

THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

MARCH 1997

- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, 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.*
- Sun 2nd **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
- Mon 3rd **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at The Navigation, Wilford St, Near Canal St. ☎ *David Meatcher on 925 7186.*
- Tue 4th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square.
☎ *David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.*
- Fri 7th **Greenpeace Youth Group.** 7.30pm. Trent University library, Shakespeare St. ☎ *Megan MacFarlane, 921 2246 to confirm venue.*
- W/E 7-9 **BTCV Countryside Weekend** - hedging at Nottingham Canal. Cost £11.
Pick up Nottingham BR 8pm. *To book a place ☎ 0113 274 2335.*
- Mon 10th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ *Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.*
- Tue 11th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Tue 11th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ *Rob Williams on 922 8617.*
- Tue 11th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- W/E 14-16 **BTCV Countryside Weekend** - Nottingham Canal. Cost £6. For more information ☎ 931 3316.
- Sat 15th **Real World Conference** at the Mansfield Road Baptist Church. *See article for details.* ☎ *Nigel Lee on 978 8059 or 960 5843.*
- Mon 17th **Pedals** meeting. 7.30pm, at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ *Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.*
- Wed 19th **'Design Control - Capturing Local Distinctiveness'** Continuing Professional Development Conference. 10am-4.30pm at the University of Nottingham. Cost £95 (limited places at £50 for voluntary groups). ☎ *the Conference Secretary on 951 4883.*
- Wed 19th **Wollaton Natural History Society**, from 7.30pm at Wollaton Church Hall. £1. All Welcome.
- Thur 20th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at **The Navigation**, Wilford St, Near Canal St. ☎ *Ron Gillott on 920 1238.*
- Tue 25th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- Tue 25th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Fri 28th **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.

APRIL 1997

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- Fri 4th **Greenpeace Youth Group.** 7.30pm. Trent University library, Shakespeare St. ☎ *Megan MacFarlane, 921 2246 to confirm venue.*
- Sun 6th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
- Mon 7th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at The Navigation, Wilford St, Near Canal St. ☎ *David Meatcher on 925 7186.*
- Tue 8th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Tue 8th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ *Rob Williams on 922 8617.*
- Tue 8th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*
- Sat 12th **Churches Environmental Network** Conference. 10am-4.30pm at Mansfield Rd Baptist Church. ☎ *Paula Reynolds on 915 6123.*
- Mon 14th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ *Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.*
- Wed 16th **Wollaton Natural History Society** meeting, from 7.30pm at Wollaton Church Hall. £1 entry. All Welcome.
- Thur 17th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at The Navigation, Wilford St, Near Canal St. ☎ *Ron Gillott on 920 1238.*
- Fri 18th **'Building a Sustainable Economy'** conference. ☎ *Change Works on 922 3439.*
- Sun 20th **'In Praise of Footpaths' walk from Bestwood Country Park to Rufford Country Park**, taking in ancient hedgerows and woodlands (16+ miles). Note - this is a linear walk; please call to book transport to return to the start, or to book cream tea (for £2) at Rufford! ☎ 967 0042 for details and bookings.
- Mon 21st **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 22nd **'Permaculture: a conscious approach to the environment'** - a talk by Mr Phil Corbett (Nurseryman).
12noon in the Arkwright Lecture Theatre, Arkwright Building, Shakespeare Street.
Part of the Nottingham Trent University Environmental Studies Open Lecture Programme.
- Tue 22nd **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Fri 25th **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.
- Tue 29th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ *Tim Gray on 922 3439.*

Green Network thanks Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Gedling Borough Council & Groundwork Greater Nottingham for their support.

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

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Green NETWORK News

GREATER NOTTINGHAM AND SOUTH NOTTS GREEN NETWORK

NUMBER 59 March 1997 FREE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: ARTS PROJECT • GARDEN IN THE AIR • GNN ON THE NET!



Councillor John Hartshorne, Chair of the City Council's Environment Committee congratulating Neil Bates, Director of Environmental Services and some of his team on their success in achieving the ISO 14001 'green' standard. See 'Green Award for City' article.

