Hull's environmental newsletter. Published by Hull Friends of the Earth

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August 2010 Issue 30

Diary Dates

Weds 11, 18 & 25 August

"Scrappy Do" at Boulevard Village hall (see Hull Transition article, page 3).

Weds 11 August & Wed 8 Sept, 7.00

Barn dancing workshops. Boulevard Village Hall. Free.

Tues 7 Sept, 7.30

HFoE meeting: Recycling Unlimited café, 151 Newland Avenue.

BOOKING STALLS FOR GREEN FAIR STARTS

(Details from Hilary, back page)

Sat 11 Sept

FoE National Conference. Details FoE website.

Thurs 9- Sun 12 Sept

Heritage Open Days. Lots of events; brochures from libraries etc.

Fri 17 Sept, 7.00

Barn Dance at Boulevard Village Hall. Bring bottle if wish. For details, contact Hull Transition (see page 3).

Sat 18 Sept, noon onwards

Hessle Road Pram Race; Hull Transition and HFoE stalls on Massey St/St George's Road playing fields.

Sun 19 Sept, 2-4

Barbecue on Hull FoE wildlife allotment, Newland Ave (Manvers Street entrance). Bring veggie food and drink to share.

Wed 22 Sept

Permaculture Workshop at Quaker Meeting House, Bean Street. For details, contact under Hull Transition (page 3).

Sat 2 Oct, 11-1

Wildflower planting in Sculcoates cemetery

Tues 5 Oct, 7.30

HFoE meeting: Recycling Unlimited café, 151 Newland Avenue.

Tues 2 Nov, 7.30

HFoE meeting: Recycling Unlimited café, 151 Newland Avenue.

Sat 20 Nov

Green Fair, Spring Bank Community Centre. Stalls set up from 10am, open to public from 11am. **Offers of help wanted**; contact Hilary or Sue (back page) as soon as possible.

Sun 28 Nov, 1-2

Tree planting, Barmston Drain

The Dong Energy consultation and our response

In the last issue of ECO, we looked at agrofuels, and the way in which the rush to produce these alternatives to fossil fuels is causing social and environmental problems world wide.

Mention was made of the consultation currently being carried out by Dong Energy prior to submitting a planning application to build a wood-burning power station next to Queen Elizabeth Dock. This plant (called the Humber Renewables Project) would generate 300MW of electricity, enough power to meet the needs of 500,000 homes.

The proposal is being dealt with under the new planning process for dealing with major applications. The consultation stage started in May, with the report on the consultation expected to be produced by Dong in August.

Hull FoE invited Dong's Consultation Manager, Ian Crummack, to their June meeting. In response to a brief outline of the proposals, members asked many questions around the source and sustainability of raw materials and how this would be verified, their transport to the site, the effect of constructing a deep water port, pollution, disposal of ash, use of the heat generated and effect of discharging heated water into the Humber.

Following the meeting Sue and Ian Jolliffe undertook the difficult task of drawing together members' views into a formal submission. Hull FoE has submitted its concern on four

grounds (the following is adapted from our submission):

Feedstock Source, Sustainability and Security of Supply

DONG say the main fuel source would be 'clean' (ie not recycled) wood pellets, and/ or possibly elephant grass (Miscanthus). They say that the quantities required would be between 1.3-1.9m tons pa and this wood would have to be imported from Southern USA, Canada, Baltic States or Russia. (For comparison, the entire annual production of the UK is 1.5m tons).

Hull FoE are concerned that with pressure on world timber supplies (which is likely to increase as more wood burning biomass power is used), fuelling the power station would involve cutting huge quantities of trees from planted

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ECO CHit CHat

Hull FoE's energies have been focussed recently on the Dong Energy proposed biomass power station; (see leading article, page 1)



Hull Carnival, Princes Avenue Fair, Cottingham Day, and Avenues Open Gardens are all recent events where Hull Transition and Hull FoE had stalls. Windpower was demonstrated at the Carnival when the gazebo took off and blew across the street! Come and join us at the **Hessle Road Pram Race** on Saturday 18 September at Newington Park on Massey Street. Offers to help on stalls are always appreciated.

Green Fair

I'm already getting requests from groups for stalls at the next Green Fair. Well, we should be having one on Saturday 20 November at Spring Bank Community Centre, though I won't be starting to take stall bookings until September.

