

North Herts Friends of the Earth

May 2009

www.nhertsfoe.co.uk

Get Serious!

North Herts Friends of the Earth are supporting the national campaign to get local councils to commit to a target of 40% CO2 emission cuts by 2020 from their whole area.

We're researching Stevenage Borough Council and North Herts District Council's Climate Change strategies. So far neither strategy has been finalised, and both leave a lot to be desired. We hope to enter into a supportive dialogue with them to persuade them to tighten up their approaches at the same time as gathering wider public support for council action on climate change.

On the 30th of May several North Herts members will go to London for a conference and training on the campaign.

If you are interested in coming or being involved in this campaign please email Dan.

North Herts Friends of the Earth demand G20 action on jobs, justice and climate.

12 North Herts Friends of the Earth supporters travelled down together and we met more NHFOE members in the crowd of 35,000 at the G20. It was an excellent turn-out from us.

The organisers of the march were originally expecting around 10,000 – so over three times the numbers expected came. Unfortunately, this meant that the police delayed a large part of the march, and they didn't reach the rally until late in the day. Despite this the march remained entirely peaceful.



The Put People First march was organised by a "rainbow alliance" of 150 trade unions, church groups and charities including ActionAid, Save the Children and Friends of the Earth. Accompanied by brass bands and drummers and a colourful assortment of banners and flags, marchers walked four miles from Embankment to Hyde Park, where there were speeches from activists from around the world and from comedian Mark Thomas and environment campaigner Tony Juniper.

Former Labour party national executive committee member, the TV presenter Tony Robinson (Baldrick, from Black Adder), who was on the march, told reporters: "Like 97% of the people here, I'm absolutely hacked off with what's happened in my country and internationally."

He said the march would have to mark the start of a more concerted movement to properly regulate financial institutions and invest in climate change solutions. "This is just the beginning of the prelude of the prologue. The forces of greed are very tenacious, and just because we march up and down it won't make a difference on its own."

French free climber Alain Robert scaled the Lloyds building in the City of London to promote environmental campaign - 100 months.org.

Continued on page 7....



North Herts Friends of the Earth have been kindly invited to show the film "The Age of Stupid" at Walsworth Baptist Church hall on May 30th at 7.30pm. As this is a few days before the local and European elections we are hoping to have candidates or party representatives attending so that we can question them on their approach to the urgent challenge of climate change.

"It is a captivating and constantly surprising film: the first successful dramatisation of climate change to reach the big screen".
George Monbiot, journalist / author

"This wonderful film is like a bucket of cold water. I hope it wakes people from their slumber and helps galvanise real pressure on politicians to come up with an effective deal at the Copenhagen climate change summit."
Tony Juniper, former head of FOE

"Knocks the socks off 'An Inconvenient Truth'" **The Ecologist**

It is FREE! Come along! Bring relations, a friend, a colleague, someone off the street! Everyone should see this film!

7:30 30th May Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP

There may even be a bicycle powered popcorn machine!

Incineration campaign successes, but not over, yet.

The Herts County Council

proposal to burn our waste has been subject to a lot of criticism in several local papers across Herts, due to a campaign launched by David Ashton, a North Herts Friends of the Earth member. **HERTS WOW!** (WithOut Waste) is a coalition of groups (including North Herts Friends of the Earth) working together to encourage alternatives to incineration such as increased separation of materials, so there can be increased recycling, use of Mechanical Biological Treatment and Anaerobic Digestion and the eventual phasing out of non-recyclables from the waste stream. The campaign has already produced a positive result from Herts CC who have invited representatives from HertsWOW! to meet with them to discuss the alternatives to incineration and why incineration is the worst option for dealing with waste. **Please sign and send off the enclosed card and see the leaflet for more details.**



DID YOU KNOW...it is planned that North Herts' countryside will be compromised through housing development East of Luton - 5,500 houses?

