

COMMUNITY RECYCLING NETWORK

The Community Recycling Network (CRN) is a national voluntary organisation, which was established in 1990 by Friends of the Earth, becoming an independent company in 1992. It aims to promote and develop recycling based in the community and to support existing groups by providing information and advice. The CRN produces a regular free news bulletin (The Wastepaper) and a directory of active members. Training days are held, and an annual conference each Spring provides an opportunity for cross-fertilisation of ideas.



CRN members vary from one person operations in small villages through to large not-for-profit companies managing recycling collections for whole cities. Activities range from kerbside and office paper collection and waste management consultancy to community composting, scrap stores for children and furniture re-use. Individual groups often have strong links with local schools and other community groups and have had a pioneering effect on the development of Local Agenda 21.

In addition to the services and support available from our head office in Bristol, the CRN engages in a number of other activities.

THE ROTTER

Continued from previous page.

Through the scheme householders can obtain a complete home composting kit consisting of a 200 litre composter, a kitchen bin, a pack of compost accelerator and a handbook - all on a six month free trial. At the end of the trial the householder can pay a donation of £10+VAT towards the costs or can give the kit back. Kits are also available free of charge to those receiving means-tested benefits.

The kits are delivered to your door, and all scheme participants receive a regular newsletter - "The Rotter".

Today over 6500 householders in Newark and Sherwood are participating and over 90% of those that have had a composter on trial have kept it at the end of the six months. This makes the scheme one of the five largest and most successful home composting initiatives in the UK.

However, the scheme is not without its

Network Recycling was established in 1993 as the trading arm of the company and has set up the Special Events Recycling project with clients including the All England Tennis Championships, the International Management Group and numerous local authorities. It is now engaged in a DoE (Department of the Environment) funded project called Terminal Recycling - which is aimed at developing recycling at transport termini in partnership with local CRN projects.

Another activity of the CRN is the *National Office Recycling Initiative (NORI)* which offers members the opportunity to develop and expand existing waste paper collections through long term supply contracts, underpinned by a national agreement with Clarefield Recycling Ltd, part of UK

Waste Management Ltd.

For further information, contact Andy Moore or Ashley Bearman at the Community Recycling Network, 10-12 Picton Street, Montpelier, Bristol BS6 5QA, phone 0117 942 0142. (E-mail: crn@gm.apc.org). For Network Recycling enquiries, contact Andy Rock at the same address (phone 0117 942 2271).

problems. Although the Government has recently introduced new targets for recycling and home composting, the actual tonnage of material which is diverted from landfill sites by home composting is still not recognised. Recent studies have shown that around 200kg per year of waste are diverted into the composter by each household. This in turn suggests that as much as 1500 tonnes of waste per year is being diverted from landfill in Newark and Sherwood.

Nevertheless, the ORIGINS scheme will continue to expand until as many households in the District as possible are members of the rotting club!

For further information please contact Alasdair Brown, Newark and Sherwood's Recycling Officer on (01636) 605111 Ext.460. Please note that the scheme is only available to residents of Newark and Sherwood District. Other authorities in Nottinghamshire now also offer similar schemes.

THE GREENIE BIN - KERBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEME

The Greenie Bin (Nottingham's first door-to-door collection scheme), has attracted a great deal of interest. Nottingham City Council's Environment Committee councillor John Hartshorne said 'It's a local community initiative, organised by members of the community for the community. By working closely with the Greenie Bin Project, the City Council hopes to gain detailed information on the amount of recyclable products generated by each household'.

It has been nearly 12 months since the launch of the kerbside door to door collection scheme within the Sherwood area, and there are now about 100 houses participating. A number of households put their Greenie bins out fortnightly, others occasionally. Over the last six months 5000 kilograms of material has been recycled by householders.

Nottingham City Council Environmental Services say this is one of the *best* recovery rates in the city to date. This year we hope to expand the service to a further 50 houses in Sherwood.

Greenie Bin has also made local news. The Nottingham Evening Post recently reported that 'The scheme could change the way that thousands of people do their bit for the environment... Such schemes are common on the continent, and in North Ireland have shown to dramatically increase the amount of material people are willing to recycle if it is made easy. The scheme could be extended to other parts of the country if its a success'.

Nottingham City Council Recycling Officer David Rosselli said 'A lot of people would recycle it its wasn't too much trouble, so what we are doing is bringing facilities closer to them'.

