

THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

APRIL 1996

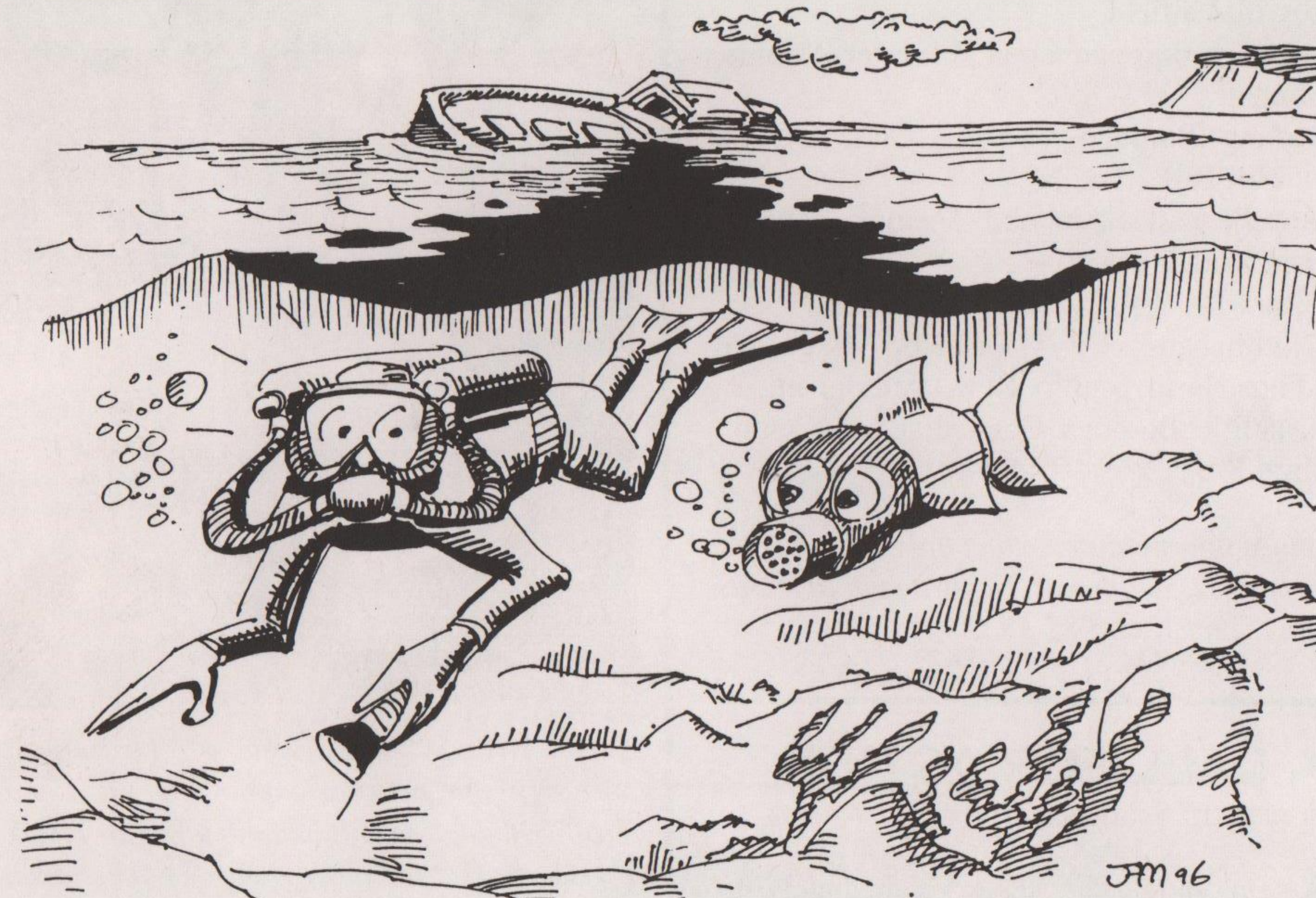
- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, Thur, Sun's* **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities: a variety of practical tasks. ☎ 931 3316.
- Day Tasks *Sun's (& other days)* **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. ☎ NWT on 958 8242.
- Monthly **Nottingham EIA (Environmental Investigation Agency)**. 7.30pm. Nott'm Knight, W.Bridgford. ☎ Lesley Peasant, 01509 235885.
- Mon 1st **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- Tue 2nd **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ Mike Poyzer on 01636 814324 after 6.30pm.
- Tue 2nd **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square.
☎ David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.
- Fri 5th **Greenpeace Youth Group**. 7.30pm. Trent University library, Shakespeare St. ☎ Megan MacFarlane, 921 2246 to confirm venue.
- Sun 7th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
- Mon 8th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Thur 11th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Angel Row Library. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- W/E 13-14 **BTCV 'Stools from the Greenwood' Course** in Burton Joyce. Cost £40. ☎ 931 3316.
- Sun 14th **'Out of Africa'** walk to find the birds returning from Africa, in Bestwood Country Park. 10am-12noon.
Meet at The Winding House Car Park. ☎ 967 0042.
- Mon 15th **Pedals** meeting. 8.30pm at the Ferry Inn, Wilford, preceded by a short ride departing from the top of Queen's bridge Road, opposite Nottingham BR station at 7pm. ☎ Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.
- Thur 18th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- Sat 20th **Christian Environment Conference**, Mansfield Road Baptist Church, Nottingham.
Contact Ashley Baxter at the Nottingham Churches Environment Network on 948 3500 ext 6123.
- Mon 22nd **'Road Traffic Reduction Bill'** Public Meeting, from 7.30pm, Angel Row Library, Nottingham.
- Mon 22nd **Nott'm World Development Movement**. 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ Nick Osmond, 960 7797.
- Wed 24th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Thur 25th **Franchising - Conservation & Environment Groups** - helping groups to access funds for training purposes.
11am at Broxtowe College, High Road, Chilwell. Contact Pat Hardiman on 922 8161.
- Fri 26th **Critical Mass** Cycle Ride to protest against traffic congestion. Meet in the Market Square at 5.15pm.
Contact Box CTM, Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.

