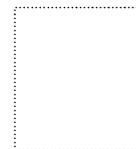




October 2013 No. 310 Newsletter



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



October Meeting

Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

Water in Bromley

Paul Rainey talks about the geology of Bromley and the Ravensbourne, and their influence on its water supply, mills, St Blaise's well, floods, drains and sewers

Tuesday 1st October - 7.30pm

Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by
***** SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER *****
Contact details inside front cover.

In this Issue:

Diary Dates	2	RAN Campaign	8,9
Wildlife reserve visit	2	BEE Cause	9
Find a Friend	2	CYW – Make It Better	10
September mtg rpt	3,4	CYW - CBE	11
BEE Quiz	4	WDM Farewell	12,13,14
BEE Quiz Questions	5	BEE Quiz Answers	14
Fun in the Sun	5	Bromley FoE Contacts	15
Fracking & Bromley	6,7	Non-members section	16
Fracking & Croydon	7,10		

Fracking in Bromley ?? See pages 6 and 7

Diary dates:

Oct 1st (Tues)

Bromley FoE's October meeting

Paul Rainey on Water in Bromley
Campaign stall, Bromley High Street

Oct 19th (Sat)

Nov 3rd (Sun)

Visit to Sevenoaks Nature Reserve (see below)

Nov 5th (Tues)

Bromley FoE's November meeting

Mark Sutton, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Visit to Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve

A provisional booking has been made to visit the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve on Sunday 3rd November.

We shall be meeting at the Jeffery Harrison Visitor Centre, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3DH at 10.15am for a 2 hour guided Warden's Walk starting at 10.30.

Admission charges: adults £4.50, children under 16 £2. (More details and a sign up sheet at the October meeting.)

Find a Friend!

As part of a wider recruitment drive there is an 'invitation' included in this newsletter which we would love you to put to use!

Our group always welcomes new members to our monthly meetings and we would like to try and persuade our established members to bring a new 'Friend' along to a meeting. So if you have a friend you think would like to join us this month, or next, please would you hand the enclosed invitation to them?

Thank you, and we hope to see you both soon!

Disclaimer: *Please note that any opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of Bromley Friends of the Earth nor Friends of the Earth*

Next Newsletter - copy details:

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor by *** **SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER** ***:

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

September 2013 meeting report – Annette Rose

We were joined by Darren Ollerton from the Balcombe Anti-Fracking Group. Darren is studying Politics and Sociology at University in Brighton. He explained that he would like to tell us about some of the issues around fracking and then tell us about the resistance in Balcombe.

'Extreme Energy'

He began by explaining what is meant by 'Extreme Energy'. Shale gas extraction falls under this term. It is about going after harder to reach pockets of fossil fuels by more extreme methods than in the past. Fracking is just one of these methods and it is coming into use here in the U.K.

What is Fracking?

Darren gave an overview of this form of gas drilling, where rocks are fractured with sand, water and chemicals to obtain methane gas. The first fracking took place in Kansas in 1947 but it has been rarely used since until the present time. It is a new process for the U.K. It involves drilling down and then sideways and involves fracturing huge lengths of rock. Chemicals and large quantities of water are pumped in. 100 planning permissions have already been granted and things are proceeding rapidly.

What are the problems with fracking?

There are major concerns about this type of gas extraction. They include

- increased traffic
- noise
- air pollution
- fears of water contamination

- it is expensive to produce and unsustainable
- very large quantities of water are used
- industrialization of the countryside
- radioactive materials are brought to the surface
- possibilities of minor earthquakes and structural damage
- environmental damage
- concerns about the safe disposal of fracking fluid

Which companies are involved?

Halliburton, Shell and Cuadrilla are amongst those taking part. In Blackpool, a minor earthquake took place and there was some damage to properties. In July 2012, Nationwide Insurance said they would not cover fracking damage to properties. A report by Shlumberger alarmingly reports that 5-6% of wells leak immediately and 50% leak within 5 years. The wells are permanently in the ground once drilled.