So far the response to kerbside collection has been very positive, and demonstrates the community concern and commitment to help improve the environment. We owe the success of the scheme to our service users in the Sherwood area. Well done !!!

We are a voluntary project working in association with Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

Trevor Fothergill, Projects Manager.

For more information contact Trevor Fothergill, Mount Zion Community Centre, 4 Sherbrooke Road, Carrington, Nottingham NG5 3BE.

Green NETWORK News

GREATER NOTTINGHAM AND SOUTH NOTTS GREEN NETWORK

NUMBER 52 July 1996 FREE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: GUIDED RIDES • ECO-CENTRE UPDATE • SCHOOLS AWARD

GREEN FESTIVAL '96

If you attended last year's Green Festival you will know that the event was a big success, both in providing an entertaining day out for adults and children, and enabling 'green' groups to gain new supporters. The 1996 Green Festival will take place at Victoria Embankment on Sunday September 1st - with environmental group stalls & displays, food, music and entertainment.

The festival organisers would like to hear from groups interested in booking a stall, and from anyone that could help out with the work of setting up and taking down of tents, tables etc. 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.

MARTINS MATTER

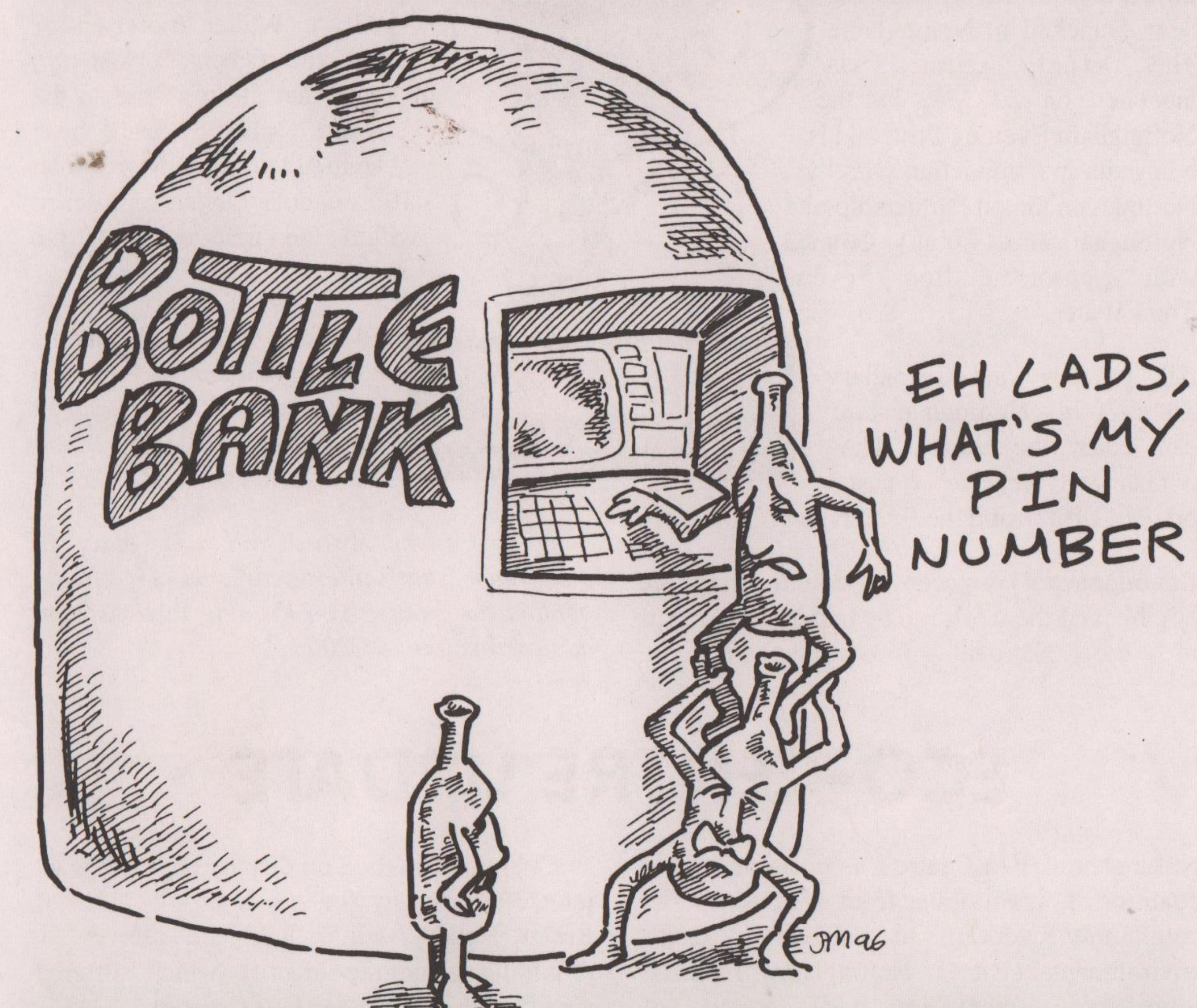
The House Martin is on the decline, but the reason why is not clear. You could help by joining in the Young Ornithologists Club (YOC) Martins Matter survey. This will take place in mid-July, looking at numbers and the vicinity to roads of nests on houses around the country. The results will be compared to previous YOC and Wildlife Watch surveys from 1983.