... that as a precursor to this house building there is a possibility of a Luton East Circular bypass to the airport, partly along Lilley Bottom, linking to a Luton northern bypass running from the M1 to the A505?

... that these proposals are already being evaluated and will be finalised over the coming months? ...that developers are already asking for preplanning advice from your councils?

... that there are huge areas of brown field available for building within Luton's boundaries?

To safeguard your countryside for generations log on to....

www.keolg.org

Please use the sample letter below to make your voice heard. Please also attend a consultation event (there are several coming up). For details see: www.keolg.org

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: Development east of Luton

The Draft Core Strategy approved for release to Public Consultation on 20th March 2009, by Luton & South Beds Joint Planning Committee (JPC), includes proposals to build over 5,500 homes on Green Belt land in North Hertfordshire to the immediate east of Luton.

I wish to register my strongest possible objection to a development of such a scale to the east of Luton.

The land is designated Green Belt and forms the natural eastern boundary of Luton, preventing further urban sprawl. The development would fully engulf hamlets like Cockernhoe and Mangrove Green and blight other villages like Tea Green and Lilley. A major development of this kind requires extensive infrastructure and hence the proposals to build not only a Luton northern bypass but also an eastern extension through Lilley Bottom, skirting the proposed housing development. Quite apart from this infrastructure being financially non-viable, the eastern bypass section will pass through and destroy the outstanding chalk valley of Lilley Bottom. The Highways Agency do not support the building of a Luton northern bypass so just how will this monstrous bypass be funded?

I wish to register my objection to a Draft Core Strategy that has been issued without a proper detailed financial impacts analysis, to test the proposals.

The development to the east of Luton is not supported by North Hertfordshire District Council, in whose area it is situated. We need

to know – and the Joint Planning Committee SHOULD have known before it issued its Draft Core Strategy – just how 13 possible expansion areas became just 4 and include this beautiful Green Belt land.

I wish to register my objection to the Joint Planning Committee taking decisions without members of the Committee having been presented with the technical analyses.

Send your letter to: Joint Technical Unit, 960 Capability Green, Luton, LU1 2PE

An Environmental Alternative to M25 widening and the Hitchin/Luton bypass.

Environmentalism is getting more positive, and we are now spending more and more time supporting eco-friendly developments rather than just opposing the environmentally unfriendly ones. Now there is another local campaign on the horizon, the campaign to reopen the Oxford and Cambridge railway.

This is showing serious signs of happening and is now being marketed by a group of local authorities and businesses as the East-West link.

This would mean that people wanting to travel from our area to Bristol could go across country rather than going through London and having to change. It is as important as Crossrail (the new rail scheme connecting Paddington to Liverpool street with a series of new tunnels) in easing public transport, but would cost only a fraction of the cost. Only £450 million rather than £15 billion.

The interesting thing is that much of the railway is already in place, either as passenger line, freight line or derelict line. The lines from Oxford to Bicester, and Bedford to Bletchley are already open as passenger lines. The Bicester-Bletchley section has tracks already in place. Half of this stretch sees regular use as a

freight line, whilst the other half has become overgrown, having been abandoned only within the last ten years. In Jan 09, work began clearing the track to assess the feasibility of reopening.

This leaves the short 10 mile section between Bedford and the East-Coast Main-Line which need more compulsory purchase and reconstruction but really this shouldn't cost any more than any proposed bypass.

Whereas the plan to widen the M25 would cost £5 billion, this modest and important improvement would cost a fraction of that at £500 million plus.

There will be more on this story coming up in the news so, please listen to the Three Counties radio and the regional news on the BBC for progress. Please get behind the campaign by writing to MPs and councillors and persuade them that THIS should be the alternative to any bypass in the North-Herts and Luton area.

