

THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

JANUARY 1996

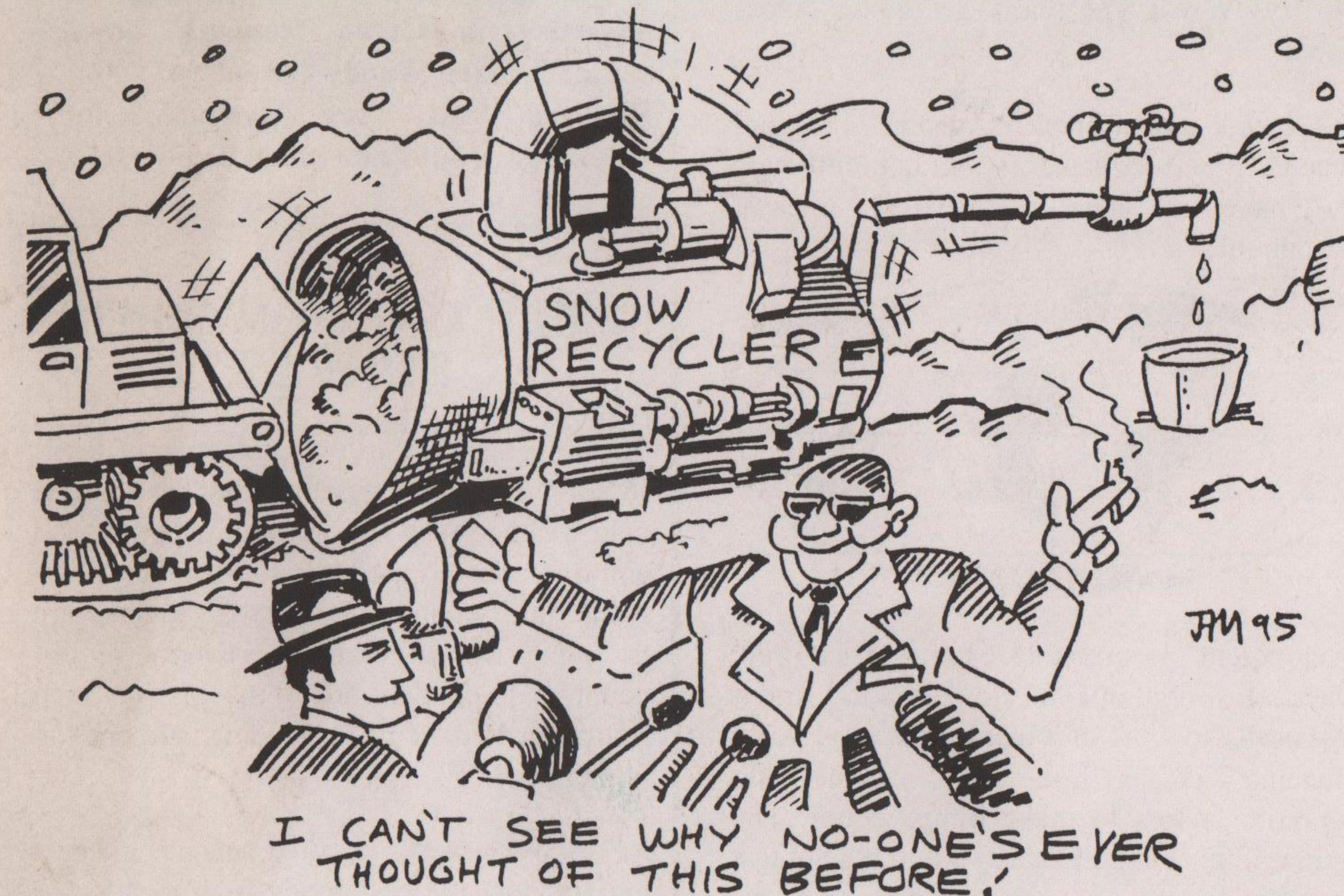
- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, Thur, Sun's* **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities: a variety of practical tasks. ☎ 931 3316.
- Day Tasks *Sun's (& other days)* **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. ☎ NWT on 958 8242.
- Monthly **Nottingham EIA (Environmental Investigation Agency)**. 7.30pm. Nott'm Knight, W.Bridgford. ☎ Lesley Peasant, 01509 235885.
- Tue 2nd **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ Mike Poyzer on 01636 814324 after 6.30pm.
- Tue 9th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm at Angel Row Library. ☎ 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 **National Trust** Volunteer Group activity. Woodland work at Kedleston Hall. ☎ Gale Harvey 922 0219.
- Sun 7th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 6376 for details.
- Mon 8th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- 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.
- Mon 15th **Pedals** meeting. 7.30pm at the Trippe to Jerusalem (upstairs room), Brewhouse Yard/Castle Road. ☎ Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.
- Mon 15th **Notts Wildlife Trust (City)**. 'A year in the life of an **Urban Woodland**' video diary. 7.30pm. Browne Jacobson Solicitors, 44 Castlegate. ☎ 958 8242.
- Tue 16th **Nottingham Churches Environment Network** meeting - 'Energy Efficiency in Churches'. 7pm, St Andrews with Castlegate URC Hall (corner of Chaucer & Goldsmith Streets). ☎ Ashley Baxter on 948 3500 ext 6123.
- Tue 16th **Notts Wildlife Trust (Gedling)**. **Dragonflies** illustrated talk. 7.30pm. Woodthorpe Library. Cost £1, inc. refreshments. ☎ 958 8242.
- Thur 18th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- Sun 21st **National Trust** Volunteer Group activity. Scrub Clearance, South Peak Estate. ☎ Brenden Hill 0121 352 1370.
- 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 **East Midlands Business & Environment Club** meeting - **Renewable Energy**. 2pm, Rushcliffe Indoor Bowls Centre. £5 Members, £15 Non-members. ☎ Tim Main 01509 881287.
- 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.
- W/E 26-28 **BTCV 'Woodland Weekend'**, Gedling House Woods, Nottingham - inc. fencing and coppicing. Cost £10. Pick-Up from Nottingham BR Station at 8pm. ☎ 01132 742335.