MAY 1996

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- Sun 5th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
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- Tue 7th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square.
☎ David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.
- Thur 9th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Angel Row Library. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Sun 12th **Oxfam Walk for Basic Rights**, in Sherwood Forest.
See article for details. ☎ Chris or Riffit at Oxfam Campaigns, on 942 3892.
- Mon 13th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Mon 13th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- Tue 14th **Local Agenda 21 Conference** - Progress & Implications for Planning. Price £95 (limited places available at £50 for voluntary groups).
From 9.30am, at the Portland Building, University of Nottingham. ☎ the Conference Secretary on 951 4883.
- Thur 16th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- W/E 18-19 **BTCV 'Bowls on the Pole Lathe' Course** in Burton Joyce. Cost £40. ☎ 931 3316.
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- Fri 24th **Critical Mass** Cycle Ride to protest against traffic congestion. Meet in the Market Square at 5.15pm.
Contact Box CTM, Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.
- Sun 26th **'Woodland Wildflowers'** walk looking at the natural history of wildflowers, in Bestwood Country Park. 10am-12noon.
Meet at Bestwood Lodge Drive Car Park. ☎ 967 0042.
- Mon 27th **Nott'm World Development Movement**. 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ Nick Osmond, 960 7797.

To be sure of receiving Green Network News every month, your name can be added to our mailing list.
These are the voluntary (optional) subscription rates for 1 year's issues; Individuals - £2.50, Groups - £5.00.
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GREEN NETWORK NEWS



SEA EMPRESS OIL SPILL - A CALL FOR ACTION

The February grounding of the *Sea Empress* tanker has caused widespread damage to wildlife - and is threatening to match, in bird-kill terms, the gravity of the Amoco Cadiz disaster off Brittany in 1978. The RSPB and other organisations are now calling on the government to take immediate action on a range of measures to prevent future disasters of this type.

