



Hull

EC



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

www.hfoe.org.uk

October 2017 Issue 59

DIARY DATES

GREEN
FAIR**Sat 4 November**10am to 4pm at Floor 3 [Outlet floor]
Princes Quay HU1 2PQ**Tues 7 November 7pm**HfOE meeting at Vintage Café
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP**Tues 5 December 7pm**HfOE meeting at Vintage Café
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP**Tues 2 January 7pm**HfOE meeting at Vintage Café
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP**Deadline for next ECO****Tues 6 February 7pm**HfOE meeting at Vintage Café
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

FREE ENTRY



In this issue

Diary Dates	1
ECO Chit Chat	2
Are you a Friend of the Earth?	2
How will we power the electric car...?	3
Planting to clean the air	4
Beach clean at Humber Bridge	5
Sustainable Food Cities	5
Book review: The Story of Paragon Station	5
Growing for GOLD	6
Greening the Estate	7
Transition & Permaculture Hull news	7
Membership form & contact info	8

Hull Friends of the Earth invite you to our

GREEN FAIR

on Saturday 4th November 2017Now at Princes Quay, 3rd floor (Outlet floor!)

Open to public 10.00am to 4pm

This year we've secured a large shop unit right up there with stores like Next! So if you are looking for attractive gifts and homemade or home grown produce, if you want to catch up with what our great growers and campaigners are doing, or you want to eat cake, you will want to be here!

Stall bookings £15 with our table, £12 with your own.
There are fewer spaces than usual so please book quickly!

Hilary Byers, Hull Friends of the Earth, 170 Victoria Avenue,
HULL HU5 3DY hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk; 01482 445747

ECO Chit Chat

Get well soon, Angela!

Our Internal Coordinator Angela was taken seriously ill in August and we've sent her our love and best wishes. She makes gradual progress but we are having to manage without her considerable enthusiasm and energy at present. We will do our best to keep in touch with everyone. If at present you are not receiving copies of the minutes from Hull FoE meetings and you want to get them, please let Hilary know (details on back page).

Freedom Festival

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Freedom Festival in Queens Gardens on 3 September.

Organisers, growers, pickers, preppers, cooks and front of house, you all did a superb job and it was great seeing everyone tucking in to a great vegetarian feast with all locally grown produce (*see photos, right*). You even managed to get compostable cutlery! Very well done!

Clean up in Oppy Wood

Oppy Wood will be getting a clean up on **Thursday 26 October 10am—12 noon.**

Brenda at Rainbow Garden who is organising it will be very pleased to see anyone wanting to help. Meet near the Danepark/ Orchard Park Road junction. Oppy Wood commemorates the sacrifice of Hull people in World War 1.

Litter Innovation Fund - grants on offer

The Litter Innovation Fund (LIF) provides grants of up to £10,000 to help investigate and implement innovative ways of reducing litter. Standard litter picking activities are not included. A total of £45,000 of grant funding has been set aside for projects aimed **specifically at reducing litter entering the marine environment.** The current period for expressions of interest is closed, but there will be others.

See litterfund@wrap.org.uk



Hilary and David deliver produce from the Wilson Bed

A seriously large pan!

We all sit down to eat

PHOTOS: Hilary Byers

Are You a Friend of the Earth?

From time to time we forward selected news from national and regional Friends of the Earth to those of you who have said you want to be kept informed by email. You can, of course, get information sent to you directly from Friends of the Earth. Go to their web site: www.foe.co.uk.

Under 'get involved' you can sign up to get news by email and learn about quick actions you can do yourself. Under 'news and events' you can find out the latest on issues and campaigns that interest you. And under 'info and downloads' are the

answers to questions you might have about current concerns.

Like any organisation, of course, they value regular donations because this helps them plan ahead; you choose the amount you want to give. If it's £3 a month or more they will send you their twice yearly magazine 'Earth Matters'.

If email is not for you, they can be contacted on Facebook and Twitter, you can ring on 020 7490 1555 or you can write to them at Friends of the Earth, The

Printworks, 139 Clapham Road, LONDON SW9 0HP.

