

GREENPEACE

GREENPEACE UK

In 1971 a small group of protesters sailed into a nuclear test zone and Greenpeace was born. This active, high profile and uncompromising stance has characterised Greenpeace policy ever since. You will have seen, no doubt, pictures of people in tiny inflatable dinghies putting themselves between whalers and whales, or stopping the dumping of toxic waste at sea.

In reality, peaceful direct action is only used as a last resort, after everything else has failed. Greenpeace lobbies governments and industrialists and gathers evidence to build legal cases to take through the courts. Greenpeace also carries out research to show that there are alternatives and that the 'facts' put out by companies, are in some cases, pure fiction. A good example is the development of CFC and HCFC free fridges, where a major UK company

said the research would take more than ten years, but CFC free fridges were available on European high streets in less than a quarter of that time.

All the funding for Greenpeace comes from public donations and from the subscriptions of the members, currently 400,000 people in the UK and over 4,500,000 world-wide.

The last 24 years have seen Greenpeace become a powerful and respected voice on environmental issues, helping to ensure that the following have happened - the French government has been stopped from testing nuclear weapons in the Pacific, Antarctica has been protected from exploitation for the next fifty years, mile long driftnets have been outlawed, and the International Whaling Commission have put a ban on commercial whaling.

These achievements have not been without cost. In 1985 the French Secret Services blew up and sank the 'Rainbow Warrior', killing one of the crew. The Norwegian whaling fleet is currently back at sea and a number of Greenpeace members have been injured trying to stop the slaughter of Minke whales. Whatever the odds, Greenpeace is committed to the defence of the environment with direct, non-violent action.

David Meatcher of the Nottingham Greenpeace Support Group.

For more information about Greenpeace UK write to Greenpeace, Canonbury Villas, London N1 2PN.

GREENPEACE IN NOTTINGHAM

'Hello, would you like to sign our petition? It's to stop Norway killing whales, and have you ever thought about joining Greenpeace? We can offer a free T-shirt if you join by direct debit'. Another stall and once more the local group is in action. What used to be an occasional hobby has evolved rapidly into a busy organisation. Luckily the group has expanded as well but even then you're still in danger of occasionally sinking into autopilot as you explain for the tenth (or the hundredth) time exactly what Greenpeace is involved in. The one saving grace is the enthusiasm of the people you meet. Whether it's schoolkids or grandmothers the Greenpeace banner always attracts support.

That support can take many forms. Our last action was in the Autumn, trying to warn people that under proposed legislation changes the landfill at Sutton Bonnington could be used for the disposal of radioactive waste from the Nuclear Industry. The response from the villagers was really supportive and the issue was raised in both Parish and County Councils until we received an assurance that no change would be made immediately.

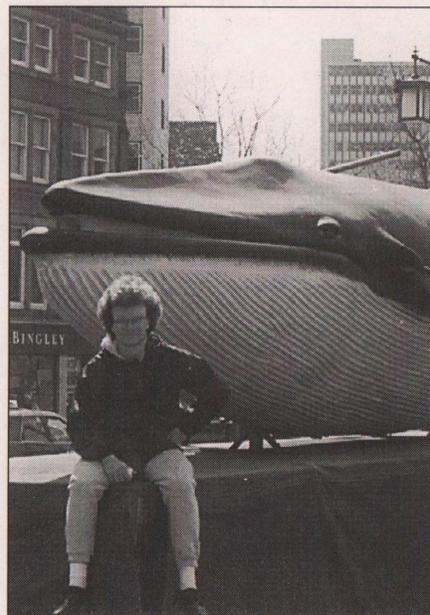
Since then the group has concentrated on international issues, especially Norwegian commercial whaling. Hopefully many of you will remember the visit of Mollie the Minke to Nottingham. Although it was a hectic day, the interest generated by the 40 feet long animatronic whale was nice to see. Over 50 people actually joined Greenpeace that day. Many people were not even aware that Norway was commercially whaling and the outrage that most people felt is perhaps the most hopeful sign that Norway will not get away with this slaughter for another year.

March saw a different kind of day out - a blues night at the Filly and Firkin to raise funds. The members of the local group who turned up were

forced to listen to one of the best nights of music I've ever heard (it can be really tough in the local group).