Some interesting links:

A Facebook Group

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=2386196167>

Latest from BBC News. Jan 09

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/oxfordshire/7851922.stm>

Press Release Milton Keynes Partnership. Nov 08:

http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/media_centre/press_releases.php?ID=121

Railfuture. Pro-rail campaigning organisation

<http://www.railfuture.org.uk/Ox-Cam/>

Submitted by Malcolm Smith

WDM welcomes end of unabated coal but fears CCS technology is "a giant gamble with the climate"

The World Development Movement welcomed Ed Miliband's announcement that there is no place for unabated coal in our energy future at a time of climate crisis. However, the campaign group warned that the proposal leaves a giant loop hole that could still lead to disastrous

levels of emissions before 2025. The proposed new plant at Kingsnorth in Kent could alone emit as much as the whole of Ghana each year.

"I'm delighted that the Minister has finally recognised there is no place for unabated coal at this time of climate crisis" said Benedict Southworth, WDM's Director.

But the Government is committing billions of pounds of taxpayers money on a technology [CCS] that remains untested on a large scale and may never be economically viable. It is also yet to be proven that climate damaging carbon dioxide emissions can be stored safely underground. It is only requiring 30% of carbon to be captured and stored.

"It is critical that the UK government provides a guarantee that if the gamble fails we won't be left with massively polluting plants."

Power companies must now recognise that new coal fired power stations cannot go ahead without being full CCS from the start, otherwise there will be no guarantee they will be cost effective by 2025.

To take action on new coal see <http://www.nonewcoal.org.uk>

And to email Ed Miliband: http://www.wdm.org.uk/campaign/s/climate/action/milibandstopping_snorth.php

Haringey Council's 'Going Green' Conference shows how a council should be working

On Saturday, 21st February I attended a 'Going Green' Conference organised in Tottenham by Haringey Council. The event was one of the last stages in the council's consultation on its Greenest Borough Strategy, which sets out a series of priorities and actions to ensure Haringey takes the lead in London on environmental issues. Attendees included 120 local residents, councillors and activists from across Haringey, including

Friends of the Earth and Sustainable Haringey.

The conference was held in the less affluent eastern part of Haringey, and I believe that this was a deliberate decision on the part of the Council to involve all 'harder to reach' groups in the process of 'greening' what is traditionally a very urban environment, divided by wealth/class between the poorer East and the more affluent West of the borough. This aspiration was also reflected in Tottenham. M.P., David Lammy's, keynote speech was about the importance of ensuring that all of Haringey's diverse communities respond to the challenges presented by climate change. He also outlined how his ministerial role in championing green skills and training has a vital part to play if we are to combat climate change and ensure continued prosperity and economic growth.

Other speakers included James Strawbridge from 'It's not easy being green' and Quentin Given from FoE., after whose presentations I attended the following workshops:

1. Building Schools for the Future in which we discussed the ways in which Haringey were using green technologies to build Heartlands School – a new secondary school near Wood Green where architects are using combined heat and power (CHP) plants/units. (Haringey are also beginning to adopt district heating systems in some new developments or when they renovate existing housing and are considering the possibility of becoming the suppliers of affordable energy to local homes.)
2. Home Insulation Schemes where we were given information about local and national schemes to obtain free insulation and how to apply. (Warm Front/Warmth and Comfort/London Mayor's Scheme, etc.)
3. Sustainable Planning and Design in which we discussed ways in which the borough has adapted its planning policy and decision-making process to favour

sustainable design and construction. Visit

<http://www.lowcarbonbuildings.org/home/> for an example of grants available for microgeneration projects for households, community organisations, public, private and the non-profit sectors. Haringey have also introduced other initiatives, such as the use of shared car schemes in which the community can hire electric cars; school food-growing projects and 'Living under one Sun', a community allotment project based in Tottenham Marshes.

