

# THE NOTTINGHAM GREEN CALENDAR

## JUNE 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.
- 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 Narrowboat Pub, Canal Street. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- Tue 4th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ Mike Poyzer on 01636 814324 after 6.30pm.
- 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.
- Mon 10th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Tue 11th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Wed 12th **European Funding** conference, at the University of Nottingham. Limited places at £50 for voluntary groups. ☎ 951 4883.
- Sat 15th **'Celebrating the Countryside'** event organised by CPRE, from 2.30pm-6pm at Thrumpton Hall near Nottingham.  
Entrance £4.00 adults, £2.00 children.
- Mon 17th **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.
- Wed 19th **Wollaton Natural History Society** meeting, from 7.30 at Wollaton Church Hall. All Welcome.
- Thur 20th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- Sun 23rd **Greenpeace Sponsored Walk** at Attenborough Nature Reserve, of 5 or 10 miles, from 11.30am.  
☎ Jane on 981 5855 or Callie on 960 7675.
- Mon 24th **Nott'm World Development Movement**. 7.30pm. International Community Centre, 61B Mansfield Rd. ☎ Nick Osmond, 960 7797.
- Tue 25th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Wed 26th **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.
- Sun 30th **'Waterworld'** exploration of lake wildlife, in Bestwood Country Park. 2pm-4pm.  
Meet at the Lakesite entrance, Moor Road, Bestwood Village, opposite the Spinney ☎ 967 0042.

## JULY 1996

- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, Thur, Sun's* **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities: a variety of practical tasks. ☎ 931 3316.
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- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

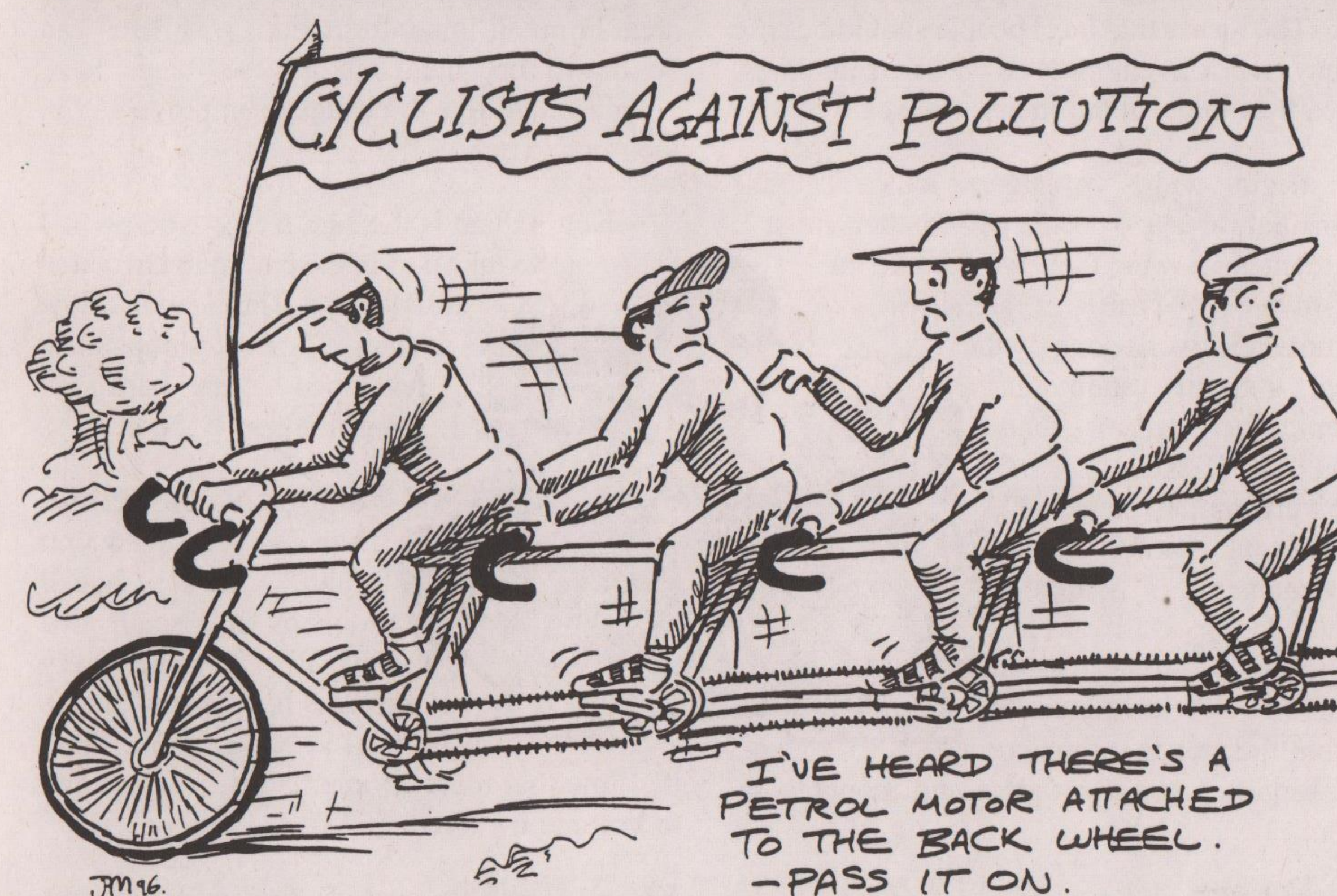
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# Green NETWORK News

