



Hull EC



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

www.hfoe.org.uk

October 2016 Issue 55

DIARY DATES

Sun 16 & Sun 23 October

Last of the harvest days at Pickering Road Community Orchard

Sat 22 October

Demo at Drax. See inside p7

Tues 1 November 7pm

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café, Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP



Sat 12 November

Green Fair, 10.30-3 at Kingston Youth Centre, Beverley Road, Hull

Tues 6 December 7pm

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café, Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

Tues 3 January 2017 7pm

Next ECO deadline.

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café, Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

In this issue

Diary Dates	1
Green Fair	1
ECO ChitChat	2
Air pollution from shipping	3
Tesco Bags of Help	3
Hessle foreshore clean-up	5
Bees and Brexit	6
Marinet's view on Brexit	7
Drax & biomass burning	7
Britain's parks are at risk	8
Testing the air (part 2)	8
Transition and permaculture Hull	9
- Bakersville Newand allotments	9
- Green Garden, Beverley	10
- Down to Earth Herb Garden	10
TTIP has failed!	11
Fossil-free Yorkshire	11
Environmental protection post-Brexit	11
Membership form & contact info	12



ROLL UP!

ROLL UP! FOR THE

Green Fair!

Saturday 12 November 2016

Stalls arrive 9.30am, open to public 10.30 am to 3 pm

ADMISSION FREE

At the Kingston Youth Centre on Beverley Road, HU3 1YE

This is near the 'town' end of Beverley Road, opposite Trafalgar Street church and about 10 minutes walk from the station. Lots of buses will drop you near here.

If you usually come to the Green Fair you'll know it's a great place to find out what's going on with our local environmental campaigns and open spaces, meet old friends, make new ones, and buy Christmas presents with a difference. And, of course have a great veggie or vegan lunch at the Green Café run by Timebank.

This year, though, we've got much more.

- ▶ Talented artists from '**Ground**', a great new arts centre a few doors up from the Kingston YC, will be doing...well, arty things!
- ▶ And there will be a wider range of **musicians**, as well as our much loved folkies.
- ▶ And we are hoping to have some **film 'shorts'** of **green** issues to show. I guarantee you will find out more than you knew about bees and about preventing flooding.
- ▶ We really hope the weather is good, because the Youth group have made a **brilliant garden** in the grounds with lots of wildlife-friendly features. And there is also the **City Farm** here, and a '**Pocket Park**', all run by Recycling Unlimited. *How do they manage to pack so much into one site?*

So we are really looking forward to seeing you all. If you are wanting a stall then **book soon** because they are going fast; £15 for a table; contact Hilary on hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk or 01482 445747.



Kingston Youth Centre

PHOTO: Hilary Byers

ECO Chit Chat

Harvest Festival



Congratulations to everyone who organised the great Harvest Festival on Saturday 1 October. People had no trouble finding us on Princes Dock Side and were rewarded with some delicious veggie and vegan dishes cooked by Timebank, with some help from Goodwin trainees. Thanks to all the allotment holders and gardeners who contributed lots of lovely veg. Princes

Arti and Ester get ready to chop vegetables at the Harvest Festival

Quay helped in lots of ways and their balcony proved to be an excellent stage for the musicians who kept us all entertained. Work has now finished on the Wilson Bed until next spring.

Restoring Humberhead Peatlands

Funny how I now seem to keep noticing projects which are funded by the EU. An example is the Life+EU grant of £2.3m to Natural England to help restore the Humberhead Peatlands National Nature reserve. Restoration of these rare raised bog sites will not only provide a future for wetland habitat species around Thorne and Hatfield Moors, but also combat climate change because healthy peat habitats lock in carbon. Wetland restoration also helps prevent flooding.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/humberhead

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

has launched a new funding pot to support crowdfunding projects in Hull. People and organisations who are interested in crowdfunding projects that bring the community together using the arts, culture, food or green spaces can apply for pledges to their campaign on Spacehive. With individual project creators eligible to receive pledges of up to £2,500 whilst organisations could receive up to £15,000, there's an amazing opportunity to bring your idea to life.

Heritage Lottery funds natural heritage

The Heritage Lottery Fund has been helping to protect and share natural heritage in the country's back garden. From restoring threatened habitats to helping people explore and study nature on their doorstep, they will fund projects that have a huge impact on helping our natural heritage.

To find out how they can help you apply for grants from £3,000 up to £100,000, contact them on 0113 388 8030 or email y&hdevelopment@hlf.org.uk Check out their website on the below link:

<https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding>

Hull Afro Caribbean Association (HACA)

HACA can be found in the City Centre, at 25-26 Park Street, Hull. HU2 8RR (ie the back of the St Stephen's Tesco petrol station), so is in close proximity to rail and bus services, and many other amenities.