FEBRUARY 1996

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- Sun 4th **National Trust** Volunteer Group activity. Calke Abbey. ☎ Tess Hammond, 01332 850413.
- Sun 4th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 6376 for details.
- Mon 5th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
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- Thur 8th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Angel Row Library. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Mon 12th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Sun 18th **National Trust** Volunteer Group activity. Hardwick Hall. ☎ Andy Irving, 01709 558528.
- Mon 19th **Notts Wildlife Trust (City)**. **AGM**, and a talk (to be arranged). 7.30pm. Browne Jacobson Solicitors, 44 Castlegate. ☎ 958 8242.
- Mon 19th **Pedals** meeting. 7.30pm at the Trippe to Jerusalem (upstairs room), Brewhouse Yard/Castle Road. ☎ Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.
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- 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.
- W/E 23-25 **National Trust** Volunteer Group activity. Clumber Park. ☎ Andy Mountfort, 01283 740398.
- W/E 23-25 **BTCV Countryside Weekend**, Gedling House Woods, Nottingham - inc. fencing and other tasks. Cost £10. Pick-Up from Nottingham BR Station at 8pm. ☎ 01132 742335.
- Mon 26th **Nott'm World Development Movement**. 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ Nick Osmond, 960 7797.
- Wed 28th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.

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.

GREEN NETWORK NEWS



GOING GREEN IN '96

Have you made a new years resolution yet? If not, you may like to think about the 'green' activities you could become involved in. This could involve all sorts of choices - such as saving paper for recycling, going along to a local meeting (see the Nottingham Green Calendar inside), or finding out about volunteer opportunities.

One easy way to make a 'green' start to the year is by recycling your Christmas tree and cards (details are listed in a separate article).

There may be an issue you are interested in, but you are not sure how to get involved or find out more - if so, Green Network can help. We have

an up to date database of information about 160 local organisations involved in environmental issues, including community groups, local authorities and businesses. We also have details of more than 600 national organisations. These can be used to find a wide variety of information - such as organisations offering or inviting speakers about particular issues, volunteering opportunities, and information about training and funding. Details from both databases are available free on request - by writing to me or contacting me by phone.