GREATER NOTTINGHAM AND SOUTH NOTTS GREEN NETWORK

NUMBER 51 June 1996 FREE

Inside this issue: Environment Watch • Bird Crisis Alert • Food Miles



## OUT OF THIS WORLD!

The third in a national chain of ethical grocery stores opened in Beeston last month. Heralded by the Sunday Telegraph as 'the most radical experiment in retailing for 150 years', Out of this World is the first chain of stores to offer products which have been specifically chosen to help customers 'shop for a better world'.

Out of this World is the brainchild of Richard Adams, who is the former founder and managing director of Traidcraft and the magazine New Consumer. 'There are a large number of people in Britain who want to make positive, ethical choices about the products they buy', explained Richard Adams.

All of the products sold demonstrate a concern for one or more of five key issues - environmental sustainability, animal welfare, community development, fair trade and healthy eating. Food takes up the majority of shelf space, but there is also a wide selection of household goods and other products.

Product details are available around the shop, and on a user-friendly information system called 'Worldly Wise'. Customers simply bring products to the information point and swipe the bar-code across a scanner.

A screen then brings up everything that you need to know to make an informed decision about what to buy.

Out of this World is a consumer co-operative, which means that its customers are also its owners. Richard Adams is determined that customers, or members as they are known, have a real say in what products are stocked and help shape the company's policies on topical and local issues.

Membership will be just £5 for life, but a free three month trial membership is also available. More than just a store, Richard sees Out of this World as a focal point for the local community committed to ever higher social, environmental and ethical standards.

The Nottingham shop is situated on Villa Street in Beeston, immediately opposite Sainsbury's. There are excellent parking facilities, and it is easily accessible by public transport.

For more information visit the shop or contact Rachel Shackleton, Membership Services, Out of this World, 52 Elswick Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE4 6JH (phone 0191 272 1601).

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.

## IN BRIEF

- The RSPB has produced a free **Green Action for Wildlife** information pack, which sets out a series of simple steps that can be taken towards a greener lifestyle. Contact the RSPB on 01767 680551.

- The Greenpeace report **'Taking Back Our Stolen Future'** describes the impact of PVC plastics in the environment on the hormonal systems of humans and animals - including the feminisation of fish and a decline in human sperm count. Action needed for the introduction of PVC alternatives is also described. Contact Greenpeace on 0171 354 5100.

- **Direct Action News** is a free magazine about Environmental Action in the Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and South Yorkshire Coalfield area. For more information call 01909 723057.

- The Rainbow Centre has around 100 strong cardboard **file-storage boxes**, available free to local voluntary groups. Contact Patrick at the Rainbow Centre on 958 566.

## OFFICE SPACE

Rooms are now available to rent from the Rainbow Centre, with access to all of the centres facilities, including - photocopying, fax, Desk Top Publishing computers, laser printing, message and mailbox services.

Room 1 is charged at £15 per week (10' by 9'). Room 2 is charged at £25 per week (15' by 15'), and would be suitable for sharing for non-funded groups.

For further details contact Patrick, Tracy or Bill at the Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HW (phone 958 5666).

## FOE MEETINGS CHANGE

The timing and venue of Nottingham Friends of the Earth meetings have now changed.

The group now meets on the second and last Tuesday of each month, from 7.30-9.30pm at the Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street, Nottingham.



## ONE WORLD WEEK

The aim of One World Week is to enable people of all ages to learn more about world issues, to go to places and speak to people not normally in their 'orbit', and to celebrate and have fun! It is supported by a range of organisations, including Christian Aid and the World Development Movement.