Contact YOC at the RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL (phone 01767 680551).

'OOPS' SCHEME

The City Council is relaunching its 'Oops' prepaid postcard scheme to encourage the reporting of road surface defects, broken street lamps and missing street nameplates. All reports are investigated by one of the City's highway inspectors, and action taken where possible.

The Oops cards are available in Council offices, libraries and post offices. Problems can also be reported by phone - 935 0752 for highway defects, and 935 0743 for street lighting problems. Based on a Pedals newsletter item.



NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK

The cycle tracks around Dunkirk flyover, for some time a hub of the Nottingham cycle network, will soon become a landmark on the Sustrans National Cycle Network (NCN) flagship route from Inverness to Dover.

The County Council and Sustrans are aiming to complete within two years the main sections in Nottinghamshire of the Inverness to Dover route. The path will come down via Clumber Park, Newstead Abbey and Hucknall towards Wollaton Park, before following the Ring Road from Radford Bridge Road towards Dunkirk.

At Dunkirk the Inverness to Dover NCN route will turn right towards Beeston, Long Eaton and Derby, probably including some upgrading of the existing Dunkirk to Beeston route - including a possible signalled toucan crossing at the west end of the straight stretch of University Boulevard.

This would provide an enormous improvement for cyclists and pedestrians at this very dangerous location just south of University Park.

The National Cycle Network is being developed by the civil engineering charity Sustrans, working with over four hundred local authorities, as well as many other organisations. The route will pass through the centre of almost every major town and city in Britain, and will be complete by 2000.

About half will be traffic-free, and half on-road (with traffic calming). Sustrans expects the Network to act as a catalyst for the development of local cycling networks, improving the safety and the environment of local streets and improving access to the countryside.

For more information about the National Cycle Network, contact Sustrans on 0117 926 8893. Based on an article in the Pedals newsletter.

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.

BULWELL RECYCLING TEAM

Following a visit to the 'Our Global Future' exhibition in Nottingham last Spring we decided to set up a recycling group. We are the recycling team at the Bestwood Centre in Bulwell, made up of staff and adults with learning disabilities.

We wanted to do something that would not only help the environment but would also contribute to our local community. So we set up a weekly street collection of paper and cans from Bestwood Estate. The response has been wonderful! We sell the paper and aluminium cans to raise money to buy equipment for the Centre.