The *Sea Empress* ran aground on rocks at St Anne's Head off Milford Haven on 15th February carrying around 130,000 tonnes of oil. She was finally towed to a disused jetty in Milford Haven six days later after losing 70,000 tonnes of Forties (North Sea) crude. To date, nearly 6,000 oiled birds have been recovered from the affected area, of which half were dead or have subsequently died in captivity.

More than half of the known victims are common scoters, a sea duck. Scoters feed on shellfish with are highly sensitive to oil contamination, leaving the UK's most important site for this species blighted for the foreseeable future. More than half of the scoter population known to be in Carmarthen Bay at the time has been found oiled.

The Countryside Council for Wales report that at least 120 miles of the Welsh coast has been oiled, mostly within the Pembrokeshire Coastal

National Park, representing 12% of the Welsh coastline. The resulting damage to national marine resources has been unparalleled in its extent, affecting more protected wildlife areas than any other single pollution incident in the UK.

Evidence from previous spills shows that bird populations are resilient and may recover in time, but the effects on the fragile seabed communities are likely to be much more insidious and persistent. Shellfish are among the most sensitive accumulators of hydrocarbon contaminants - in parts of Shetland, more than 3 years after the *Braer* spill, fishery scientists have still not advised lifting the ban on catching dog whelks, prawns and mussels. The Welsh fishing community earned £1 million (at first sale) from dog whelks last year, and more than £1.5 million from lobsters and crabs.

The RSPB and seven other wildlife organisations have jointly written to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Transport calling for urgent action on the following -

1. **An Independent enquiry.** The government has announced an inquiry convened by the Department of Transport.

Continued inside.

FREE!

No. 49 April 1996

Inside ...

- Environmental Directory
- Training
- Natural Breaks

OXFAM WALK

On Sunday May 12th 1996 Oxfam will be holding it's 30th annual sponsored walk. The walk will take place in the Sherwood Forest Pines Park. There will be three circular routes of 18, 12 and 6 miles, all starting and finishing at the same point. The money raised will go towards Oxfam's overseas programme working to secure 10 Basic Rights, denied to millions.

The majority of the worlds poorest people depend on the natural world for their survival, yet for many of these people the environment is deteriorating so fast it undermines the daily struggle to maintain, let alone improve, their living standards. In Vietnam, for example, the devastating effects of the Americans use of chemical and biological warfare left 250,000 hectares of land ruined and its effects can still be seen today.

Oxfam has started an environmental education project to encourage reforestation, providing the funds to establish tree nurseries and plantations.

If you are interested in walking for Basic Rights please contact Chris or Riffit at Oxfam Campaigns on 942 3892.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GRANTS

Two schemes operated by the European Union (EU) offer businesses grants to help cover the costs of carrying out environmental reviews and improving environmental performance.

The Small Company Environmental and Energy Management Assistance Scheme (SCEEMAS) is designed for companies employing less than 250 people, involved in manufacturing, power generation, waste disposal or recycling and with a turnover of less than £16 million each year.

The EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme is open to manufacturing, mining, power and waste disposal industries, as well as local authorities.

For more information contact the SCEEMAS office on 0345 023423.

Green Network News is a monthly publication aiming to share information and build links between all individuals and organisations in the Nottingham and South Notts area with an interest in the environment.

STRUCTURE PLAN REVIEW

Alterations to Nottinghamshire County Council's Structure Plan are currently open for public consultation. The Structure Plan covers a five year period, designating which areas of the county need more housing, industry, tourism etc. The Proposed Modifications document includes the delay of the proposed Fourth Trent Crossing to 1999 at the earliest (page 67), and the modification of details of the Green Belt policy (page 39).