And so we came to the sunny weather and out came the stall for St. Petersgate. The purpose of having a stall out is more than just signing petitions. We hope that by being visible we can encourage people to find out more about why Greenpeace exists and why what Greenpeace (and the whole Green movement) does is important to them.

Everyone's image of Greenpeace is the little inflatables trying to stop a Japanese ship



Anthony O'Sullivan of the Nottingham Greenpeace Support Group with Mollie the Minke Whale.

researching how many steaks you can get from a whale. But Greenpeace is a large organisation trying to do a lot of different things, many of which will not make national news. All Greenpeace members receive regular newsletters and hopefully we can spread the information to the public in general, rather than preaching to the converted.

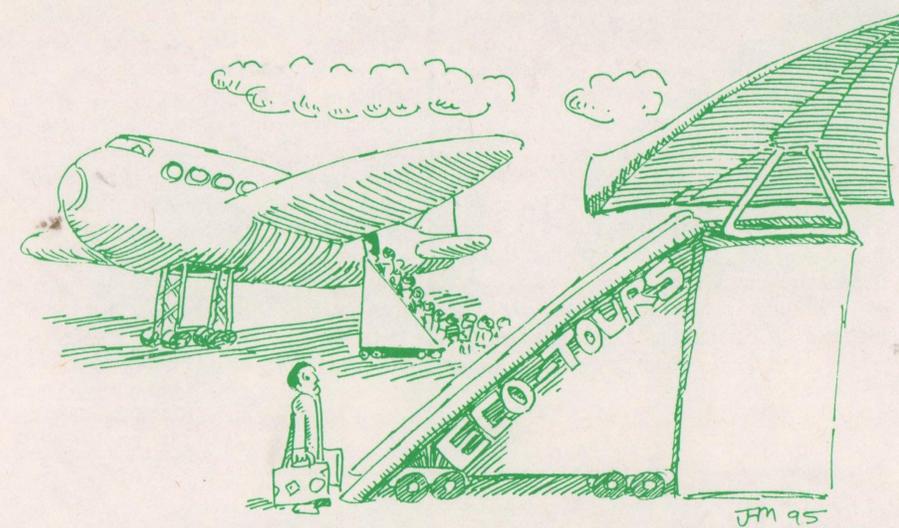
What we have been doing recently is handing out addresses in one of the whaling towns in Norway, and asking people to send their own letters. It is generally accepted that one individual letter is worth 100 signatures on a petition. We have been petitioning the government with no real results, so we thought we would appeal directly to the Norwegians themselves. Everyone admits that whaling for Norway is a matter of internal politics, and if we can persuade a number of Norwegian voters that the whaling trade will not do their country any good in the long term, then hopefully we can undermine the support of the Norwegians to their government's stance.

So why would anyone want to get involved with the local group? We'd hope it would be because your interested in what Greenpeace does and would like to do a little more. In return we offer a friendly group who will be grateful for any time you can spare without making you feel guilty for the time you can't. We offer a direct link to Greenpeace UK and a chance to get involved in the thinking behind the issues. And lastly (but not leastly) we hope that you will enjoy yourself as much as we do. So all together now 'Hello, would you like to sign our petition.....'.

Ian Prentice of the Nottingham Greenpeace Support Group.

For more information about Greenpeace in Nottingham contact David Meatcher on 925 7186.

GREEN NETWORK NEWS



ORGANIC DELIVERY SUCCESS!

The organic delivery scheme run by Eden Farms has now started operating in Nottingham - the response from people reading about the scheme has been terrific, and the number of customers is growing rapidly. Green Network news has had an important role in this publicity - more than half of our initial customers first read about the scheme in these very pages!

The aim of the scheme is to provide a convenient service, and enable customers to support an environmentally friendly form of farming. If you can afford to buy the odd organic pack from a supermarket, it may have been grown on our 70 acre farm in Lincolnshire - but to reach Nottinghamshire, we estimate our lettuce have travelled a total of 600 miles! The box scheme cuts out the middleman, and provides fresh vegetables straight to you.

We provide a selection of in-season vegetables in two box sizes - a £6.50 family box, and a smaller £4.50 box. We also provide organic bread, fruit and free-range eggs as optional extras. A standard family box in summer it might include potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, cucumber, courgettes, French beans and other vegetables. All of our vegetables are grown to full Soil Association standards.

