

DIARY DATES

Tues 7 February 7pm

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café,
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

Sat 11 February 10.30am-1pm

Yorkshire FoE gathering in York.
(Contact Lee-Ann if you are interested
in attending).

Mon 13 February 7.45pm

Boulevard Village Hall - Film: "The
Economics of Happiness".

Tues 7 March 7pm

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café,
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

Mon 13 March 7.45pm

Boulevard Village Hall - Film: "A Simpler
Way: Crisis as Opportunity".

Tues 4 April 7pm sharp

HFoE AGM at Vintage Café,
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

Tues 2 May 7pm

HFoE meeting at Vintage Café,
Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

Hull FoE visit Goole Fields 2 Wind Farm



On Tuesday 20 December Hull FoE members visited Goole Fields 2 Wind Farm, a visit arranged by HFoE member Karen Wood.

We were met at the station by a minibus and taken to the site. I was interested to see that it seemed surprisingly near to Old Goole (it is actually 2km away), with some quite tight access along fairly narrow roads. However, we could see that the site is handy for the port of Goole, which is where the turbine components were imported from Germany.

We were first given a presentation by Tim Daldry, Senior Project Manager with wind farm operators Innogy Renewables UK, and Phil Moran, the resident site engineer.

Innogy Renewables UK are responsible for Goole Fields 1 & 2. They have wind farms throughout Europe, on

and off shore, and some hydro. They are also researching with marine energy partners into wave and tidal stream generation.

Development in Europe has been much quicker than in the UK; planning issues and the withdrawal of subsidy have been relevant issues in the UK. But the firm has encountered little planning resistance at this site. Karen told us that she felt that the firm had been very good at engaging with the concerns of local people from an early stage and this had made a significant difference.

The firm rent most of the land, with farmers retaining ownership and continuing to farm close up to the turbine towers. Siting of the turbines had to take into account flight paths into Doncaster airport, and the fact that Thorne Waste SSSI is nearby. RSPB were satisfied that birds would not be affected.

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ECO Chit Chat

If 'thinking global' is too depressing for you, join us in 'acting local'. We particularly want to make a difference with air pollution, where we know we also have the support of the City Council. And if getting out in the fresh air and doing some planting or pruning appeals to you, there are all those wonderful community gardens and orchards crying out for help. Its much cheaper than going to the gym!

As well as those mentioned elsewhere in ECO, remember:

- ▶ Last Friday of every month, **wildlife maintenance** in Sculcoates Cemetery with David Longthorn tel: 01482 228336. He would also appreciate help with the Hull FoE wildlife allotment, the tree nursery, and fruit trees on Newland Avenue Allotments.
- ▶ **Frack-Free East Yorkshire** could use your help distributing leaflets around East Yorkshire and the Kirby Misperton area of North Yorkshire where consent has been given for fracking. They could also use help supporting the objectors' camp. www.frackfreeeastyorkshire.com
- ▶ **RSPB's BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH** is happening at the end of the January (28th–30th). When you register they send a **FREE** pack which gives all the details of what types of birds you are looking out for etc. <https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch>.
- ▶ **Tesco Bags of Help** has funding of up to £5,000 that groups can access to enable them to improve their outdoor facilities, including parks, gardens, woodlands, sports pitches and school grounds, or to create new environmental spaces. Recent successful bids include:
 1. A nature trail to be used by local residents and tourists along the Humber estuary at Paull
 2. Improvements to community gardens including the addition of a ginger bread house.
 3. The purchase of modified gardening equipment for adults with physical disabilities
 4. Enhancements to coastal seafronts
 5. Workshops for an artist to work with disabled adults to create a water feature.
 6. Support to develop food growing projects

Karen Tozer would be delighted to come along and talk about the funding and provide help with applications.

Karen Tozer, Programme Manager

Springhead Park Golf Club, Willerby Road, Hull, HU5 5JE

T: 07545926696 M: 07963 028 560

- ▶ **The Real Junk Food Project** runs a network of pay-what-you-feel cafes around the UK and beyond, serving meals created using surplus food that would otherwise go to waste. Now, faced with a surplus of intercepted food, it is opening part of its warehouse near Leeds to the public as a 'pay what you feel' supermarket.
- ▶ **Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition** 11 Feb to 22 April at Beverley Art Gallery. Free. City of Culture event. The world-renowned Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, on loan from the Natural History Museum in London, comes to Beverley. Featuring 100 awe inspiring images, from fascinating animal behaviour to breathtaking wild landscapes.

