



**friends of  
the earth  
Bromley**



*October 2015*

*No. 334*

# ewsletter

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## **October Meeting**

*Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley*

### **Protecting wildlife at home and abroad**

***Dominic Dyer*** – *CEO Badger Trust and  
Policy Adviser to Born Free Foundation*

*From badgers and hares to dolphins, elephants and lions, Dominic tells us  
of his work at home and abroad – and it's National Badger Day!*

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 7.30pm**

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Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by

**\*\*\* SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER\*\*\***

Contact details inside front cover.

***October 10<sup>th</sup> – International Day of Climate Action***

### Diary dates:

- Oct 6 (Tue) **Bromley FoE's October Meeting** : Dominic Dyer on Protecting Wildlife at home and abroad - and TRAIDCRAFT stall
- Oct 10 (Sat) **International Day of Climate Action**
- Oct 17/18 **Brogdale National Apple Festival**: Brogdale Farm, Faversham
- Oct 24 (Sat) **Bromley FoE Fracking Campaign Stall** in Bromley
- Nov 3 (Tue) **Bromley FoE's November Meeting**  
An evening discussing Fracking
- Nov 5 (Thu) **Lecture by Jennifer Berry**, leading apiculture practitioner from University of Georgia USA: 7.30 pm Crofton Halls, Orpington,
- Nov 29 (Sun) **Climate Change March** - London

### October meeting – Dominic Dyer

The Born Free Foundation was founded by Virginia McKenna OBE and Bill Travers following their starring roles in the classic film 'Born Free'. Today, led by their son Will Travers, Born Free takes action worldwide to protect threatened species and stop individual animal suffering.

Born Free protects lions, elephants, tigers, gorillas, wolves, polar bears, dolphins, marine turtles and much more in their natural habitat, working with local communities to help people and wildlife live together without conflict.

### Articles wanted for newsletter

Please contact the editor if you would like to write an article for the newsletter. The more you write, the fewer items I have to source from the FoE and other websites.

**Disclaimer:** *Please note that any opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of Bromley Friends of the Earth or of 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 18<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:johnstreet@gn.apc.org).

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

## September meeting report – John and Sue Bocock

### Bromley's Hidden Killer

Our Speaker for September was Tom Chance of the Green Party. The Hidden Killer in this instance is air pollution, which for the most part is invisible but is nevertheless a major health concern. He went on to pose two questions. Why should we care? And how do we know it is there?

In answer to the first question, he said that air pollution is the second biggest killer after smoking and is the cause of around 9,500 deaths each year in the UK. The cost to the NHS is estimated to be in the order of £3.7 bn. per annum.

Where is the air pollution? Much of it is nitrogen dioxide from traffic especially in areas with heavy traffic levels but also from industry, domestic boilers, from the continent and not least dust from the Sahara. In a study done by Kings College London it was found that nearly all London boroughs failed EU air pollution limits for toxic nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) gas levels. The figures produced were unfortunately suspect due to under monitoring.

Does the council care? Tom thought that Bromley Council's main document on air quality\* was "rather boring, it is not a high priority for them" (\* Air Quality Information for Public Health Professionals in the London Borough of Bromley September 2013).

Tom said he had been analysing data which showed that 45% of main roads exceed pollution limits: especially areas around schools and bus stops of which Bromley has around 400.

He quoted a recent story in the New Shopper about a heavily polluted school in Orpington near to a main road.

On a more positive note, Tom mentioned the Congestion Charge and the effect it has had in reducing traffic and pollution and therefore cleaner air. Some buses are cleaner but the majority are still run on diesel and are dirty.

Concentration levels of nitrogen oxide can be obtained by installing diffusion monitoring tubes. They cost about £8 each and are available from Mapping for Change. This company works with groups and organisations who want to understand, improve and produce information about the places that matter to them.