The boxes are delivered to local distribution points, where customers can collect them and make payment. We would be very interested to hear of more people prepared to act as distribution points - you receive 10% of vegetable sales from your address in return.

The late Spring vegetables are coming along nicely now, and we are pleased with the cauliflowers, spring greens, lettuce, and salad - a far cry from last month, when tired old winter veg' stretched everyone's enthusiasm for organics to the limit! Our Nottingham round has also provided an extra 2 days/week work for staff on the farm so far, and hopefully this will increase in the future.

Please write, phone or fax if you are interested in taking part in the box scheme, as a customer or by operating a 'drop' point. We greatly appreciate your support for our own oasis of organic production, surrounded as it is by the great heartland of mainstream agriculture.

Contact David Lucas and Marjorie Stein, Eden Farms, Old Bolingbroke, Spilsby, Lincolnshire, PE23 4EY, phone/fax 01790 763582.

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.

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FREE!

No.42 July 1995

Inside...

- Greenpeace
- Notts Wildlife Trust
- QMC Incinerator

GREEN NETWORK AGM

The 1995 Green Network AGM takes place on the evening of October 5th, from 7pm at Nottingham County Library (food will be available from 6.30).

This event will provide an opportunity to listen to speakers from local 'green' organisations, talk to like-minded groups, and to influence the future of the network.

Further details of the AGM will be given in the September issue.

MINI-RECYCLING CENTRES

Mini-Recycling Centres run by community groups have now been established for more than a year, and each of the 15 'adopt-a-site' groups has now been given £375 by Nottingham City Council to support further environmental action.

The groups help to support the 15 sites by promoting the service, running recycling competitions and raising the community's environmental awareness.

The Mini-Recycling Centres are sited in schools, community and leisure centres and near shopping streets, as well as in church sites.

The City Council are looking for more community groups to help run further Mini-Recycling Centres - if you are would like to find out more contact Peter Saunders on 948 3500.

SPARE COPIES

Green Network has more than 1,000 spare copies of the May issue of Green Network News left over from Global Future - if you are able to make use of some of them please contact the Green Network office on 941 7849.

8,500 VISIT GLOBAL FUTURE

The recent 'Our Global Future' festival attracted a total of around 8,500 visitors during the four days of 18-21 May, at the Harvey Hadden sports centre in Bilborough. The event organisers - Environmental Events Ltd - had set three key aims for the event - to involve children, to achieve widespread media coverage, and to attract large numbers of adults from around the area. The first two goals were met - 4,200 of the visitors were children taking part in educational visits, and media coverage was gained in all of the major local newspapers, as well as radio and television reports. However, the adult turnout was less than half of that attained at similar events in different parts of the country - a key factor in this may have been the location away from the city centre of Nottingham.

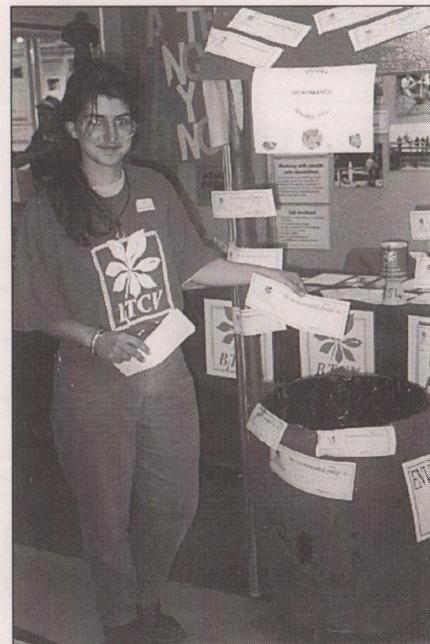
The success of the event for the different exhibitors (more than 150 took part) depended greatly on the audience they were looking for - those focusing on children managed to reach large numbers. For example Nottingham City Council had a great success with the launch of their 'Waste Warriors' children's group. However, those aiming at a mainly adult audience had a more limited success - one example is the Green Network stand, which was successful in launching the environmental database and distributing Green Network News, but only to limited numbers of people.

The impact of the event on the children taking part is obviously hard to measure, but two particular stories from Global Future do give some grounds for optimism. One is the BTCVs 'Environmental Wishing Well', which was filled with hundreds of 'green' pledges, ranging from 'I will always close the fridge door' to 'I will save my world'. Another positive story is that of a group of children who were found pushing down fences around the event - they were invited into the Green Roadshow circus for a free show, and ended up volunteering to pick up litter from the grass around the sports centre!