Sustainable Haringey is a broad network of over 40 community groups and residents seeking a sustainable way of life and encouraging all Haringey residents to take action together to develop long-term sustainable policies and practices. To that end they have been responsible for the development of a wide range of working groups, community projects, initiatives and publicity and we may be able to adopt aspects of their model of working in N. Herts. If anyone is interested, I collected a number of this organisation's leaflets and responses to Haringey's Strategies but to summarise, the network appears to be dynamic, highly motivated and full of ideas for activities and events – both large and small - including working groups on energy, homes, lifestyles and consumer choices, etc; 'ecoteams' developing neighbourhood-based small self-help groups; community kitchen and food co-ops and 'Seed Swap Sunday' – open to all who are interested in gardening and growing. They say that they network with other groups nationally, and so we may be able to tap into this resource. Check them out on:

www.sustainableharingey.org.uk.

Submitted by Astrid Hansen

Factory farms linked to swine flu. No-one yet knows whether swine flu will become a global pandemic, but it is becoming clear where it came from – most likely

a giant pig factory farm run by an American multinational corporation in Veracruz, Mexico. These factory farms are disgusting and dangerous, and they're rapidly multiplying. Thousands of pigs are crammed into dirty warehouses and sprayed with a cocktail of drugs - posing a health risk to more than just our food - they and their manure lagoons create the perfect conditions to breed dangerous new viruses like swine flu. **The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) must investigate and develop regulations for these farms to protect global health.** Big agrobusiness will try to obstruct and scuttle any attempts at reform, so we need a massive outcry that health authorities can't ignore. **Sign the petition at the address below for investigation and regulation of factory farms and tell your friends and family** and we will deliver it to the UN agencies. If we reach 200,000 signatures we will deliver it to the WHO in Geneva with a herd of cardboard pigs.

http://www.avaaz.org/en/swine_fl_u_pandemic Mexico has been nearly paralysed and across the world leaders halted air travel, banned pork imports and initiated drastic controls to mitigate the spreading of the virus. As the threat shows signs of subsiding the question remains where it came from and how we stop another outbreak.

Smithfield Corporation, the largest pig producer in the world whose farm is being fingered as the source of the H1N1 outbreak, denies any connection between their pigs and the flu, and big agrobusiness worldwide pays huge sums of money for research to argue that biosafety is ensured in industrial hog production. Experts from the European Commission and the FAO have cautioned that **the rapid move from small holdings to industrial pig production is in fact increasing the risk of**

development and transmission of disease epidemics. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warn that scientists still do not know the extent to which infectious compounds produced in factory farms affect human health. (3) **Studies abound of the horrific conditions endured by pigs in concentrated large-scale operations,** and the devastating economic impact on small farmer communities of bloated large-scale operations. (4) **Smithfield itself has already been fined \$12.6m and is currently under another federal investigation** in the US for toxic environmental damage from pig excrement lakes. (5) But even with all of this damaging evidence, a combination of increased global meat consumption and a powerful industry motivated by profit at the cost of human health, means that instead of being shut down - **these sickening factory farm operations are propagating around the world and we are subsidising them** (6). In the wake of this swine flu threat, let's hold industrial pig producers to account. Sign the petition for investigation and regulation. http://www.avaaz.org/en/swine_fl_u_pandemic **Buy local! Buy organic! Buy fair trade! Buy less meat! Grow your own!**

Visit www.avaaz.org to see the references for this article

The Oil Bank of Scotland-funding climate chaos with our money.

The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) is a hugely significant private funder of oil and gas extraction and exploration. Between 2001 and 2006, RBS provided over \$10 billion in loans to oil and gas projects. The embedded carbon emissions resulting from these projects in 2006 were greater than the carbon emissions for the whole of Scotland.

RBS has positioned itself as 'the oil and gas bank'. With dedicated

oil and gas offices, RBS has significant experience and expertise in the sector, and provides crucial services to oil and gas companies. Working as a hands-on partner to the industry, RBS structured the loan agreements and acted as financial adviser on over \$30 billion of projects between 2001 and 2006. Other banks describe RBS as the most competitive in the sector, prepared to undercut other banks and offer cheaper loans and finance the projects no other British bank will.