Of course, we at Hull Friends of the Earth like hearing from you too! Don't worry if circumstances or lack of time limit what you can do; we'll not ask more than you want to do, and try to find ways to involve you that work for you. Contact any of us [not Angela at present] listed on the back page. Or just turn up to the meetings or events publicised in Eco!

Hilary

How will we power the electric car revolution?

CREDIT: Paul Glendell

Ever since I had the opportunity to test drive a Nissan Leaf, I've coveted an electric car. I've even had a suitable electricity supply put down to my garage in anticipation!

But some people are saying our electricity generation will not be able to cope without exploiting more fossil fuels. How true is that?

Here is what Friends of the Earth says:

Electric vehicles are much more efficient than conventional cars, so they don't need as much power of any kind to work.

Recent analysis from **Cambridge Econometrics** shows that a wholesale move to electric vehicles would add just 10% to overall UK electricity demand. The real issue is the change in peak demand. A recent study from the National Grid showed peak electricity demand could increase by **6-18GW by 2050**, depending on a range of factors. Peak demand today is about 60GW.

A key factor in making electric cars work most efficiently is when and how we charge our electric cars. If we make the grid "smarter" and more flexible, we can match supply and demand more closely to variable renewables, and reduce the need for additional peak capacity.

Smart meters and time-of-day tariffs (changing the price of electricity depending on the time of day, for example making it cheaper when electricity is more plentiful) can help here. Automatic time-shift charging could also set cars to charge through the night (when it may be windy) or during the day when it's particularly sunny, rather than in the evening when demand is generally higher.

Electric cars could even actively contribute to managing the grid, by helping to match supply and demand. Their batteries can store energy from renewables when they are producing more electricity than is needed, and release it when required. This could help smooth out fluctuations in the availability of wind and solar farms.

That said, we're still going to need to generate more clean electricity.

Won't electric cars mean increased power generation from fossil fuels, and more carbon emissions?

Electric vehicles produce less carbon dioxide than petrol or diesel cars, even given the energy mix we have today (which includes fossil fuels).

Renewables in the UK are growing at an astonishing rate — in the 6 years from 2010 to 2016, renewable electricity production increased from 7% to 25%. Electricity generation from solar



is consistently breaking records, with generation from solar **meeting a quarter of UK demand on some summer days**. All this is good news for the climate.

According to analysis by Cambridge Econometrics, a 2040 ban on new petrol and diesels would mean a saving of 42 million tonnes of CO₂ in 2040. In comparison, the total emissions from petrol and diesel cars today are 60 million tonnes per year. If we made the transition more quickly, the savings would be even greater.

This means we need more renewable energy—but this is the case anyway, as we phase out our use of fossil fuels.

When will we develop the battery technology required for travelling long distance in electric vehicles? Won't all the used batteries mean lots of waste?

We already have batteries that can last long distances. Tesla's new "mass market" Model 3 has a range of 300 miles, for example. Lithium-Ion is currently the primary battery technology used in electric cars. At the moment, hardly any lithium is recycled; but it could be. We need government action to ensure that recycling systems are put in place. There are also new battery technologies being developed which may reduce impact in the future.

Are electric vehicles the solution for air pollution and climate change then?

Electric vehicles are better than dirty diesels and petrol cars, both for air pollution and climate change, but that's only part of the story.

On the air pollution front, electric vehicles produce no nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). However, tyre and brake wear still generate tiny particles that get into the lungs and cause respiratory problems and heart disease, causing tens of thousands of premature deaths a year.

Fossil fuels are likely to remain part of the energy mix, powering our electric cars for years to come, contributing to carbon emissions and climate change.

continued on page 6



Tommy Coyle (centre in black with fists raised) inspiring the team of young planters



Beth and Ren hand funds raised for more plants to Lee-Ann. They also came to our next Hull FoE meeting



Planting up the raised beds

PHOTOS: Lee-Ann Williams

Planting to clean the air

In July, Angela gave a presentation with Dave White of Hull City Council to 5 youth groups of 16-17 year olds who were looking for projects they could carry out as the Social Action part of the *National Citizen Service*. Two of the groups were interested in being involved with our Air Pollution Campaign.

