this at a local level too, approaching the manag-

Reuse

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

er of local establishments. I said I would like to approach The Churchill Theatre in Bromley. BFoE will also be asking the event organisers of our local fetes to make their events more environmentally friendly.

Facebook and website

For those of you on Facebook, you can find more information and interesting links on the Friends of the Earth Plastics Campaigns page. There is also useful information on the FoE website.

Nature/Trees

Annette Rose

Bromley RSPB Swift Survey 2020

For the past two years I have taken part in the Bromley RSPB Swift Survey and found it very interesting. If you would like to take part, there will be a request for volunteers soon for this year's survey. My 'patch' of 3 survey squares took me about 1 hour to walk but it is up to you how many survey squares you want to cover. You will be asked to record any low flying swifts and nesting sites. You will need to do a survey in May, June and July, so a minimum of 3. You get sent very clear instructions and there is a meeting to attend in Bromley and a follow up meeting to hear about the results. These surveys really make a difference to local swift conservation so please do consider taking part.

If you are interested, please contact

bromleyrspbrecords@gmail.com or 07392 790 719. You can also visit rspb.org.uk/groups/Bromley

Biodiversity in the Borough

Judy Palmer

We are so lucky in our corner of the South East, to have such a range and variety of habitats, species, wildlife and biodiversity. The borough has over 150 parks, commons, country parks and woodlands, the largest of London's area of countryside.

To help conserve our species and habitats the Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan was created way back in 1998. The latest version is now due to be updated and is being worked on. There is a partnership of local groups and organisations which meet three times a year to exchange information and we all met up in January.

The sub-group which works on habitats and species, is continuing with the citizen science projects again this year. This is when certain species important to our borough's diversity, are studied and recorded. This year they are focussing on toads, hedgehogs, Purple Emperor and White Admiral butterflies and promoting *native* shrub planting. Native is the key word! Unfortunately, one of the sad facts of our catastrophic decline in inver-

tebrates is that they have been affected by the decline in native species as all UK invertebrates are adapted to eat native plants.

The swift survey will also be undertaken in partnership with Bromley RSPB. All relevant posters and information can be found on the Friends Forum website

(www.bromleyfriendsforum.org) under Biodiversity posters. But for now, here is the first information on toads.

Toads are in Trouble!

Toad populations in SE England have fallen by more than 50% since 1985.

They spend most of their lives on land in scrubby areas, hibernating in log piles, deep leaf litter and burrows. Adults usually emerge in March and return to their ponds to breed. Please let us know if you see one! We are

(Toads live Note golden eye with pupil a horizontal slit. Frogs eyes are more circular with rounded pupils)



particularly interested in finding ponds where they breed so please look out for strings of eggs wound around plant stems underwater, or males and females together in March-April.

Dry, warty skin. Frogs have smooth skin.

Legs adapted to crawling, unlike frogs whose longer back legs are good for hopping and jumping.



(Toadspawn)

E-mail the date, place (postcode or grid reference), number seen and a photo to Bromley Biodiversity Partnership at bromleybiodiversity@gmail.com.

Your information will enable habitat improvements to be put in place to try and increase toad numbers.

How You Can Help Toads: have a wild area in your garden with some scrub, a log pile and maybe a pond 90cms deep, with at least one gently sloping side. For more information and to see how frogs look different from toads, see <https://www.arc-trust.org>

We had an update from the London Wildlife Trust at the last BFoE meeting, and they have three major projects under way at the moment, which are - a dragonfly guide, the Brilliant Butterflies project and the London Urban Forest. Please visit their website for more detail, (www.wildlondon.org.uk)

RSPB Birdwatch

Did anyone take part in the RSPB annual birdwatch this year? If you did, one of our members is keen to collate people's results and see where different species are being recorded across the borough. If anyone is happy to share their results, please contact us at bromleyfoe@gmail.com and we will pass the information on. Thank you

Anti Fracking

Ann Garrett

A final reminder that our FoE Bromley Mall Precinct stall with Bromley Against Fracking will be held on March 28th from 2.30 - 4.30pm.

Many thanks to those who have already signed up to help, and even if the weather is bad I have noticed a new roof over the whole area! Refreshments afterwards at Nick's café as usual!

A photo of our last stall there in October has been sent to National FoE ready for a Co-Ordinator's meeting on February 18th.