Long term concerns about fracking

There are many concerns when looking at what has happened in the U.S. These include chemical leaks, blowouts and environmental violations. There have been links to water contamination which has seriously damaged the environment. Research in Colorado found that the closer to the well, the greater the contamination of methane in water supplies.

/continued on next page

September meeting report - *continued*

There appears to be no after care when the wells are no longer used and the chemicals continue to pose a risk into the future. Radium and radon are in shale and these carcinogens are being introduced to the surface. There are concerns about the serious health effects of fracking. Companies appear to be after a quick profit and are not looking ahead at the impact on future generations.

Cheap energy?

One of the main advantages politicians have given is that it will bring down our energy prices. This is highly questionable as energy is sold by companies to global markets and the money will not reduce our energy bills.

What are other countries doing?

France and Bulgaria have banned fracking outright. Other EU countries are approaching it with caution.

Balcombe

An exploratory well 3000ft deep has been drilled at Balcombe and the vast majority of residents oppose these developments. Despite this, Francis Moore M.P is pro fracking. Darren showed us some video and photos on the resistance at Balcombe.

There is now a camp of people from across the country who support the people of Balcombe. Darren described how the 2 groups, the residents and people in the camp have worked well together.

He welcomed anybody from our group who would like to visit the camp to give support and said we can look at www.greatgasgala.org.uk to see what

the camp needs if we want to take anything. To finish, Darren stressed the importance of community resistance and the need for people to be informed on the issues around fracking.

Other Useful Links

<http://gasdrillinginbalcombe.wordpress.com/>

<http://frack-off.org.uk/>

http://foe.co.uk/get_involved/green_map_40955.html Look here to see where government licenses allow fracking.

The Bee Quiz, Annette Rose

This Summer we ran a Bee Quiz at our local events for the public to enter. The prize was £10 and a year's membership of Bromley Friends of the Earth.

It proved very popular and 94 quiz sheets were completed at 3 events.

All those who gave us an email address will receive the answers and an invitation to come along to a Bromley FoE meeting.

We are pleased to announce that our winner is Nigel Ralph.

If you would like to have a go at the quiz and then check your answers, the 7 questions are on the next page and the answers are on page 14

Bee Quiz Questions

Bee Quiz Questions –

1. About how many species of bee do you think there are in the UK?

About a) 10, b) 100 or c) 250?

2. In a foxglove, how do you think pollen and nectar are collected by bees? With a) Long tongues, b) Long legs or c) Long tails?

3. When a honeybee finds nectar, how does she tell the other bees where it is? Does she

a) Do a dance, b) Draw a map c) Sing a song?

4. If you add up all the journeys made by the bees needed to produce one jar of honey, how much would it total?

a)10 miles, b)1000 miles or c)40,000 miles?

5. If we didn't have bees to pollinate food such as beans for us, what would happen?

a) We would starve,
b) Healthy food would be much more expensive or
c) It would not affect us?

6. How does a bumblebee pollinate a tomato flower? Does she

a) Dip her legs into it, b) Stick her tongue into it or c) Buzz against it so the pollen falls onto her tummy?

7. Which of these do you think are bad for bees?

a) Pesticides, b)extreme weather, c)climate change, d)building on wildflower meadows d)disease? e)all of these?

Fun in the sun – report from the Cudham Fete by Ray Watson

FoE fun in the sun

On a brilliantly sunny Bank Holiday afternoon, Bromley FoE's stand was a popular calling place for the 4000 visitors to the Cudham fete.

The 10 BFoE members attending were kept busy handing out Bee Cause literature and answering questions and bringing residents up to date with FoE's success in persuading the Government to work out a strategy for saving the shrinking bee population.

Currently, FoE is keeping up the pressure on the Government to ensure that its promise is carried out and to that end visitors signed cards for sending to the Prime Minister.

It was encouraging to learn that a large proportion of the public were aware of the bee problem.

Also popular were the bee quiz (and its £10 prize!) and a prize-every-time game for children.