Data is available on the website: [www.Howpollutedismyroad.org.uk](http://www.Howpollutedismyroad.org.uk). other solutions to the problem would be electric buses, currently expensive, making public transport free and reducing vehicle idling time especially on school runs.

Tom's stimulating talk generated many questions on this important topic.

*Question for the reader* - Should Bromley FOE, as an environmental group, be more actively involved in the monitoring process? Your ideas please for the October meeting.

### **Owl Prowl**

Orpington Field Club has launched a borough-wide Owl Prowl in September and October in conjunction with the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership and to help promote the new Bromley Biodiversity Plan. If you are aware of tawny owls being present at any location in the borough, please go to the OFC website to record your findings

<http://www.orpingtonfieldclub.org.uk/ofc-article025.html>. And there will be an Owl Prowl event listening for tawny owls at High Elms Country Park on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6.45pm. To book a place, please call the High Elms office on 01689 86815.

### **Bee Action**

As part of the September action on bees Friends of the Earth groups have been participating in, we had a 'flash' event organised for September 8<sup>th</sup> walking through South Hill Woods under the guidance of Ishpi Blatchley, a local conservator. Unfortunately it turned into rather a non-event as so many people had to cancel, but many thanks to Ishpi for guiding us round so well.

There are two information boards to read – one on biodiversity in the park, and the second a heritage information board showing how a Victorian estate in one corner became part of the heritage of the woods today. There are a number of species thriving in among the trees and plants, including wood rush and wood millet which, we were informed, are good ancient wood indicators.

There are different plants to help the butterfly population, especially the orange tip butterfly, and hoverflies, burrowing bees and bumblebees are found too. We saw a few bees ourselves; they especially liked a patch of burdock that afternoon. The trees are home to a variety of birds (in fact we saw a goldcrest at one point, a first for me!), but there are no starlings or sparrows now. There are bats to be found, grey squirrels, mice & rats, foxes, and even possibly a tawny owl.

So, the wood is an important suburban habitat for all these species, all of them playing an important part in our local biodiversity. And a big thank-you to our Graham Hemington for taking part, and helping Ishpi with some plant identifications.

### **Pesticide issue**

You may remember the news that the Government has allowed some farmers to use some toxic pesticides (neonicotinoids) on oilseed rape seeds this autumn despite the fact that science is showing the threats they pose to bees – and that it has been a good harvest for oilseed rape in England this year.

Friends of the Earth believe this is a shocking decision to take and has decided to go to the High Court seeking a Judicial Review. Hopefully due to the lack of evidence the Government has given for allowing neonicotinoids back in our fields, they have a strong case.

*/continued on page 6*

## Campaigns, Climate and Energy – Ann Garrett

### Campaign Stall

We will be joined by Bromley Against Fracking for our stall in The Mall precinct, Bromley on Oct 24th from 2.30 - 4.00 pm. Grateful thanks to all who have signed up to help.

With fracking receiving more media attention and the withdrawal of subsidies for solar panels, it is hoped that more members of the public will be willing to sign our cards both for the Fracking and Run on Sun campaigns.

### Climate and Energy

#### Nuclear Power

The UK's nuclear watchdog has stopped safety inspections at the planned site of the Hinkley C nuclear power station after EDF Energy ordered a stop to all groundwork. Despite recently publishing a list of preferred suppliers for the £24 billion project, the French firm were in behind-the-scenes talks with the Office for Nuclear Regulation, during which they informed them of their decision to moth-ball the site. All work has now been stopped and the site has been placed in a state of "care and maintenance."

Construction workers at Sellafield Nuclear Power Plant in Cumbria have begun a work to rule and an overtime ban in a campaign to improve health and safety productivity.

#### Drilling in the Arctic

Shell has been given the go-ahead to drill for oil and gas in the Arctic Ocean, despite the protests of environmentalists who fear an

ecological disaster. The Anglo-Dutch corporate will be able to explore the ocean floor for hydro-carbons for the first time since 2012 when a series of mishaps ended a costly Arctic programme which cost £4.5 billion over the past decade and has yet to find a drop of oil.