The groups, about 20 youngsters in total, with their leaders, met with Angela, Lee-Ann, Shahab, Hilary and Dave White at the Marina on a very wet Tuesday in August. Angela and Lee-Ann had purchased plants from Mires Beck Nursery which were chosen for their aromatic and air cleaning characteristics and ability to survive without much attention. These included lawn camomile, lavender, creeping thyme, calendula and nasturtium.

We had also been given compost and borrowed tools from *Rooted in Hull*, and bought gloves. Despite the heavy rain, the groups enthusiastically cleared litter, prepared the ground, brushed compost into the cracks between stones in raised beds, and planted. They even came back and had another go!

Tommy Coyle—one of Hull's premier professional boxers—was invited to come and see the Marina project as he happened to be in the area at the time. He inspired the young people working on the project, spoke about how important it was what they were doing and told us about his travels abroad to places that respected the environment.

The groups also held fundraising stalls and raised over £70 which they would like us to spend on more plants. We are currently discussing publicity and signage with the Council.

We very much appreciated the help and enthusiasm of the young people. We also had excellent support from the team leaders Dan and Richard from the *Tigers Trust*. We hope to keep in touch and do something similar next year.

Hilary and Lee-Ann

National Citizen Service: www.ncsyes.co.uk

Bulb planting Kingswood HU7 3DY **Wed 25 Oct 9.30am –2.30pm**

All invited. Andrew@emsyorkshire.co.uk 07036006452



Beach clean gang in action

Beach clean at Humber Bridge

Some of the young people who took part in the planting at the Marina also organised and took part in a beach clean at Hessle foreshore near the Humber Bridge on Sunday 20 August, helped part of the time by Hull FoE members Shahab and Hilary. This was part of the Marine Conservation Society's activities and was a survey as well as a clean up. Ren and Beth, part of the surveying group, said that there were some large one-off

items, eg a computer hard drive, which had clearly been dumped, but the main items numerically were wet wipes which might have been washed through the sewerage system or perhaps left by picnicing families.

Wet wipes are a nuisance because they don't easily decompose. They should always be put in the rubbish bin and never flushed down the loo.

Info from Beth and Ren

Sustainable Food Cities

I attended the Sustainable Food Cities launch at the KCOM stadium. Hull has joined nearly 50 other cities in taking action to make sure we can grow food at a sustainable level. Bryony McFadyen is our regional coordinator.

There were about 70 other people there from businesses, schools, the Council and of course us growers. Everyone said they found it useful to them and it was

great to speak to people I'd never met before.

The lunch menu was out of this world and all the food was provided by us growers and cooked beautifully by the KCOM chefs so well done to them and us.

What was the outcome of this exercise? Public education about food and related health matters. Food poverty is a big issue and food banks need to be banished.

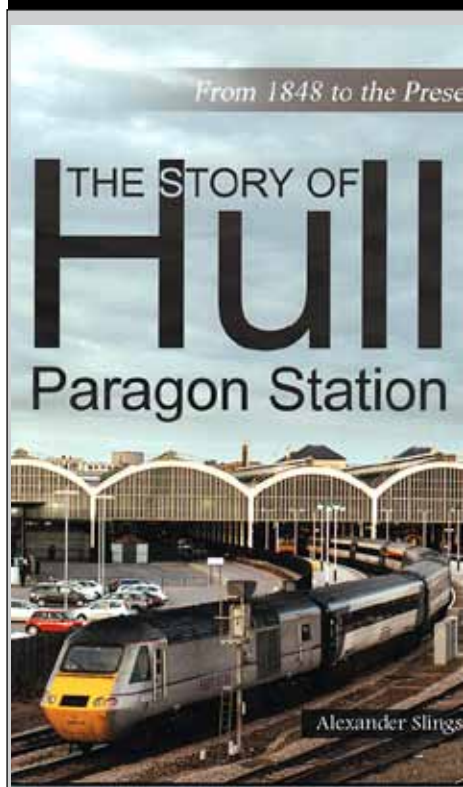
Watch this space because food is afoot. This is a big deal.

Think grub not grass.

Yvette

Lee-Ann comments: It was a very positive event and the attendees seemed keen to join a partnership group to help develop Hull as a Sustainable Food City.