Thanks go to the BFoE members who manned the stand.

Editor's apologies – *Judy did send a photo to go with this report but due to technical difficulties caused by my laptop dying and having to use a different one with electric powered software rather than steam powered it hasn't been included.*

Fracking and Bromley

The fracking great debate

Concerned at problems caused by shale gas and fracking on our doorstep, Bromley FoE posed a series of questions on planning application consultation and other questions to Cllr Colin Smith, the council's executive member for the environment. His answers are published in full.

The borough's chief planner sent this note to Cllr Smith on handling planning applications for oil and gas applications:

Dear Cllr Smith

In brief, the decision on an application for planning permission (potentially with an environmental impact assessment) would normally be made by Bromley Council unless 'called in' to GLA or Secretary of State.

This would include exploratory stages, although there are some Permitted Development rights for example for seismic surveys. There are also various other consents needed that fall to central government and its related agencies to decide upon.

I attach links to a recent government report and a journal article which provide fuller detail and a convenient summary of the process.

This is an informal summary, not related to a specific case; please let me know if further details would help.

<http://www.economicvoice.com/what-you-need-to-know-about-fracking/50038993>

http://www.economicvoice.com/wp-content/themes/economicvoice2/images/DECC_About_Shale_gas_and_hydraulic_fracking.pdf

Cllr Smith's response to Bromley FoE – his replies are in italics

(BFoE) Information requested from Cllr Colin Smith, cabinet member for the environment, by Bromley Friends of the Earth re gas/oil drilling and fracking

(BFoE) Bromley Friends of the Earth notes the rapid growth in the number of gas drilling licences being granted in areas close to the borough and would appreciate information from the council relating to its policies and the licence/planning process. (We are aware that further guidelines are to be issued by the Government in due course).

(BFoE) Is the council in favour of local authorities being responsible for judging oil and gas drilling licences and planning applications? (We note that Jo Johnson MP is on record as favouring this policy).

This Council is completely in favour of all decisions affecting local people being made locally (and the decisions being respected by external Inspectorates).

(BFoE) Will the council call on the Government to ensure that a period of public consultation is available as part of the planning process?

/continued on next page

Fracking in Bromley *(continued)* and in Croydon

The question hasn't (to be best of my knowledge) ever been discussed, so there is no 'policy' or 'position' as such.

There is already a built in period of consultation around all other planning matters however, during which objections can be tabled.

I can't personally imagine why the same principle wouldn't apply to any application which were to be received concerning Fracking.

(BFoE) Is the council in favour of an appeal process being available to both applicants and interested parties such as residents' groups?

Generally speaking, many Councillors believe that the Planning system is stacked too heavily in favour of applicants given that once permission has been granted, the costs of potentially challenging a decision can be daunting.

'The Council' doesn't have a formal position on related matters and obviously remains bound by national planning legislation, but I strongly suspect that were provision to be made for a change in the law to support an objector's right to appeal, it would carry overwhelming support within the Council.

(BFoE) Will the council oppose the granting of drilling licences in Green Belt and conservation areas?

The Council remains bound by national planning legislation and any application will need to be received and considered within that context.

I would personally prefer that Green Belt and Conservations Areas remain exempt. Whether that desire proves possible in Planning law is clearly something of an open question at present.

(BFoE) In considering applications for licences/planning permissions will the council take into account the impact of drilling, transport movements etc on the Government's requirement to reach its legally-binding carbon emissions targets?

The Council's Planning team will consider all aspects of national planning legislation and statutory law should any application to frack be received and processed locally

Fracking in Croydon - In touch with a driller

Muriel Passmore of Croydon FoE has been asking her local council about licences being granted for drilling / fracking. She was then able to contact one of the firms who hold a licence.

Here is her report:

I wrote a letter to Northdown Energy regarding plans to drill for oil and gas in Croydon and I had a phone call this morning from Peter Ross who is the company MD. There is no phone or email address for Northdown listed so can only send letters.