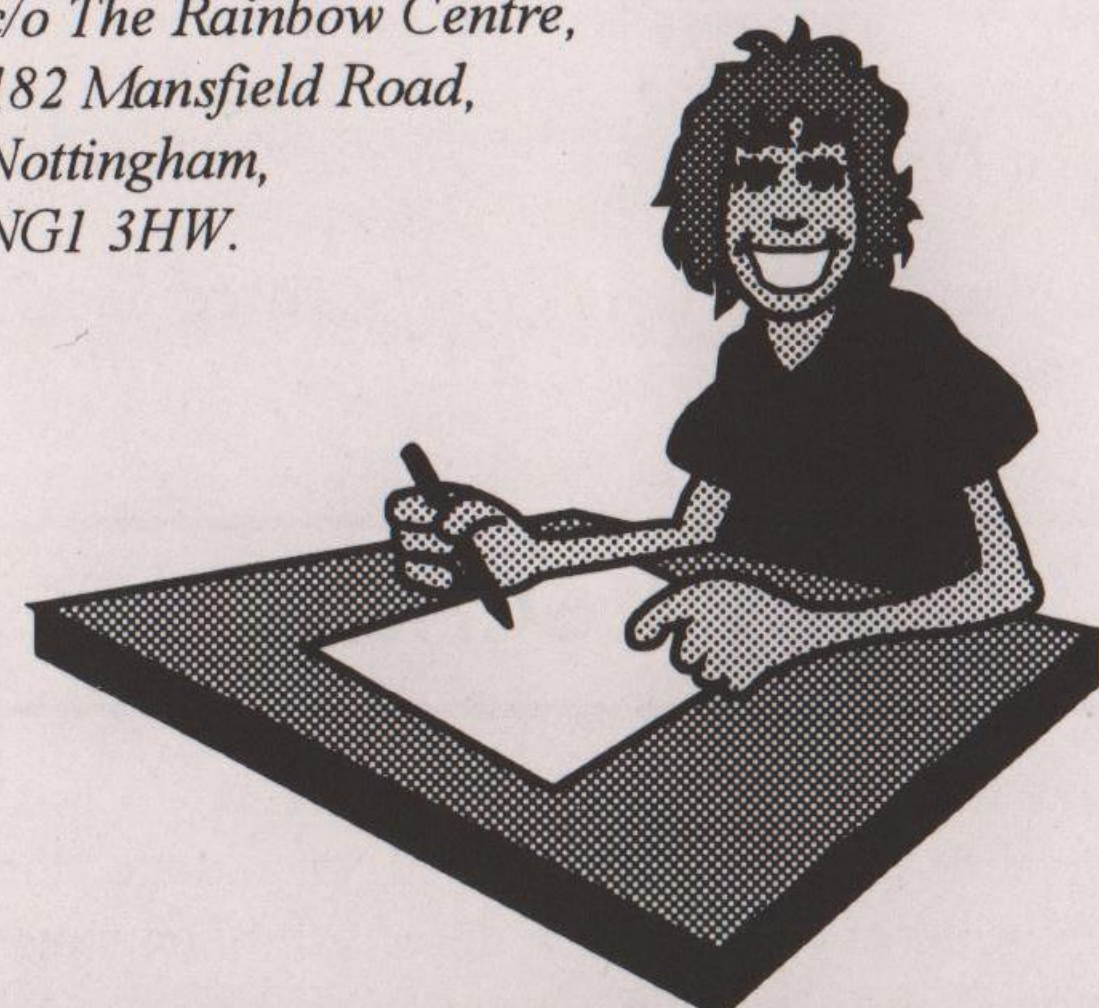
The scheme is now almost entirely run by the people who attend the centre, and we hope to expand our collection area in the future.

Louise Longfield and Darren Henson, Bestwood Centre, Bestwood Road, Bulwell, Nottingham (phone 927 8345).

PRESS RELEASES & NEWSLETTERS

Does your organisation send out press releases or newsletters? If so, it would be useful if Green Network could be added to your mailing list to receive them. This would help us to be aware of all the latest events and activities needing publicity in the area. The address to send them is -

Adam Woodward, Green Network,
c/o The Rainbow Centre,
182 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham,
NG1 3HW.



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.

SCHOOLS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

A brand new environmental award scheme for schools has been launched in Nottingham. The award scheme was launched on 20 May by the Nottingham Evening Post, and is being run in conjunction with the Nottingham Green Partnership and Nottinghamshire County Council, with sponsorship from Severn Trent Water.

All primary and secondary schools in Nottinghamshire can enter the award. The winner will receive a cash prize of £1000, and the five finalists £100 each.

Environmental projects large and small are eligible and the work can be undertaken as part of the National Curriculum or be



extra-curricular.

Steve Waller (co-ordinator of the Green Partnership) said that the response to the award scheme had been 'Tremendous More than 100 schools registered interest within the first week of the award.

It's clear that local schools have a great deal to be proud of when it comes to protecting their environment'.

Judging for the Award will take place in November, but interested schools should contact the Nottingham Evening Post as soon as possible, on 948 2000.

ECO-CENTRE UPDATE

Nottingham Eco-Centre association is a coalition of organisations from all sectors of the community working to set up a major environmental centre in Nottingham, providing information about a wide range of environmental issues, an outlet for 'green' products, and a place to meet and work for environmental businesses and voluntary organisations. This article provides an update on progress towards setting up the centre.