BOOK REVIEW



The Story of Hull Paragon Station, written and published by Alexander Slingsby, 2017

In my opinion Hull benefitted greatly from the creation of the Interchange, with train, bus, coach and now cycle hire services brought all under one roof.

In this well written and attractively illustrated book, Alex uses a magazine format to tell the story of one of our most significant historic buildings. He looks at the way it has adapted over the years to the changing needs of the people using it, from the original design and changes to accommodate the 2.2 million migrants who passed through in search of a better life in the late 19th century, to recent alterations made to regenerate the station, work that earned the developers the Green Apple Award for the Built Environment and Architectural Heritage for the way it combined much needed

improvements and sustainability with conservation.

He tells us about the terrible fire in the Station Hotel in 1990 and its restoration, and looks at the story behind the statue of Philip Larkin. He also interviews recent station managers to give us a different perspective. And he takes us underground to parts of the station few people see—but were visited by Queen Victoria!

The book is available at £8.99 from Amazon; it should also be obtainable through bookshops and libraries but you might need to ask for it.

Hilary Byers

PS The process of change and adaptation continues with a current planning application to install solar panels on the station roof.

Growing for GOLD

The winter of 2016 was a mild one. Hardly any frost and not one snowflake; gave me sleepless nights because apples and pears demand many hours of cold weather in order to find their fruiting mojo. One bright and very frosty December morning, Guy Falkingham from Yorkshire Brewers in Humber Street collected the windfalls to make his eponymous batch of cider.

Our annual Wassail took place in January and was very well attended. There was far too much toast but no matter, it was all gone by the following Thursday when all the volunteers arrived.

Thanks to new volunteers who wanted to learn the dark art of pruning, it was all

air, look at us from a distance and slope off back to the den.

Hurray! The daffodils we had planted in the wildlife garden and in front of the Four Seasons mural had burst into flower since our last visit. The real daffodils looked great bobbing about in front of the painted ones. I gave myself a mental pat on the back for that minor horticultural success.

Spring of 2017 was dry, very dry. Cracks were opening up in the clay between the rows of apples. My heart filled with dread. Was this summer going to be like the scorching drought of 1976? Visions of tiny withered apples filled my imagination.

Andy Steel (Environmental Management Services) who donated some bat boxes.

June was wet, the wildlife garden flooded and then the Hull In Bloom / Yorkshire In Bloom Judges arrived. We showed them round the garden, told them about improvements, they drank tea and left. I woke up with a start in the middle of the night thinking 'I didn't tell them about the bat boxes'.

The letter from the council said **the award ceremony** would be on Tuesday 19 September at the Guildhall. We sat with the Hamlyn Avenue bunch and waited until they got to the category of Community.



done by February. There's such a feeling of pride when you look back at the neatly cut rows of bare branches. Spring was just round the corner and on balmy days the bees would venture out of their warm hives, have a nosey about and go back to bed. Just like the dog Fox who would emerge from the rough opposite the orchard, stand on the road, sniff the

The wildlife garden sprang into life and with it a rash of native hogweed. It's edible, you know, and apparently better than asparagus! We chopped it down and watched the wild flower seeds emerge in profusion. A new ditch was dug to increase the bog areas and Peter planned the planting. Summer was drawing near and the rain came in torrents. The only good news came from

We hadn't won anything since 2013, too much to hope for. But what do I know? **Two Gold Awards thank you very much.**

Yvette Grindley

Pickering Road Community Orchard
Contact Yvette if you want practical lessons in pruning: 07922 266749
ygrindley@yahoo.co.uk



**Join Wassail early Jan;
details from Yvette**

How will we power the electric car revolution? *continued from page 3*

The environmental impact of constructing 30 million new "metal boxes" to replace our current set would be huge. Lithium mining on an industrial scale generates severe impacts on the environment.

Advances in driverless vehicles may mean that fewer and fewer people see the need to own their car. This could reduce the problems of congestion and the environmental impact of building and powering millions of vehicles.

But alongside this we also need to minimise the use of vehicles, through investments in public transport, good urban design and encouraging people to cycle and walk as much as possible.

Electric cars - part of a greener future

As with any changes in the way we live our lives, there are lots of variables and choices to be made. However, there is no doubt that the future of cars is electric.