Modifications to the plan were put forward by the independent panel who conducted the *Examination in Public* last year. These proposals have been considered by the County Council, who have now opened the Proposed Modifications documents to public comment until 12th April, with the documents available at the following locations -

- * Notts County Council, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford,
- * Ashfield District Council, Urban Road, Kirkby in Ashfield,
- * Broxtowe Borough Council, Foster Avenue, Beeston,
- * Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold,
- * Newark and Sherwood District Council, Kelham Hall, Newark,
- * Newark Library, Beaumont Gardens,
- * Nottingham City Council, Exchange Buildings North, Smithy Row, Nottingham,
- * Rushcliffe Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford.

For more information contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at Notts County Council on 982 3823.

SEA EMPRESS OIL SPILL - A CALL FOR ACTION

Continued from front page.

However, its dual role as both regulator and protector of shipping and ports industry throws doubts on its ability to conduct an objective and searching inquiry. The inquiry should address all aspects of the incident, and the state of implementation of the Donaldson Report (published by the inquiry into the prevention of pollution from merchant shipping, set up in 1993 following the *Braer* spill).

2. Immediate publication of the investigation into the *Borga* grounding last year - the tanker ran aground on the rocks of St Anne's Head over four month's ago, without spilling oil.

3. **Emergency Tug Provision.** An emergency salvage tug should be stationed at Milford Haven, contracted to the Coastguard on the same basis as tugs in the Dover Straits and

4. Action should be taken immediately to identify and establish **Marine Environmental High Risk Areas** - recommended in the Donaldson report as 'comparatively limited areas of high sensitivity which are also at risk from shipping'. These areas should include measures to minimise the risk posed by shipping in these sites.

5. **Implementation of the Donaldson Report** on the prevention of pollution from merchant shipping. Government should take swift action to complete implementation of the report, which covers accidental and deliberate pollution incidents.

Based on a report published by the RSPB. For more information contact the RSPB on 01767 680551.

Nottingham Eco-Centre Association

is looking for a

COORDINATOR

to work an average of 8 hours a week on a freelance basis for six months, helping us create a major environmental centre for Nottingham.

The main areas of work will be liaising with advisors and partner organisations; assisting with fundraising and the business plan; and basic administration. However, the Coordinator will need to be flexible about tasks and hours.

The Coordinator will provide their own basic office facilities. Time will be charged at £10.00 per hour, plus reasonable expenses.

Interested? For details write to NECA, 16 Villa Street, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 2NY, or phone 922 3439 and leave your address. The deadline for applications is 15th April 1996.

NECA thanks Nottingham Green Partnership for its support.



Lord Mayor Sylvia Parsons & John Heppell MP sign the petition supporting the Road Traffic Reduction Bill last month, with Tim & Paula of Nottingham Friends of the Earth. For more information contact Tim Gray on 922 3439.

GREEN NETWORK PROJECTS

A meeting of Green Network member organisations was held in February to decide which projects Green Network should plan for 1996. This followed on from consultation with people attending the AGM, a postal survey of member organisations, and a survey of Green Network News readers.

Green Network News now alternates between 6 and 4 pages, with the 6 pages issues containing feature articles. This change was made in order to provide enough time and money for other networking projects. These are the main activities we aim to carry out during the year -

* **Environmental Directory** - the directory is available this month (see the advert for details). The directory will be updated early in 1997.

* **Information Service** - using our local and national databases, details can be provided about a wide range of organisations, covering a variety of issues.

* **Community Links** - organisations will be contacted to encourage wider use of Green Network services.

* **Training/Networking event** in the summer - an event bringing together local organisations, to share skills, experience and ideas.

For more information contact Adam Woodward at Green Network on 941 7849.