A suitable building in the city centre has been identified and valuation is currently underway. Application for capital funding to the Millennium Commission is in progress - the full application to be complete by 11 November. Matching funding is also being investigated.

It has been proposed that in addition to freely

available information on display boards that an interactive display (on the lines of 'Tales of Robin Hood') would help the project by providing a unique identity which differed significantly from other Eco-Centres.

Contact has been made with the Authorities of Karlsruhe (Nottingham's twin city in Germany) in order to establish a link with any similar projects. Advice and support is also being sought from Nottingham City Council members.

A co-ordinator has been appointed (financed by the Nottingham Green Partnership) to assist with the evolution of the project, funding proposals, developing a business plan and cash flow forecasts.

Nottingham Eco-Centre Association. For more information contact Mike Poyzer on 01636 814324.

NUCLEAR PRIVATISATION

Taxpayers could have to pay for the decommissioning of Britain's newer nuclear power plants and the management of their nuclear waste under Government plans to privatise the country's nuclear industry, according to Friends of the Earth (FoE) and the Consortium of Opposing Local Authorities (COLA).

Although the government proposes to establish a fund to meet the long-term liabilities of the

privatised nuclear industry, a report by FoE and COLA points out that the fund will not cover many critical liabilities, including the decommissioning of the THORP reprocessing plant at Sellafield.

The report 'British Energy Annual Segregated Fund Charges' is available from Martin Price, COLA, Council Offices, Brimpton Way, Yeovil (phone 01935 462576). Based on an article in The Ecologist.

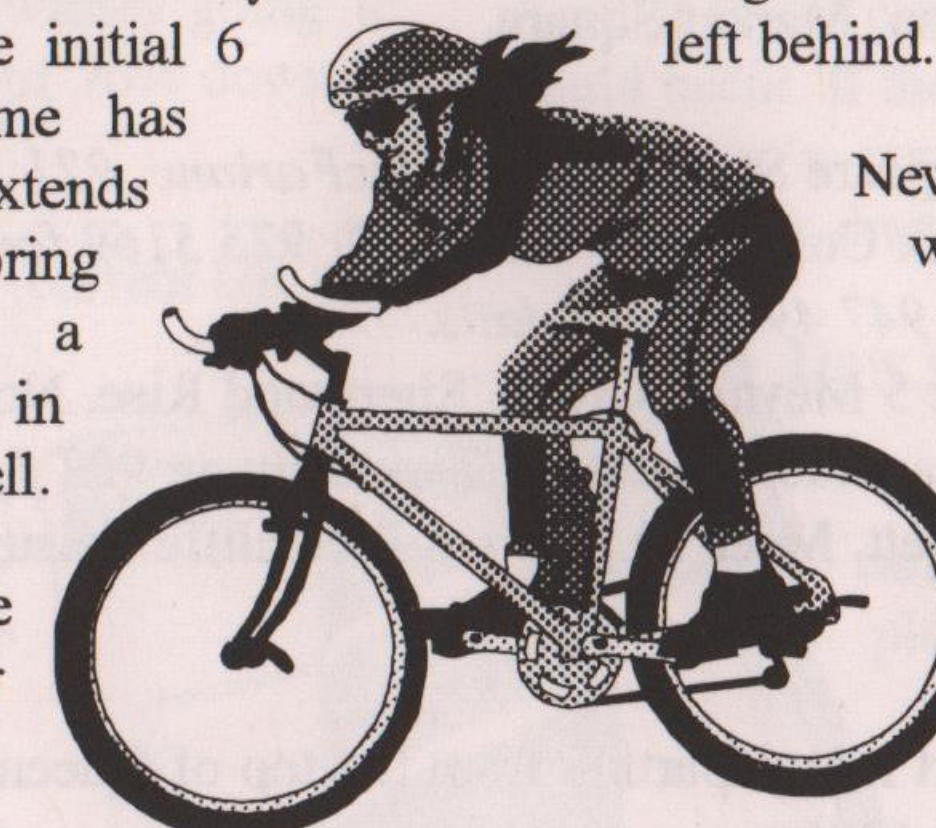
10 YEARS OF GUIDED RIDES

This summer marks the official tenth anniversary of Nottinghamshire County Council's involvement in the Guided Cycle Rides Programme. Since the initial 6 Pedals rides, the programme has steadily expanded, and now extends not only throughout the Spring and Summer, but with a substantial number of rides in the Autumn and Winter as well.

The rides cover the whole county, with a particular emphasis on starting points in and around Nottingham.