The HACA Centre is available for:

Room Hire / Meetings / Office Spaces / Events / Function Rooms/ Information & Advice / Education & Training / Fun Days / Garden Parties / Music / Art / Craft and much more—all at affordable prices.

For more information contact HACA on mobile: 07576 903 309 or e-mail HullAfroCaribbeanAssoc@outlook.com

See them at the Green Fair.

Hull Cycle Hub

Do you love to bike, but worried about security when biking in Hull City Centre? Would you love to bike, but don't have a bike to enjoy?

Why not contact Hull Cycle Hub?

The Hull Cycle Hub is located at Hull Paragon Interchange, offers secure, staffed storage for over 160 bikes at a minimal cost of £1.00 per day. You can also hire bikes from £3.50 per day or weekly and fortnightly hire is available.

For more information, please visit the link below.

<https://hullcyclehub.co.uk/>

Bike shoes wanted

Do you have a pair of bike shoes in good condition that you no longer use? Can you bear to part with them? If so, please contact the Avenues Bicycle Project on 07715 307942 and they will make sure that they get to young people joining a road racing team in Sierra Leone.

Chit Chat continued from page 2

Plastic bags

In 2014 the big 7 retailers (Asda, Co-op, M&S, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose) issued 7.64 billion single use carrier bags. Data collected in the first 6 months since the 5p plastic bag levy was introduced in October 2015 show a very substantial fall to just 0.6 billion.

Microbeads are tiny pieces of plastic found in everyday products such as toothpaste and toilet cleaner. They're too small to be filtered and end up as pollutants in our rivers and oceans, with severe effects on wildlife.

A new cross-party government report has recommended that microbeads should be banned. If you would like to express your support for this recommendation, in the hope that the government will decide to ban microbeads, please consider signing the petition below.

<https://secure.greenpeace.org.uk/microbeads-gov-ban>

Hilary Byers

Tesco Bags of Help

Exciting new changes to the Tesco Bags of Help funding. The funding has changed from quarterly grant making to a rolling programme where 3 groups every month could receive funding. The monthly winner will receive up to £5,000 and the 2nd and 3rd place will receive an award of up to £3,000.

Other important changes now enable groups to apply for not just physical improvements but funding to promote the sustainable use of environmental spaces.

If you would like to apply for funding then please visit the web site <https://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/pages/Category/apply-for-a-boh-grant-tes2>

And if you would like to find out more about the programme or would like help and support developing your project or application then please contact your local enabler Karen Tozer on hull@groundwork.org.uk or telephone 07963028560

Karen Tozer

Air pollution from shipping



IMAGE: fruitworldmedia.com

Recently I was exploring the web for information on air pollution and chanced upon a site discussing marine air pollution. This immediately caught my attention for two reasons. Hull is a port city, and I sometimes go out on freight ships from Immingham surveying cetaceans. We may not have the worst road air pollution in the UK but maybe we have significant pollution from our port. So I decided to do some work to find out more.

This appears to be an area of pollution which is little discussed. Maybe it's because ships are at sea most of the time, far from our shores, and we tend to feel, as we smell the ozone, that our oceans are where we will find clean air. So the figures I started to read were a bit of a shock.

In 2000 the emissions from ships in our European seas, including the north-east Atlantic, the North Sea etc. were estimated at, per year:

- ▶ Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂): 22.3 million tonnes
- ▶ Nitrogen Dioxide [NO_x]: 3.3 million tonnes
- ▶ Particulates: 250,000 tonnes.

In a business as usual scenario, these emissions are expected to grow by 40 to 50% by 2020. By then shipping emissions of SO₂ and NO_x could exceed the emissions of these pollutants from all other sources in the EU. Currently, estimated deaths per year from pollution by international shipping in Europe are 50,000 people.

The thing is, it would seem that it's quite easy to significantly improve on these figures and at little cost, and steps are being taken. New standards did come into effect in 2005 in the Baltic and 2007 in the North Sea as a result of the MARPOL* convention. These required new ships to limit the sulphur content of their fuel to 1.5%. Traditionally, ships have had much worse emissions than road transport because they use 'dirty fuel'. And basically the new laws are designed to lead away from this use. But the early laws were so weak they made no real difference. In 2008 stricter rules were agreed by International Maritime Organisation countries, to be achieved by 2020, but few countries are taking individual action towards this. Norway and Sweden have done so.

*By fitting SCR to all its engines, the emissions of NO_x from Viking Line's MS Cinderella are cut by 97 per cent, down to 0.5 g/kWh. It also uses low-sulphur (<0.5%) fuel, and in Stockholm is connected to shore-side power. In early 2013

continued on page 4

Viking Line introduced a new ship serving the Turku-Åland-Stockholm line operating on liquefied natural gas (LNG).'