The Arctic potentially offers vast untapped resources but is high-risk and difficult to access and it could be 10 years before commercial production can begin. Shell which has to contend with a determined campaign by Greenpeace and other environmental groups, welcomed the decision. It said : " We remain committed to operating in a safe, environmentally responsible manner.

#### Global Warming

This is set to kick in again as experts predicted a recent 'pause'. Although the greenhouse gas effect is set to push temperatures to record highs, a Met Office's recent report suggests that the UK and northern Europe could grow cooler with drier summers in the coming decades as shifts in the north Atlantic ocean temperatures take hold.

Global warming means changes and unbalance, and scientists are very confident that a major El Nino is under way and set to peak this coming winter.

They believe it could be on the scale of the 1998 event that helped drive global temperatures to worrying highs. ever has our push for alternative energies been more important.

## 10 things I didn't know about bees – Annette Rose

Some of us were able to go to a very interesting talk on bees by Dave Goulson. He is a Professor of Biology at Sussex University and the founder of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. He has written 'A Sting in the Tale' and 'A Buzz in the Meadow'. The audience consisted largely of bee keepers but other groups were represented too.

He focussed mainly on bumblebees and the factors that are reducing their numbers. He talked at some length about the pesticides problem and was very supportive of maintaining the ban on neonicotinoids.

Although he covered some familiar information that I have learned by being involved in the Bee Cause, I did find out some new things too!

1. Bumblebees don't like hot weather and can easily overheat.
2. Some species live in the Arctic.
3. Just in the last 20 years, some species have begun to remain active throughout the year.
4. The first bees emerged 120 million years ago.
5. Bees can tell by scent if flowers are full of nectar and pollen which is why they hover before deciding to land.
6. Every tomato you have eaten since 1988 was pollinated by bumblebees.
7. Bee diseases have been spread worldwide by people buying artificial bumblebee nests and sending off for the bees to put in them. These packs are still for sale.

8. In South China, there are large areas that have no bees. Crops have to be hand pollinated.
9. A rapeseed field in the UK has more than 20 applications of pesticides through the year.
10. A bumblebee's wings flap 200 times a second.

If you would like to find out more, Dave Goulson has a talk on You Tube on the problems with pollinators and pesticides. He also recommended we look at [www.thebuzzclub.uk](http://www.thebuzzclub.uk) which is a site where scientists and non-scientists work together to find out more about bees and other pollinators. There are opportunities to participate in a range of different projects- citizen science in action.

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### **Nature Updates - *continued***

Some Bromley FoE members will be approaching local MPs with a letter asking them to deliver on the Conservative Party manifesto commitment to help bees thrive, by asking the Government to update its position on neonicotinoids.

The MPs can help do this by asking the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Liz Truss, to set out a clear Government position in support of the current neonicotinoids moratorium by making it permanent, and expanded to cover all crops and reject any further emergency authorizations for use of neonicotinoids.

We will let you know if we get anywhere.....

## Wey Valley Solar Schools Energy Co-operative (WVSS)

**Judy Palmer sent this** - WVSS is based in Godalming, Surrey and launched its first share offer in 2011 and installed a total of just under 250kw on 6 state secondary schools. It has now added a further 29kw to Christ Church (CE) Primary School in Hastings (in Amber Rudd's constituency!) and pioneered a community energy *saving* business model for a LED lighting project at Harmondsworth School which relit the entire school.

The six schools in the original offer received 50% of panel output for free and 50% half price. In accordance with the co-operative principle that Cooperatives should work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members, WVSS also shares half its net income over 6% with the schools and to date the co-op has paid £8,700 to its six founder schools.

Most of the schools are also members of the co-operative and organised fund raising activities in 2011 including a fancy dress sponsored run to enable them to invest so they also receive income in the form of share interest. All schools have monitors in prominent positions so the children can see how the panels are performing.

