

The Green Collective

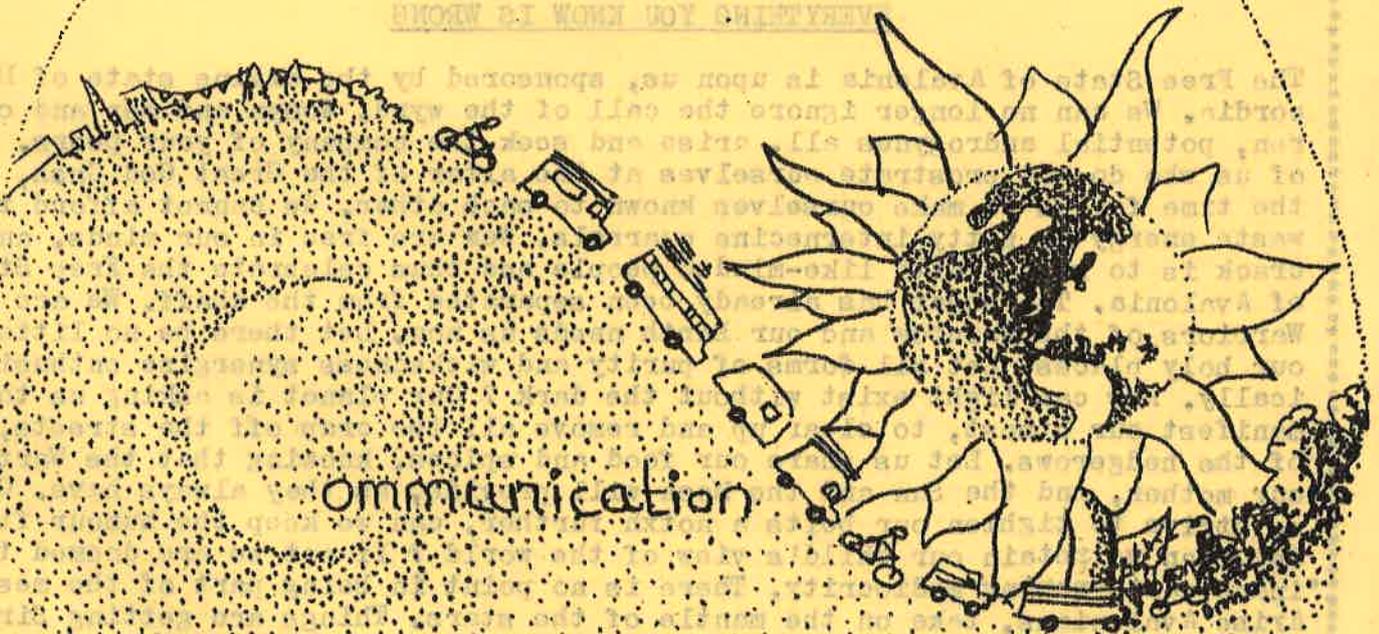


BI-MONTHLY MAILING
FOR GREEN COLLECTIVE
SUBSCRIBERS

number 9

JULY/AUGUST 1985

PEACE



UNDERSTANDING

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

South Devon ... July '85 ... many people around, in small groups or large ones, all around the area, travelers, all sorts, following on from Hood Fayre. We're not welcome at Elephant, not the Roadshow, not travelers at all, leaving a space with no special focus except the people around, the wonderful countryside, time to have a rest, work on vehicles, feel for new directions.

Many things in the air ... rumours of other groups traveling in other parts of the country ... talk of new free festivals and open spaces, but also of big money venues next year, for the Green Field? For the Green Gathering? with all the attendant problems and paranoias ... which way do we go?

The Kingdom of Britain is in a state of ignorance and confusion, of energy and enthusiasm, of desperation and calamity. The message of the Rainbow is reaching into new places; its arrows pierce new hearts. The people of Albion are not free, but they begin to know Freedom. A fresh wind blows and we feel it in our faces.

South Devon ... July '85 ... movement is slow but the first steps on our journey must be taken with care. The future stretches out in all directions. Tomorrow is the first day of the New Age. Now is the time to see and know the Vision.

Bruce.

EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS WRONG

The Free State of Avalonia is upon us, sponsored by the divine state of Discordia. We can no longer ignore the call of the wyrd. Womyn and men and children, potential androgynes all, arise and seek the company of your peers. All of us who do not prostrate ourselves at the altar of the Great God Cash, it is the time for us to make ourselves known to each other. We cannot afford to waste energy on petty internecine quarrels. We are free in our minds, and the crack is to gather with like-minded people and thus celebrate the Free State of Avalonia. The wheat has already been separated from the chaff. We are Warriors of the Rainbow and our Earth needs us now. Let there be no litter in our holy places. Let all forms of purity and wickedness synergize enthusiastically. How can light exist without the dark? Our planet is asking us to manifest our utmost, to clear up and remove all the crap off the streets, out of the hedgerows. Let us share our food and spices, knowing that the Warth, our mother, and the Sun and the Moon will provide, as they always have. Can we strive to tighten our belts a notxh further, can we keep the humour flowing, can we retain our child's view of the world? If not we are doomed to inane earth-raping mediocrity. There is no point in being part of the mess. Arise Avalonians, take on the mantle of the stars. Things are getting Sirius. The time for Atlantean power trips is well past. Blessed are the green for they shall inherit the Earth. Let us build on the foundations of a free mind, an unencumbered spirit, and a wull like titanium. There is no future without a present. Anarchy is freedom is taking responsibilities for ourselves and our actions. Anarchy is disposing of roaches mindfully. Anarchy is not dropping rubbish around the Tor. Anarchy is Zen. The journey of a thousand light years begins with one thought. Be strong, enjoy all things of the senses. Find Avalonia in our minds and nurture it and keep it clean. WE have been here since before the beginning, and there are mofe of us where we come from. Fly Avalonian thought-waves, gets you there on time.

ATTENTION IS ENERGY - PUT YOUR GOOD WHERE IT DOES THE MOST

WHAT WE DISLIKE IN OTHERS IS WHAT'S TRYING TO REMAIN HIDDEN IN OURSELVES.

THE GREEN COLLECTIVE MEETING that we need so badly was to have been held at Ashton Court, in the Green Roadshow marquee, just before the Bristol Community Festival. However, we've just heard from the Ashton Court organisers that there will not be space after all for Green Collective/Green Roadshow activities on the site, which leaves us in the situation of having set up a Collective meeting and then having to cancel it at the last minute yet again. What can we do about it? We will probably be able to arrange a Collective Meeting in Glastonbury for the Autumn, but till then things will have to ride.

The meeting for the LAND TRUST may possibly go ahead, but don't count on it. Please see the articles further on in this mailing anyway. This lack of a meeting and gathering place only makes the need to get something going more urgent. Contact David Taylor (0480 63054) for last minute news on the meeting.

Other things which need discussion sooner rather than later are this year's GREEN FIELD, and how to use any revenue forthcoming; how we should go for it next year; other related subjects like our relationships with the Rainbow Village, the 'Convoy', and Stonehenge Festival; and a proposed EUROPEAN GREEN GATHERING on the Earl of Stradbroke's estate in Suffolk next year. We also need some general discussion on the Collective's direction, purpose, style etc.

Meanwhile the GREEN ROADSHOW has reached a difficult time with lack of funds and lack of bookings. The first half of the season went well (see tour report on the following pages), but now Richie has reached a point where "I've had enough of Organising on this level and really want to move on, out and up into the ... sanic ways I met when I first came to the Collective". What happens next is really a matter for the people involved in the Roadshow themselves, but this too needs consideration by the Collective as a whole.

And then there is the question of the GREEN COLLECTIVE/NETWORK, with David and Richard (and the computer) on the move from St Ives, together with the appearance of the FREE STATE OF AVALONIA. It feels like we have a choice of two directions to take; but most of this is going to be focussed on Glastonbury at the end of the summer, and there's no reason why it can't be resolved and all brought together.

See you at the CHILDREN OF THE RAINBOW GATHERING, to take place in Avalonia at the beginning of September, and/or at a Collective meeting which will probably take place around the same time and place.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE GREEN COLLECTIVE

The Green Collective Mailing is available to subscribers only. Annual subscription costs £5, which includes a £1 stake in the Land Fund as well as a contribution to the various projects in hand.