Source: http://www.lighthouse.nu/sites/www.lighthouse.nu/files/air_pollution_from_ships_nov_2011.pdf

The above site is an excellent source for much more information including charts and document references and detailed information on how the matter can be put right and what the EU could do to put it right. It is the web site of AirClim and the North Sea Foundation who have published a detailed pamphlet. Further copies of this pamphlet can be downloaded in full (in pdf format) from AirClim's website (see below).

Looking closer to home

I thought the next step was to look at the situation closer to home. The Hull and Goole Port Authority says it is a regulator for pollution control. But this seems to be about on shore equipment and stuff carried in the ships. They have nothing to say about actual pollution by ships. I could find nothing relating to Immingham. So I looked for British material and found an article in the Daily Mail from 2009 quoting Fred Pearce, an environmental consultant to the New Scientist. He says:

'The most staggering statistic of all is that just 16 of the world's largest ships can produce as much lung-clogging sulphur pollution as all the world's cars.'

Source: Daily Mail <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1229857/How-16-ships-create-pollution-cars-world.html>

I was out in the North Sea a few months ago when all the crew of the middle-sized DFSC freight ship we were on were invited to the bridge to watch one of the new Maersk ships go by. She is a quarter of a mile long and carries 14,000 containers. These ships are at sea on average 23 hours out of 24 and burn 'bunker' fuel.

The Transport and Environment Organisation, which is an EU wide organisation researching and campaigning in this area, says:

'Reducing air pollution from ships is a very cost effective solution. Up to 34 billion Euros could be saved in health costs each year if the IMO fuel standards were transposed into the EU legislation. These savings do not take into consideration the benefits for ecosystems and the environment as a whole if acidification and other negative consequences of air pollution were reduced'

Source: <https://www.transportenvironment.org/what-we-do/shipping/air-pollution-ships>

This web page provides background information on the health and environmental impacts of air pollution from ships. It also highlights the measures that can be taken to significantly reduce SO_x, NO_x and fine particle emissions from ships, with recommendations for EU action.

What technological improvements will the industry have to put in place to cut air pollution from international shipping?

The industry has at its disposal a wide range of options and techniques to cut pollution, most of which are already available on a large scale and easily implementable. These include:

- ▶ **Using low sulphur fuels:** it's the easiest way of reducing pollutants from ships. Shipping fuels currently have almost 3,000 times the sulphur content of fuels used in road transport in Europe. Also, low sulphur fuels make the ship's engine run smoother and with less operating problems and maintenance costs. Last, but not least, using low sulphur fuel reduces other pollutant emissions.
- ▶ **Scrubbers:** a possible alternative to low sulphur fuels, they would cut emissions of SO₂ by 99% and considerably reduce emissions of other polluting particles, but there are still some concerns about the by-products they produce in the cleaning process.
- ▶ **Internal engine modifications**—such as water injection and exhaust gas recirculation: these are techniques to prevent NO_x production during the combustion process, and can abate NO_x emissions by 30 to 50%.
- ▶ **Humid air motor:** by adding water vapour to the combustion air, NO_x emissions could be cut by 70 to 85%.
- ▶ **Selective catalytic reduction (SCR):** a system to treat exhaust gases after their production but before they are actually emitted. SCR can cut NO_x by up to 95%. It's already used in some 500 ships worldwide and works better with low sulphur fuels.
- ▶ **Gas engines:** Ship engines can work with liquified natural gas (LNG) which doesn't contain sulphur and therefore has SO₂ emissions close to zero. Gas engines also dramatically reduce other PM emissions. Although it's easier to fit new ships with such engines, conversions have already taken place.
- ▶ **Shore-side electricity:** can be used while ships are at the port and could cut SO₂, NO_x and other PM emissions by up to 90%.
- ▶ **Alternative energy sources:** experiments with wind and solar power, biofuels and fuel cells are ongoing and could be useful in the future.

www.transportenvironment.org

What should the EU and Member States do to reduce air pollution from ships?

Transport & Environment has formulated a series of recommendations for the EU and its member states. These include:

- ▶ 'Transposing the international standards for NO_x emissions into EU law and adopt regulation in Europe to address the NO_x emissions of the existing fleet.
- ▶ Extending the SO_x Emission Control Areas in the EU (eg in the Mediterranean, in the Black Sea, in the Irish Sea and the North East Atlantic) and designate NO_x Emission Control Areas as soon as possible.
- ▶ Monitoring that proper enforcement procedures are adopted in Europe in order to ensure compliance with the standards.
- ▶ Adopting market-based measures to make polluters pay a fair price for the emissions the shipping sector is responsible for.

www.Transportenvironment.org

continued on page 5

So there's a campaign for us!

Yes I will be talking to FoE UK air pollution campaign to see where we might fit in. Watch this space!