Enjoy this and all our wonderful City of Culture events!

AGM

Tuesday, 4 April 2016, at 7.00 pm

Vintage Café, 209 Chanterlands Avenue HULL HU5 3TP

Please note the early start time as we have the AGM and ordinary business.

The Annual General Meeting is your opportunity to take an active role in the group and have a say in what the group should be doing and how.

We'd love to meet you, even if you've not been to our meetings before. Or why not come in February or March for a chat with the 'regulars' about what sort of role you might play?



Subs are due for 2017 by 4 April please

If you are a national Friends of the Earth member **you do need to pay separately** to be a Local Group member.

Subs remain at £2 unwaged and £5 waged (until the AGM on 4 April—what good value!

And if you are inclined to forget, please take out a Standing Order (see back page).

A call to action on air pollution

National Friends of the Earth has now published its **Briefing Paper on the Air Pollution Campaign**

**What follows is not just information, it's also a call for YOU to get involved in action.
If you can spare even just 10 minutes every now and then, YOU could help.**

As we have very good contacts and regular liaison with Dave White, the Air Quality Officer for Hull City Council, this is an excellent campaign for us to become involved in.

This is an issue which people deeply care about, as it concerns the health of every citizen. People in Hull need to know what should be done and what can be done, so that they can encourage those who want to get it done. So please, this is a call to you, our readers. If you would like to be involved in furthering work to cleaner air in Hull, please let me know. (Just email angelaneedham88@gmail.com or text 07737249461).

Improving the quality of our local air helps the health and enjoyment of life of our community, and is a small step in combating climate change and making life better for all the other living beings with whom we share our city.

We have two leaflets you could pass on to others. I have written a little quiz to stimulate bit of thinking (see insertion). We will be talking again with Dave, the Air Quality Officer to see how council plans might be developing at the end of this month. Your input is welcome.

Here are some of the items from the briefing paper. If you would like an ecopy of the whole briefing paper (it is 7 A4 pages long, available as scanned JPEGs) please let me know.

- ▶ Page 1 gives us some important facts. For instance, 4 out of 10 local authorities exceeded the EU's NO2 legal limit in 2015.
- ▶ Outdoor air pollution is reckoned to be responsible for 40,000 premature deaths a year in the UK. Diesel cars are 5 times worse than petrol cars.
- ▶ Page 2 begins to offer solutions. Local authorities need to be encouraged to make full use of the powers they already have but we also need, with the local authorities, to lobby government to increase these powers and the needed resources. Fleet vehicle purchasers must ban diesel.
- ▶ Page 3 includes a number of actions which could make a big difference locally, such as increasing 20mph zones where appropriate, encouraging cycling and walking, improving public transport and encouraging car clubs.
- ▶ Page 4 continues with further actions, including the development by local authorities of clean air zones and differential car parking charges. We should

investigate and learn from traffic reduction systems elsewhere, such as Oslo.

- ▶ Page 5 includes one of my favourites, the further development of natural green buffers.
- ▶ That's one that Hull FoE, especially thanks to David Longthorn (and others), are quite good at, but we could encourage local authorities, and maybe schools and businesses, to do more.
- ▶ There is also a call to encourage Councils to support a new Clean Air Act, to set out the legal requirements following Brexit.
- ▶ Page 6, amongst other things explores further pedestrianisation and, something all those of us who drive cars can think about, unnecessary idling of our engines. This could maybe be a schools education campaign?
- ▶ Page 7 stresses the need to disincentivise (what a horrid word!) diesel including creating a national scrappage scheme.

So, lots of things we could do locally, some of which are quite simple. Have you a child in school? Could you contact or help us contact that school? Do you work somewhere that could start or further car sharing? Are you or do you know a City Councillor who could encourage the city plans in these directions? Do you live in an area which might be better for a 20mph zone? Could you tell your friends that they may be breathing more polluted air in their car than they would be if they walked?

If you get involved in this campaign even in a little way please let me know.

Angela Needham



PHOTO: Roham Lewis

Hull FoE, Biofuelwatch, and other groups demonstrate at the entrance to Drax power station against the burning of dirty coal and woodpellets from unsustainable sources, on 22 October 2016.