As a result of its crucial role in the founding of the co-op WVSS was delighted when Rodborough School won the Independent Academies Association Award for Sustainability (IAA) Awards in Autumn 2014. See their 30 sec video at <https://vimeo.com/109470010>.

### **FoE - It's official: we're taking the Government to court to save our bees**

The Government made a shocking decision last month. It authorised the use of bee-harming pesticides in England, despite an EU-wide ban. We believe that allowing farmers to use these banned pesticides is unnecessary, harmful and unlawful. And it's why we're challenging the Government by applying to the High Court for a judicial review.

### **Toxic neonicotinoids and their harm to bees**

The EU restricted 3 neonicotinoids in December 2013 after European scientists warned that they harm bees. But the Government has controversially allowed English farmers to treat 5% of the oilseed rape (OSR) crop with neonicotinoid seeds. Farmers in Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire will be able to use the seeds.

**Friends of the Earth bees campaigner Dave Timms said:** "The Government should be listening to the science and championing the long-term interests of our threatened bees. The distribution of these seeds should now be halted until the courts can decide whether their use is lawful."

### **A good harvest**

This year's harvest of oilseed rape has been a good crop – without the help of neonicotinoids. Also a study has linked the losses of honey bee colonies to the use of one of the banned neonicotinoids – imidacloprid. It adds yet more weight of evidence against this pesticide.

## Tonbridge Friends of the Earth – Talk by Asad Rehman

Tonbridge FoE invited members of neighbouring local groups to this talk in a room at a pub. They usually only get a handful of people to their meetings so were ill prepared for the almost 40 people who turned up, including a good number from Sevenoaks and myself from Bromley and for many it was standing room only.

Asad Rehman is Friends of the Earth's Senior Campaigner on Climate Change and leads the campaign for international action to prevent dangerous climate change. He has been one of the key spokespeople at UN climate negotiations going right back to Rio in 1992.

Asad told us we were witnessing acceleration in climate change events which have devastating effects. In his native Pakistan 30 million people had been displaced by floods. Syria had suffered five years of drought in which 70% of livestock had died, and this was the background to the political upheaval and its current consequences.

In Africa 15 million people had been plunged into famine. This at a time when we have 0.8° global warming and have yet to reach the predicted 2°. He said that globally there were more environmental refugees than those fleeing political situations.

He spoke of Hurricane Katrina which devastated New Orleans in 2005, the USA's costliest natural disaster. Imagine if something of this magnitude were to hit a major city.

For years Governments have been told what was going to happen, but they

have continued to do nothing, thinking solely in terms of the political economy. The powerful interests of major corporations speak more loudly to them than the voices of ordinary people, and they choose to listen to them.

President Obama, for example, speaks of the danger of climate change and how it must be addressed and then goes on to sign permits for drilling in the Arctic. Large amounts of money are found for such projects but here we are told there is no money to invest in renewables. Governments prefer to cling to the status quo.

Leaders of the world's major powers will be present in Paris. There will be much talk and statements will be issued, but unlikely to be strong enough or urgent enough. Large nations bring large delegations.

Some of the smaller countries and Pacific Islands most affected by climate change will probably be represented by just one delegate. Some of these Islands are already beyond the point of no return.

Equally, when there is a large land mass, as in Africa, this will warm up at 1.5 times the rate of the rest of the globe – so the scale of what we are talking about is unimaginable.

We need to stop dirty energy and to stop governments putting money into it. We need to examine the way we produce and consume food; currently we waste 40% of global food production.

*/continued on page 10*



## FoE Regional news - Update from Jenny Bates

*Editor's Note – Most of the dates in this piece are in September. As such, it would have been better to have included this in the September newsletter, but it didn't arrive until the end of August. But I thought I would include it anyway, to give you an idea of what's going on.*

Nine-tenths of the most miserable places to live in the UK are apparently in London and it's the most congested city in Europe. Airport expansion and new road building can only be expected to add to London's problems.