More information on ships and air pollution is available at the websites of the organisations listed below.

Air Pollution & Climate Secretariat (AirClim) at www.airclim.org

North Sea Foundation www.noordzee.nl

Seas At Risk (SAR) www.seas-at-risk.org

Bellona Foundation www.bellona.org

European Environmental Bureau (EEB) www.eeb.org

Transport & Environment (T&E)

Rue d'Edimbourg 26, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

* The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973/1978.

Angela Needham

Grimsby Community Energy

Grimsby Community Energy are raising money for six community building PV installations. Because of the tight timescale imposed by the FIT deadline on five of these installations, GCE were fortunate to get a bridging loan to enable them to go ahead with installation before the share offer target was met, and five systems totalling 100kW are now commissioned.

GCE have raised nearly £30,000 through their share issue to date, and are now pushing towards a target of £85,000 to

maximise local ownership and the community benefit fund and pay off the bridging loan early. Achieving the higher target of £148,000 will allow the sixth site to be built. The Share Offer has been extended to 18 November.

GCE are predicting a return of 4.3% on the shares, and you will also be helping community groups to benefit from cheap electricity generated by the panels and wider energy-related activities from the Society.

The project share offer document can be downloaded at <http://www.shareenergy.coop/project/grimsby-community-power/> or contact Vicky Dunn, Project Manager on Victoria.environmental@yahoo.co.uk

Hessle Foreshore clean-up

On Saturday, 17 September, Hull FoE members and friends took part in a clean-up of Hessle foreshore near the Humber Bridge, organised by the Marine Conservation Society from their local base at The Deep. This turned out to be a survey as well as a clean-up, with our counting every scrap of paper, bit of plastic, or piece of glass.



This survey takes place every year along beaches of Britain and the findings provide data to inform MCS's campaigns to clean up our oceans. They can identify sewerage related items, such as wet wipes, and reinforce the message that these items should not be flushed away. They can talk to companies whose logos keep showing up on beach litter and can work with manufacturers to find solutions.

Our survey showed a lot of cigarette ends and coffee cups but that might have been related to our 'patch' including a car park.

Hilary Byers

Bees and Brexit (report from Hilary Byers)

Right now, 3 neonicotinoid pesticides (neonics) are banned here and in other European countries after they were found to pose a risk to bees. But the ban doesn't extend to some important crops such as wheat - and they are under constant attack from pesticide firms and the National Farmers Union.

A review of the ban is currently taking place. And the Brexit vote means the UK's pesticide rules could eventually be completely rewritten.

I contacted my MP, Diana Johnson, to ask that the ban on pesticides be made permanent and extended. Her reply also referred to the wider implications of Brexit for environmental legislation. This is an edited version of her reply →

NEONICOTINOIDS AND BEES

Thank you for contacting me recently regarding neonicotinoids and bees. I share your concern about declining bee numbers.

As you know, the European Commission (EC) announced in 2013 that it would restrict the use of neonicotinoids to crops that are not attractive to bees and other pollinators.

I appreciate there are many reasons for the decline of pollinators, including habitat loss, climate change and pests and diseases. However, I also appreciate that more evidence has appeared since the ban—including the recent study published in the Nature Communications journal and research published earlier this year by Sussex University—which emphasises the risk of neonicotinoids to bees. The Government cannot continue to ignore the threat to bees from neonicotinoids and I support the current European-wide ban because I believe it is a proportionate response to the evidence.

The EC is currently reviewing the evidence on neonicotinoids and is expected to complete its assessment by January 2017. Before the referendum, the Government said that it would base its view

on future regulation on all the available scientific evidence. I am pleased that the Government now seems to have an open mind to considering the evidence, especially given its previous opposition to the ban.

However, I am concerned that many environmental protections are at risk following the outcome of the EU referendum and I am aware that organisations such as 38 Degrees have raised concerns about the potential use of neonicotinoids after the UK has left the EU. Until the UK does leave the EU, EU law will still have effect in the UK and the Government has said that current arrangements for our environment—including in relation to the ban on neonicotinoids—will remain in place until we leave. I believe the Government needs to set out its strategy for the future and how it will protect the provisions of important directives. I also believe it is vital to take a science-led approach to pesticide use and to consider how best to support farmers, protect wildlife and reverse the decline of pollinators.

While the Government is providing £900 million through its Countryside

Stewardship scheme, which offers payments to farmers for taking actions for pollinators, I am concerned by the low-uptake of this scheme. I believe the Government must take measures to restore farmers' fragile confidence in it. I would like to see more effort from the Government in creating better farm habitats and in assessing alternatives to neonicotinoids and providing more support to farmers with Integrated Pest Management.