THE GREEN CONNECTION

The Green Connection project has now been launched - with the aim of targeting black and white ethnic groups of all ages to take part in environmental action in Nottingham. The project is the result of a partnership between Groundwork Greater Nottingham, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottingham Green Partnership.

Elaine Gibb has been employed by the Groundwork Trust to run the project, which will carry on the work of a previous initiative called Its Our Environment Too. Elaine will be targeting ethnic groups not yet involved, and forging new links with the ethnic communities of Nottingham.

The Green Connection will facilitate and support a variety of projects, based on four focus areas - physical environmental improvements, countryside visits, wildlife in the city, & rural-urban twinning projects.

The Green Connection aims to enable communities in the city to participate in conserving, enhancing and celebrating the environment in ways which are relevant to local attitudes and cultures, and to help communities develop their own responses to sustainable development issues.

The Green Connection has also played a key role in the bringing together of three environmental workers in Nottingham to form an environmental 'hit-squad' for the city. Their mission is to increase community participation in the environment by helping them to enjoy, protect and improve their local surroundings. The other two squad members are -

* Ruth Eyre (Youth Environment Worker with Nottinghamshire County Council), working with young people aged from 11 to 25 who attend city youth clubs. Ruth works with groups who have specific needs or concerns, whether it be improving the youth club environment or the personal development of members.

* Sukhy Johal (Environmental Ethnic Youth Worker), has recently been employed by the Black Environment Network. He will be developing four specific environmental youth projects within Nottingham over the next three years.

The Enviro Hit-Squad will also be joined by other environmental workers and partners, and are here to provide advice and assistance to groups who wish to take an active role in the environment. For more information contact Elaine Gibb on 979 9227.

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.

GREEN AWARD FOR CITY

Nottingham City Council's Environmental Services department has become the first Council department, and one of only a few organisations in the country, to be awarded a coveted environmental hallmark. The new ISO14001 'green' standard rewards organisations which commit themselves to continually checking and improving their environmental performance.

Benefits of the system include cost savings through reduced waste, better management control and improved prospects of securing money from bodies like the EU - which require environmental guarantees before approving funding towards improvement projects.

Staff in the Environmental Services department carry out key functions in Nottingham such as pollution control, drainage, highway design and street sweeping. Over the next few months, the Department plans to offer local businesses a consultancy service, to help them to achieve the new standard.

Nottingham City Council Environmental Services Department.

REAL WORLD

REAL WORLD is a national coalition of charities and campaign groups which has come together to challenge politicians during the coming General Election. It is campaigning on a common platform promoting environmental sustainability, social justice, democratic renewal, and the eradication of poverty at home and abroad. If you would like to know more, or to get involved in lobbying candidates in your constituency, there is a conference on Saturday March 15th (10.45am-3pm), at the Mansfield Road Baptist Church.

For more information, send a S.A.E. to Real World, c/o 51 Braidwood Court, NG7 6EW (phone 978 8059 or 960 5843). Nigel Lee.

CITY ENERGY PLAN

Nottingham City Council's Housing Department has recently prepared a report with plans for a 30% reduction in domestic energy use in Nottingham - as required by the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA).

More information about the HECA report will be included in next months issue.

IN BRIEF...

- The Nottingham Churches Environmental Network Conference takes place on 12th April at Mansfield Road Baptist Church (10am - 4.30pm). ☎ Paula Reynolds on 915 6123.

- Grants of up to £2,000 are available for groups working on practical conservation projects due for completion by the end of March. ☎ Sue Shipston at the Greenwood Community Forest on 01623 758231.

- Oxfam's annual sponsored walk takes place on 18th May, starting from Rushcliffe Country Park - raising money for projects associated with the basic right to a home. ☎ 942 4324.

- Environment Week (10-18 May) includes Community Awards worth £500 - closing date 18th April. Projects registered before 28th March may also receive a £50 Early Bird Award. ☎ 0171 976 2022.