Environmental Events are now investigating the idea of making Global Future a regular event in Nottingham - to be held every two years - but at a more accessible location. One idea being considered is the use of special buildings at Wollaton Park.

John Talbot of Environmental Events commented 'We achieved two out of three of our main criteria, and appreciated the support of the City and County councils and Diamond Cable Communications. We are looking forward to the possibility of coming back to Nottingham in 1997 to provide a bigger event to attract a larger percentage of the community'.

Adam Woodward (Green Network co-ordinator).



Karen Pernyes with the BTCV 'Environmental Wishing Well' at Global Future.

GREEN FESTIVAL

Plans are now being made for the 1995 Nottingham Green Festival, which will take place at Victoria Embankment on Sunday September 3rd. The event will include a combination of environmental group stalls and displays, food, music and entertainment.

The organisers would like to hear from any groups who would like to book a stall at the event, and from anyone that could help out with

the physical work of setting up and taking down the tents, tables etc - on the 1st or 4th of September. These volunteers are very important in helping to make the event a success.

If you would like to book a stall at the festival, or you are able to help as a volunteer, contact John Truscott at 118 Workshop, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HL, or call 958 2369.

GEDLING CYCLE STRATEGY

Gedling Borough Council has recently circulated for consultation its Draft Cycling Strategy, which identifies a framework of objectives within which to develop specific routes and facilities. These objectives include the achievement of a number of commuter routes linking up to routes in the city, as well as a series of localised paths serving employment, shopping and other centres, and a network of leisure routes to rural areas.

Any suggestions for routes or other specific improvements would be welcomed by Chris Horne at the Borough Council, who can be contacted at the Local Plans Section, Gedling Borough Planning Department, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU, or by calling 967 5246.

GNN UPDATE

These are the subjects planned for feature articles in the next issue of Green Network News -

- September Groups focus.

There will not be an August issue of GNN, as I am holiday during July - a calendar sheet will be sent out to people on the mailing list in early August. If anyone has ideas about possible subjects for GNN to cover in the future, any suggestions would be welcome.

If you would like to write a feature article, or you have a photo that could be used, please let me know. Articles are usually needed around one month in advance of publication, and can be sent on paper or 3.5 inch disk (pc format). We will also be looking for stories about any current events or issues each month; please write or phone if you would like to contribute.

Contact me on 941 7849, or write to me at -

Green Network
c/o The Rainbow Centre
182 Mansfield Road
Nottingham
NG1 3HW

Adam Woodward (GN Co-ordinator)

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS

If your group or business would like to advertise in Green Network News, contact Adam Woodward on 941 7849. Reduced rates are available for voluntary groups and small businesses.

NEW CYCLING SCHEMES

A range of new cycling schemes has recently been announced for the Nottingham area by Notts County Council - who are now proposing to spend £148,000 on cycle schemes in the Greater Nottingham area (57% of cycle scheme spending for the county).

The schemes include a link between the Meadows (Queen's Walk/Wilford toll bridge) and Beeston Rylands, as well as a Meadow Lane route providing a link between routes serving the east of Nottingham via Daleside Road, and those serving the west via the Meadows.

Several other schemes were also announced - including a County Council contribution to a Groundwork Trust promoted cycleway between Riverside Road, Beeston Rylands and the Attenborough Nature Reserve.

This item is based on an article in the Pedals Newsletter.

ECO-CENTRE STUDY

Further progress towards setting up a local environmental centre has been made by the Nottingham Eco-Centre Association (NECA), which has recently carried out a feasibility study - looking at a former industrial building in the centre of Nottingham and how it might be converted. Possible sources of funding for the project are also being investigated.

NECA is a coalition of organisations from all sectors of the community working to set up a major environmental centre in Nottingham. The centre will provide information about a wide range of environmental issues, and the many 'green' organisations. It will also include an outlet for eco-friendly products, and a place to meet and work for green businesses and voluntary organisations, as well as acting as a venue for training courses and conferences.

The building will run in the most environment-friendly way practical - such as through making efficient use of energy - and will act as a model for what is possible in other organisations' premises.