Finally, the Government has delayed publication of its 25 year plan for the Environment and its 25 year food and farming plan. I believe these plans are vital in order to set out a long-term approach to farming and the environment and to build stability across the whole of the UK. I hope that the Government will publish both plans as a matter of urgency.

Thank you once again for contacting me and for sharing your views. I can assure you I will continue to press the Government to apply evidence-based policy.

Yours sincerely,

Diana Johnson
Labour MP for
Hull North



Marinet's view on Brexit

Most of us woke up in the morning, listened to the news and reeled in shock from our joint decision — The nation has voted to leave the EU.

Whatever our gut feelings on Remain or Leave, Marinet avoided taking any particular stance. We did publish information, but we did not see it as Marinet's job to take a political position and to tell people how to vote, unlike many other NGOs.

As you know Marinet is not content with Government agencies and their laissez-faire attitudes towards their regulatory responsibilities. The vote to Leave should send a warning to all Government agencies that this is not a free-for-all for marine industries, but a time for fundamental change and improvements in their regulatory habits.

If the NGO World gets behind this goal, then we really could have a fresh start.

Instead of lamenting the passing of EU membership, UK NGOs are now going to have to commit to some real campaigning, and to ditch their "lite" version of environmentalism. If marine and

terrestrial conservation is going to be challenged by industry, as the NGOs have foretold, then NGOs are going to have to awaken anew and commit seriously to their defence.

The time for them to be serious environmentalists may have once again arrived.

From the marine perspective, the fishing industry has clearly not understood the need to conserve and restock depleted fish species. The UK industry has always repeated the mistakes made by fishing communities around the world, as shown in the book **The End of the Line** by **Charles Clover**.

As a separate nation we could and should make close alliances with Norway and Iceland which have demonstrated clearly how to manage our sea.

We will look to the future, and a chance to utilise our opportunities.

From a message from David Levy, and Stephen Eades on behalf of Marinet www.marinet.org.uk

Drax and biomass burning info from Biofuelwatch

Drax is the single largest coal-fired power station and emitter of carbon in the UK. It is also the biggest biomass power station in the world. In 2015, it burnt pellets made from 12 million tonnes of wood, a million more tonnes than the UK produces in a single year. Far from being offcuts, as Drax claims, most of the wood pellets are imported from North America, with a significant proportion coming from clear-cutting highly biodiverse coastal wetland forests. Others come from pine monocultures which have replaced what were once biodiverse and thriving forests.

Cutting down trees and burning them for electricity is bad news for the climate. Firstly, burning biomass results in greater upfront CO₂ emissions than burning coal. Indeed, studies show that it takes many decades of new tree growth before the climate impacts are level with, let alone smaller than, those of burning fossil fuels. This is time we don't have if we want to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. Secondly, Drax is

Hull FoE members and others will be taking part in a demonstration at Drax on Saturday 22nd October, 1pm to 5pm. Contact Hilary if you want to join us and share lifts from Hull.

able to capture vast renewable energy subsidies due to burning biomass - over £1 million every day last year—which is enabling it to survive and continue burning coal. Without these vast subsidies, captured from a surcharge on electricity bills, Drax would be forced to close.

Biofuelwatch believe we need to stop this "false solution" of biomass before it becomes widespread, threatening vast tracts of forest worldwide—there

are currently plans to open new biomass plants across Europe and North America. Drax produces around 7% of UK power. If we can shut it down, then we can force a transition to a truly renewable, decarbonised energy system including investment in energy efficiency and genuinely low carbon renewables such as wind and solar power, rather than entrenching this old, dirty and dying energy system.



For more information, see <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/axedrax-campaign/>

Britain's parks at risk

There's no legal responsibility on local Councils to look after them, and squeezed budgets mean our local green spaces—from playgrounds, to the park you relax in on your lunch break—don't have the money they need. We could end up being forced to pay to use our parks - or lose them altogether.

A group of MPs are looking into the crisis right now. They're thinking of making protecting parks a legal requirement, and they'll advise the government on what to do. **A huge petition, signed by all of us, will prove how much we love our parks.** It could convince the MPs to come up with a water-tight plan for protecting them.

i Can you sign the petition now and demand that looking after our parks is made a legal requirement by the government? It only takes 30 seconds to add your name: <https://secure.38degrees.org.uk/save-our-parks>

From 38 Degrees

Remembering Carole

Nine years ago Hull FoE members planted a walnut tree near the Barmston Drain in memory of founder-member Carole Noreiko.

This was one of her last requests. The tree is flourishing and has grown above the surrounding vegetation.

PHOTO: Hilary Byers



Testing the air in Hull (part 2)

Well, so second time round our little tubes to measure NO_x were still there when we went to collect them. We put them up at the same height as those of the local authority, although this was higher than national FoE's advisors recommended. And we got meaningful results, which, where appropriate, were very similar to those of the local council.