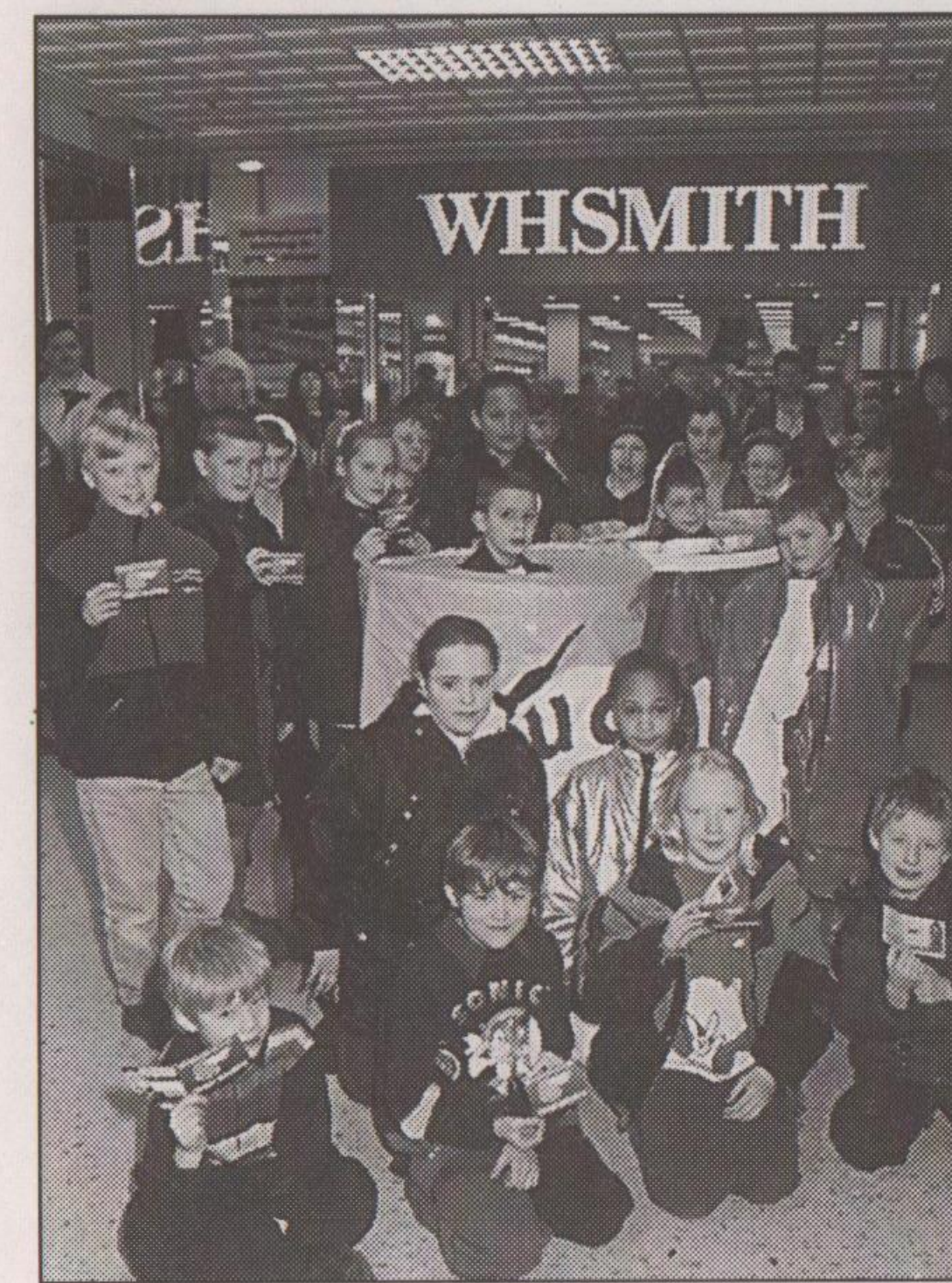
ENERGY AWARENESS TRAINING

Do you work with or visit people in their own homes? If so it might be worth undertaking some training in energy awareness. There is a great deal that we can all do to cut down on our fuel bills - if only we know about it. Did you know that turning down your room thermostat by 1° C can reduce your fuel bills by 10%, and that fitting reflective panels behind your radiators can cut your heating costs by 15%? Do you know what advice you would give to a new neighbour if they asked you to help them set up their timer and programmer for their heating and hot water system, or they complained about dripping windows and mould growth on the walls?