NEW RECYCLING SITES

Nottingham City Council are planning to develop 20 new recycling sites during 1997, leading to a total of 84 locations. This will make recycling easier for communities across Nottingham, and help to divert waste from landfill sites. The location of the new sites will be announced this summer. Opportunities are also available for community groups to develop Mini Recycling Centres with the support of the City Council.

To find out more about opportunities for recycling, call the City Council's Hotline on 950 5800.

GNN ON THE NET!

Change Works now has a 'site' on the Internet's World Wide Web, which allows users to view information as 'pages' of text and graphics. As well as material about Change Works' own activities, there are sections about other local sustainability projects. Green Network's own Web pages are here, with GNN now available online each month. You'll also find The Life House (the project to set up a major sustainability centre in Nottingham) and Health In Your Environment (work on health and sustainability in Nottingham Health District).

Point your Web browser to <http://www.gn.apc.org/changeworks/>. If you don't have access to the Internet but would like to check it out, the Cyberpub on Parliament Street (next to Boots) and CODA at 7b Broad Street have facilities available on a pay-as-you-go basis (call 952 6146).

Tim Gray.

GREEN TRANSPORT SEMINAR

In 1989 a Government White Paper promised 'the greatest road-building programme since the Romans'. However, last May's Green Paper 'Transport - The Way Forward' acknowledged that new roads often have adverse environmental impacts and encourage new traffic. It emphasised, by contrast, the importance of making the best of existing infrastructure and encouraging alternatives.

A series of Regional Transport Seminars have been set up by Sir George Young (Secretary of State for Transport), in order to seek a wide response to the Green Paper. The East Midlands seminar took place in Nottingham in December, and included a series of short presentations.

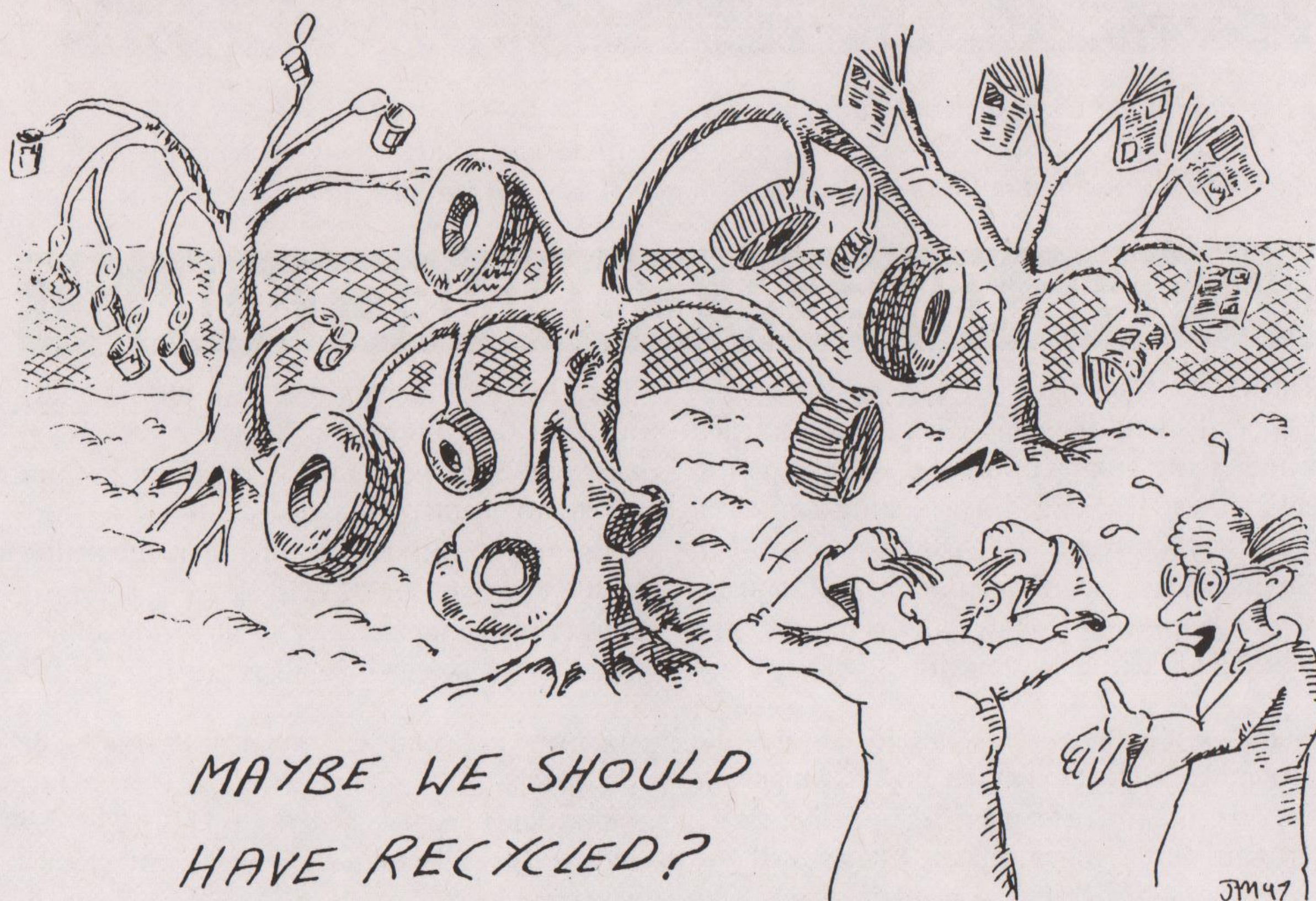
Councillor Martin Doughty (leader of Derbyshire County Council) emphasised the need for more resources and powers for local authorities to promote integrated transport policies. The legacy of bus deregulation, and the current uncertainties over the impact of