People and Planet are running a successful campaign to persuade RBS to move away from funding the fossil fuel sector. See <http://peopleandplanet.org> They are not asking for a boycott, rather they want to engage with RBS reasonably. They are asking RBS to:

- calculate and publish the embedded emissions resulting from loans to oil and gas projects
- cap embedded emissions and set annual targets for reductions
- commit to a complete transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy lending
- establish 'no-go' areas for lending: immediately halt loans to unconventional fossil fuels (eg coal and tar sands) and which affect sensitive ecosystems such as rainforests.

The White House goes organic

Michelle Obama's decision to make her new White House vegetable garden entirely organic has angered America's powerful agribusiness lobby who are urging the First Lady to consider the use of appropriate "crop protection products".

Mrs Obama started work on the kitchen garden with a group of schoolchildren in February. But to the consternation of the chemical agribusiness, Mrs Obama has said the project will not use chemical products to tackle pests or give her plants a boost. Obama's seemingly simple move is seen by many as a political statement akin to Eleanor Roosevelt's 1943 victory garden.

Shortly after the digging began, Mrs Obama received a letter from the Mid-America CropLife Association (MACA), which represents the companies producing the pesticides and fertilisers underpinning "conventional" American agriculture. The carefully-worded letter also "respectfully" encouraged Mrs Obama to recognise the role played by conventional agriculture in feeding America's growing population.

"My girls like vegetables more if they taste good," said Michelle Obama, "Especially if they're involved in planting it and picking it, they were willing to give it a try."

The garden is a symbol of the use to which the monocultural deserts that we call grass lawns can be put. After the lawn was dug up 55 varieties of vegetables and herbs were planted. And perhaps most revolutionary, this is a vegetable patch in front of the house and is meant to be seen. It is not hidden away like something to be ashamed of.

Two bee hives are also to be kept as part of the garden and the veg beds will be fertilised with White House compost and crab meal from nearby Chesapeake Bay. The total cost is around \$200.

Church Farm

Since November 2009 I have had the pleasure of working at Church Farm, Ardeley. Their website:

www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk

illustrates the essence of what we are trying to do. 'At Church Farm we have been restoring and creating a traditional, mixed, sustainable and high welfare food and farming system. The farm is a place for wildlife, beauty, diversity, community and people as well as a place to produce authentic local food.' The livestock are rare breeds like Red Poll cattle and Berkshire pigs.



Chickens are roaming in the fruit orchard that was planted by volunteers. Geese eat the grass in the nut orchard and turkeys are bred in the woodland. I have been setting up the care farm side of the farm, supporting people with learning difficulties and/or mental health issues. We get involved in most aspects of the farm like collecting eggs, bedding down pigs and planting out vegetables in the fields as well as having lots of fun. Church Farm has ambitious vision! We are developing viable businesses on the farm that hopefully could be copied by other farms to revitalise rural life elsewhere as well as reconnecting people to farming and the food we eat. John the veg, has transformed an 8 acre field into a productive organic vegetable garden with a propagation tunnel and 4 polytunnels. We are expecting a wide variety of vegetables and herbs like aubergines, tomatoes, lettuces and cabbages (6000 of them!).

Church Farm is full of ideas and an inspiration for everyone!

I am organising a visit and tour on the farm for North Herts FOE on Saturday 18/7/09 at 10 a.m. It is a beautiful place to visit and the tour is very informative. Please bring a picnic to share! Please contact me on (Ann) 07054095236 or email ann@churchfarmardeley.co.uk if you want to come and to car share
Submitted by Ann De Bock

The world's first carbon neutral country

At the People's Premiere of the Age of Stupid in



the solar tent – and the satellite link to the other 65 cinemas – there was a hot-off-the-press video clip from the president of the Maldives, Mohamed Nasheed: "Today, I can announce to you and the world that the Maldives will be the first carbon neutral country in the world. The cost of this probably will be high, but

please understand that failure to act will cost us the world. If the Maldives, a small relatively poor country, can achieve a big reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions, there can be no excuse from richer nations who claim that going green is too complex, too expensive or too much bother.