The rides, of varying length to suit different kinds of rider, have developed a very friendly

reputation, usually reinforced by ending up in a pub! Special attention is now being given to ensuring that less experienced riders are not left behind.



New ride leaders are always welcome, such as those from the Newark area joining this year.

The Guided Rides leaflet is available in libraries. If none are left in your local library, call Marion Head on 977 4559 to order a copy.

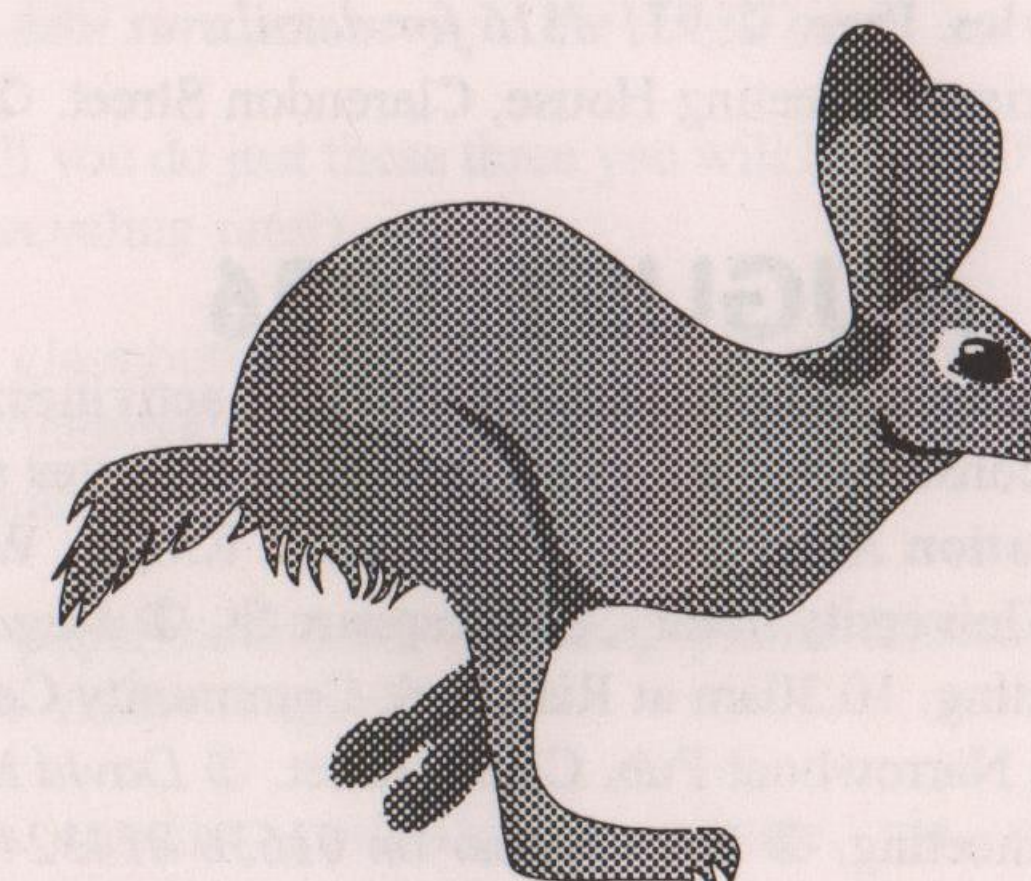
Based on an article in the Pedals Newsletter.

ROADS THREATEN WILDLIFE

The RSPB is calling upon the Government to announce a moratorium on future road building on the nation's most important wildlife habitats. Road proposals continue to threaten at least 59 of the UK's most valuable wildlife sites, including the wetlands and moorland. Many bird populations have already been harmed by transport policies and more are set to suffer if current road proposals go ahead.

John Armitage, RSPB regional officer, said 'In publishing the UK Biodiversity Action Plan the Government has committed itself to conserving the UK's wildlife. However, the Department of Transport seems completely oblivious to how its roads' programme is damaging the nation's wildlife heritage. Even the Government's recent Green Paper on transport failed to set out

any measures to ensure that wildlife and wildlife habitats are not damaged'.



For more information contact the RSPB on 01767 680551.

CYCLE PARKING LEAFLETS

Two useful leaflets on cycle parking are now available from Nottingham City Council, both prepared in co-operation with Pedals.