The air at the Wilson vegetable bed was fine, which will please all those of you who ate some of the veg at the Harvest Festival. The air at the pedestrian crossing of Castle Street remains more polluted than EU laws allow, as we and the council already knew. We also found that the air at the traffic crossing from the bus station to St Stephen's was above the legal limits. This has also been noted by the council. Changing more buses to low emission would help, of course. So, maybe, would bus drivers turning engines off when waiting at the lights.

We also tested at the bus stop outside the infirmary, where the council does not. In spite of this busy road we were pleased to find that the air was acceptable.

So what do we do next? I suggest we look towards an educational campaign. The need is to decrease diesel use (in the end to nil), and to encourage more environmentally-aware driving. We may also find it worthwhile to continue to make people aware that they are probably breathing in more polluted air in their car than they would on foot, or even bike. When we did this in the summer it really seemed to make people think.

It would be good if we could get into school assemblies to talk about this. Maybe we could aim to get kids to tell their parents they did not want to come to school in the car because the air pollution it caused could make them ill. To do this, a good way would be to get the children involved in doing air testing. But this is quite expensive, so it would need funding, and /or maybe a joint event with the local authority, who are as keen as we are to see the figures improve.

Meanwhile many of us, having noted that Hull's air was a good deal better than many other UK cities, were shocked to see in mid-September the Hull Daily Mail announcing we were about to have the worst air pollution in the country, scoring 10/10 on the measuring scale. Well, we probably all noted how horrid it was, but it didn't affect my breathing, as would NO_x and SO₂, and it did smell horribly of fish. Defra said it was because the wind was coming from the east, which seems odd, because that would mean the sea, ozone or marine pollution (which does not smell of fish). Apparently farmers were spraying their fields with fish manure, which accounts for the smell but not the high pollution score. So what else was it? I'm still trying to find out if anyone knows. There was also some sewage work going on, but the smell, as far as I could tell, was at its worst by the Humber near to the bridge. Any takers? Discussion welcome!

Lastly on this topic, let's turn our attention to indoor pollution, which, if it affects our home, is something we really can do something about for ourselves. To learn more come to our stall at the Green Fair and try your hand at our quiz game. **A prize for the winner!**

Angela Needham

Transition & Permaculture Hull

News from Transition & Permaculture Hull

Transition & Permaculture Hull is now a project member of the Permaculture Association.
<https://www.permaculture.org.uk/>

&

Four people from Transition & Permaculture Hull attended the Permaculture Convention, joining 300 other people, at the beginning of September.

&

One outcome is that links have been made with permaculture enthusiasts in York, and some informal joint activities are planned.

&

The meeting of Transition & Permaculture Hull, which took place on Mon 10 October featured a feedback session in which those who attended talked about what they found particularly interesting or inspiring about the convergence, and reported back on the projects which impressed them most.

&

There was an opportunity to learn more about permaculture at the two-day Introduction to Permaculture course run in Hull on Sat 8 and Sun 9 October 2016.

Jenny Parsons

Treasurer, Transition & Permaculture Hull
<http://www.transitionhull.co.uk/>
 01482 845356

Transition & Permaculture Hull

Visit to Bakersville, Newland Allotments, Tavistock Street, Hull

Bakersville is a project designed for people who suffer with mental health conditions and who are currently receiving a service from the Humber NHS Foundation Trust. The allotment uses gardening and related activities as treatment and therapy to aid recovery and the project is facilitated by occupational therapy and health care staff. On Monday 12 September 2016, Jeanette Wood, Occupational Therapy Technical Instructor and one of the founder members of the project, now in its 16th year, showed us round.

The site occupies several allotment plots and has been developed as a pleasant place to work, walk and sit. Grassy paths wend their way among trees and shrubs, passing fruit trees, places to sit and a pond. Two areas of raised beds provide growing space for vegetables and soft fruit, inter-planted with candula and nasturtiums. Greenhouses with tomato, cucumber, peppers and chilli were near a container for storage and shelter, and a communal seating area.

Five staff are involved with the site and there are 15 to 20 service users, plus five volunteers – usually ex-service users. It is a peaceful, relaxing environment with opportunities to participate in growing, maintenance or creating features of your own design.

From a permaculture perspective, the garden prioritises people care, such that attending the Tuesday sessions is therapeutic rather than stressful. The emphasis is on a pleasant tranquil environment in which to walk and sit, with the growing of food an optional extra. In terms of earth care the measures to encourage wildlife include the pond, wildflower patch, organic growing and companion planting.

Permaculture, biodiversity, education, community and partnership-working all contribute to the positive outcomes and rewards for those who attend.