Electric vehicles will very soon be extremely affordable, easy to charge, able to drive long distances and most importantly, key in reducing air pollution and our dependence of dirty fossil fuels.

But they're not the be all and end all – what's also needed is a transformation in the way we move about our cities, away from private car ownership and towards active travel and public transportation.

Hilary Byers

Summarised from Friends of the Earth Clean Air Campaign briefing.

Greening the estate

Carla Moss is a Leeds based artist with a diverse range of work that explores our relationship with the environment, time and place.

She has recently finished a stint as artist in residence at the Goodwin Trust under the title of 'Greening the Estate', where she has been working with the Thornton Urban Gardeners (TUG) group, Adelaide Primary School and St Andrews House at the Villa Gardens community allotment. She has also been participating in neighbourhood plans for green spaces in the area.

Carla says:

I've now finished the residency in Hull. It's been a busy time with highs and lows. Some projects came to fruition, some didn't.

Greening the Estate

With its focus on 'green' things I decided to try growing plants in straw bales outside the parade of shops where I was based. This sounded straight forward when I researched it, in reality it was a challenge. However, I was particularly pleased to prove wrong the many passers-by who for the first few weeks said: 'they'll burn 'em down'. I also discovered a natural deterrent to vandalism: manure. What the 'stink' was, was widely discussed but not engaged with!

Local people picked the produce, which was all edible: fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers. One exchange with a couple of guys was quite amusing as they dared each other to eat the marigold flowers, which, despite my assurances, they weren't sure were edible.

Summer Sun Clock

Another project I did was to create a summer sun clock. It used reverse graffiti, a technique where the dirt is cleaned off the path using a jet spray to leave the 'clean' image.

'What if?' Book

The last main project was a 'What if' book. Passers-by were invited to type on the typewriter their 'what if'. The writings have been collated to create a book in



three parts. Some comments people have made in response to it:

'It was very moving'

'It's incredible and astounding and so real and wonderful and challenging, I just love it'

The books are £3.50 including UK postage. If you would like a copy, please go to my website at

<http://carlamoss.co.uk/Art/WorkForSale/index.php>

Being in Hull for this year of City of Culture has been an amazing experience. I've seen more art and theatre than ever in such a short period. So much so that I, like many of my friends, got to culture



fatigue point at the end of the summer and I didn't want to engage in any more creativity! Of course that passed and I've seen lots more. There is still a lot on until the end of the year and I hear it will be continuing with a slightly less intense program over the next few years.

Do contact me if any of this work interests you and you would like more information about it. You can find more details and photos of all the residency projects over the last 2 years on my website

Carla Moss

art@carlamoss.co.uk

<http://www.carlamoss.co.uk/>

07968 223 754



Autumn events

For October there will be a **Forest Gardening Course** which will be delivered by Tomas Remiarz on **Saturday 14 October 2017**.

Tomas Remiarz is the author of *Forest Gardening in Practice*, published this year. The event will be **free** and will be held on Constable Community Allotment, Hull HU3 3DF.

(Please note there will be no regular T&PH meeting in October; this course has been organised in lieu of a meeting.)

For November the T&PH meeting will take the form of a Film Showing of *'Permaculture in Practice'*, which looks at four very different Permaculture sites. The film is just under an hour long, and will be followed by refreshments and a discussion.

The film will be shown in Boulevard Village Hall, Hull HU3 3EL.

Doors open 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.

Jenny Parsons

Treasurer, Transition & Permaculture Hull

<http://www.transitionhull.co.uk/>

01482 845356



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 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 Karen (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).

External Coordinator:	Lee-ann Williams, 166 Meadowbank Road, Hull HU3 6XP	Tel: 07583 194313 Email: leeannwilliams6@gmail.com
Internal Coordinator:	Angela Needham, 124 Etherington Road, Hull HU6 7JP	Tel: 07737 249461 Email: angelaneedham88@gmail.com
Membership Secretary & ECO distribution:	Karen Wood, 187 Sutton Road, Hull HU6 7DP	Tel: 07531 191867 hullfoetreas@gmail.com
ECO Editor:	Hilary Byers, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY	Tel: 01482 445747 Email: hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk