



Subs are due for renewal NOW!

Please pay either at next FoE meeting on 16 April or by hand/post to Patricia Williamson, 6 Clovelly Road, Emsworth. PO10 7HL, by cheque, payable to Havant Friends of the Earth or by cash. Rates are:- Individual - £6.00, Family - £10.00, Concessions - £1.00, Life - £30.00. Thank you to all who have renewed.



Sue Holt's Column

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM on 19 March and in particular thanks to our speakers, Vida

and Roy Henning, who, having just finished creating a low-carbon home, gave a really interesting and thought provoking talk on the constraints and joys of the process.

(see article on page 2)

Future plans.

Obviously the Climate Change Bill and Day of Action in April to give a final push to MP's to ensure that the Bill asks for 80% cuts in emissions, yearly targets and, above all, inclusion of aviation and shipping emissions, takes immediate priority.

After that, the emphasis will be on low carbon communities; our role will be to encourage councils and communities to achieve this. One of the most important ways being involved in local planning. More about this from me in the near future. By email and on the website.

Do check out at the council, the Local Development plans for this area, and put in your own response as the consultation lasts until 25 April. Hopefully, we will decide our collective response on 16 April.

New FoE Director



Andy Atkins is to replace Tony Juniper as Executive Director of FoE from June 2008. He was previously Policy and Campaign Director at the Christian relief and development agency, 'Tearfund', where he established policy and campaigning work as a core business of the organisation.

Andy was also instrumental in establishing the link between poverty and climate change amongst UK development NGO's. He has previously been Campaigns Coordinator, and General Secretary of the Chile Committee for Human Rights, Coordinator of CAFOD's Working in Partnership Programme, and Latin America Desk Officer at the Catholic Institute of International Relations.

Campaign Against Climate Change

DEMONSTRATION at HEATHROW Saturday 31 MAY

Please note change of date to that previously announced – apologies, this was out of our control!

A SPRING CARNIVAL OF RESISTANCE TO AIRPORT EXPANSION

On Monday 25 February, there was an indoor Rally against Heathrow expansion in the Central Hall, Westminster, with around 3,000 attending (a second Hall had to be used). This was after many local meetings around West London up to a thousand strong. The movement against the Third Runway at Heathrow is gathering pace.... and snowballing exponentially

This is not just about Heathrow, this is about drawing a line in the sand against big investment decisions that are locking us into a headlong plummet into climate catastrophe. The huge expansion in aviation, of which the Heathrow expansion is the flagship component, is totally incompatible with winning the battle against climate catastrophe, totally incompatible in fact, with the Government's own Climate Bill.

This is a battle we need to win – and a battle we can win! We want to see people coming from all over the country to join the tens of thousands who will be protesting in West London. We want a massive show of force to make sure we win our first big victory in the war to redirect Britain towards a low carbon future. Come and be part of it – join a Spring Carnival of Resistance to the Third Runway, Airport Expansion and the insanity of government decisions that would lock us into climate catastrophe.

We can stop the third runway! We will stop the third runway!

Watch this space for more details as they become available.

Put the date in your diary now!

Tell everyone you know about it!



Eco Renovation in Bedhampton

Vida and Roy Henning gave a talk at the Havant FoE AGM about renovating a rundown 1960's bungalow, you can't get a house much less green than that, into a state of the art low carbon home. Vida emphasised how thorough eco renovation only makes sense if the property is run down because it is not a sustainable use of materials to scrap perfectly serviceable structures.

All round insulation is the first priority and Vida described how they used 'Warmcel' recycled newspaper insulation in the loft and under the wooden floor and 'Rockwool' blown mineral fibre in the cavity walls. New windows and doors were wood framed and double or triple glazed, they kept the existing PVC double glazed windows where they were serviceable.

Second priority was energy input. Here they have used solar thermal panels for hot water and 3.44 kw Photovoltaic (PV) panels to provide electricity. This is grid linked so they sell surplus electricity to the power company and buy electricity back when the sun isn't shining. Roy said how the solar hot water panels were very cost effective but he was not so sure about the PV panels, they were viable for them because they were extremely lucky to get a government grant of £16,000 towards the total £22,000 cost of the energy systems.

With electricity at very low cost, it made sense to heat with electricity, supplemented with a modern wood burner. The core of this system is an 'everhot' range cooker which runs on a slow steady electricity input and stores energy like a storage heater. Efficient electronically controlled storage radiators complete the system. It is early days yet but it seems probable that their net bought in energy use over a whole year will be nearly zero. Carefully chosen eco-friendly paints and furnishings completed the house. Vida said they hope to have an open day later in the year where people can see what they have done .