The project is developing all the time, and the association needs more people to get involved. If you would like to find out more, people are welcome to come along to the next NECA meeting, which will be on Friday 30th June, from 10am in the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

For more information contact NECA, c/o Paul Hunt, 11 Wilkinson Avenue, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 2NL, or call 943 1145.

QMC INCINERATOR TURNED DOWN

On 17 May the Environment Committee of Notts County Council decided to refuse planning permission for a new incinerator at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham. At the time of going to print the QMC had not yet decided whether or not to Appeal against this decision. David Edwards, the QMC's Chief Executive, stated 'We are examining all the options open to us. As one of those options a planning appeal is still under active consideration'.

The hospital's existing incinerator is now incapable of meeting pollution standards, and is due to be closed down in October. The proposed new incinerator would be built to higher standards, but it would also be bigger, taking in waste from several other hospitals. There would also be a risk of dangerous chemicals being released from the chimney - such as dioxins, which can cause birth defects at very low concentrations.

Local residents and Nottingham Friends of the Earth have been calling for a safer and greener alternative to incineration. A report earlier this year by Mark Shardlow of BBC East Midlands showed what could be done - the report came from Germany, where hospitals now produce only one fiftieth as much clinical waste per bed as British hospitals. This has been achieved by the reduction of packaging, re-use where possible, and recycling. Only a few infectious materials remain, which can be made safe by alternative means, such as through microwave technology.

The incinerator plan was turned down for several reasons, which included 'the need to protect the health, safety and amenity interests of established communities and businesses'.

This item is based on information in articles in Nottingham Friends of the Earth newsletters.

ENERGY AWARENESS PROJECT

The Nottingham Energy Awareness Project (NEAP) has been set up to tackle the health and environmental damage caused by fuel poverty - by providing independent energy efficiency information to householders. NEAP was set up by the national energy efficiency charity Neighbourhood Energy Action, in partnership with East Midlands Electricity plc and Nottingham City Council.

It has been estimated that some 8 million households in Britain cannot afford to heat their homes effectively, and the NHS spends around £1000 million each year treating people with condensation and cold related illness. As heat in homes is often produced by inefficient heating systems in poorly insulated houses, the

environmental implications are also very serious, in terms of global warming (through CO₂ emissions), the production of other hazardous pollutants, and the waste of non renewable fuel.

The objectives of the project are to reduce fuel costs and save energy, improve comfort in the home, and to promote good health. NEAP will also aim to promote the uptake of energy efficiency grants. The project will initially be concentrating its work in the North of the city, but is flexible as to the direction of its future development, and is keen to work with other groups promoting energy efficiency.

For more information contact Rob Howard at the Nottingham Energy Awareness Project on 920 9528.

Hewthorn Herbs & Wild Flowers

Julie Scott
Simkins Farm
Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 5AS
Tel: 0115 981 2861

Gardens Open 10.30am to 3pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays During School term time

Open Days For 1995 2-6pm on the following dates

July : Saturday 8th Sunday 9th
August : Saturday 5th Sunday 6th

The Gardens are open outside these hours by arrangement. To avoid disappointment please telephone first to make sure someone will be available

THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

JULY 1995

- Tues, Wed, Thur, & Sun's **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities - including a variety of practical tasks. *Contact Karen on 931 3316.*
- Sun's (& some other days) **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. *Contact Erin McDaid on 958 8242.*
- Monthly Meetings **Nottingham EIA** (Environmental Investigation Agency). 7.30pm at the Nottingham Knight, West Bridgford. *Call 01509 235885 for details.*
- Sunday 2nd **Grandchildren, Grannies and Granddads** woodland walk in Bestwood Country park - 1½ miles. Transport available if you cannot walk all the way. 2-4pm. Meet at Bestwood Lodge Drive Car Park. *Call 967 0042 for more information.*
- Sunday 2nd **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. *Phone 975 6376 for details.*
- Monday 3rd **Greenpeace** Support Group meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. *Contact David Meatcher on 925 7186.*
- Tuesday 4th **NOGS** (Nottingham Organic Gardeners) meeting. *Contact Mike Poyzer on 958 7006 after 6.30pm.*
- Tuesday 4th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm at Nottingham County Library, Angel Row. *Contact Mike Satchwell on 976 5009.*
- Friday 7th **Greenpeace Youth Group** meeting. 7.30pm at Nottingham Trent University Library, Shakespeare St. *Contact Alex Penn on 925 5196 to confirm date and venue.*
- Saturday 8th **Notts Cyclists' Touring Club Beginners Section** ride to Gunthorpe - all welcome. Meet at 10.30am, at Colwick Park and Ride Site (Colwick Racecourse entrance). *Contact Graham Lansdell on 986 0299 for details.*
- Weekend 8th-9th **Farm and Gardens open afternoons** - including Morris Dancing and Exhibitions - raising funds for **FIELDS** (campaigning against the Fourth Trent Crossing). 2-6pm, starting from Simkins Farm, Adbolton Lane. Price £1 (covers admission to the farm and all 15 gardens). *For further details contact J. Scott on 982 2616.*
- Weekend 8th-9th **BTCV Fencing course**, based in the Southwell Area. Cost £2-50 or £5-00. *Call 931 3316 for further details.*
- Monday 10th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. *Contact Phil Corbett on 947 4977.*
- Thursday 13th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Nottingham County Library, Angel Row. *Contact Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- Weekend 14th-16th **BTCV Countryside Weekend** - Woodland Fencing at Gedling House Woods. Cost £10. Pick up from Nottingham BR Station at 8pm. *Call 0113 274 2335 for more information.*
- Monday 17th **Pedals** meeting. 8.30pm at the Ferry Inn, Wilford (preceded by a short ride at 7pm, from Queen's Bridge Road, opposite Nottingham BR Station). *Contact Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.*
- Thursday 20th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. *Phone Ron Gillott on 920 1238.*
- Friday 21st **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.*
- Saturday 22nd **Notts Cyclists' Touring Club Beginners Section** ride to Colston Bassett - all welcome. Meet at 10.30am, at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, Boundary Road, West Bridgford. *Contact Graham Lansdell on 986 0299 for details.*
- Sunday 23rd **Gedling Borough Wildlife Group** Butterfly and Dragonfly walk - meet at the Fishing Lodge at Colwick Country Park. *Contact Ian Grimwood on 987 4406 for details.*
- Tuesday 25th **Bulwell Environmental Group** meeting. Crabtree Farm Estate Community Centre. *Contact Diana Langley on 927 3813.*
- Wednesday 26th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. *Call 960 5843 for details.*
- Sunday 30th **Explore the Ancient Meadows** of Bestwood Country park - 1½ mile walk. 2-4pm. Meet at the War Memorial, Park Road, Bestwood Village. *Call 967 0042 for more information.*

AUGUST 1995

- Tues, Wed, Thur, & Sun's **BTCV** activities - *see July.*
- Sun's (& some other days) **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. *Contact Erin McDaid on 958 8242.*
- Monthly Meetings **Nottingham EIA** (Environmental Investigation Agency). 7.30pm at the Nottingham Knight, West Bridgford. *Call 01509 235885 for details.*
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- Wednesday 2nd **Nottingham EIA** (Environmental Investigation Agency) meeting. 7.30pm at the Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road. *Contact Rachel Jones on 939 5830.*
- Friday 4th **Greenpeace Youth Group** meeting. 7.30pm at Nottingham Trent University library, Shakespeare St. *Contact Alex Penn on 925 5196 to confirm date and venue.*

ADVANCE NOTICE

- September 3rd The **Nottingham Green Festival**, at Victoria Embankment, include a combination of environmental group stalls and displays, food, music and entertainment. *See article for details, or contact John Truscott on 958 2369.*
- October 5th **Green Network AGM**. 7pm at Nottingham County Library (food available from 6.30), with speakers from local 'green' organisations. *See article for details.*

Green Contact Details are also available from The Rainbow Centre on 958 5666.

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.

Greater Nottingham Green Network thanks Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council for their support.

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of other contributors, or of the Editorial Group.

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NOTTS WILDLIFE TRUST

THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust is a registered charity which works to promote and protect wildlife habitats throughout the County. Since it was set up in 1963, the Trust has been at the heart of nature conservation work in Nottinghamshire, and remains the only voluntary organisation dedicated to the protection of all types of wildlife habitat.

The Trust is one of 48 independent Wildlife Trusts which work to protect urban and rural wildlife. These Trusts all have differing local needs, but each works to achieve two common aims -

- The protection and enhancement of species and their habitats, both common and rare, for a UK richer in wildlife.
- Public recognition that a healthy environment, rich in wildlife and managed on sustainable principles is essential for continued human existence.