Now the world has an opportunity to come together and prevent the looming environmental catastrophe. This opportunity, as we all know is called Copenhagen. And let's be very frank about this. Copenhagen can be one of two things. It can be an historic event where the world unites in a collective spirit of cooperation and collaboration. Or Copenhagen can be a suicide pact. The choice is that stark. My message to you, my message to the world, is simply this: please don't be stupid."

Cue the only standing ovation of the entire event, followed by a rather neat summary from Mark Lynas: "This is more than just an amazing announcement. This is potentially a game-changer for the entire negotiations on climate change worldwide."

The message can be seen here: http://www.ageofstupid.net/news/maldives_become_carbon_limbo_world_champions

The video message is up on the Maldives own website, which is worth a look itself.

Where we get our water:

Two thirds of the water needed to produce the UK's food and clothes is used in other countries. Below is the amount of water used, *in millions of cubic metres a year*, in the 12 nations that Britain relies on most heavily:

Brazil - 4,141 million cubic meters a year for beef, soya, coffee, poultry, maize, rapeseed, wheat, pigs, milk, sunflower oil.

Ghana - 2740 for cocoa, groundnuts and palm oil.

Ivory Coast - 1,826 for cocoa, coffee, bananas, palm oil, cotton, cashew nuts.

France - 3,055 for maize, rapeseed, wheat, pigs, milk

India - 2,317 for cotton, rice, tea, cashew nuts, ground nuts.

Indonesia - 1,585 palm oil, coffee, cotton, tea, cocoa, coconuts

USA - 1,293 for soya, rice, wheat, cotton, grapes, sunflower oil

Spain - 1,417 for olives, grapes, oranges, rice, pigs, beef

Germany - 1,400 for rapeseed, pigs, milk, wheat, beef

Denmark - 1,790 for pigs, milk, beef, poultry, wheat

Netherlands - 2,083 for pigs, poultry, beef

Ireland - 2,828 for beef, milk, poultry, barley

(Figures from the WWF. Interactive map available here: http://static.guim.co.uk/interactive/1219140379649/612197/water_footprint.swf)

Buy local! Buy organic! Buy fair trade! Buy less meat!

Villages working to reduce their carbon footprint

North Herts Friends of the Earth are beginning to hear of villages in our area that are working together to reduce fossil fuel use and carbon emissions.

We know there is a project forming in Gravely and have heard of another in Standon, Puckeridge and Braughing (The Three Villages Eco Group (3 VEG)) just on the edge of our area. If you are aware of any such projects or want to start one in your village or estate or road please let us know so we can support it.

Ashton Hayes in Cheshire is a great example of a community working together to become carbon neutral. You can find out about their project at their website:

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

Measure your energy use

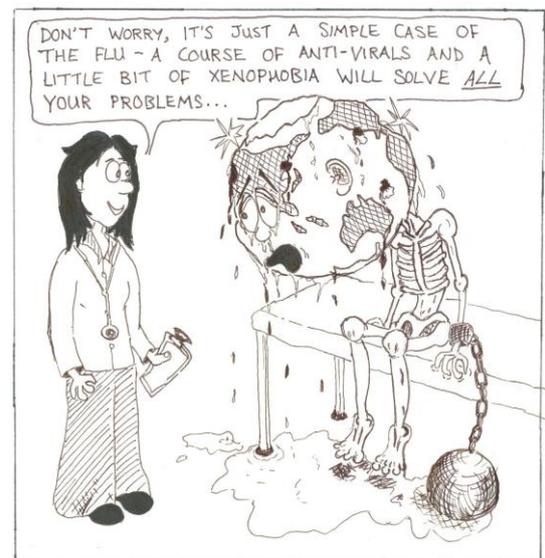
Save up to 25% off your electricity bills. We have an electricity monitor to loan to members. It helps you work out where you are wasting electricity and which appliances are using it most, so you can control your electricity use more efficiently.