railway privatisation appear to pose major threats to adopting greener transport policies.

Hugh McClintock, from Pedals, spoke on behalf of 'the environmental lobby', stressing the need for wider changes in transport policy to promote the role of the bicycle - including national and local targets for traffic restraint and air pollution reduction.

Many further changes to Government thinking on transport are certainly needed, but there is a growing sense that things have begun to change irrevocably, with environmentalists' views now taken much more seriously, alongside those of the business world. Funds for road-building have been greatly cut and resources for alternative solutions at the local level - although still modest - have begun to grow significantly. Hardly a revolution yet, but things will surely never be the same again!

Hugh McClintock.



GREEN NETWORK AGM

Over 20 people attended the AGM in January, reviewing the achievements of 1996 and looking forward to 1997. Tim Gray was re-elected as Chairperson, and Rachel Tassell (of Broxtowe Borough Council) was elected as Treasurer.

Two speakers from local organisations took part in the event. Caroline Hendy talked about the initiatives being undertaken by the Top Valley family of Schools. These projects were among the runners up in the Nottingham Evening Post's School's Environment Award (supported by Nottingham Green Partnership). A presentation was also given by Peter Downing of the Greenwood Community Forest,

describing the development of the project, and its success in supporting tree planting and other initiatives in the local area.

Discussion groups at the AGM looked at how Green Network News and the Environmental Directory are currently used, and put forward ideas for improvements - such as including national contacts in the directory. The groups also contributed proposals for new developments, including ideas for skills training or networking events. The suggestions put forward at the AGM will be considered by the Green Network steering group when planning activities during the year.

Adam Woodward, Green Network Co-ordinator

INTERNATIONAL ARTS PROJECT

1997 is the 50th year of the independence of India and Pakistan, as well as European Year Against Racism and the 100th anniversary of the City of Nottingham. To celebrate these events APNA Arts proposes to bring to Britain from India the internationally acclaimed artist Nek Chand Saini.

Nek Chand Saini will be arriving in Britain in May or June to train and work with four British artists for one month in Birmingham and Nottingham. Nek Chand will be introducing his philosophies and art practice to the artists, who will produce sculptures (in the broadest sense)

made from waste/recycled materials. The artists will bring their own personal understanding of environmental issues into the production of a site-specific installation to take place in the grounds of Nottingham Castle Museum. Young people will be working with the artists and Nek Chand in developing the various projects through workshops.