'Cycle Parking in Nottingham City Centre' is a guide to cycle parking places, including the secure cycle lockers in the Trinity Square and Broad Marsh car parks (both funded by the Nottingham Green Partnership).

The 'Advisory Leaflet on Cycle Parking' looks at the pros and cons of different types of cycle stands and how best to site them.

Both leaflets are available from Grant Butterworth at the City Council Development Department, on 948 3500. Based on a Pedals newsletter article.

STRIMMERS CAN KILL TREES

Strimmers are very useful for clearing the edges of paths, walls, gates etc, but they can seriously damage trees, and can even kill young saplings. To protect trees, fit a proper strimmer guard, and either hand weed around the tree, or clear the weeds totally and mulch with bark chippings or mulch mats.

This advice is taken from an International Tree Foundation (ITF) Leaflet. The ITF is a society dedicated to the planting, care and preservation of trees throughout the world.

For more information about the International Tree Foundation call 01342 712536.

GNN UPDATE

The next feature section will be in September, looking at Access to the Countryside. 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, as well as information about events to go in the Green Calendar; 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.

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 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.

THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

JULY 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.*
- Tue 9th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ *960 5843.*
- Tue 9th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- Sat 13th **Notts Cyclists Touring Club Beginners' Section** ride to Colston Bassett. Meet 10.30am at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, Boundary Road, West Bridgford. ☎ *Graham Lansdell on 986 0299.*
- W/E 13-14 **BTCV Training Weekend - Fencing.** Free. ☎ *931 3316 for details.*
- 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.*
- Tue 16th **Nottingham Churches Environment Network** meeting. 7pm, St Andrews with Castlegate URC Hall (corner of Chaucer & Goldsmith Streets). ☎ *Ashley Baxter on 948 3500 ext 6123.*
- Wed 17th **Wollaton Natural History Society** meeting, from 7.30 at Wollaton Church Hall. All Welcome.
- Thur 18th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ *Ron Gillott on 920 1238.*
- Mon 22nd **Nott'm World Development Movement.** 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ *Nick Osmond, 960 7797.*
- Tue 23rd **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ *960 5843.*
- 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.*
- Sat 27th **Notts Cyclists Touring Club Beginners' Section** ride to Kirk Hallam. Meet 10.30am at Wollaton Park, car park off Wollaton Road. ☎ *Graham Lansdell on 986 0299.*
- W/E 27-28 **BTCV Training Weekend - Bridges & Styles.** Free. ☎ *931 3316 for details.*
- Tue 30th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*

AUGUST 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.*
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- Sun 4th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ *975 5169 for details.*
- Mon 5th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ *David Meatcher on 925 7186.*
- Tue 6th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ *Mike Poyzer on 01636 814324 after 6.30pm.*
- Tue 6th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square. ☎ *David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.*
- W/E 9-11 **BTCV Countryside Weekend - Step Building,** at Gedling House Woods. £11. ☎ *931 3316 for details.*
- Sat 10th **Notts Cyclists Touring Club Beginners' Section** ride to Southwell. Meet 10.30am at Mapperley Plains Social Club. ☎ *Graham Lansdell on 986 0299.*
- Mon 12th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ *Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.*
- Tue 13th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- Tue 13th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ *960 5843.*
- Thur 15th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ *Ron Gillott on 920 1238.*
- Sat 17th 'Nightlife' walk in Bestwood County Park - looking at **Owls, Bats and Moths.** 8pm-11pm. Meet at Alexandra Lodges. ☎ *967 0042.*
- Mon 19th **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.*
- Fri 23rd **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.*
- Sat 24th **Notts Cyclists Touring Club Beginners' Section** ride to Gunthorpe. Meet 10.30am at Colwick Park & Ride site (Colwick Racecourse Entrance). ☎ *Graham Lansdell on 986 0299.*
- Mon 26th **Nott'm World Development Movement.** 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ *Nick Osmond, 960 7797.*
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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. 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. Printed by DESA Ltd, on 'Cameron' recycled paper made from 100% post-consumer waste.

RECYCLING

RECYCLING FOR THE FUTURE!

The Government has set various targets connected with recycling -

- reduce domestic and trade wastes going to landfill from the present level of 70% down to 60% by 2005.

- reach 25% recycling by 2000 (current UK rate is approx. 4%).

- reach 40% home composting for houses with gardens by 2000 (the current UK rate is approx. 10-20%).