However, can I put out a plea for some committed volunteers to help in the kitchen? People come forward on the day to help, and of course we are grateful, but it makes the kitchen organiser's job very difficult if she doesn't know how many helpers she is going to get, when they will be available and what they like doing. We need plenty of people so that we can form a rota and make sure everyone gets time off to look round the stalls and, of course, have their own lunch.

So whether you are a 'regular' or fancy having a go for the first time, please get in touch as soon as possible with Diana Sandy on 01482 844102 or Hilary (details on back page).

West Fest - new date

The community festival in West Park Hull is now on **Saturday 14 August**, not 21 August as previously advertised. Live bands, comedy acts, dancing, sports, and arts and crafts will feature.

Do you cycle?

The University of East London is undertaking a sociology research project on cycling cultures, and has chosen to

study Hull and three other English areas with relatively high cycling levels. They want to interview you about your past and present experiences of cycling.

Contact Rachel Aldred or Katrina Jungnickel on R.E.Aldred@uel.ac.uk or K.E.Jungnickel@uel. ac.uk or phone 020 8223 4289 or 07768 682753. More on www.cyclingcultures.org.uk

Minsters' Rail Campaign

You've probably heard about the campaign to re-establish the train link between Hull, Beverley and York via Market Weighton. A feasibility study has concluded that re-opening the line would be possible, affordable and would improve the environment and economy of the area.

More details on www.minstersrail.org.uk. Membership of the campaign is £5; Life Membership £50.

Scarborough Line

'Coastlines', the free magazine of the Yorkshire Coast Community Rail Partnership, tells me that the Hull to Scarborough line has seen seven years of continuous passenger growth. Improvements to the timetable introduced recently include more trains in late afternoon and early evening and a full Sunday service all year round. A Yorkshire Coast day Ranger ticket for £15 enables you to hop on and off wherever you like.

In Britain more people are now travelling by train than at any time since the Second World War.

A more sustainable Hull

Arc, the architecture centre for Hull and the Humber Region, is hosting *a series of 6 lectures and discussions* asking 'How can Hull move forward as a sustainable city?' More details on www.arc-online.co.uk or 01482 280033.

Community green space

Are you interested in getting national recognition for your community green space?

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, is promoting the Green Pennant Award to community groups that manage green spaces in England and Wales. The Green Pennant Award is a national award scheme that recognises high quality green space in England and Wales that are managed by voluntary and community groups.

Further information is available from Paul Appleton, North Yorkshire & Humber Area Manager, BTCV, on 01904 644300

If you manage a community greenspace in Hull or East Riding, ECO would love to hear how you are getting on.

Hilary Byers

Sue Pam: You came to our Hull FoE meeting in May but unfortunately we have lost your contact details. We'd love to see you again and very much hope someone will draw your attention to this and you get in touch with Hilary or Sue (details back page).

Hull Transition

Meet 2nd Monday of each month at The Eagle, Coltman Street, 7.30. Contact 07816 141169, email: lausannet@yahoo.co.uk

Beverley FoE

Meet 3rd Thursday each month at White Horse (Nellies) Beverley, 7.30.

Email: shan@voice-international.net

Resource-fuel

The following appeared in **Resource** magazine July-August 2010:

Power up (page 4)

alternative "The centre for technology (CAT) has published a "fully integrated solution to climate change". The report "zerocarbonbritain 2030", examines how we can meet our electricity and heating requirements, while emissions, decreasing through "powering down" demand through behavioral change, and "powering up" through the use of renewable technology. Covering energy, transport, land use, the built environment and industry, each chapter was written with input from policy makers, scientists, academics, industry and NGOs.

Alternative Fuel (page 5)

INEOS Bio has been awarded a £7.3m grant from One North East and DECC to build Europe's first waste to bioethanol plant in the Tees Valley. The installation aims to use 100,000 tonnes of biodegradable household and industrial waste to generate 30 million litres of transport fuels and more than three megawatts of electricity a year. Thermochemical and biochemical technologies are combined in the process, at the heart of which is an anaerobic fermentation step, in which bacteria convert gases from the biomass into bioethanol. The plant should be completed by 2012.

Ian Jolliffe

Hull Transition news



Transition Hull continues to meet regularly (open meeting 2nd Monday of the month, 7.30 at the Eagle on Anlaby Road).