Contact Dan if you'd like to borrow it.

100 months - We've had 50 years to sort it!

Campaigners and scientists are now saying we have less than 100 months to address climate change before it becomes irreversible (see 100months.org). But it seems that it isn't just homework that gets left to the last minute. 50 years ago there were warnings about human induced climate change. Read this from 1959:

"... if carbon dioxide is the most important factor, long-term temperature records will rise continuously as long as man consumes the earth's reserves of fossil fuels" by Gilbert N. Plass senior scientist, Aeronutronic Systems Inc in Scientific American July 1959



Cartoon submitted by Jen Liberty

Monsanto's Roundup is Toxic

Recent research shows that Monsanto's promotion of the herbicide Roundup as a harmless weed killer is false.

The latest studies confirm a wealth of evidence on the toxicities of glyphosate and Roundup formulations [2] ([Glyphosate Toxic & Roundup Worse](#), SiS 26), and pinpoint the different sites of action, all of which result in cell death. Epidemiological studies have previously linked glyphosate to

spontaneous abortions, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and multiple myeloma. Laboratory studies showed that glyphosate inhibits transcription in sea urchin eggs and delays development. Brief exposures to glyphosate in rats caused liver damage, and adding the surfactant in Roundup had a synergistic effect, causing greater liver damage. Roundup was also found to be much more lethal to frogs than to weeds, and could have contributed to the global demise of amphibians within the past decades [3] (Roundup Kills Frogs , SiS 26).

There is a now a strong case for restricting, if not phasing out glyphosate and Roundup; in the first instance, by banning the release of Roundup tolerant GM crops worldwide. For the same reason, no further Roundup tolerant GM crops should be approved for commercial release. For further information see The Institute of Science in Society at <http://www.i-sis.org.uk> - an excellent source for articles on science and the environment.

return, making climate catastrophe irreversible.

Before climbing the Lloyds building at the G20 Alain Robert climbed the Eiffel Tower and the Sydney Opera House. Mr Robert unfurled a banner on the side of the Lloyds building and after descending was driven away by police.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/7979151.stm>



Emails to North Herts Friends of the Earth supporters

I send out occasional action bulletins and invites to events such as film showings on this list. If you'd like to be on it and are not, then please contact me at dangomm@yahoo.com

LOCAL GROUP MEETINGS

Please come along and get involved

Thursday 21st May

Thursday 18th June

No meeting in August

Thursday 17th September

All 7:30pm-9:15pm

Friends' Meeting House

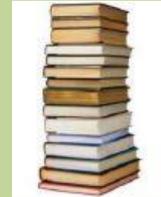
1 Paynes Park, Hitchin

Come to the pub afterwards!

Transition Town Letchworth Website

The website is live and exciting! See: <http://ttlethworth.org>
Or call them to find out more:
07531490851

Environmental book bank



If you'd like to read up on some of the issues we have a bank of books to borrow:

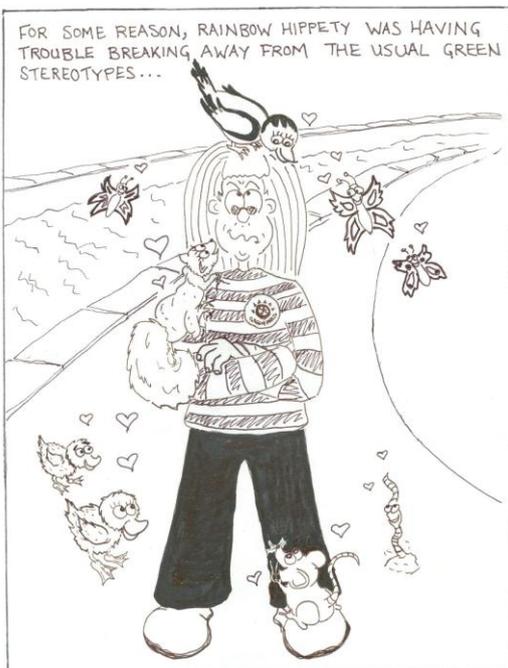
- Calculate your carbon footprint- Collin's Gem
- How to save cash and save the planet
- Don't throw it all away - FOE's guide to reducing waste
- Funny Weather - Kate Evans' cartoon guide to climate change
- Air Madness - Runways and the blighting of Britain - Cedric Pulford
- How to win campaigns against incinerators - FOE
- Hope in the Dark - The untold history of people power - Rebecca Solnit
- How we can save the planet - Mayer Hillman
- No Logo - Naomi Klein
- Toxic Childhood - How the modern world is damaging our children and what we can do about it - Sue Palmer
- The tipping point. How little things can make a big difference - Malcolm Gladwell