- reach 40% 'recovery' (i.e. recycling + composting + incineration energy recovery) by 2005 (current UK rate is approx. 5%).

These targets are certainly ambitious!

The City Council is working to increase by March 1997 the number of recycling centres from its present 67 to 77, and the number of home compost bins supplied from its present 4,340 to 6,040 (a 40% increase on last year). The City Council is also busy promoting its children's environmental club, Waste Warriors. To date we have 2,025 members! The aim is to get kids actively involved in saving their local environment.

However, much more than this is needed, so the feasibility for a door-to-door collection service is being evaluated currently. Initially it would service 1000 households in a pilot programme. The long-term aim would be to extend the service across the city in phases over a number of years - finances permitting of course. 'Kerbside' collections such as these do cost a lot: an extra £5-10 per household per year (this is net of all income too).

Looking further ahead, Yorkshire Environmental Ltd (the new owners of the Eastcroft Incinerator) have said they are hoping

to add a third furnace, (raising its tonnage throughput from 150,000 tpa to 250,000 tpa) and to add a pre-incineration recycling sorting plant. It is not clear when these developments would occur. If they both come to fruition then Nottingham's recycling rate, and 'recovery' rate, will rise dramatically.

How you can get involved today!

- Reduce your waste when you can (Suggestions on a postcard please!)

- Re-use your waste when you can (Suggestions on a postcard please!)

- Use your recycling centre!! (75% of people

approve in principle, but only 25% actually DO anything. If you don't know what can be taken where, phone 950 5800).

- Get a compost bin and recycle your garden and kitchen waste.

Make sure you recycle the 'Big Three'

(If you do just these three you will have a 60%+ recycling rate!) -

- glass bottles and jars (but no glasses, Pyrex or Visionware window glass, milk bottles or light bulbs, please).

- paper/cardboard, including phone directories & Yellow Pages.

- organic garden/kitchen waste via your compost bin.

- Join Waste Warriors (no membership fee, 5 to 18 years).

David Rosselli, Recycling Team Leader, Nottingham City Council, Lawrence House, Talbot Street, Nottingham NG1 5NT.

THE ROTTER

Back in 1992, all local authorities were required to produce a Recycling Plan outlining how they intended to recycle 25% of domestic waste by 2000 AD. In preparing their plan, Newark and Sherwood District Council decided to look at the types of waste being produced in their area. It was clear that the rural nature of the District (and therefore the number of properties with gardens) meant that large quantities of organic garden and kitchen wastes were being disposed of in landfills each year.

The Government had already advised local authorities that they should try to reduce the

quantity of waste produced before recycling as much as possible of the remainder. Therefore organic waste became the target material and waste reduction the method - composting was the obvious answer. The options were either a central composting scheme, or the alternative was to provide householders with a home-composting kit.

The Council opted for home composting and the result was "O.R.I.G.I.N.S." (Organic Recycling in Gardens in Newark and Sherwood).

COMPOSTING TRIAL

Bassetlaw District Council, Broxtowe Borough Council and Gedling Borough Council have successfully completed their year long 'Home Composting Trial'.

The trial which was unique in its methodology, aimed to 'examine and document the relative merits of home composting as a waste minimisation and recycling technique for local authorities, and to establish what contribution towards the governments target of recycling 25% of all household waste by the year 2000 could be achieved'.

Trial households were selected according to house type and tenure distribution, to give a representative picture of the three authorities as a whole. Each household was issued with one of three types of composting unit; a pure composter (Recycone), a digester (Greencone) or a wormery (Original Organics). A control group who did not receive a composting unit was also identified.



During the course of the year monthly/bimonthly wheeled bin weights were recorded at a percentage of the trial and control households. The weighings took place on the morning of the refuse collection service, to ensure an accurate measurement was obtained.

This data was supported by valuable information acquired from three questionnaires, distributed to all the trial households throughout the year, and a randomly selected proportion of 'face to face' interviews.

The outstanding results demonstrated that home composting can account for a significant 11.4% reduction in domestic refuse entering the main waste stream. On the merits of these results, all three Authorities are hoping to extend home composting to the wider community. If you want to know more about the trial or the plans for the future in your area, please phone your local contact -

- Bassetlaw District Council: Gill Blenkinsop on 01909 533 533,
- Broxtowe Borough Council: Rachel Tassell on 925 4891,
- Gedling Borough Council: Jill Barker on 967 5419.

Continued on back page.