Happy new year!

Adam Woodward
(Green Network Co-ordinator)

SCHOOLS GO GREEN

A new resource has been produced to enable schools in the County to 'go green' - through energy saving, improving the school grounds, reducing and recycling waste or other means. The new 'Greening Your School' publication has been produced by Notts County Council to help schools find their way through the maze of information and resources available about Education and the Environment.

The 'greening' of schools provides a valuable contribution towards sustainable development - for example, schools across the world together consume vast amounts of energy and resources, and in turn produce tons of waste. Energy saving, waste reduction and recycling can also save money!

Continued Inside

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.

FREE!

No. 46 January 1996

Inside ...

- Agenda 21
- Basic Rights
- Green Calendar

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Would you like your Christmas tree and cards to be recycled? A variety of organisations are offering tree or card collection services this year - providing an easy way of making a 'green' start to the year. Trees are turned into compost or mulch, for use in public parks (in some cases, the compost can also be taken away for use in your own garden). Details are listed below -

* Sainsbury's Homebase, Castle Marina, 10am-4pm, 7th January (Trees only. Call Groundwork Greater Nottingham on 979 9227).

* The Forest (Goose Fair Site), 9am-4pm, 7th January. (Trees only. Organised by Nottingham City Council).

* A variety of points in the Ashfield & Mansfield areas, from 2nd-14th January (Trees and Cards. Call Joanna Booth at Ashfield Groundwork Trust on 01623 635334).

* The following services will start around January 5th, and continue for at least one week (Contact Andrew Thompson at Notts County Council on 977 4172 for further information) -

- All County Council Household Waste & Recycling Centres (Trees and Cards).
- Brookfield Garden Centre, Plains Road (near Travellers Rest Pub). (Trees).
- Selected Boots stores. (Cards).
- Some local schools are offering collection points, as part of a Royal Mail scheme (Cards).

BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

This month's Big Garden Birdwatch is being organised by the Young Ornithologists club, with the aim of discovering which is Britain's commonest winter garden bird. Anyone can take part in the survey (with the help of a bird wall-chart), which takes place for an hour over the last weekend in January.

A free Big Garden Birdwatch pack is available from YOC Big Garden Birdwatch, Dept N3333, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL.

LOCAL AGENDA 21

1996 is the year when Agenda 21 says local authorities should produce Local Agenda 21 strategies for sustainable development. Is this gobbledigook to you? Well, you may not have come across the terms yet, but Local Agenda 21 is going to be of huge importance to anyone interested in the environment and it is already being worked on locally.

It all began at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), usually known as the Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. The build-up was such that some commentators branded it a failure when it didn't solve all the world's problems.

Judged more realistically, it did bring together an unprecedented number of world leaders; it linked environment and development issues like deforestation and poverty in the minds of decision-makers; and it started a gradual process that offers genuine hope for the future.

Of the documents produced at the Earth Summit, *Agenda 21* is the focus of most ongoing work. It is a massive (around 500 pages) statement of commitment and intent for the 21st century, covering in its 40 chapters practically every subject from population and health to agriculture and radioactive waste. It's not a legally binding document, but countries that signed up are expected to work towards implementing it. That includes Britain.

Local councils around the world have been active in emphasising the contribution they can make, and chapter 28 of Agenda 21 talks about this. It says: "By 1996, most local authorities in each country should have undertaken a consultative process with their populations and achieved a consensus on 'a local Agenda 21' for the community." In other words, YOU should

be involved. The process was slow to start, partly due to a lack of guidance on how to do it, but 1995 saw LA21 really get going across Britain.

Let's take a jargon break. "Agenda 21" is not particularly self-explanatory, but hopefully you now have an idea of what it means. "Sustainable



development" is probably even worse. There have been several attempts to define it. I find it most useful to think of it in a simple way, as the balancing of environmental, social and economic factors to make things better. The important thing to understand is that it's not just about saving trees, it's about all aspects of the quality of life - a huge and challenging agenda to get to grips with.

In future, environmental projects conducted by or in partnership with local councils will have to be aware of LA21 and show how they fit into it. Major national funding bodies are now including promotion of sustainable development in their criteria for giving money.