This year's One World Week takes place from 20-27 October, with the theme of 'Living on the Edge'. This theme is in two parts -

\* *Living on the Knife Edge*, when any change could be disastrous; feeling ourselves to be among the marginalised and excluded from society - and yet also finding new ways of coping and growing.

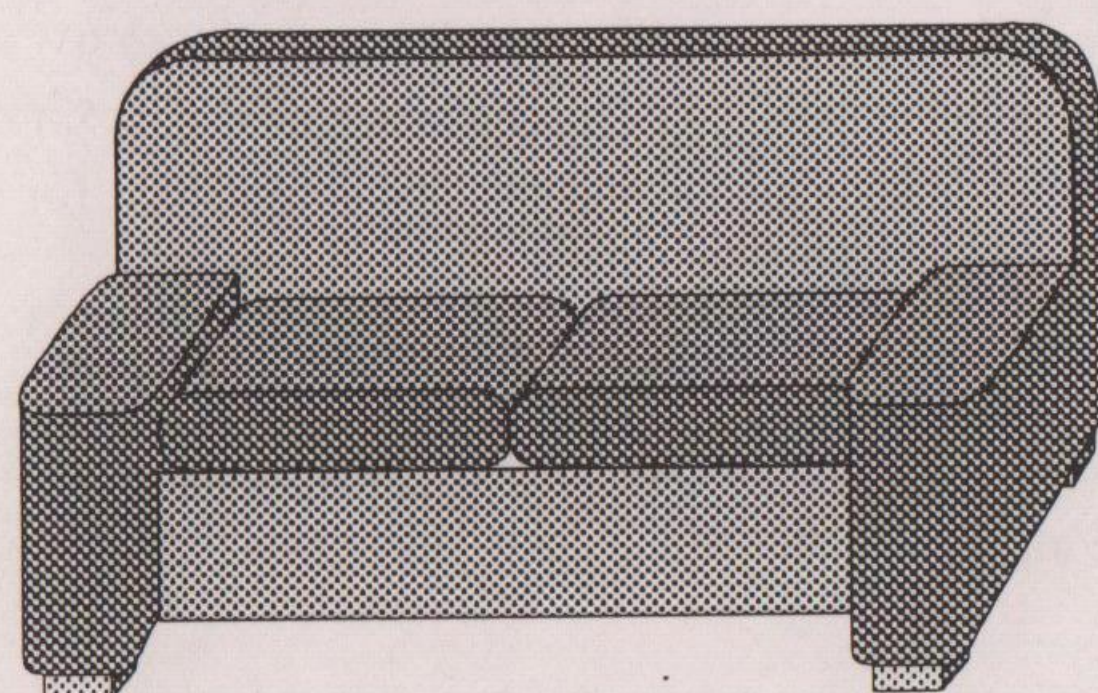
\* *Living on the Leading Edge*, of challenge and excitement; breaking out from familiar boundaries, finding creativity and empowerment.

In 1995 almost 500 towns, villages and communities took part in the week. An action kit is available at £4.50 for groups wishing to start planning for this year's One World Week.

Contact One World Week, PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT, or phone 0171 620 4444.

## FURNITURE SERVICE

Family First Furniture Service is a Nottingham based charity, which aims to help alleviate the hardship suffered by local families and carers. We do this by collecting donations of household furniture, electrical items, children's clothing and equipment, which are distributed to local families free of charge.



The service urgently requires donations of furniture and children's clothing and equipment, to enable us to meet the increasing need of local families - who require the basic essential items which many of us take for granted.

If you have any items that you wish to donate, please phone 950 7295 to arrange collection.

## ENVIRONMENT WATCH IN NOTTINGHAM

Environment Watch is a way of getting people involved in caring for the place in which they live. The idea is that local people should be able to have a positive impact on their surroundings, since they know about their own locality.

To begin with, volunteers look at their immediate area and decide what matters most to them and what they would like to improve. Their activities complement work done by the local authority and other voluntary organisations. Jean Hasketh of Wolverhampton stated 'I started off asking what Environment Watch could do for us...it has helped to give a concrete assurance within the area that they are not forgotten and their ideas and thoughts do count'.