As Hull ECO readers will know, Transition is a community-based movement to explore how we can all become more resilient in the face of climate change and dwindling oil supplies. We became an official Transition Initiative, affiliated to the national Transition network, last year. We've been successful this year in obtaining further grant funding from HCC St Andrews Ward and a grant from the Hessle Road Pram Race Committee. This has been useful to fund public liability insurance to cover all our activities, and to assist with our forthcoming events.

Scrappy Do workshops

We are running three *Scrappy Do* workshops for families during the school holidays, using scrap material to engage children in play and creative processes.

Dates are Wed 11 August, Wed 18 August and Wed 25 August, all at the Boulevard Village Hall from 10.30 to 1.00.

Children must be accompanied by an adult, 50p per child, light refreshments will be available but if coming for the duration please feel free to bring a picnic lunch.

Barn Dance

We will be holding a Barn Dance in September and we are running sessions during August to teach ourselves the steps. These will be in the evening and there will be refreshments. Dates are yet to be fixed, but contact Lausanne on the number below for further information.

Hessle Road Pram Race

Saturday 18 September is the day of the Hessle Road Pram Race, and Transition Hull will be having a stall, and parading the amazing Dragon which Scrappy Do youngsters created for the Hull Carnival in May.

See the pictures of the Dragon taken at Hull Carnival at http://www.transitionhull.blogspot.com/

Film programme

We will be resuming a programme of Films in the Autumn, on the theme of responses to peak oil and climate change. We have previously shown a number of such films, had some good discussions about them and been inspired by them.

If you have read about a film you think is relevant and would like to see, please contact us to see if we can arrange it.

Open meetings

We plan to have further Speakers at our open meetings, after talks earlier this year were well received. These included an eye-opening one on Air Ships as a transport option for the future, an exciting one on Transition Llambed (based in Lampeter, Ceredigion) and a very informative one on Organic Gardening.

If you have suggestions for interesting speakers for the autumn, please get in touch.

Permaculture Workshop

On Wednesday 22 September, there will be a one day Workshop organised by the Permaculture Association in conjunction with the Co-op. It is targeted at the East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire region, and will be held in Hull at the Quaker Meeting Place on Bean Street.

Transition Hull are involved in arranging the event and publicising it, and we hope to attract participants from other Transition initiatives in the region.

For more details about any of the above, or to make suggestions for future films or speakers, please phone Lausanne on 07816141169.

Jenny Parsons

East Riding Council and carbon emissions

Beverley FOE have been tackling East Riding Council about carbon emissions, and Chris Upton has sent the following letter to the press:

Dear Editor,

I was very pleased to read that ERYC are introducing an initiative to cut its own carbon emissions by 34% by 2020.

While this is to be welcomed it still falls short of other councils such as Harrogate, York, Leeds and many others across the country who have pledged to cut theirs by 40% and with Birmingham aiming for a 60% reduction.

Beverley Friends of the Earth have already collected over a hundred postcards signed by constituents which we hope to deliver to councillors and the council leader in the Autumn asking them to sign up to this higher pledge as part of a national FoE campaign, "Get Serious About CO2".

The Council itself has highlighted schools and public buildings as targets for improvement, many of which are overheated and under insulated. I am sure that there are many other areas where both emissions and money can be saved and even new jobs created with the newer technologies.

For instance councils can get paid to generate green energy by adopting Feed in Tariffs (FITs) which came in on 1 April 2010. Under this scheme energy suppliers make regular payments to communities and households who generate their own electricity from renewable sources. Grants and loans are available and as councils could do this on a larger scale than individuals it would save even more money and have a greater impact on reducing emissions.

ERYC will be having an online consultation in August and I urge as many people as possible to log on to www.eastriding.gov.uk and click on the 'Have Your Say' section and put forward their ideas on how to achieve the highest targets—not just for the environment but for the Council Tax budget for years to come.

Best wishes from

Chris Upton

A taste of Green Ginger

'd passed the Green Ginger vegetarian café on Bowlalley Lane in Hull's Old Town a few times and meant to drop in, so when two friends and I were on our way to visit the museums it seemed a good place to stop for lunch.

I'm glad we arrived early; with only a few tables it quickly fills up. And it meant we got the pick of the eight hot dishes on offer, each served with three salad helpings for £5.50. I had the chickpea curry and my friends the potatoes gratin dauphinois and the vegetable lasagne. 'Delicious', 'Good and hot' and 'Wish we had somewhere like this in York' were among the comments. Other items on the menu were various sandwiches and wraps, and fresh juices, including ginger, of course. They can do takeaways too.