Meanwhile - big thanks to John Catlin and Sue Bocock who visited the 'Gatwick Gusher' drilling site at Horse Hill on our behalf on February 2nd, taking some logs and food supplies and offering solidarity to the campaigners there. Our group also made a financial donation to help towards expenses.

They reported that there has been a major water leak at the drilling site,

which has mingled with the oil and is causing big problems.

Another visit is planned in the Spring.

Following this update is a report on a meeting on shale gas held in Greenwich.

Website Archive

Our website archive has now been rebuilt and has all our past newsletters going back 11 years. These should become searchable via Google over the next few weeks/months.

E-Facts for the Month

Carbon footprint of Trees vs Cars.

A mature tree can sequester as much as 1 ton of carbon dioxide by the time it reaches 40 years old. A more acceptable figure is around 22 kg / yr.

A typical passenger vehicle emits about 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, approx 4600 kg. This amounts to around the amount of carbon dioxide that is adsorbed by 200 mature trees in one year.

This is only part of the story - one needs to consider the carbon footprint of the manufacture of a new car. This depends on the size of the car but an approximate figure is 720kg of carbon dioxide equivalent per £1000 spent.

Producing a medium-sized new car costing around £24,000 can generate

more than 17 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent to the carbon dioxide adsorbed by 800 mature trees in one year, or as much as three years' worth of gas and electricity in the typical UK home. Some reports indicate that this figure can be even higher.

In conclusion, perhaps we should be using small cars, and should be keeping them for as many years as possible. Also, it shows the true impact of travel, and we should be wary of the token figures some travel companies are suggesting for carbon offsetting your next flight.

Coffee cups again

There has been a lot of publicity on the 25 tons of disposable coffee cups that go into landfill every year, yet this is dwarfed by the 400,000 tons of disposable nappies that suffer the same fate - and are far more of a hazard.

Climate Change - The Built Environment

Katherine Curcell

40% of the UK's carbon footprint is attributable to the built environment

59% of the UK's waste is produced by the construction industry

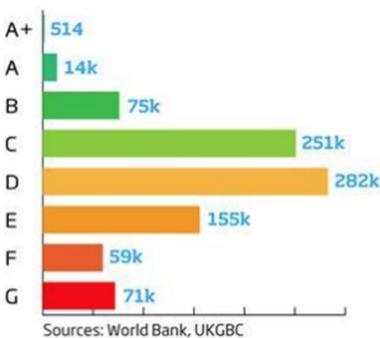
Youtube Channel

Fully Charged is a Youtube channel, an ongoing series of shows about zero energy and electric vehicles. It's introduced by Robert Llewellyn (of Red Dwarf and Scrapyard Challenge fame) amongst others and is really useful if you are interested in this sort of thing.

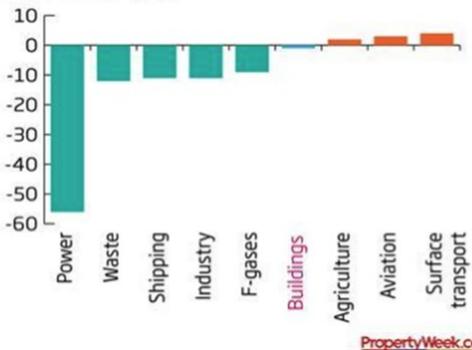
Supplies That Don't Cost the Earth

This is a regular reference point for useful and practical resources, helping us to sustain the greenest lifestyles we can. Please note that none of these are recommendations from Bromley or National FoE, they are just suggested by BFOE members. Any suggestions or reviews gratefully received. Ed.

Non-domestic EPC scores in the UK 2008-19



UK sector change in emissions 2013-18 (%)



www.greenfinder.co.uk - a really useful directory of environmental companies for all kinds of things.

Naturallythinking Unit 2 Mill Lane Trading Estate, Mill Lane, Croydon, CR0 4AA
020 3856 3588
www.naturallythinking.com

Facebook

Greener & Cleaner Bromley (& Beyond)
Shares tips and resources for residents or the borough. Consumer action!

Hayes Life Freebeecyclers There may be

something similar in your area..
<https://groups.freecycle.org/group/BromleyUK/posts/all>

Shops

South London Shop Without Packaging (SWOP), 7 Burnt Ash Lane, Lee.

Carnivore and Herbivore Shops in Southborough Lane, Bromley near the library.

Crystal Palace Food Market, Haynes Lane, SE19 3AN. facebook - 'The Store Cupboard'.