Pictures (generic pictures from 'Sunpowered Ltd, not Vida and Roy's house): Top, photovoltaic panels Bottom: solar thermal collectors.

Anti-Flouridation Campaign

At the beginning of February, Alan Johnson, the Health Secretary, announced that he was urging health authorities to extend the practice of water fluoridation so that every family should enjoy its 'benefits'.

Almost immediately, *The News* ran an editorial saying that Portsmouth medical experts were backing Johnson and were claiming that fluoridation "is an effective and relatively simple answer to the problem" of poor dental health. *The News* also reminded its readers that, "it has consistently supported" the practice in the past – however, in the following week it did publish a number of opposition letters.

Those of us opposed to fluoridation, had in August 2007, managed to persuade Portsmouth Primary Care Trust (PCT) not to go ahead at that stage. Following *The News* article, we had a call from BBC Radio Solent to ask us to take part in an early morning Nick Clegg phone-in together with a representative from the Southampton PCT. I managed to get a few points in but as usual with these programmes it was all too brief.

Afterwards the phone lines to the programme were overwhelmed with people trying to have their say. Several of the people who managed to get through had suffered allergic reactions to fluoride such as rashes, stomach upsets and asthma. They knew fluoride was the problem because as soon as they stopped using the toothpaste or moved away from a fluoridated area their symptoms vanished.

Southampton PCT's role is significant in the story as they have already taken the first step down the path to fluoridation. The process that Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) have to use is as follows:

- A Board Meeting to decide whether they think fluoridation might be a useful tool in the improvement of local dental health.
- An approach to the area's Strategic Health Authority (SHA) to ask them to undertake a Feasibility Study to look at the practicalities as well as costs and legal implications.
- Should the Feasibility Study prove satisfactory, the SHA must then organise a 3-month consultation with the public.

Southampton's Feasibility Study is virtually complete.

In the meanwhile, John Spottiswoode of the Green Party in Southampton was working hard to make his views known when, out of the blue, he received a mystery call from a PR company, Trimedia, to ask if their representative and a member of the SHA team might meet him. Our imaginations ran riot trying to work out possible reasons for this call! Peter and I joined John at his home and faced his visitors on Friday 14 March.

Trimedia it seems has been called in by SHA to manage the consultation and James (with Trimedia) and Sandra (a Dental Health Consultant) have the brief of conducting a pre-consultation. They said they wanted to judge the depth of public knowledge and concerns and had already spoken to Councils and MPs. I don't think they were quite prepared for what followed but we kept them both scribbling hard for 2 hours without a break. Hopefully some of what we said will find its way into the report that they have ultimately to present.

We cannot be sure if this exercise is a genuine attempt to take public concerns into account or an undercover way of evaluating the opposition – only time will tell.

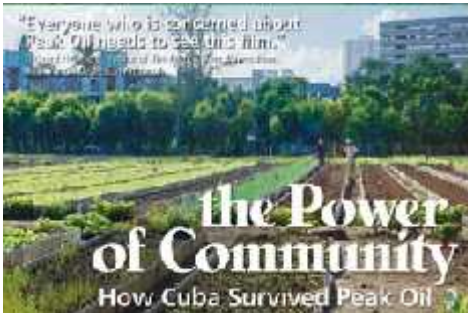
Hampshire Against Fluoridation has become the umbrella name for a number of organisations and individuals at work down here, the better to fight what is happening in our area; they include the original HAF, Green Party, FoE members, National Pure Water Association and Dorset and New Forest Safe Water Society.

We welcome new campaigners! Please call Ann or Peter Richards on 023 9246 3761

Polyfilm wrap

Polyfilm wrap, such as that increasingly used on magazine mailings, is recyclable: this is the pliable stuff, not that which cracks and snaps when stretched. If you feel Green enough to pay for postage, send to:- Polyprint Mailing Films Ltd., Unit 21a Mackintosh Road, Rackheath Estate, Rackheath, Norwich. NR13 6LJ (tel.01603 721807).

Otherwise, we have to wait until HBC offers this recycling facility.



The Cuba and peak oil film 'The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil' is available to watch on the web. Visit <http://www.havantfoe.org.uk> for a link to the You-Tube page.

Loss of Trees to Development

Hayling Island has gained four new Tree Wardens, bringing the current total on Hayling to five. There are now 25 Tree Wardens in the whole of Havant Borough.