Make no mistake, this is a Big Thing, and GNN will be covering it regularly from now on - looking particularly at Agenda 21 in this area.

Tim Gray, Change Works.

SCHOOLS GO GREEN

Continued from front page.

The experiences of 8 local schools are described in the booklet, providing real examples of 'green' projects in schools. Colonel Frank Seely Comprehensive has set up an 'Environment Council' with elected representatives from every tutor group in the school. Successes so far have included the recycling of plastic bottles, textiles, paper and cans.

The school is also responsible for an 'Alternative Acre' at Patchings Farm. This is a wildlife haven, that will eventually illustrate alternatives such as medicinal plants, alternative energy, composting and environmentally friendly gardening.

The booklet includes a variety of useful contacts, with information about the services each can provide. The areas covered include

Energy, Movement and Transport, Natural Environment, Purchasing, Waste and Water.

A copy of 'Greening Your School' has been sent to every Local Education Authority (LEA) school in the County. Further copies are available for LEA schools to purchase at £2.50.

For more information contact one of these officers -

Dave Armstrong, Environmental Education Support Service, Advisory and Inspection Services Division, Sandfield Centre, Sandfield Road, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 1QH (Phone 953 5050).

Phil Keynes, Environment Officer, Planning and Economic Development Department, Nottinghamshire County Council, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 6BJ (Phone 977 4658).

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.

HELP GARDEN BIRDS SURVIVE

The Royal Society of the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is reminding people that the onset of cold weather is an important time to put food and water out to help birds survive the winter. At a time when even familiar species are declining due to dramatic changes in our countryside, gardens are an increasingly vital refuge for birds. Tips for feeding wild birds in winter include -

* Sunflower seeds, unsalted peanuts and suet are amongst the best foods (rich in fats and proteins).

* Don't just stick to one type of food - seed eating Finches and insect eating birds such as Robins require different foods.

* Kitchen scraps are fine as long as they are not overly stale or mouldy.

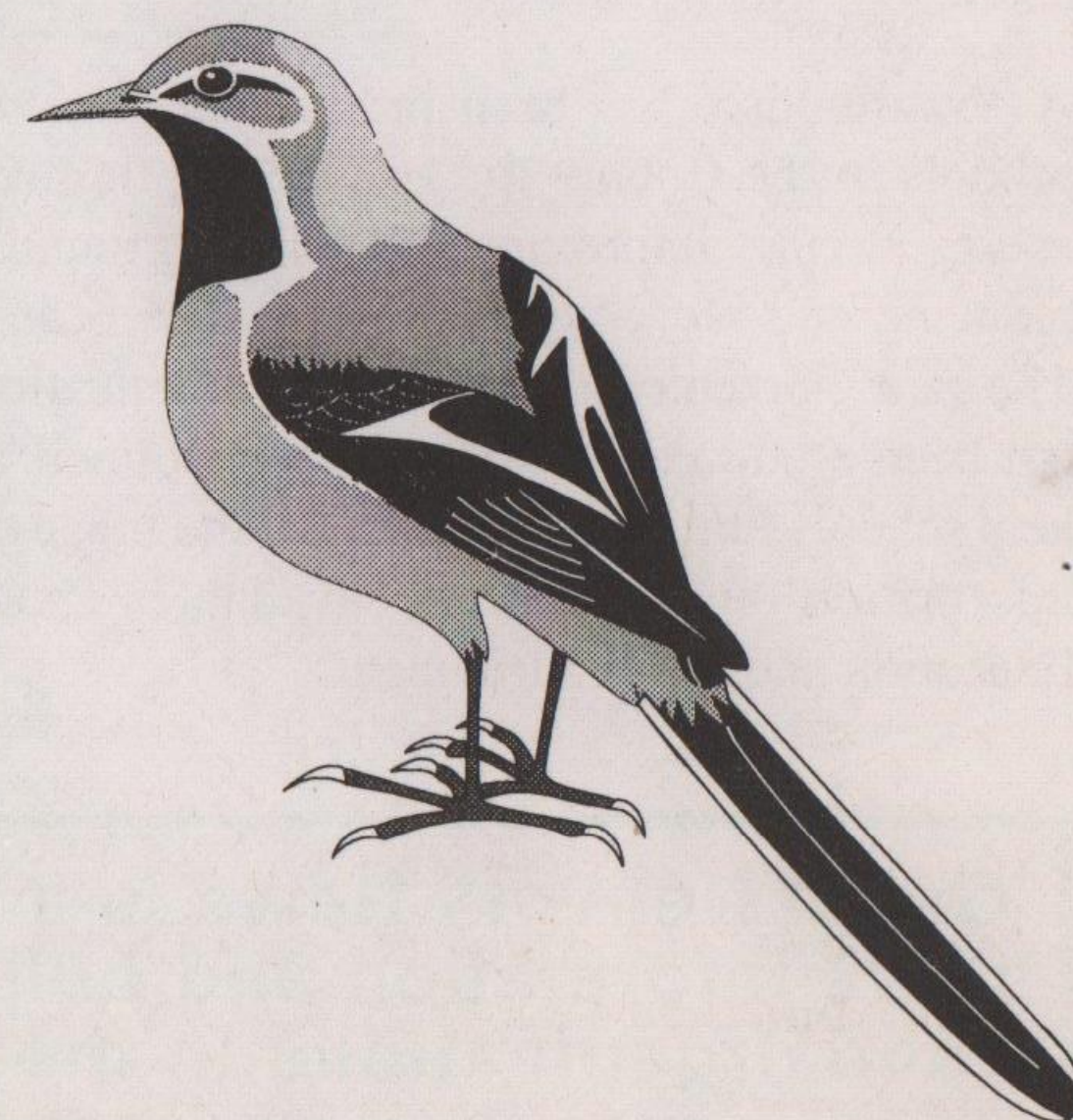
* Avoid putting out salty foods.