Owner John Peters and chef Matt Cunnah had time to chat before the rush started. The distinctive décor is by Pinky. They are hoping soon to feature cakes by Freddie of Four Fields Oak, whose stall in the farmers' market in King Edward Street is very popular, I'm told.

Green Ginger is open 11am to 4pm every day except Sundays. They will also open for private bookings in the evening for parties of up to 25, when the choice of menu is yours. They are not licensed, so bring your own wine.

Hilary Byers



Pregnant and non-pregnant students are very welcome

Surestart Children's Centre Marvell House Cranbourne Street Hull

Thursdays 6-7.30 pm

Cost: £4 (£3 conc.)

To book a place, or for further information please call Jude on 01482 444455, or email Jude@ukorigins.co.uk

Dong Energy consultation
Continued from page 1

forests. With such huge amounts required, it doesn't seem realistic that a significant proportion could be sourced from waste wood from forest thinnings etc.

There is evidence that the parts of the world mentioned above are already planting on a vast scale to meet the rapidly expanding market for timber for biomass, and that it is resulting in such pressure for land that virgin forests are being cut down (with obvious consequences for biodiversity); also that land currently used for growing food is being planted for forest.

For example, we understand that in the south eastern USA highly biodiverse forests have already been converted to monocultures to serve the pulp industry. Government policy there has sparked proposals for over a hundred biomass or biofuel facilities in the past few years. If the southern USA plantations shift to supply USA and EU biomass demand, South America and other regions will be under even more pressure to fell virgin forest to fill the vacuum for pulp and paper.

There is new research to suggest that cutting down trees to be used in bioenergy actually makes no sense for tackling climate change, as it takes at least 30 years for a tree to absorb the equivalent amount of carbon released by cutting down and burning wood for fuel, when we urgently need to reduce emissions in the next 10 years.

We would also like to understand DONG's position on Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) derived feedstock. There have been articles recently using a GMO eucalyptus modified to make it more tolerant to UK and northern EU climates. In many parts of the world use of GMO is poorly controlled and our concern is that gene transfer to naturally occurring plants or other crops could occur. Our concern is that with feedstock source undefined, a stringent level of control and traceability would be required to ensure unintentional release does not occur.

Efficiency

The proposed power station will not use the heat produced to provide combined heat and power (CHP). This means that the efficiency of fuel use will be low and out of step with expectations of government bodies.

The UK Government now requires that any proposals for new power projects must be accompanied by an assessment of the potential for CHP. There is no indication in the proposal documents that Dong have done this. It is difficult, if not impossible in some cases, to retro-fit a CHP system.

Having to ship massive quantities of wood huge distances can hardly be considered green or sustainable.

In addition, the wood pellet production process uses a significant amount of energy. How this affects the overall energy balance is not clear.

Effects of water discharge into and intake from the Humber

Clearly sucking in large quantities of water and expelling water at a raised temperature will have effects, the details of which are not clear for this particular proposal.

Deep water channel and dock

How will silting up or filling in of the dock be prevented? Will regular dredging be required and how will this affect organisms living in the Humber and erosion of the river bank and coastline?

Overall, although biomass has a place in providing a renewable energy source, the concerns raised above and the scale of this unit seem to negate the environmental benefits.

We realise there may be support locally for this application from organisations which look to attract jobs to the area, but we suggest that the implications for people and the environment are not fully considered and as such it should not go ahead.

References:

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/32595.aspx?style=print accessed 27/6/10

"Biomass: Carbon Sink or Carbon Sinner", Environment Agency (April 2009)

Environmental scoping report DONG Energy April 2010

Report to Technical consultees DONG Energy April 2010

To find out more about Dong's proposals and make your views known, **visit** http://www.humberrenewables.co.uk

e m a i l : h u m b e r r e n e w a b l e s @ dongenergy.co.uk

Freephone:0800 023 4497;

Write to: Freepost, Humber Renewables.

Hilary Byers

Good grub!

New Scientist, 31 July 2010, has a letter on cancer and excess consumption of protein and also one on intensive protein production and how this changes the nature of the protein produced. There is also an item on food waste: 4% of all energy consumed in the US is used in the production of the at least 25% of food that is wasted (p4). Reading these together, suggests that eating less but better protein would tend to improve health (less cancer, more omega 3 fatty acids), and also save energy and thus reduce pollution and therefore global warming. This can be achieved partly by free range husbandry, like it used to be, to give exercise and access to appropriate fresh plant material thus developing the fast acting dark muscle fibre which is rich in omega-3 fatty acids. (If you don't eat meat you could acquire

more omega-3 by eating purslane. Hens

love it, given a chance, and the omega-3 enriches the eggs.)