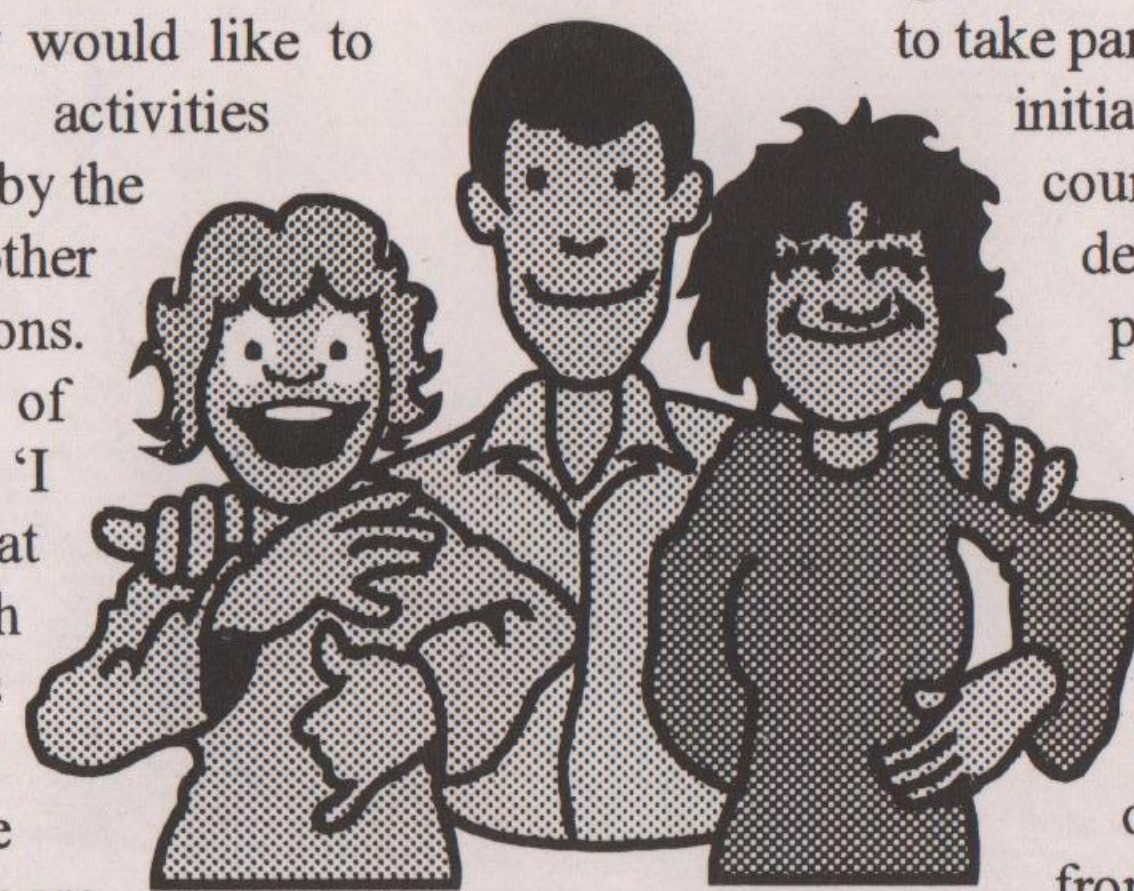
The Environment Watch process involves a 'mapping' of the patch. In some areas this has been seen as an opportunity to create a lasting project celebrating the creative and artistic

talents of local people. Then surveys are carried out, collecting the views of others living in the area. From all this information 'wish lists' can be drawn up, itemising all the things local people would like to change or improve within their own patch.

Nottingham is the eighth city to be invited to take part in the environment watch initiative. Throughout the country all of the groups have developed very different programmes of action.

So far in Nottingham we have concentrated on health and social problems in a small area and it's become very obvious how things change from street to street. We think it's time that more people had the opportunity to become involved.

For more details contact Jo Tucker, 6 Lime Tree Avenue, Cinderhill, Nottingham, NG8 6AB (phone 978 2868).



## FOOD MILES - MENU OF MADNESS

Food miles come in two varieties - the vast distance between the country where produce is grown and where it is eaten, and the mileage built up within countries as food is packaged, processed, stored, taken to distribution centres and then on to the shops.

Transportation, packaging and intensive agriculture all result in environmental damage, as air pollution builds up, causing health problems, acid rain and a build up of greenhouse gasses. The UK is on line to import more and more produce by air, which consumes 37 times more fuel than shipping. Road transport is also highly damaging, yet the distance foods are being transported within the UK has increased over 50% since 1978, whilst the amount transported increased by less than 5%.