ALL CHANGE at Hull FoE

Many of you will feel you know Sue Jolliffe through the many emails she has sent over the years and her friendly voice on the phone, even if you have never met her. Sue is now standing down as Coordinator of Hull Friends of the Earth after 16 years. We are hugely grateful to her for the great part she has played in keeping us all in touch with each other, with national Friends of the Earth and with other organisations, enabling us to campaign and take action. Another very important role has been as a contact point for new members. And certainly not least has been her willingness to respond to enquiries from the press and other media.

I asked Sue to remind us when and how she first got involved in Hull FoE.

"I joined HFoE in March 1993 and took over the Membership secretary and ECO distribution role in 1998. The then Coordinator Mike Wright left the area at the end of 1999 so I took over in the new year with Alan Tharratt and Carole Noreiko as my links to the meetings. Email was in its infancy then and most communication was done by phone. I got lots of support from John Walford (then Treasurer) and other members of the group. The group had a higher profile and the press regularly sought our views in those days, and I did interviews with Radio Humberside, Viking FM and Hull Daily Mail; – now it seems we have to approach them."

Sue will be a very hard act to follow. So much so that we have split the various roles and redistributed them. Here is how we intend to work:

PHOTO: Hilary Byers



Lee-Ann Williams is now EXTERNAL COORDINATOR. She is our link with national Friends of the Earth, keeping us in touch with what they are thinking and making sure they know what we are doing. If you are signed up to get emails, you will be getting news from her and also information from other outside bodies where it is relevant to our members. Lee-Ann has been to 'basecamp' and other meetings with FoE for over ten years and knows the people at national level very well, so she was the obvious choice for this role. Lee-Ann is also likely to be the first point of contact for enquiries from the media.

PHOTO: Hilary Byers



Karen Wood is already our TREASURER. She will now take on the MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY role as well, and will also be sending out ECO, thus creating a 'one stop shop' for everything to do with membership.

If you are a member you will be sending her your subs. Don't forget they are due on Tues 4 April to coincide with the AGM!

PHOTO: Angela Needham



Angela Needham is INTERNAL COORDINATOR. Her role is to keep the group members in touch with each other and especially with local campaigning. She will be letting you know about opportunities to take action, whether it's attending a demo, handing out leaflets, manning a stall, cleaning up a beach, writing to your MP or signing a petition. She will also be wanting to know what your interests are and how you would like to be involved. She will circulate the Agendas and Minutes of meetings and encourage you to join in.

Most important of all, we want you to help us to make a difference. Contact any of us and tell us what you like doing. However little, or much, time you've got and whatever your skills there will be some way you can 'act local' to protect and improve the planet we all share!

Travels in a van

In September, Hull FoE member Sarah and her husband did what many of us dream of but never get to do, packed up her life into a van converted into a mobile home and set off to see the world. Here is the first of what she intends will be a regular column reporting her experiences.



PHOTO: Sarah Morris

I sit here in the lounge of the communal workers' farm house, at Vidra Pura, a wellness and inspiration retreat, near Odeceixe, in North Western Algarve. Walking from the tree lined meadow where our mobile home is stationed, where two of the tributaries of the River Odeceixe meet, I notice Autumn slowly sliding in. Time is heading to the last third of October, the leaves of the Linden and Ash fall, whisper-like, like the first few flakes of snow. The Hazel has yet to show signs of the closing season yet to come.

Almost three weeks since we arrived here to volunteer and learn, laugh and be inspired to creativeness. And creativeness is here in abundance within nature, accompanied by the new aroma of the Cistus shrub (part of the rock rose family). The people are wonderful and diverse as humanity can allow, with compassion for the usual human frailties seen in and by others.

Today I chased my first Hummingbird Moth and yesterday

held my first Praying Mantis, like holding a moving cluster of twigs. The evening chorus is not too dissimilar to that of the UK, with the added sweet chirp of colourful crickets, frogs and toads. The days at the moment are like our summers, the nights like our Septembers, with mists filling the valleys in the early morning sunrise.

But this is not the start of our life-changing adventure...

As some of you may know, last May, my husband and I bought a 1998, 7.5 ton Mercedes Vario 814 to convert into a mobile home. After many trials, tribulations and getting rid of most of what we owned, we moved into our now beloved 'Jeremy Cor-Van' on the auspicious date of Winter Solstice, two days after my 40th birthday. (No mid-life crisis needed then, I thought). Saving our wages and paying off debts, leaving our jobs and sadly our community of very good friends, we were soon in the position to depart for Europe on 16 September 2016. First ports of call were families in Wales and

the West country, then on to the exciting—the ferry.