Contact Dan - 01462 632479

dangomm@yahoo.com

GREEN DRINKS

Join us for Green Drinks on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:30pm. We meet at:
The Millstream Pub
Cambridge Road
Hitchin
SG4 0JH



Cartoon submitted by Jen Liberty

From Page 1....

100 months.org estimates that from August last year humanity has 100 months before CO2 levels could tip us into a state of no

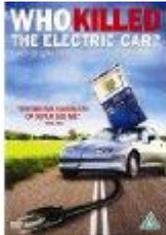
Borrow these DVDs from Dan:

The future of food
(on GM-excellent)



Grow your Own
(fun drama)

The Yes Men
(WTO pranksters-funny)



Who killed the electric car?

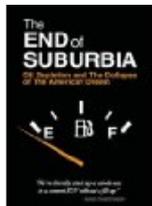
The 11th hour
(better and more wide ranging and challenging than ...Truth)

Supersize me
(on Mc Donalds)



Sisters on the planet
(Oxfam-four women from different countries share their thoughts on climate change)

The end of Suburbia
(Peak oil and cities)

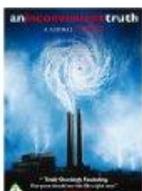


Our Daily Bread
(the industrialisation of food-shocking great to watch in a group as there is no dialogue so you can talk over it and discuss as it plays)

The Power of Community
(peak oil and Cuba)



An Inconvenient Truth
(of course!)



Sunday 17th May
Walsworth Fair.
Plant stall and incineration campaign
Walsworth Common, Woolgrove Road,
Hitchin, Herts
10am until 4pm
Come and visit!

Thursday May 28th
“Age of Stupid” showing
University of Bedford Studio Theatre
Bedford
1900 hrs

Saturday May 30th
Friends of the Earth Regional Gathering.
Bonhill House near Liverpool Street in London, on Saturday 30th May. The launch of the Get Serious, Food Chain and Copenhagen campaigns. Book by contacting
howard.whitehead@foe.co.uk

Saturday May 30th
“Age of Stupid” film showing;
Walsworth Road Baptist Church,
Walsworth Road, Hitchin,
Hertfordshire, SG4 9SP
7:30pm
FREE! Come along and bring family and friends!

Sunday 28th June
Community Garden
Stall on Get Serious! Campaign if we get enough volunteers
Ransom’s Recreation Ground
Nightingale Road, Hitchin

Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th July
Stall on Get Serious! Campaign
Rhythms of the World festival
Hitchin

Saturday 18th July
Visit Ardeley farm with North Herts Friends of the Earth. Bring a picnic to share. Contact Ann on 07054095236 or email
ann@churchfarmardeley.co.uk

North Herts Friends of the Earth CONTACTS:

Coordinator: Dan Gomm
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Treasurer & Membership secretary: Jill Bracy
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Planning Campaigner:
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Food Coordinator:
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Transition Towns Coordinator:
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Please help with the newsletter

Please send your letters or articles to Tracy at: 84 Jackmans Place, Letchworth SG6 1RQ, or tracy@tracypez.co.uk
Deadline for the next newsletter:
4th September 2009