/continued on page 10

New campaign from Rainforest Action Network (RAN)

www.ran.org

This is from the Rainforest Action Network via the FoE Biodiversity link, on palm oil in snack food and targetting the 20 snack food brand suppliers

Today, I am excited to announce Rainforest Action Network's ambitious new campaign to save some of the world's most important rainforests and the last remaining wild orangutans from "Conflict Palm Oil."

It's called The Last Stand of the Orangutan, and it's one of the biggest campaigns we've ever launched. We're going after not one, not two, but 20 of the companies most responsible for putting Conflict Palm Oil into our food. We've dubbed these companies The Snack Food 20. They are the makers of some of the top name brands in the world, companies like PepsiCo, The Hershey Company and Kraft Foods Group, and they are using Conflict Palm Oil in their products.

We need your help right now to make sure this campaign starts with a bang that the Snack Food 20 can't ignore.

Tell the Snack Food 20 that you demand they remove Conflict Palm Oil from our food.

Our campaign launched this morning in grand RAN style at the Chicago Board of Trade, the primary trading center for agricultural commodities, including palm oil. We publicly named the 20 snack food companies that RAN's campaign will focus on and unfurled a 15-foot banner reading, Cut Conflict Palm Oil, Not Rainforests. Several RAN supporters wore orangutan masks and

held signs displaying the logos of the Snack Food 20 companies.

Today's demonstration was accompanied by the release of our new report, entitled Conflict Palm Oil: How US Snack Food Brands are Contributing to Orangutan Extinction, Climate Change and Human Rights Violations, which exposes the increasingly severe environmental and human rights problems caused by industrial palm oil production in Indonesia and Malaysia.

The demand for palm oil is skyrocketing—its use in the United States has grown nearly 500 per cent in the past decade. And no wonder, since palm oil is in roughly half of all products on grocery store shelves. But this gives us, as consumers, incredible power to make change, too. If you speak up loudly enough, the Snack Food 20 will have to change the way they do business. The power is in your palm.

This really is the last stand for the world's remaining wild orangutans. Only 60,600 orangutans remain in Sumatra and Borneo. Will you stand up with them?

After we convince the Snack Food 20 to cut Conflict Palm Oil from their products, it will have a cascade effect:

The Snack Food 20 will have to demand truly responsible palm oil from their suppliers, and, in turn, palm oil suppliers like Cargill will have to

/continued on next page

BEE CAUSE Update

We have just received a mailing from FoE with some new postcards to sign and give out. We are putting our heads together to come up with a couple of promotional ideas to do before the end of 2013.

We will also be asking everyone to write to their MP to urge the MP to write to the 'Bees Minister' Lord de Mauley, to make sure the Bee Action Plan (National Pollinator Strategy) is up to the job of saving British bees. And we will also hope to urge our local farmers and other allied organisations to show their support.

The flowers in our Bee World are dying back now and will be mown over by the Council later on this year. We will go back in the Spring to monitor how it fared over the winter months – and hope to see that they have pollinated over a wider area.

For anyone interested in seeing how the Bee World progressed, please visit our website – www.bromleyfoe.co.uk where there is a selection of photos. There is also a smaller section on our Bromley Friends of the Earth Facebook page.

NB - please don't forget that there is a lot of information available on the FoE website at www.foe.co.uk.

Rainforest Action Network

demand that palm oil producers in Indonesia stop destroying rainforests, stop driving the orangutan to extinction, and stop trampling on human rights.

In the weeks ahead you can expect to hear a lot more from us about the ways you can plug in to The Last Stand of the Orangutan campaign both online and in the real world.

We're travelling across the US with our The Power Is In Your Palm Tour, visiting the hometowns of many of the Snack Food 20 companies and spreading the word about the critical problems with Conflict Palm Oil. We're building a movement too loud to ignore.

Together, we will change the way palm oil is made and make sure no more orangutans are killed for snack foods. We have reached The Last Stand of the Orangutan, but it's not too late. Stand with orangutans now by telling the Snack Food 20 to get Conflict Palm Oil out of their products.

The Rainforest Action Network is based in San Francisco and its website is at www.ran.org

Your space -

FoE's CYW - Make it better + Fracking in Croydon, *cont'd*

CYW = Change Your World, quarterly magazine for local groups and activists

He's lined the road to Samsung HQ with placards and customised murals at Samsung-sponsored Chelsea Football Club. Now Make It Better's serial stunt-expert Daniel Ferra tells you about his latest mission.

Thanks to your efforts Samsung have dug deep into their supply chains and admitted that they use tin linked to environmental destruction. With this in mind, we decided to turn up the heat on its rival Apple.

So in March, I took five staff and volunteers to the launch of a brand new Apple store in Leeds. Our mission: to attach small paper tags to iPhones and iPads, creating a stir that would get reported up the chain to Apple bosses.

Adrenaline was pumping through our veins as we started attaching labels. We knew we'd get rumbled eventually, but as shoppers picked up the labels we also knew that we were having an impact. We became increasingly more daring at attaching the labels under staff's noses.

Eventually the booming voice of a security guard behind us asked us to leave. We explained we were asking Apple to come clean about the effects of its tin mining. The guard agreed to let us talk to the store manager, who took our press release to raise the issue with their superiors.

Mission accomplished, for one day at least...

Fracking in Croydon, *cont'd*

He explained that they hold a licence for an area of 400 sq kilometres including Croydon. He assured me that they had no plans to drill in Croydon (or Bromley?) saying that they did not think it appropriate to drill in populated areas. I asked him about places like Coulsdon and Purley as these still came under Croydon but he said no to these areas too.

He did say that they were looking at one area but he wouldn't tell me where this was as he said he didn't want the competition to hear about it. I asked him about Epsom and he said that the local police force had contacted them to find out if anything was happening there but he said the geology was not what they wanted there.

So it looks as though they are going to drill inside this 400sq Kilometre block but not sure where at this stage.

He made a comment about 'the people who shut down power stations' and how they have to have something to keep them busy. I was not going to be drawn into an argument with him and just wanted facts.

I still think we should go ahead with whatever Lush were planning to do in Croydon to raise awareness of Fracking. How does everyone feel about this?

FoE's CYW - How you earned your CBE

The Clean British Energy campaign united a huge coalition of businesses, political parties and civil society organisations behind calls for a 2030 clean power target for our electricity.

On Tuesday 4th June all that work came to a head as MPs voted on the issue. We came up just 12 rebel MPs short of victory. But that's a remarkable achievement – the closest vote since the Tuition Fees rebellion – and it's testament to the fantastic work of Friends of the Earth local groups and activists.

Our parliamentary campaigners will carry this momentum with them as the Energy Bill heads to the House of Lords during summer and autumn.

You campaigned incredibly hard over the last year to push clean energy further up the agenda than ever before. Together we've had many highlights – here are just a few:

- Making the switch – local groups and activists got the campaign underway by asking people and businesses to change their energy supplier to a clean power provider.
- Photo competition and exhibitions – we asked you to send in your pictures representing Clean British Energy – many of you displayed the winning entries of the competition in your communities.
- Day of Action, 13 October 2012 – hundreds of you donned green hard hats and joined in Green is Working stunts, highlighting the strength of the

green economy and the potential for further growth and jobs.

- MP meetings – thousands of people turned up to public meetings you organised in towns and village halls across the country. Many more groups achieved fantastic things by meeting their MP in person. Confronted by the arguments, politicians had no choice but to support clean power.

- Emails, emails, emails (and tweets, letters and phone calls) – you flooded ministers and MPs with calls for a clean power target. Every single one helped shift the debate.

- Adverts – with your help we reached thousands of people by placing adverts in newspapers, leaflets through letterboxes and billboards in key constituencies.

Our map of Green Britain (www.foe.co.uk/cbemap) is growing every day with green businesses, groups and community energy projects you have been adding. Our network of allies is continuing to grow. You've built a fantastic, solid foundation on which to build future energy campaigns.

The Energy Bill will now move on to the House of Lords, where there is a real chance the government will be overruled. We'll continue to push hard to win the clean energy target we need to secure green jobs and a healthy climate. Thank you so much for getting us this far.

Thank you and goodbye from WDM's Director

Dear Supporter,

I can hardly believe it has come around so quickly, but this is my last week as the World Development Movement's director.

The prospect of moving on after more than four years has given me plenty of cause for reflection. I've written a blog on our website to share with you some of the things I've learned – and some of the highlights of my time at WDM.

Read my blog at <http://www.wdm.org.uk/blog/small-beautiful-cheeky-and-inspiring> (see below)

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for making this a movement of which I'm very proud to be part. WDM's committed, informed, passionate, and creative network of supporters is what makes us unique and gives us our strength.

You will be hearing from Nick Dearden, our new director, very soon. As a supporter, I'm looking forward to seeing WDM going from strength to strength, and I'll certainly always be part of the movement.

Yours,
Deborah Doane
Outgoing WDM director

Small, beautiful, cheeky and inspiring

After almost four and a half years as director of the World Development Movement (WDM), I'm now leaving this

week. I hope I've contributed some of my own experience and wisdom to the role and to the movement, and I have certainly learned a great deal about campaigning, and about myself.

Three of the main things I have learned (or had reinforced) about campaigning, can be summed up pretty easily.

First, small is beautiful. I already knew this, having worked at the New Economics Foundation (nef) in the early 2000s, where E.F. Schumacher's famous words were part of our DNA. But I hadn't quite realised it extended to campaigning as well until I joined WDM, having worked for a much larger organisation immediately beforehand.

In campaigning, small works wonders. You can be light on your feet, responsive and bold. This played out in 2012, when we responded to Andrew Mitchell as he sought to return to the bad old days of tied aid. It worked in our food speculation campaign which we were able to launch quickly when it needed to happen (long before others followed), and it happens each and every day in our work.

I also firmly believe that in a small organisation, you get more bang for your buck. We can spend more time on our campaigns and less on internal systems; less on marketing; and less on our campaigns compared to larger organisations, yet still achieve a great deal.

/continued on pages 13 and 14

Goodbye from WDM's Director, *continued*

Of course, organisationally we're small, but in other ways we're big – our movement of activists magnifies what we do and its members are deeply connected to our work. We have a wide network of supporters that shouldn't be underestimated. I was pleased that I was able to oversee WDM at a time when we had the first contested council election in many years, and at a time when we saw new groups emerging: welcome, Bromley, Calderdale, Milton Keynes, Reading and Newcastle!

I'm not saying there aren't downsides to being small – we work hard, and we never have enough resources to do everything we want to – but the upsides far outweigh the downsides.

The second lesson I've learned is that cheeky, well-timed actions can equal years of behind the scenes lobbying and advocacy.

WDM is awash with creativity, and there have been no shortage of great stunts and actions over the last four years. But timing is everything. When Sharon Bowles, one of the MEPs responsible for the new controls on food speculation, wanted to be a candidate for the next Governor of the Bank of England, we took the opportunity to point out in a letter to the Guardian that we wanted a Governor who would be accountable to the public.

As it happened, eleven of our local groups (representing her constituents) had asked for a meeting over the previous months, which she had not granted, in spite of the fact that she

had had several meetings with financial lobbyists in the same period. After the letter appeared in the Guardian, we got a phone call the next day inviting us to meet her. In that meeting she was responsive and she agreed to put forward our amendments to the draft regulation.

Sometimes, of course, we're just cheeky. My favourite action was putting the Amazon up on E-Bay – never mind that that it was taken down after two hours. It was a stunning point that uniquely demonstrated in a quick visual flash how nature is being financialised.

And thirdly, I learned that to challenge power, you can't rely solely on anger, you need to inspire people with alternatives.