* Keep putting out water when it is freezing, and never add salt or antifreeze.

The RSPB have produced a free 32 page booklet packed with advice about feeding birds and a wealth of other methods of making gardens a sanctuary for wildlife.

'The Birds in Your Garden' is available from RSPB North West Regional Office, Westleigh Mews, Wakefield Road, Denby Dale, West Yorkshire HD8 8QD

(phone 01484 861148).



SHELL BOYCOTT

A Nottingham group is calling for change in Nigeria, where campaigners have linked the involvement of Shell in the country with ecological and human rights abuses - in Ogoni and other oil-producing areas. The group has been holding regular pickets at Shell garages since September, and is calling on local people to boycott Shell products, and to help with the pickets.

The hanging of writer and environmentalist Ken Saro-Wiwa by the Nigerian military dictatorship on November 10th - after campaigning on behalf of the Ogoni people - has received widespread publicity. In August this year Ken Sara-Wiwa stated 'I have one suggestion for those whose conscience has been disturbed by my story: boycott all Shell products. Picket Shell garages' (28.8.95).

Contact Jacqueline Evans, Box 5 (Shell), 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham (Tel 960 8363).

GNN UPDATE

The next feature section in Green Network News will be **'Being Green on a Low Income'** in the February issue. 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).

INSTANT INFORMATION

Do you need information about Transport Campaigns or Energy Conservation, or are you looking for a 'green' speaker? Green Network has a variety of free and up to date information about organisations involved in the environment in Greater Nottingham and South Notts. The database (of 160 organisations) can also be purchased on Computer Disc for £5.

Contact Adam Woodward on 941 7849.

BASIC RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

In June last year Oxfam launched The Oxfam Campaign: *Together For Rights, Together Against Poverty*, which is already gaining widespread support. The campaign aims to demonstrate what the poor are already doing to overcome poverty, and what governments could do if enough people demanded change. You can support the campaign by signing Oxfam's Global Charter for Basic Rights.

One of the Basic Rights in the Charter is the right to a Safe Environment - as pollution and environmental disaster threaten millions of the world's poorest people. For example Global Warming may create more deserts, and will certainly cause sea-levels to rise. Low-lying countries will suffer, but those in the North - like the Netherlands - can afford to protect themselves better than those in the South, like Bangladesh.