In the Observer, p16, on Sunday 1 August 2010, an article points out that most people eat insects. I have eaten insects, in Leeds, 1958; fried grubs I think they were. Tasted like Marmite. They do have a high protein, vitamins and minerals content. Breeding commonly eaten insects: locusts, crickets, meal worms, emits 90% less methane than livestock, 99.7% less nitrous oxide and much less ammonia than pig and poultry farming. Cold-blooded insects convert plants into protein efficiently and health risks are lower. We eat shrimps so why not insects? Grubs don't even have tough crispy parts. In my quest to save the eco system and my health I'll be looking out for witchetty grub pâté and termite bread.

Alan Worsley

Wildlife Notes

I dream of groups of diligent workers making their way around the site. "Look, the birdsfoot-trefoil has set seed. I'll take some and sow them in modules ready for a future planting session. That bed needs digging over before those plants have time to spread their seeds. I'll get on with it." Back to the real world. "I can't do that. We need a bulldozer."

Even so, progress is slowly being made in Sculcoates Cemetery. Wildflowers planted in April 2009 have made a real impact this summer. The woodland paths consisting of trodden earth, crushed twigs and leaves have a natural feel and open up the site, giving better access to the further parts.

The dry start to the year has made hard work ensuring new plants survive; an autumn planting certainly is much easier with less after-care.

Hay making time is here again. The gentle swish of the scythe through the stiff, dry stalks, neatly heaped up hay in a row, a gentle breeze and a warm sun. It's alright in small doses! The hay goes for mulching the

woodland paths and with the action of feet soon produces a comfortable surface. Visitors can be useful.

A visitor from years ago is viewable on YouTube

(Larkin, Down Cemetery Road, part III), which shows the poet wandering around the Sculcoates area. This film

dated 1964 shows youngsters in the cemetery, so if you were about at the time, you never know. A film crew from Endeavour School were busy recently in the same area. It's good to see people making use of the site.

Another **planting session** is planned for Saturday, 2 Oct 2010, from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the cemetery. The aim is to plant more of the herbaceous border and add some more wildflower plugs.

Tree planting on Barmston Drain is planned for Sunday, 28 Nov 2010, from 1.00 to 2.00 pm.

So come along and join in or just watch.

David Longthorn

A Yorkshire biomass producer is to start planting eucalyptus. Is it the next wonder-fuel?

Goole firm, Silvigen boasts one of the largest wood processing and pelleting plants in the UK. Now, the firm is establishing eucalyptus forests across the UK. Once harvested this material will be turned into biomass fuel.

Simon Prince, chief executive of Silvigen, said: "We started life working with Drax, helping them to develop their biomass business, We now have one part of the business taking clean recycled wood and processing it into pellets, and another part of it growing eucalyptus across the UK."

Speaking about the benefits of sourcing biomass fuel from eucalyptus, Prince said: "Planted forests will grow to around 25 metres tall. with a 30cm diameter trunk, in just eight years, so it is fantastically fast. "The beauty of it is that it is planted on Brownfield sites, such as disused coal tips and industrial sites, as opposed prime agricultural land. We are currently involved in a trial with the Forestry Commission to establish forests across the UK." He added: "Another big benefit is that this is locally grown and sourced - it is not

shipped from Estonia, Canada or other parts of the world, so it is sustainable".

Hull FoE members see thing differently.

Barry Robinson says:

"Growing eucalyptus trees on a large scale here in East Yorkshire and elsewhere in the UK, for wood pellets to be burned as biomass for renewable energy, seems to me to be the height of folly.

Eucalyptus is not native to the UK. I believe it has no wildlife value; no biodiversity value; the Forestry Commission is supposed to be replacing conifers by native species; there is risk of introducing non-native pests which will attack other species and be difficult to eradicate (think Dutch elm disease and Japanese knotweed); the talk about it being advantageous in that it can be grown on derelict mining sites etc is fatuous. Why can't we regenerate those sites as, say, heath land? This company is flying a dangerous kite."