### **Air Pollution**

Hot Air! Air pollution is hotting up as a topic – rightly so as this hidden killer is responsible for the early deaths of nearly 10,000 Londoners a year. It featured in Craig Bennett's Guardian interview, and in the Labour leadership candidates' commitments.

Environmental issues have become a key part of the run up to the 2016 London elections. Air pollution in particular features strongly in the fight to be Labour's Mayoral candidate (Christian Wolmar and Diane Abbott have made a big thing of it) – the issue was the first question to the Labour candidates at the Evening Standard hustings. The Standard's Conservative hustings is on 3 September, with one from the Centre for London on 2 September.

Hammersmith & Fulham council have set up an Air Quality Commission, while there is a 'walk for clean air' in Lambeth on 13 September, and the capital's architecture event 'Open

House London' is debating air pollution on 9 September.

### **West London**

The Aviation Environment Federation (AEF) have produced two new briefings (on climate change and economics) on the Airports Commission reports. Take action and sign the Friends of the Earth petition against Heathrow and any new runway, and come to these key events:

1. The South East Green Party 'no new runways' debate in central London on 12 September.
  2. The West London Labour MP John McDonnell and Stop Heathrow Expansion event near Heathrow on 19 September.
  3. Conservative MP Zac Goldsmith's Heathrow rally in Parliament Square planned for 10 October.
- Reading Friends of the Earth and allies are working to oppose plans to expand the M4 motorway in west London. It would cost nearly a billion pounds and add to traffic as well as air pollution where that already fails to meet legal standards. The groups are calling for opponents to rally for a photocall at the preliminary meeting in Maidenhead on September 3 ahead of the Examination in Public.

### **East London**

Transport for London is preparing for the consultation on the Silvertown tunnel, a new 4-lane road under the Thames, which is being fiercely fought

*/continued on next page*

## FoE - Join the day of climate action on October 10<sup>th</sup>

**On 10 October, people around the world will take action on climate change.**

It's going to be a day where people unite against dirty energy – demanding a stop to the pollution ruining lives around the planet.

We hope you'd like to be a part of it. There are lots of ways to get involved.

Nationally Friends of the Earth will be focusing on Barclays and fracking. But there are other actions too – like opposing the third runway at Heathrow, tackling TTIP, and a rally organised by Muslim Climate Action outside Parliament.

Or you can take on an issue in your local area. Maybe there is a dirty energy proposal you want to stop, such as opencast coal, fracking or coal bed methane? Or a community energy project that you'd like to support?

### **Get Barclays to say no to fracking**

Barclays bank own fracking company Third Energy, which intends to frack in Ryedale, North Yorkshire.

Beating fracking there will be a huge boost for the local community. And it will help to halt the progress of the fracking industry across the UK.

We need to show Barclays that fracking is a risky and unpopular investment. And it goes against everything we need to do to tackle climate change.

We should be investing in clean, safe renewable energy and energy efficiency instead of scraping the barrel for more fossil fuels.

Together we've faced down the threat of fracking in Lancashire. Now let's do the same in Ryedale by hitting the industry where it hurts – their funding. We know our message can't be ignored if enough of us take part on 10 October.

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### **Tonbridge FoE talk – *continued***

We need to change this. Agroecology could be the answer, cooling the planet and feeding people.

He urged us to take action as individuals, saying that one handwritten letter to an MP was worth a hundred emails.

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### **FoE Regional News - *continued***

– as are plans for two other crossings nearby (Campaign for Better Transport are holding public meetings at Barking Learning Centre on 10 September, and at Abbey Wood Community Group on 15 September). So far, only Labour Mayoral candidate hopeful Christian Wolmar sees a need for a moratorium on them all.

Following the appeal by London City Airport against the Mayor's refusal of their expansion plans, the airport has stated it will be sold – so campaigners are urging that it closes.