The work of the Trust ranges from managing more than 50 nature reserves to liaising with planners and developers to ensure that wildlife interests are given full consideration when planning proposals are put forward. We also work with local groups wishing to improve or safeguard a local site, and by liaising with private



Pupils from Fairham Community College with Councillor Vernon Gapper (whilst Lord Mayor), planting trees at Breck's Plantation in Clifton.

landowners to encourage management which will benefit wildlife.

Another key part of the work of the Trust is the promotion of wildlife issues to the general public. Guided walks, public talks, displays, leaflets and other publications all play a role in this work, but our nature reserves also have a role to play in demonstrating our work to 'the person in the street'. Wherever people live in the County, there is probably a site that is managed by the Trust nearby.

As a charity, the Trust relies upon its fund-raising efforts to continue its work, and we rely heavily upon the people of the county for support. One of the most effective ways of supporting the Trust is by becoming a member - the money raised from membership subscriptions assists the Trusts greatly in carrying out our work. The Trust has a head office in Sneinton and employs 8 people, but also relies heavily upon volunteers to carry out many aspects of its work.

Erin McDaid. To find out more about wildlife sites in your area, or details of how you can help to support the work of the Trust call 958 8242, or write to Notts Wildlife Trust, 310 Sneinton Dale, Sneinton, Nottingham, NG3 7DN.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Local volunteers are a vital part of the Trust organisation, and are involved in a range of activities - from practical conservation work and reserve wardening to working on committees which help to shape future policies and strategies. The Trust is organised into a number of local groups, covering areas such as the City of Nottingham, Mansfield, South Notts and Newark. These local groups enable the Trust to have a strong voice and to keep in touch with local issues.

The City group are actively involved in promoting the work of the Trust to the people of Nottingham, organising a series of guided walks and evening talks on wildlife related topics each year. The group's position within the Trust is quite unusual, in that its area is totally urban - the unique aspects

of city wildlife lead the City group to propose the formation of the Nottingham Urban Wildlife Scheme (NUWS) in 1984. Since this time, NUWS has been at the forefront of urban nature conservation, with involvement in projects such as development of Nottingham City Council's Nature Conservation Strategy. The group also manages city nature reserves, and offers advice on all aspects of urban wildlife.

A good example of the importance of involving local people in the work of the Trust can be seen at Breck's Plantation at Clifton. Following the felling of a large number of diseased trees on the site, it was necessary to re-plant with native British trees. As most urban sites suffer from some degree of vandalism, NUWS sought to involve local residents in the replanting work,

and a number of residents now help to keep an eye on the young trees, and where possible restore any areas damaged by vandals.

The South Notts local members group - which covers areas such as West Bridgford, Ruddington, Bingham and the areas on the South side of the Trent up towards the Newark area - and the Broxtowe group are also active in promoting the work of the Trust, and in fund-raising activities. A number of the Trust's Nature reserves are in these areas, including Bunny Old Wood, and Wilwell Farm Cutting (in South Notts) and Attenborough Gravel Pits (in Broxtowe). Many members of these groups are involved in practical nature conservation work on these sites.

Erin McDaid.

WILDLIFE RESERVES

Notts Wildlife Trust works in many different ways to protect areas of wildlife interest - but in some circumstances the best solution is for the Wildlife Trust to actually manage a site as a nature reserve - enabling us to safeguard the area and to plan for its long term future. The reserves cover a wide variety of habitats, from ancient woodland to wet meadows and areas of heathland.

The reserves provide some of the best opportunities in the county to experience wildlife

at first hand, and the majority of the Trust's sites are open to the public, although access to a smaller number of sites is restricted to protect the wildlife. Wild flowers, birds and butterflies can all be enjoyed on a visit to Trust sites, and those of us who are very lucky may see foxes, hares, rabbits and other mammals.

Many of the Trust's reserves represent the best remaining examples of habitats such as ancient woodland and ancient flower meadows. As more

and more habitats are lost through pressure from farming or short sighted management, it becomes increasingly important to protect as many sites as possible. However, the cost of managing over 50 reserves is enormous, both in terms of finance and human resources. To ensure that the future of these reserves is secure, and to enable the Trust to protect more sites in the future, we need to raise more funds and to recruit new volunteers.

Erin McDaid.