Unsuitable crops are often grown for distant sales, causing ecological damage and depletion of resources such as soil and water. Farmers in the South (or Third World) are suffering, as our current demand for cheap, exotic food is encroaching on the food needs of people in countries which export food to us.

Theoretically the UK could be self-sufficient in food, if we were to adopt new patterns of consumption, particularly eating less meat. We would probably continue to import some foods out of season, but many of these could come from nearer at hand, such as Europe.

Packaging could also be reduced, as often it is only to prevent spoilage in transit - as food is transported over such long distances. If food miles were reduced, there would not be such a need for packaging.

Think globally and buy locally! To avoid food with lots of food miles, buy seasonal food whenever possible. For more detailed information concerning the food miles issue, please send a donation of £2.50 to the S.A.F.E. alliance (Sustainable Agriculture, Food and the Environment), 38 Ebury Street, London SW1 OLU.

Based on an article in the Nottingham Women's Environmental Network newsletter. A copy of the S.A.F.E. Action Pack on Food Miles is also available for reference at the Rainbow Centre (182 Mansfield Road).

## BIRD CRISIS ALERT

Eight leading conservation organisations have joined forces to review the plight of the UK's birds, and have issued a warning on 36 species which are giving serious cause for concern - of which 13 occur in Nottinghamshire. Many of the 36 species have halved in numbers in the last 25 years. The list contains a disturbingly high number of common but rapidly declining farmland birds, including the tree sparrow (down 89% over the past 25 years), and the skylark (down 58%).

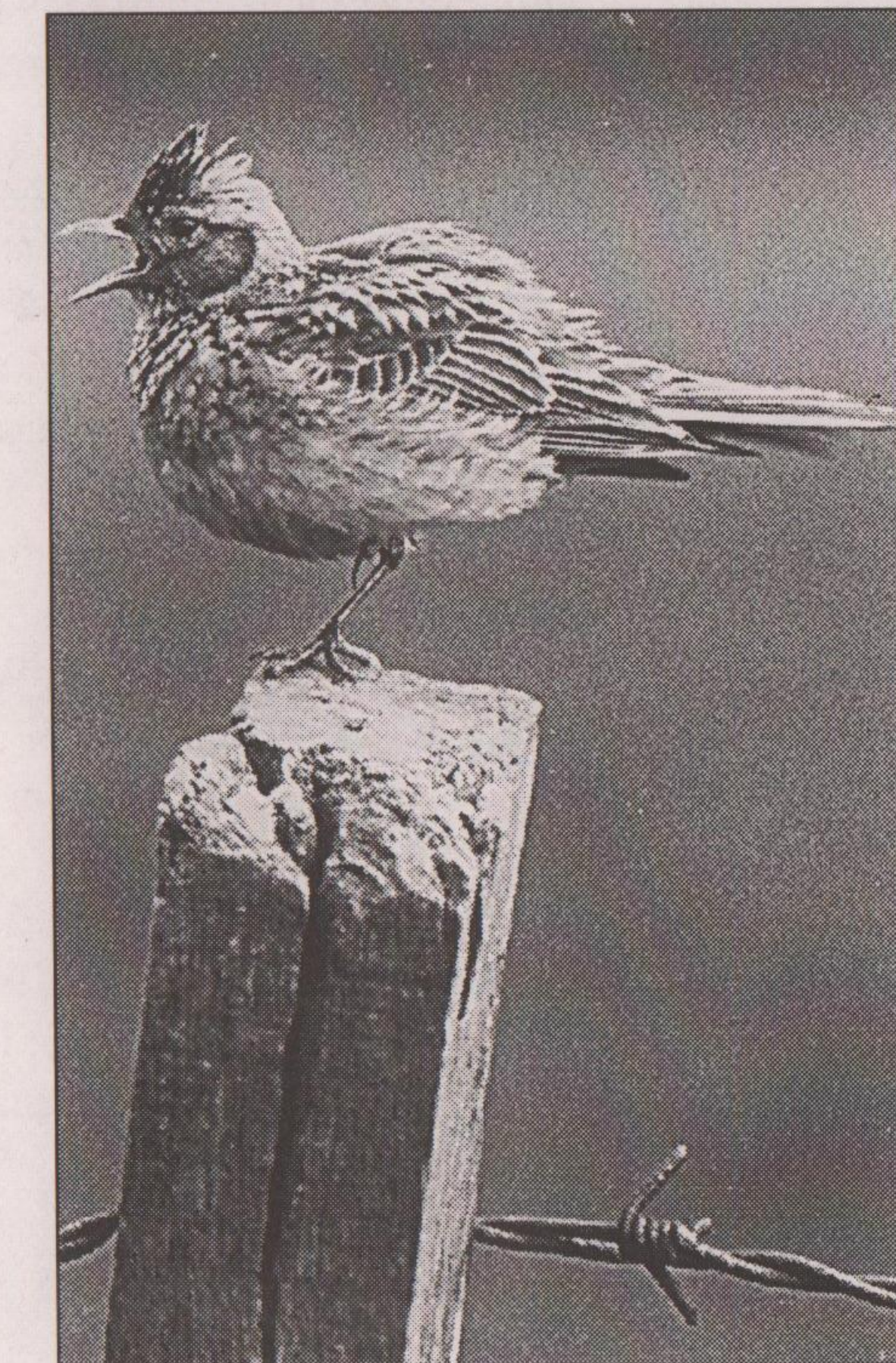
The species are listed in an up-to-date review, 'Birds of Conservation Concern in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man', prepared by the RSPB, the British Trust for Ornithology, Birdlife International, the Hawk and Owl Trust, the Game Conservancy Trust, The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, the Wildlife Trusts and the National Trust.