Jenny Parsons



Baskerville allotments PHOTO: Hilary Byers



Baskerville pond PHOTO: Hilary Byers

Transition & Permaculture Hull visit the Green Garden

163 Keldgate, Beverley HU17 8JA



Green Garden: kitchen garden PHOTO: Jenny Parsons

We organised an early evening visit on Monday 8 August 2016 to the Green Garden, and there were 17 of us. The plot occupies a fifth of an acre, at the back of some terraced houses in Beverley. Sally and Luke showed us round and Lausanne talked about permaculture aspects of the garden's design and use.

The tour started at 'The Far Pavilion'—a building at the end of the garden used for social events, with electricity, water and a log burning stove. The building had seen various uses over the years but has now been developed as a community resource, where TimeBank get-togethers take place, films are shown and suppers enjoyed.

We made our way up the garden towards the house, across a lawn with some newly planted fruit trees, and passed a tier of hutches for guinea-pigs and rabbits, which children attending TimeBank events could feed and pet. There were home-made tripods of runner beans and the greenhouse we passed had an abundance of tomatoes, cucumbers & some aubergines. There was a lovely wildflower patch in the lawn, to attract pollinators. The lawn was also home to a rocket stove, barbeque and campfire seating area.

The **Kitchen Garden** was near the house, in accordance with permaculture zoning, and had thriving oca, broad beans, leeks, kale, salad and a triple planting of corn, beans and squash. Companion planting of calendula was much in evidence.



Green Garden: talk PHOTO: Jenny Parsons

Moving away from the house down the other side of the garden, there was an area set aside to be developed as a sensory garden, and an established orchard. There were chickens, with the enclosure being planted with mint all around it, in an attempt to deter foxes. Beyond the chickens there were more vegetable beds, with leeks, perennial cabbage and nasturtiums, and beyond that an area left wild.

We completed the tour and assembled in the Far Pavilion to enjoy our bring-and-share supper, with salads provided by Matt from Frith Farm and drinks provided by Sally. The group included Shan and Bill, previous Beverley residents now living in Harrogate, and it was good to see them again.

The three ethics of permaculture, **EARTH CARE, PEOPLE CARE AND FAIR SHARES**, are illustrated by aspects of the Green Garden. The growing of produce organically by working with nature's systems (eg using companion planting, triple planting, wildflowers to attract pollinators) is consistent with earth care. The development of a tranquil space for social events, and of the Far Pavilion as a community resource, is an example of people care. The Garden has just started to offer camping facilities at a nominal cost, so that no one is deterred from using them by price, an approach influenced by the principle of fair shares.

Jenny Parsons

Herb Garden Welcome Day

The Herb Garden is a project being developed by Down-to-Earth community group, which has previously organised a series of foraging walks. This new project is based on a site near the University, in a garden behind properties on Salmon Grove. The work so far has consisted of clearing rubbish, and preparing the ground.

The Welcome event was organised in August by Andy Steele and Bryony Macfadyen of *Down-to-Earth*, and we were welcomed with drinks and cakes. Bryony has recently completed a degree

in herbal medicine and gave us an informal but very interesting talk about the basics of herbal medicine and the plans to grow medicinal plants in the garden. At a later stage the project might encompass food growing.

One aim of the Herb Garden project is to demonstrate what medicinal plants can be easily grown. Another is to demonstrate which herbs are safe and easy to use, and which are more complicated and require more care. We were told that 80% of the world's population still relies on herbal medicine,

and that traditional knowledge of plant use has only recently been lost in this country. The project hopes to keep simple skills alive in the community.

There are regular volunteering sessions at the Herb Garden project on Thursday afternoons, and on some weekends. For more information contact Andy or Bryony on down-2-earth@outlook.com or 07922 950311.

Jenny Parsons

 See *Down to Earth* at the Green Fair

“TTIP has failed”

That's the verdict. It's the end of the road for the dodgy trade deal that would've put our democracy and NHS at risk.

This is a success for campaigners.

- ▶ Hundreds of thousands of us added our names to gigantic EU-wide petitions against the deal.
- ▶ Over 50,000 of us wrote into the EU consultation on TTIP - so many that we ended up crashing the EU's website.
- ▶ We sent almost a million emails to our MPs, MEPs, Members of the Scottish parliament and even to the President of the EU. In June last year, we persuaded over half our MEPs to vote against giving corporations the right to sue our government - one of the worst parts of the deal.
- ▶ Thousands of us went out across towns, villages and cities in England talking to members of the public about TTIP.

We've won this battle. But there are so many more fights ahead of us. Already, the EU is close to agreeing a similar dodgy deal with Canada (known as 'CETA') which could come into force before we leave the EU.

And in the next year our government will start to negotiate new trade deals with countries from China to the US to Brazil. If these trade deals are good ones, they could make Britain more prosperous and protect the things that matter - our NHS, our democracy, the environment.