This sudden influx of wardens came about because three mature Oak trees were felled at a property on Bacon Lane. This is one of the six Roads with Special Character on Hayling Island, designated as such in the Local Plan mainly because of the trees. It is believed that the trees were felled to improve access to a potential development site of 2 or 3 houses and as usual were felled over the weekend. If Jamie Gargett (Arboriculturalist at HBC) had been alerted about this threat from development, he would have been able to put Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) on the trees.

The lesson that can be learnt from this story is to keep your eyes and ears open about possible development and inform Jamie Gargett as soon as possible if you see significant trees being damaged or hear that they may be threatened. Tel. 02392 446525, Email jamie.gargett@havant.gov.uk. You do not have to be a Tree Warden to do this.

If you are interested in becoming a Tree Warden, please contact me, Frances Jannaway, on 01243 430314 or email: brettelf@ntlworld.com

Trees for the Future

The talk 'Trees for the Future' by Jon Stokes of the Tree Council at the Brookfield Hotel Emsworth on 4 February attracted more than 70 people. After briefly outlining how man's relationship with trees, especially here in the south of England, has changed since 7000 BC, he advocated planting trees for a purpose. He went on to talk about what trees we should be planting now - for the next generation.

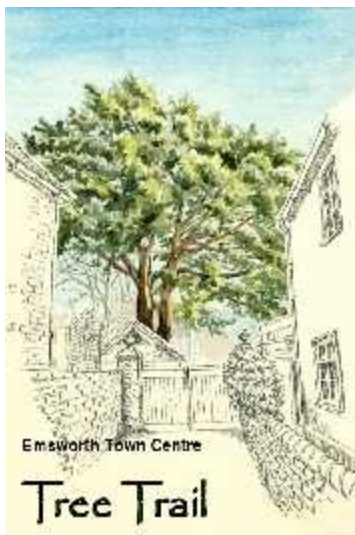
Climate Change

As we do not know what form climate change is going to take in the next 40 years, Jon suggests planting a little bit of everything. Global warming could result in the South of England having the same climate as Southern Italy by 2080. Or it could be a lot, lot colder if the course of the Gulf Stream shifts. He also said we should be planting trees that are more wind firm as freak storms are bound to become more frequent. Trees and other plants are also important in preventing flash floods in towns as they hold 90% of the rainwater on their leaves and release it into the ground slowly. Increasingly hot summers create a greater need for shade trees, 106 schools cancelled sports days in the summer of 2006 because of the heat and lack of shade. For these reasons we need a change in thinking to create more space for greenery not less.

Size of trees

Choosing the right tree for the space is very important. Gardens are getting ever smaller. Several examples were given of inappropriate planting such as a hedge of Giant Californian Redwood or planting a fast growing Eucalyptus in a small garden just because the trees were on offer at the local garden centre. The Apple tree is the definitive garden tree because it is grown on a variety of rootstocks and its height is therefore controllable. Limes are good street trees because they can be easily managed as they respond well to being pollarded. Jon spoke about a new idea he has initiated of labelling trees which gives the heights of mature trees. This new labelling system should be in garden centres this year.

Other ideas of planting trees for a purpose include, intelligent planning design of houses and streets by using trees to slow traffic and provide shade and managing woodland to provide fuel. If you missed Jon Stokes' talk this time, there is another opportunity to hear him speak on the fascinating topic of *Ancient Trees* on **Wednesday 23 April** - Friends of Park Wood AGM, 7.30pm, Baptist Church Hall, London Road, Waterlooville.



Emsworth Trees

Emsworth Town Centre Tree Trail, compiled by Emsworth Tree Wardens, is the first of a series of Tree Trails round Emsworth. The Tree Trail boasts at least 25 different trees plus a native hedgerow all within easy walking distance of the town centre. The Trail is published as a booklet with lots of colour photos, drawings and watercolours. It is on sale for only £1 at the Emsworth Bookshop, Bookends, Borland & Bound Estate Agents, Brookfield Hotel, Driftwood café, Awareness, Medicine Garden and other outlets around the town. The proceeds from the sale of this booklet will be used to promote the trees of Emsworth.

The booklet will also be on sale during the *Emsworth Trees* exhibition held at Emsworth Museum in June. There will be lots of beautiful photos, drawings and watercolours of the huge variety of lovely trees we have in and around Emsworth. *Emsworth Trees* will be held in Emsworth Museum (next to the Fire Station on North Street), opening on **Saturday 31 May** until **Sunday 29 June** (Saturdays 10.30am to 4.30pm, Sundays 2.30pm to 4.30pm).