## FoE on Govt attacks on solar && FoE on Jeremy Corbyn

### FoE - Pressure mounting on the Government to rethink attacks on solar

Pressure is mounting for the government to rethink plans to savagely cut support for rooftop solar energy systems. A coalition of energy firms, investors and trade bodies representing the energy sector have published a statement calling on the government to urgently reconsider the proposed changes.

The move comes a day after Ernst and Young reported that the UK had crashed out of the top ten of its renewable energy country attractiveness index for the first time.

Friends of the Earth renewable energy campaigner **Alasdair Cameron said:**

“The government’s attacks on solar power could cost more than 20,000 jobs and billions in investment, and risk the UK falling far behind other nations in developing crucial technologies.

“For the first time in centuries the UK is no longer at the forefront of developing new energy technology and infrastructure, and government policy is responsible.

“The Treasury must urgently listen to those investors, entrepreneurs and MPs who recognise the strategic importance of renewable technologies like solar power, and it must work to support the industry, rather than destroy it.”

### FoE - Corbyn must make Labour the greenest opposition ever

Reacting to the appointments today of Lisa Nandy MP as Shadow Secretary of State for Energy and Climate, and Kerry McCarthy MP as Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, **Friends of the Earth’s Chief Executive Craig Bennett said:**

“These are crucial appointments if Jeremy Corbyn is to deliver on his pledge to make tackling climate change and protecting our environment a top priority.

“Clear and forceful opposition to dirty coal and short-sighted government plans to unleash fracking on communities around the UK must be one of the first tasks facing Lisa Nandy. We won’t tackle climate change if we don’t end our addiction to dirty fossil fuels.

“Labour must also stand up for the tens of thousands of people whose jobs are under imminent threat because of Conservative plans to decimate the UK’s solar industry - and be a real champion for energy efficiency and the UK’s huge renewable energy potential.

“In the face of a concerted government onslaught against our environment, we need opposition parties to stand up for people and the planet like never before.

“Corbyn must make Labour the greenest opposition ever.”

## **FoE on The Robin Hood Tax – officially the most popular tax in the world**

A watershed moment in the campaign for a Robin Hood Tax has been reached - over a million actions have been taken. With billions of pounds needed to help tackle poverty and climate change, we think it's fair to ask bankers and traders to pay a little more. That's why we're proud members of the Robin Hood Tax campaign (see below)

It's calling for a new tax on the damaging, speculative and largely socially useless financial trades that caused the downturn. Europe's Finance Ministers are meeting about this tax very soon. They will discuss: how strong they want to make it; and where they would spend the billions it could raise.

When will the UK Government commit? Right now, our government is completely against this proposal. The Chancellor George Osborne has even launched a legal challenge to stop other countries from introducing the Robin Hood Tax.

**The Robin Hood Tax campaign website** is at <http://robinhoodtax.org.uk/> and there's more info there. These FAQs were taken from their website.

### **FAQ – What is a Robin Hood Tax**

A Robin Hood Tax is a tiny tax on the financial sector that could generate billions of pounds annually to fight poverty and climate change at home and abroad. Small change for the banks - big change for those hit hardest by the financial crisis.

Also known as a Financial Transactions Tax (FTT), a Robin Hood Tax is a tiny tax of about 0.05% on transactions like stocks, bonds, foreign currency and derivatives, which could raise £250 billion a year globally. FTTs are well-tested, cheap to implement and hard to avoid.

In fact, there are already lots of different transaction taxes implemented by many countries, including in the UK. They all work on the same principle: taxing every transaction a very small amount. We think there should be a lot more of them, particularly in areas not yet taxed, like currency transactions and derivatives.

Importantly, transaction taxes are also good in that they would reduce the number of the most risky transactions, the gambling which helped to trigger the financial crisis.

### **FAQ - Why do we need a Robin Hood Tax?**

You might have noticed that the economic crisis and the recession have left a massive hole in the UK's public finances. Frontline services and jobs are at risk. Many other developed and developing countries face a similar struggle.

The financial sector is responsible for a big part of the mess we're in. So our merry band of hundreds of thousands of Robin Hood supporters believe that banks, hedge funds and the rest of the sector should pay their fair share to clear up the mess they helped create.

## CPRE - Campaigners uncover extensive threats to London's Green Belt

*Note: CPRE = Campaign to Protect Rural England*

The results of research into threats within Greater London to Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land, which has the same restrictions as Green Belt, have just been published by London campaigners. Their map (<http://www.cprelondon.org.uk/resources/item/2288-protect-london-map-july-2015>) shows the alarming extent of what Londoners stand to lose.

"Most people believe that Green Belt land is protected, but this research shows that politicians are allowing land which is much loved and well-used to come under threat from development. Astonishingly, this includes playing fields, recreation grounds and even local parkland," **said Alice Roberts of CPRE London.**

"Local campaigners are battling to save these spaces and we think it's time their local councillors, our Mayor and our MPs take action. We want them to stop just saying that they want to preserve the Green Belt and actually take action to halt these threats. We know that the vast majority of Londoners oppose building on Green Belt land, so we're asking people to support these local campaigns. People can also write to local MPs and councillors, and the Mayor, to ask them to halt the threats to Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land in London right now!"

**Chris Nutt from Save Oakfield Site** said, "Oakfield playing fields are in constant use by people of all ages and

backgrounds: we represent the cohesive and active community that politicians want. We are staggered at Redbridge Council's plans to sell it off for development. There is no gain for the local community whatever. And the proposals don't include affordable homes. There is no need to build on this piece of Green Belt in Redbridge. The council can allocate land for housing in Ilford Town Centre or on brownfield sites

**Caroline Donnelly in Hillingdon** said, "We are fighting back against a potential development threat to our green, open space in Hayes End known locally as Hayes Park. It was recently put up for sale for £5 million.

"There have been numerous attempts to develop the site in the past, but the local community has stood up and protested. We are really concerned that, with the recent shift in government policy regarding Green Belt land protections, we will have a much bigger fight on our hands this time around."

*Note - CPRE London campaigns to protect and enhance London's Green Belt and its parks and green spaces. The results of CPRE London's recent research into threats within the Greater London boundary to Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land (which has the same protection as Green Belt) is set out here.*

*<http://www.cprelondon.org.uk/resources/item/2288-protect-london-map>*

## The lists page – A trip down memory lane

### The lists page – A trip down memory lane

#### How many of you recall these monthly meeting topics ??

##### 10 years ago (2005) – There were speakers on –

- Friends of Bromley Town Parks and Gardens
- Bromley's Wagons of Mass Destruction
- GLA – Green Responsibilities and Achievements
- FoE – New set up, new campaigns
- The Chislehurst Commons
- The Challenge of Climate Change
- High Elms – Bromley's Country Park Gem
- The SUN project – European Funding for Bromley's Biodiversity
- Conserving and Enhancing the North Kent Downs
- How to bring wind power to YOUR home

##### 20 years ago (1995) – There were speakers on -

- Mahogany is Murder – Loo seats that kill
- Mahogany week double whammy
- Monitoring Pollution
- The future of Transport in London
- Rough Guide to the Environment
- Wildlife and Habitat Protection
- Hear the issues / write the letters
- How the local environment affects your health
- Saving money through energy conservation
- Permaculture explained

##### 25 years ago (1990) – There were speakers on -

- Discussion on Environmental Charter
- Tropical rainforests
- Air pollution
- Energy and Alternative Technologies
- Farming today

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Mary Ingledew / Sylvia Chance

**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, and 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, and Kent, BR6 7RN**. Other enquiries regarding the group: may be sent by email to *bromleyfoe@gmail.com*, or telephone our co-ordinators at the telephone numbers above.

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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