But if they're bad, they'd be like "TTIP on steroids". They could put our NHS at risk, allow corporations to use secret courts to sneak around our democracy, and let businesses pollute our rivers and air.

The last two years have been tough. It hasn't always seemed possible to stop a global trade deal. But people power can stop more deals like TTIP in their tracks.

Based on information from 38 Degrees

Fossil-free Yorkshire

Friends of the Earth, with FrackFree Ryedale, is challenging North Yorkshire County Council's decision to allow fracking at Kirby Misperton.

They are arguing that the application, which was opposed by over 4,000 people, failed to address the full climate impact of the development and ensure protection against long term impacts. The case will be heard at the Royal Courts of Justice in London on 22 and 23 November.

Meanwhile, activists from across the country will be taking action against Barclays Bank (who own over 90% of fracking company Third Energy). The

Stop Barclays Fracking Week of Action is from 24-29 October*.

Ineos have indicated that they are planning to start seismic surveys in South Yorkshire in the next few weeks. Letters to local residents indicate that surveys, the first steps towards fracking, will start in early October, subject to securing permission from landowners.

Frackfree East Yorkshire's rally against fracking in Driffield recently was a tremendous success. Hundreds of people turned out to show their opposition, with inspiring speakers from Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Sadly Lancashire's campaigners have suffered a major setback with the decision by the Secretary of State to allow planning permission for fracking near Preston New Road in the Fylde, against the decision of the local authorities, but the fight goes on. See www.foe.co.uk/campaigns/climate/issues/fracking

***Hull FoE is planning action locally.** For more information contact us (see back page).

Hilary Byers,

Taken from Friends of the Earth's news update.

Bill to 'safeguard standards of environmental protection...' from EU withdrawal

On 13 July, Geraint Davies MP introduced a Private Member's Bill in the Commons to make provision for the safeguarding of standards of environmental protection derived from European Union legislation after the UK's withdrawal from the EU. It is expected to have its second reading debate on Friday 28 October.

Summary of the UK Environmental Protection (Maintenance of EU Standards) Bill 2016-17:

'A Bill to make provision about the safeguarding of standards of environmental protection derived from European Union legislation, including for water, air, soil, flood protection, and climate change, after the withdrawal of the UK from the EU; and for connected purposes.'

Posted on 09/09/2016 by Institute of Historic Building Conservation NewsBlog



Hull Friends of the Earth

HULL FOE MEMBERSHIP

I wish to become a member of Hull FoE <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to renew my Hull FoE membership <input type="checkbox"/>		Payment Please note: subs are due by 1 April each year If you are a national Friends of the Earth member you do need to pay separately to be a Local Group member.	
Name		I enclose:	
Address		Membership fee (£5 waged, £2 unwaged)	£
		Donation*	£
Postcode		Total	£
Telephone		Please make cheques payable to: Hull Friends of the Earth , and send to the Membership Secretary (address below)	
Email			
I WANT TO PAY BY STANDING ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> We encourage you to pay your subscription by annual Standing Order. This prevents you from forgetting to pay and saves us sending reminders. But because of problems with fraud we are no longer printing the form here. Please contact Angela (details below) if you want to pay by Standing Order.			

We will use the contact details you have provided to keep you up to date on our campaigns and how you can help us. If you'd rather NOT receive this information from us, please tick here ☐

How do you want to get ECO?

- ☐ by email (in colour?)
☐ in print by post?
 Tick either, or both

* We welcome your donations!

Many of our members are very generous and give us a donation on top of their membership fee; if you can spare a bit extra we really appreciate it. It all helps our campaigning efforts and to keep you informed through ECO (see below...)

We are also on Facebook. To get to it:

www.facebook.com

Register - if you haven't already, and then go to the box at the top called "search for people, places and things".

Just type in "Hull Friends of the Earth" and you are off!

It will tell you how to get accepted into the group (Lee-Ann is the owner of the site).

Alternatively, existing "friends" on Facebook can invite you to join.

SHARE YOUR NEWS?

Hull ECO welcomes news and views of all things environmental in Hull and East Yorkshire.

Deadlines are the first Tuesday in January, April, July, October.

Please send to Hilary (details below). Offers of help to deliver newsletters in your area are very welcome!

HULL FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: CONTACTS

Coordinator:	Sue Jolliffe, 47 Kingsway, Cottingham, HU16 5BB	Tel: 845958 Email: sue@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk
Membership Secretary:	Angela Needham, 124 Etherington Road, Hull HU6 7JP	Tel: 07737 249461 Email: angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org
Newsletter:	Hilary Byers, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY	Tel: 445747 Email: hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk
Web:	www.hfoe.org.uk or www.foe.co.uk/hull Email: jolliffe@jolliffe.karoo.co.uk	