After the workshops, the artists with Nek Chand will present talks and seminars at the Castle Museum and other venues. To find out more contact APNA Arts on 942 2479.

GARDEN IN THE AIR

For years now, Wilford Baptiste has been dazzling neighbours in Sneinton with an ever-changing display of vertical flower gardening at the front of his house, and demonstration of just how much veg' can be grown in a small space at the back. He uses old plastic drainpipes, punched with planting holes, as vertical window boxes and tops garden walls with pots or growbags made from plastic sacks. He has built raised beds in his tiny backyard and grows a surplus of vegetables to give away.

Last year, Wilford's fame spread to the media and Central TV called to film his garden in the air, complete with lettuces in pots made from plastic tubing, suspended from the washing line.

Colin Haynes. 'Full of Greens' is a free magazine about allotments and gardens in Sneinton & St Ann's - including Wilford Baptiste. It is available from Sneinton & St Ann's Libraries, Green's Windmill & the City Challenge office.



RAGGED SCHOOL PROJECT

Notts Wildlife Trust are planning to restore the Town Mission Ragged School - to provide a modern and innovative conservation centre, where people will be able to learn about wildlife conservation and have access to information relating to the County's wildlife. The Ragged School (situated a few minutes walk from Nottingham's Market Square) played a central role in the development of education for poorer people in the 19th Century, but fell into disrepair some years ago.

The restored building will be used as the Trusts new HQ, as well as areas for exhibitions, academic and student research, environmental training courses and a professional meeting facility. The Friends of the Ragged School appeal has been launched to help raise the £45,000 needed to complete the project.

To make a donation or find out more, contact Notts Wildlife Trust at 310 Sneinton Dale, Nottingham NG3 7DN (phone 972 7505).

A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

'Building a Sustainable Economy' is the title of a half-day conference on 18th April in Nottingham. It aims to raise the profile of economic aspects of sustainability, to share awareness of the major issues and look at priorities for action. It will be suitable for businesses, business support organisations, local government officers, voluntary

organisations, and anyone else interested in hearing a range of viewpoints and contributing to the discussion. Speakers will include representatives of the New Economics Foundation and the Federation of Small Businesses.

Contact Change Works, 16 Villa Street, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 2NY, Tel. 922 3439.

GNN JOINS THE SUPERHIGHWAY



Nottinghamshire County Council
Green Grants

Green Network is now able to provide a wider range of up to date national and international information - thanks to a grant received from Nottinghamshire County Council's Green Grants Initiative. This is being used to take out a subscription to GreenNet, the international environmental computer network.

GreenNet provides access to information about a huge variety of environmental events and issues from groups around the world. This information will be used to provide articles in Green Network News which are relevant for the local area, or to provide comparisons with different areas of the world. GreenNet will also provide a means of researching the answers to queries which can't be provided from our local or national databases.

We also have facilities for Electronic Mail; our Email address is gnetnotts@gn.apc.org (articles, calendar entries or enquiries sent by Email are welcome). Adam Woodward (Green Network Co-ordinator).

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- The rates for one year are -
- * Unwaged individuals - £3
 - * Waged individuals/ Voluntary groups/ Businesses (up to 5 staff)/ Schools - £6
 - * Businesses (over 5 staff)/ Local Authorities - £15

MEMBERSHIP FEES

- Green Network members receive -
- * Free subscription to GNN
 - * A free copy of our Environmental Directory, with details of over 160 local organisations.
 - * A £10 GNN advertising voucher.

- These are the fees for one year -
- * Voluntary groups/ Businesses (up to 5 staff)/ Schools - £10
 - * Businesses with over 5 staff/ Local Authorities - £25

Please send cheques to Green Network, c/o Groundwork Greater Nottingham, 35-37 St Mary's Gate, Nottingham NG1 1PU. ☎ 941 7849.