Changes in farming practices like the move from spring to winter sown cereals, the loss of hedgerows and use of pesticides have all contributed to the decline of farmland birds. Others have suffered declines or have very restricted distribution because of habitat loss - some are increasing with better protection and habitat conservation, but are still rare.

Dr Mark Avery, chair of the Birds of Conservation Concern Working Group, said 'The fate of bird species acts as a barometer of environmental health. There are now more than twice as many species which are rapidly declining than there were 10 years ago.'

Proposed action ranges from individual species

and habitat recovery programmes to large-scale changes in government policy. Resources must be directed to those species, habitats, sites and policies where most conservation can be achieved.



Skylarks are one of the species in rapid decline. Photo courtesy of the RSPB.

Copies of 'Birds of Conservation Concern in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man' are available free from: Birds of Conservation Concern, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL (phone 01767 680551).

## REAL WORLD

Launched on 3rd April, REAL WORLD is a coalition of 32 campaigning groups who believe that the problems they confront are caused by the UK Government's failure to acknowledge the costs of the modern global economy, halt the abuse of the environment and reform our out-dated democratic system.

The organisations include Friends of the Earth, Oxfam, Christian Aid, Charter 88, Women's Environment Network, Black Environment Network, and Transport 2000. Between them they claim 2 Million supporters.

This is not an attempt either to create a new political party or to influence the outcome of the next general election. Instead, the coalition has agreed on a 12 point agenda, which it is urging all of the major political parties to adopt. The REAL WORLD agenda includes -

- An integrated transport programme to reduce road traffic by 10% by 2010.

- A strategy to increase consumption of fresh and nutritious food.  
- Promoting an enforceable international code of conduct on arms sales.

One of the prime movers of REAL WORLD is Jonathan Porrit (a former general secretary of Friends of the Earth UK). He says 'every single REAL WORLD organisation believes that success in achieving its own goals depends in part on all of REAL WORLD's goals being addressed. For instance, there can be no long-term protection for the environment without reducing and finally eradicating poverty both here in the UK and internationally'.

The Politics of the Real World' is published by Earthscan at £6.99. It is also available from Friends of the Earth, 56-58 Alma Street, Luton, LU1 2PH (quote code L379) at £4.99, including p&p. Based on an article in the Nottingham Friends of the Earth newsletter.

## GNN UPDATE

I am sorry about the delay in production of this issue - caused by illness. If you requested an Environmental Directory, you should now have received your copy - apologies for the delay.

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; 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.

## CONSERVATION SUNDAY

'Car Free Sunday' over the last two years has challenged Christians to walk or cycle to Church. This year the Evangelical Alliance in partnership with A Rocha (Christians in Conservation), have announced a new event called Conservation Sunday, set for June 16th. It will continue to promote walking and cycling to Church, as well as other activities.

A Rocha are providing a pack of materials including a Creation Care booklet as part of the resources for Conservation Sunday. These include Sunday service materials as well as ideas for families and local Church action.

Based on an article in the Nottingham Churches Environment Network newsletter. For more information contact A Rocha on 01223 358830.

## INSTANT INFORMATION

Do you need information about Recycling or Pollution, or are you looking for 'green' volunteering opportunities? 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 over 160 organisations) can also be purchased on Computer Disc for £5.

Contact Adam Woodward on 941 7849.