Most of us are angry about injustice, about corporate power, about poverty and about climate change. It's hard not to be! But anger doesn't always inspire people to act, and in some cases, it does just the opposite. Anger can breed apathy and a sense that we can't do anything to change things. But people are increasingly inspired by positive alternatives, like food sovereignty. It's our role as campaigners to also show that the status quo isn't a forgone conclusion – that social and economic justice is indeed an aspiration that is achievable.

Campaigning is difficult at the best of times. Aside from the fun bits, it's emotional and can require immense bravery.

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BEE Quiz – The Answers

Answers to the BEE Quiz

1. The answer is c), there are more than 250 species of bee. Some are bumblebees, some are honey bees and some are solitary bees.

2. The answer is a), bees usually (but not always) collect pollen and nectar with their tongues. Long tongued bees can collect from deep flowers like foxgloves and short tongued bees like open flowers like daisies.

3. The answer is a), a ‘waggle’ dance is something bees do to tell other bees where the nectar is. They waggle in the direction of the flowers.

4. The answer is c), 40,000 miles, that’s nearly twice around the world!

5. The answer is b), it would cost farmers around £1.8 billion a year to pollinate crops without bees and that would make it more expensive for us as well. Some people wouldn’t be able to afford healthy food.

6. The answer is c), bees ‘buzz-pollinate’ tomatoes with their tummies, but they stick their tongue in most flowers. Some bees dip their legs into flowers like thistles.

7. The answer is all of them. Pesticides affect bees’ brains so they can’t live normally, be active or remember where the good nectar is.

Climate change causes extreme weather conditions like high winds and droughts. It can also cause the weather to be cooler or warmer than it would normally be at a certain time of year.

Also wildflower meadows that bees like are often cleared and used to build on, so the bees cannot live or get their food there anymore.

WDM Director’s Goodbye, concluded

But it’s one of the most important things we need today: people who have the courage to speak out, not just to bear witness but also to act for change, and to show another way.

Which brings me to my own personal journey. Years ago, I started working on social policy with the Canadian government, and later on corporate accountability policy – like reforming Company Law – with nef. I got the campaigning bug, though, and transitioned into the more visible and less technical world of campaigning.

I thoroughly enjoy both and consider them to be critical in achieving change. But I now want to work on building the alternatives to our globalised, market-led neo-liberal economy, and I’m going to start by learning more about these alternatives, from co-operatives, to community-led enterprise and anything else in between, all of which will be abundant in south India, where I’ll be based.

But I will never give up on campaigning, and I will certainly always be a strong supporter of WDM, its members and its campaigns.

Deborah Doane
September 2013

Bromley Friends of the Earth - List of Contacts

Co-ordinators:

Sheila Brown 01689-851605
email – sheilabrown336@msn.com
Ann Garrett 020-8460-1295
anncgarrett@yahoo.com

Campaigns Organiser:

Ann Garrett 020-8460-1295

Secretary:

Ray Watson 01959-571566
r.watson865@btinternet.com

Treasurer:

Sheila Brown 01689-851605

Press Officer:

Sophie Lyons
sophielyons.foe@gmail.com

Programme Organiser:

Sheila Brown 01689-851605

Outings organisers:

John & Sue Bocock 020-8464-5990
johnbocock@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor:

John Street 020-8460-1078
johnstreet@gn.apc.org

Membership Secretary:

Dan Sloan 01689-838819

Bromley FoE web site:

www.bromleyfoe.co.uk
Peter Gandolfi
petergandolfi@hotmail.com

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:

Mary Stirling
maryellenstirling@hotmail.co.uk
Tamara Galloway 01689-855352
tamaragalloway@yahoo.com

Waste and Recycling

Annette Rose
annette.rose1@ntlworld.com

Bee Cause

Judy Palmer, *judy.palmer@talk21.com*

Monthly Meeting reporters:

John and Sue Bocock, Anne Clark,
Graham Hemington, Annette Rose and
Ray Watson

Merchandising:

Anne Clark 020-8289-8483

Teas:

Anne Clark / Ivy Smith

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.

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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