Action by rich industrialised countries should include -

- Demonstrating their commitment to the recommendations of the Rio Earth Summit Agenda 21, by providing the resources which they pledged,

- Committing themselves to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 30% from 1989 levels by 2005.

The Basic Rights Charter states that every person has a Basic Right to - Enough to Eat, Clean Water, a Livelihood, a Home, an Education, Health Care, a Safe Environment, Protection from Violence, Equality of Opportunity, and a Say in their Future.

If you would like to support the Oxfam Campaign, contact the Nottingham Oxfam Campaigns Office on 942 3892 for more information, or write to Oxfam at -

47 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham, NG7 5JA.

COMPANY CARS

NEW REPORT REVEALS THE IMPACT OF COMPANY CARS

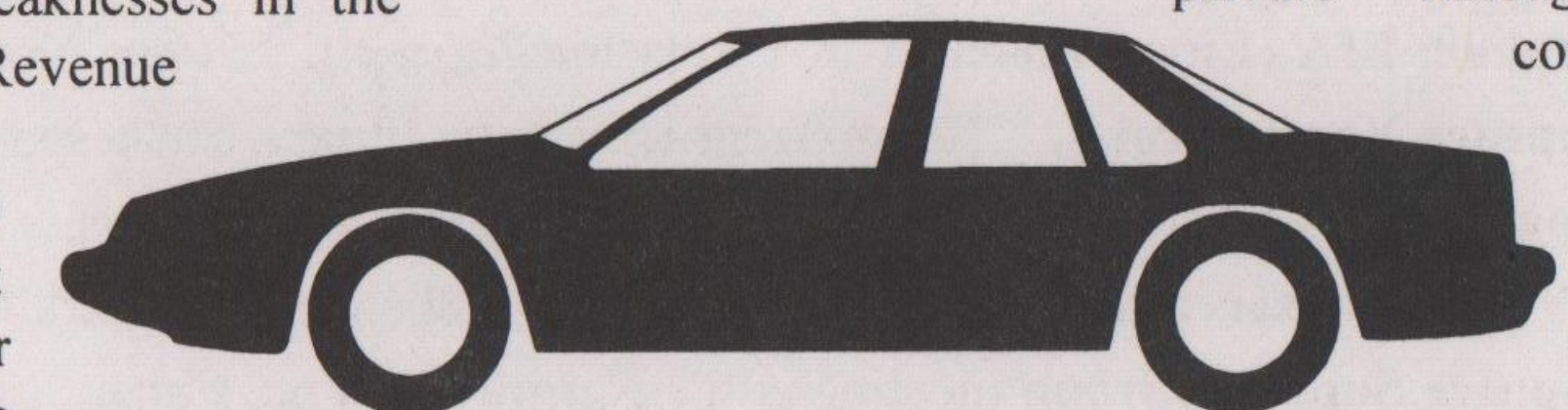
This article is based on extracts from Transport 2000's 'Company Cars' report -

The Treasury is losing more than £1 billion a year in taxes on company cars. Both providers and users of company cars are complicitly exploiting weaknesses in the Inland Revenue collection regime, to evade what they owe for providing the polluting four-wheeled perk.

attractive,

- blocks the Government's stated aim of curbing the growth in transport demand,

- threatens accident reduction targets: the extra private mileage driven by company-car users (compared to use by the average private car driver) is responsible for almost 12,000



fatal or injury accidents per year.

This is revealed for the first time by research by the Institute for European Environmental Policy, on behalf of public transport and environmental groups.

What you can do -

- Write to your MP, stressing the *revenue losses, air pollution, deaths and injuries* on the road, and *distortion* of housing, shopping and leisure patterns.

- Press your employer to make realistic 'cash-for-cars' offers, opt for *smaller company cars, abolish the perk of free fuel*, offer *imaginative packages of benefits* in return for surrendering car parking privileges - such as assistance with public transport or free bikes, and *set targets for reducing car mileage* by employees.

For more information contact Transport 2000, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EJ,

(Phone 0171 388 8386).

The report concludes that the widespread provision of company cars - linked to the generous taxation treatment company cars still receive -

- exacerbates urban congestion and undermines attempts to make public transport more