A 25 hour crossing from Portsmouth to Santander, the crossing of the Bay of Biscay, proved exciting all day long, with sightings of dolphins and brief friendships based on the sharing of why we are all on this part of our journey together. About 4pm on Wednesday 21 September, our first sight of land of Northern Spain. Santander sunnily glittered its warm welcome to us for over an hour until we docked.

Nothing quite prepares you for this after a year and a half readying, not quite believing that you are finally on your way to a new life and adventure together...but I am sure you can imagine, it was very exciting...and if there are no objections, I'd very much like to share with you the next chapter to unfold.

Sarah J Morris

Sherwood Forest is in danger

Energy company Ineos is trying to get permission to explore underneath it for gas. The Forestry Commission manage the forest and are supposed to protect it, but are coming under pressure to let the deal go ahead.

The deal could be signed any day now. A huge public outcry could give the Forestry Commission the push they need to stand up to Ineos and protect our ancient forest.

Can you sign the petition to protect Sherwood Forest before it's too late? <https://id.38degrees.org.uk/clicks/link/14817/>



FILM SHOWINGS

In November 2016 we organised a film showing of **More than Honey**, an award-winning documentary made in 2013 about the importance of bees and their susceptibility to colony collapse disorder. Featuring high quality photography of bees and interviews with beekeepers in a variety of countries, it examined a number of stress factors including pesticides, parasites, viruses and electromagnetic radiation. It suggested that a combination of these agents might be responsible for the weakening of bees' immune defences.

We have two further film showings coming up in 2017:

- **The Economics of Happiness**—an inspiring feel-good documentary made in 2011. The film features many voices from across the world calling for economic change. While government and big business continue to promote globalization and corporate power, people are starting to resist those policies. Communities are coming together to re-build more human scale, ecological economies based on an economics of localization.

Mon 13 February, 7.45 pm Boulevard Village Hall

- **A Simpler Way : Crisis as Opportunity**—a feature-length documentary made with a budget crowdfunded by supporters. Using footage taken in 2015 in a community in Gippsland, Australia, members of the community explore and demonstrate a simpler way to live in response to global crises. Throughout the year they build tiny houses, plant veggie gardens, practice simple living, and discover the challenges of living in community.

Mon 13 March, 7.45 pm Boulevard Village Hall

WEA COURSE

A WEA gardening course, Spring Gardens, will start 15 February 2017 for 7 weeks, taking place Wednesday mornings at Boulevard Village Hall, delivered by our co-ordinator Lausanne (07816 141169).

Designed to show the benefits of gardening to produce healthy organic food crops, the course will include practical sessions at Constable Community Allotment nearby. It will include the importance of attracting pollinators, and suggest ways of attracting bees and beneficial insects.

The course is free to people on certain benefits. If you are interested in taking part please contact Lausanne for more information.

Further meetings, visits and events will be advertised on the T&PH mailing list. To join the list email lausannet@yahoo.co.uk or jenny@transitionhull.co.uk.

Jenny Parsons

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

TRANSITION & PERMACULTURE HULL IS FUNDED BY GRASSROOTS
 ENDOWMENT & TWO RIDINGS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Hull FoE visit Goole Wind Farm, continued from page 1

Special provision had to be made for water voles displaced from ditches, and for badger setts found on the site.

Goole Fields 1 came on line in August 2014. This consisted of 16 turbines each generating 2.05MW. Goole Fields 2 adds a further 17 turbines. In total the 33 turbines should generate enough power to supply 19,000 households or about twice the needs of Goole. When we visited, construction of the Goole Fields 2 turbines was nearing completion with connection to the grid expected at the end of February. Construction has taken 2 years.

Each turbine has a rotor diameter of 92m and an overall height of 125m to the tip. The blades are not, of course, as big as the giant currently occupying Queen Victoria Square, but impressive all the same. The turbines are expected to have a life of 20 to 25 years. The energy used to manufacture and build them is paid back in terms of energy generated within 1 year.

Wind farms don't create a lot of local jobs once construction is finished; about 12 people will be employed by SCADA at the service centre in Goole, to service all the wind farms in the area.

A planning requirement was for a community fund to be established which raises £230,000 a year for community groups and charities in south Goole and surrounding parishes, a substantial amount for a sparsely populated area. A local panel decides on the distribution of the fund and it is administered by East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

Following the presentation, we used the minibus to tour the site, stopping to stand close to the turbines and to look inside the base. We were surprised at how quiet they were, a faint hum and a swish of the blades being the only sound.