Your Newsletter

Please be aware that there are several ways in which you can stay up to date with Bromley FoE news. Every member is automatically sent a newsletter each month when they join us. However, many members have asked that they receive the newsletter via email only saving us printing and postage costs, and paper and other resources of course.

Our options are:

- Paper newsletter sent to you
- PDF newsletter emailed to you (in colour and easy to read)
- Both printed and emailed newsletters. (Allows you to email a copy forwarded to other interested parties)
- No newsletter at all

If you would like to change the way you get your newsletter then please send an email to us at bromleyfoe@gmail.com

Membership Renewal

If you are unsure about when your BFoE membership is up for renewal and you receive your newsletter by post then you can find the renewal date on your address label.

If you have any queries regarding this or you receive your newsletter via email then let us know at our usual email address bromleyfoe@gmail.com

Apps

Karma and **TooGoodToGo**. Both allow you to purchase spare food from local restaurants at short notice and very reduced prices.

 @photographybybethan



List Of Roles

All postholders can be contacted via the groups email address:

bromleyfoe@gmail.com

Acting Co-ordinators/Mentors:

Sheila Brown 01689 851605

Ann Garrett 020 8460 1295

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer:

Sheila Brown

Press Team:

Ann Garrett

Programme Organiser:

Sheila Brown

Outings Organisers:

John & Sue Bocock 0208 290 0485

Merchandising: Anne Clark

Membership Secretary:

Dan Sloan 07414 920920

Newsletter Production:

Dan Sloan

Instagram and Twitter Admin:

Emmanuelle Coetzee

Fundraising Officer:

Bill Priestley 01689 820469

Admin Team:

Judy Palmer, Rob Clark, Annette Rose

Web Site & Technical Support:

Peter Gandolfi, Mary Ingledew

Refreshments

Mary Ingledew, Sylvia Chance

Meeting Reporters:

John & Sue Bocock, Anne Clark, Annette Rose, Peter Gandolfi, Sheila Brown - further volunteers for this team would be welcomed

Campaigns (Contact via group email)

Nature/Trees:

Diana Hurd, Judy Palmer, Annette Rose, Tamara Galloway, Ruth Fabricant

Anti Fracking:

Ann Garrett, John Catlin

Plastics:

Annette Rose, Sheila Brown, Emmanuelle Coetzee, Ruth Gardner, Judy Palmer, Ruth Fabricant, Viv Gardiner

Climate:

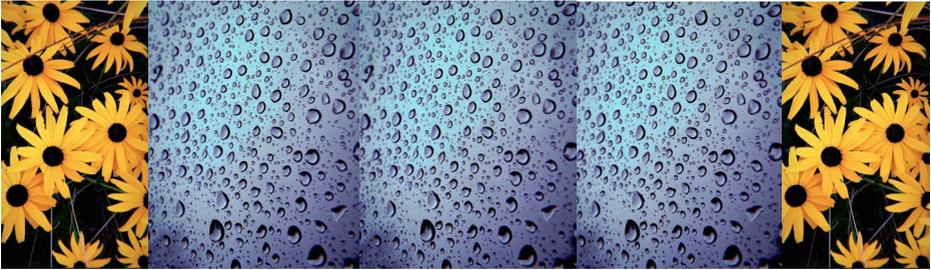
Sam Gee, Ann Garrett, Tamara Galloway, Ruth Fabricant, Judy Palmer (liaison with Climate Alliance)

Planning Monitor: Tamara Galloway, Ann Garrett

Newsletter Editor:

Rob Clark 020 8289 1503

robert.clark9@btinternet.com



Non-members Section

If you are not a member of Bromley Friends of the Earth (BfoE) then hello to you. We are an active local group affiliated to national Friends of the Earth concerned with promoting the understanding of environmental issues. We also campaign on these issues at a local, national and international level.

If you would like to know more about who we are and what we do, please contact either of our acting co-ordinators Sheila Brown or Ann Garrett (their details are inside the back page of this newsletter.) Alternatively you can come along to one of our monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday of every month at the Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley - that's towards the bottom of the High Street, on the right going down. If you would like to join us then please fill in and send us the form below.

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

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

Name:

Address:

Post Code: Phone No:

Email address:

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

.....

Please return this form to: Bromley FoE, 2 Bucks Cross Cottages, Chelsfield Village, Orpington, Kent BR6 7RN. Other enquiries regarding the group should be sent to bromleyfoe@gmail.com or contact one of our co-ordinators via their details inside.