Jon Capel says:

"With the failure in Yorkshire to get willow/poplar taken up as Biofuel crops in the 1980's/1990's, I really cannot see that the case for Eucalyptus (gum trees) can be made for this area. It was tried in a very small pilot plot in the East Riding, about 1985, but surprisingly failed to establish on dry, poorish farmland soils over chalk and sandstone. Maybe they've now got a 'super' version (not GM here yet, surely!) It could be imported chips—the nearest source is southern probably Europe/Asia Minor, although maybe not in the quantities that are being talked about. It is good generally on old quarry sites and montane screes, (cf Madiera, Turkey) as long as it gets some water. It is drought-tolerant once established, but may need irrigating post-planting to get it to grow fast enough for it to be a viable crop. All in all, it's a bit dubious, and certainly does nothing to turn the Dong project into a sustainable one."

http://www.humberbusiness.com/ news/Biomass-fuel-supplier-leads-waybranching-recycled-wood-eucalyptus/ article-2358706-detail/article.html

Guerrilla gardening is happening in Hull

Sources close to the ground report that guerrilla gardening is happening in Hull.

Each person can do as much or as little as they wish. There are different ideas and ways of approaching the gardening.



Harriet Linfoot tells us: "Although Hull Guerrilla Gardening Group is just in its embryo stages, this type of gardening in Hull certainly isn't. What the group is doing however, is pulling all these people together for a bigger impact and to encourage more people to get involved.

Guerrilla gardening is gardening on another person's land without permission. It encompasses a very diverse range of people and motivations, from the enthusiastic gardener who spills over their legal boundaries to the highly political gardener who seeks to provoke change through direct action.

You could throw poppy seeds over a fence, plant bulbs, or completely overhaul an area. The impact can be short term ie pansies to brighten up a stalled development site or long term by tidying up and planting a community area.

So far Hull guerrilla gardening has had a sunflower planting day and a seed bomb making session. We are bringing lupins on for planting out in late summer/early autumn."

For more information search on facebook for 'Hull Guerrilla Gardening' or email hullguerrilla@yahoo.co.uk

MARINET news

MARINET, with other maritime interests, has been identifying suitable areas for Marine Conservation Zones. Jon Capel attended a recent the meeting looking at potential areas in the North Sea:

"We were given a note of our Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) targets, and big folios, each with many maps showing habitat distributions, species foci, shipping lanes, oil and gas pipeline routes, offshore energy production locations, dredging licences, fishing areas (both static eg crab pots, and mobile eg trawling methods—in fact just about every benefit and constraint that is out there in the North Sea. We immediately

set to work in three separate groups to select areas for conservation—it takes a long time to find areas which are not totally and controversially sited on top of a dredging licence! During lunch, the three groups' interim proposals were plotted on a master map.

After lunch the three groups' combined report-back was discussed and refined into the region's first iteration of MCZ proposals. These will be further refined over the next two or three meetings (the next are in August and September), and also be screened by the national scientific panel. The proposals will then be submitted by June next year, in

Plenty more fish in the sea? Not.

Defra has recently claimed in newspaper articles that "significant improvements" have been made in fish stocks. Marine campaigning organisation MARINET has found that Defra's claims are not supported by scientific data.

David Levy, MARINET chair says:

"The reality is that UK fish stocks are and remain in serious decline, and the claims that there have been "significant improvements" is window-dressing and is confined to a limited number of instances. If the decline in UK and NE Atlantic fish stocks continues, then the prospect is clear : we will have lost most commercial fish stocks within 10 years because these stocks will be fished-out and extinct. This prospect which now faces our seas in the NE Atlantic is not scaremongering. It is what has already happened in the NW Atlantic with the fish stocks off Canada and the USA. The cod fishery there, once the largest in the world, is now extinct. There has been a moratorium on fishing there for 10 years, but the fish have not returned. This is because the original ecosystem has collapsed and refuses to rebuild itself due to the damage caused to it by relentless over-fishing. This is what our Common Fisheries Policy Reform Campaign is all about. We must secure a reform of the CFP which brings our NE Atlantic commercial fish stocks back to historic levels and sets up a new management regime which ensures that the re-building of these stocks is maintained in the future."

MARINET have launched an appeal for funds to support their CFP Reform Campaign. Cheques should be made payable to MARINET, and send to Marinet Co-ordinator, Allington House, Allington, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN14 6LN.

Hilary Byers

concert with the proposals from other British regions, to the government for ratification. Sounds like a lot of hard work (it is!), but when done, there is a definite feeling of involvement, and satisfaction that you've done your bit."

Jon Capel

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