Dates and Events

APRIL

Friday 4 April Big Ask, Climate Change Bill action. Assemble outside our MP's constituency office in South Street Havant at 6.15 PM. Lobby David Willetts MP and media photo-shoot.

Wednesday 16 April - Havant FoE regular meeting

Thursday 17 April - Hayling Island RA Sea Defences talk

Saturday 19 April - Portsmouth Climate Action Network Climate Festival, University of Portsmouth, Student Union, Cambridge Road, 11 am - 4 pm workshops, stalls, films, etc.

MAY

Friday 16 May - FOE Power-Up 2008, in London, weekend residential to demystify the planning system. If someone from the group is keen to go it would be very useful.

Wednesday 21 May - Havant FoE regular meeting

Saturday 31 May - FOE Regional Gathering, S.E, East and London groups, in London - good for new members.

Saturday 31 May - Heathrow Demo, see page 1.

Regular Meetings - Some meeting dates will be themed, not a business meeting, and a showing of the film about Hawaii and plastics that started the plastic bag free movement will be one scheduled soon. Meet third Wednesday of the month, (except August), 7.30pm at Nineveh, 11 The Pallant, Havant.

Future Events - A 'Round Langstone Harbour' Bike Ride together with Portsmouth FoE will be arranged soon. Watch the website for date and meeting place.

DVD FOR LOAN - 'EXPOSED'

"Rethinking pesticides in our homes, gardens and communities". This 30 minute video from PAN UK (Pesticide Action Network) is an ideal way to inform your friends, family, church group, club, etc. about the toxic chemicals used in our homes, gardens and public places, including alternatives and safe disposal of unwanted/obsolete pesticides. Borrow from Patricia Williamson - Tel. 01243 378560/Email:- kethrow@mail.adsl4less.com. No charge to FoE members.

Six Degrees of Global Warming

By Mark Lynas

Summary by Kathleen Durnford

One Degree

Mount Kilimanjaro loses all its ice. The Gulf Stream switches off perhaps, plunging Britain and Europe into icy winter cold. Irreversible feedbacks take hold in the Arctic as ice disappears, and the permafrost line shifts north. Rare species wiped out in the Queensland rainforest, Australia. Coral reefs around the world suffer increasing losses from bleaching and are wiped out.

Two Degrees

One summer in every two has heat waves as strong as the 2003 disaster in Europe, when 30,000 died. Drought, fire and searing heat strikes the Mediterranean basin.

Greenland tips into irreversible melt, accelerating sea-level rise and threatening coastal cities around the world. Hundreds of millions live in peril of the rising seas. Polar bears, walrus and other ice-dependent marine mammals extinct in the Arctic. A third of species worldwide face extinction as the climate changes - the worst mass extinction since the end of the dinosaurs.

Three Degrees

A permanent El Nino grips the Pacific, causing weather chaos around the world, and drought in the Amazon. The whole Amazonian ecosystem collapses in a conflagration of fire and destruction - desert and savannah eventually take over where the world's largest rainforest once stood. Huge amounts of carbon pour into the atmosphere, adding another degree to global warming. Hurricanes strike the tropics half a category stronger than today's, with higher wind speeds and rainfall.

Four Degrees

West Antarctic ice sheet potentially collapses, pumping five metres of water into global sea levels. Southern Europe becomes like the Sahara, with deserts spreading in Spain and Portugal. All glaciers disappear from the Alps, further reducing water supplies in central Europe. Permafrost melt in Siberia releases methane and carbon dioxide, meaning that global warming spirals upward.

Five Degrees

Five degrees of warming is the same magnitude of change as at the height of the last ice age. When it was five degrees colder and much of Europe and North America were buried under ice sheets. This makes it hotter than at any time for 55 million years on the planet. Desert belts expand from the subtropics into temperate regions. Civilization collapses as humanity is unable to cope. Some nations try to shift their populations towards the poles. Might the US invade Canada and China invade Siberia? Methane hydrate release and associated tsunamis push warming into a further spiral. Most of the world is uninhabitable.

Six Degrees

The apocalypse. The end-Permanent mass extinction. 251 million years ago was associated with six degrees of warming, and wiped out 90% of life on Earth. Huge firestorms sweep the planet as methane hydrate fireballs ignite. Seas turn anoxic and release poisonous hydrogen sulphide. Humanity's very survival as a species in question.