We were very grateful for the opportunity to visit the site and many thanks to Karen and Innogy Renewables for organising it.

Hilary

Local Green Groups news and events

A Summer Green Fair

On the whole we were pleased with the Hull Friends of the Earth Green Fair held last November at Kingston Youth Centre; many thanks to all who took part. We think it might benefit from taking place in summer. We would hope to overspill outside, showcasing the very attractive wildlife garden created by the young people at the centre, and having some stalls outside on the Beverley Road frontage in the hope of attracting passing trade. Date likely to be early June; more details in next ECO, or from any of the contacts on back page.

May Day at the Orchard

This popular annual event will be on Sunday 7th May at Pickering Road Community Orchard from 12 noon. Come and join us dancing round the maypole and enjoying the spring blossom. Bring a picnic if you like. Contact Yvette if you want a stall or further information: Facebook: Pickering Road Community Orchard; 07922 266749. The Wassail, which is always held in the 1st or 2nd Sunday in January, gets better and better with over 180 turning up this year.

Beverley Millennium Orchard on Long Lane was established by the local community and has some unusual local apple varieties. It is in need of a little TLC, and a group are coming together to help revive it. The grass has been maintained by East Riding of Yorkshire Council, so keeping it in order should not be too arduous, and the Pickering Road Community Orchard crew are happy to train volunteers in all aspects of management.

If you live near Beverley, how about coming along to help? There should be some pruning taking place on 29th January, weather permitting. (I can vouch for this being a good way of learning how to do pruning and developing your skills!)

Get in touch with Hilary Hamer, Food4Hull, 07939 569347, @food4hull

or Yvette Grindley on Facebook: Pickering Road Community Orchard

Wilson Bed

We'll be in action in spring on this demonstration veg patch in the City Centre, and would love to have your help. Contact Jenny Parsons on www.transitionhull.co.uk or 01482 845356.

Creating a Buzz

The Prospect Centre in Hull runs a roof top allotment that grows food for homeless charities. A recent addition is a colony of honey bees. The project has been developed with the advice of Beverley Beekeepers Association, and local schoolchildren will be invited to visit to discover more about bees.

<http://www.prospectshoppingcentre.co.uk/popular-shopping-centre-is-creating-a-buzz-as-it-becomes-first-retail-destination-in-hull-to-house-colony-of-bees-on-its-roof/>

Forest for a Fiver

Hull resident and tree expert Peter Facey has produced a FREE guide, entitled *Forest for a Fiver!* which explains how it is possible to grow up to 1,000 native trees for an outlay of just £5. The booklet gives step-by-step instructions on how to collect seed and grow your own native trees and shrubs, as well as how to produce your own organic compost, fertiliser and pesticides.

To request electronic or paper booklets, to discuss workshops which could be tailored to the participants' age and location, or if you have any questions, please contact **Andy** on 07936006452/ andrew@emsyorkshire.co.uk or **Peter** at forestforafiver@gmail.com

Veterans recycling

The Hull charity **Recycling Unlimited** has recently been awarded a grant from The Royal British Legion to work with ex-armed forces veterans and their close family members. This will mainly be through getting people involved in their woodworking shop, creating garden furniture, or on their gardening sites. People can self-refer or agencies can refer or signpost to them. For more information go to the website *Veterans Support*

The Harvest Festival is still a distant 8 months away, but in this action-packed City of Culture year, it's already a good time to pencil the date into your diary. So we're letting you know now that it'll be taking place on **Saturday 9 September 2017**, (that's the Saturday after the Freedom Festival weekend), between 11am and 3pm. A city centre venue is yet to be confirmed.



Look out for news of veg growing skill share sessions where you can get together with fellow enthusiasts to learn the tricks-of-the-trade and have your own bountiful harvest of delicious local food in this incredible year! If you're new to it all, we'll be telling you how to get started with something small, but equally delicious and rewarding!

Visit our website at growersnetwork.org.uk or email us at hello@growersnetwork.org.uk for more information



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). Offers of help to deliver newsletters in your area are very welcome!

External Coordinator:	Lee-ann Williams, 166 Meadowbank Road, Hull HU3 6XP	Tel: 07583 194313 Email: leeannwilliams6@gmail.com
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