The Nottingham Energy Awareness Project can provide answers to all of these questions and more through the training it provides in energy awareness for organisations or groups of people who work closely with people in their homes - including housing officers, health workers, social workers, community development and advice workers.

A typical course, which can be tailored to meet the needs of specific groups, lasts about three hours and covers all aspects of energy use in the home. Subjects include fuel poverty and older people, identifying heating systems and controls, heat loss and insulation, condensation, cheap ways to cut down on your fuel bills, and grants and awards for energy efficiency improvements. Undertaking some training can really make a difference to both your own and other people's lives.

The Nottingham Energy Awareness Project is a partnership initiative between the national energy efficiency charity NEA, East Midlands Electricity plc, and Nottingham City Council. If you would like to find out more about the project and the training it can provide, please contact Fiona Swan at NEA Nottingham Office, c/o Bestwood District Housing Office, Elmbridge, Bestwood Park, Nottingham, NG5 5PF (phone 920 9528).



Winners of the latest Waste Warriors (the children's environmental club) competition collect their WH Smith voucher prizes. WH Smith supported the club by providing prizes for future competitions. Some of the children are dressed in jar, can and clothing costumes (all of these can be recycled). For more information about Waste Warriors call 948 3500 ext 6515.

NATURAL BREAKS

Natural Break holidays offer a very cost-effective way of enjoying some of the UK's most beautiful landscapes while helping to enhance them. With over 500 holidays to choose from, you can do anything from dry stone walling in the Yorkshire Dales to managing the habitat of the swallow tail butterfly in the Norfolk broads. A weekend break costs from £15, and a week's break starts from £28. The activities are organised by BTCV (the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers).

No experience is needed - just energy and enthusiasm. Trained leaders will show you what to do, and you will meet people from a range of backgrounds and ages who share your interest in the conservation.

Work usually starts at about 9am each day, after a good breakfast. Lunch is usually a picnic, and there are plenty of tea breaks, before the working day ends at around 5pm. At least one full day in each week is kept free to explore the surrounding area.

As well as weekend and week-long activities, BTCV organises regular day tasks in Nottinghamshire, both at weekends and during the week.

For more information about week and weekend breaks contact BTCV on 01491 839766. For information about day tasks, contact the local BTCV office on 931 3316.

NEW TRAINING PROGRAMMES

BTCV Enterprises have introduced two new training programmes to try to fill the gap in the provision of environmental work experience and training left by the demise of the *Community Action Programme*.

The recent cancellation by the government of the *Community Action Programme* has left a huge gap in the provision of crucial conservation and wildlife protection work in Nottinghamshire. The Programme provided the opportunity - over its two year life - for over 150 unemployed people to get involved in practical environmental projects all over the county. The provider of this programme locally was BTCV Enterprises, the training and trading division of the British Trust For Conservation Volunteers, who worked in partnership with a

number of local environmental organisations.

One of the training programmes set up to fill the gap left by the end of *Community Action* is already running, and due to be repeated in July this year. The *NVQ level 2* programme in Practical Environmental Skills will introduce people to the basic skills of conservation such as hedge-laying, fencing, tree planting, coppicing and path laying. On April 1 BTCV Enterprises will start an *NVQ level 1* course in Forestry. Again this is an introduction to basic skills and will involve tree planting, pruning, fencing, use of tools and tree identification.

Jeff Buck. For more information on any of these courses contact Jeff Buck at BTCV Enterprises on 950 0157.

Environmental Directory

Over 160 Organisations Included

Displays Available 'Green' Speakers

Wide Range of Issues Up To Date Contacts

The Environmental Directory for Nottingham and South Notts is now available, published by Green Network and the Nottingham Green Partnership.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Directory, send a cheque for £3.00 (payable to Green Network) to cover P&P, to Green Network, c/o Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.