Subscribers will also receive names & addresses of other subscribers in their areas, details of meetings of the Collective, and an opportunity to buy publications at a reduced price; they will be subscribing to the Collective as a whole, rather than just to the mailing.

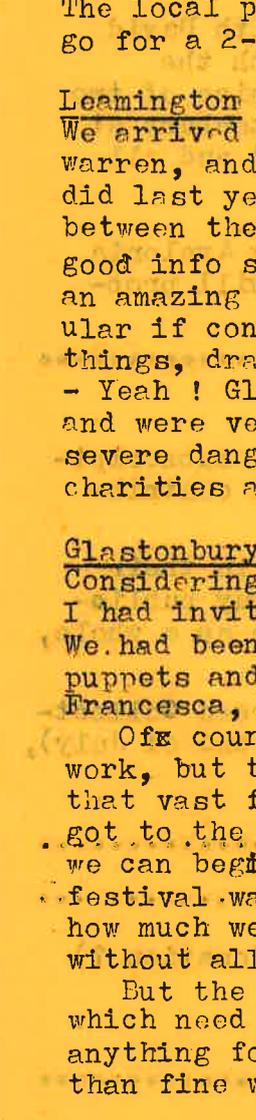
Please make cheques payable to 'The Green Collective' and send to: Green Collective (subs), c/o 4 Bridge House, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs (till the end of July), or 9 Kings Street, Glastonbury, Somerset (August onwards).

NAME:

ADDRESS:

..... ENCLOSED: £... (£5), £... (donation?)

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS



THE GREEN ROADSHOW

TOUR REPORT ... The following are my own observations and are not meant to be in any way objective or representative of the impressions of the whole group ...

Eastleigh .. "Peace is a Way of Life" .. near Southampton. We few that made it to this one assembled at Margaret's house 3 miles away and camped on her garden overnight. We had to break camp very early and move onto the park in Eastleigh by 9.00. Simon set up a small wholefood stall, Anne and Dennis set up their literature and teadance stall and we (Simon, Val, Dave, Victoria and me) set up, decorated and played in the small Roadshow marquee. There were only 3 other stalls and an Oxfam display there. It was very quiet but a lot of real contact was made with the few adults and kids we did meet. Highlighted for me by the understanding and respect which I gained talking with a group of young football hooligans ! The local peace group were very pleased and inspired by us being there, and may go for a 2-day festival next year.

Leamington .. Festival of International Understanding and Peace .. We arrived here variously via Savernake Forest & the Convoy, Lopy's party, Harewarren, and Glastonbury. We had the company of the Wild Bat Puppet Theatre (as we did last year at the same event) and created a space with tarpaulin and parachute between the vehicles ... very inviting and graceful. Anne and Dennis did a very good info stall next to Steve Wade's AT, Energy displays and Info, and Simon did an amazing amount of Stonehenge infor and PR. We found face painting a very popular if consumer-oriented activity, so on the second day we stuck into making things, drawing their creativity and culminating in a kids-own-made puppet show - Yeah ! Glad to be joined by Jenny. We created a real 'Festival Feel' on our bit and were very well received. This was the 7th year of the festival and it is in severe danger of becoming stuck in its factionalism with its various religions charities and organisations ... Green workshops and theatre for next year !

Glastonbury .. CND Festival, Green Field .. Considering the presence of nearly all of the Roadshow and all the other people I had invited to work with the kids there, we all seemed to be pretty isolated. We had been joined by One World Films (video outfit), Moonlight Theatre (shadow puppets and clowning), Bruce's Information Station, and welcomed back Mark & Francesca, Don's Animal Rights bus, Danny & Guler, Sheena, and Victoria.

Of course the weather was against us and I personally had taken on too much work, but the net effect of splitting the Roadshow's energies across the top of that vast field was to feel lost and disappointed by frustration. Very few people got to the Green Field through the mud ... many problems came to light and I hope we can begin to resolve some of them - together - in the near future ... the CND festival was a blot on the landscape and only confused us, further reminding us how much we'd rather be doing what was almost a Green Gathering on our own terms without all THAT going on ...

But the way the Green Field itself was organised raised questions and doubts which need investigating and discussing, certainly before we commit ourselves to anything for next year. It was still a good space to be in, but something more than fine weather seemed to be lacking ...

THE FREE STATE OF AVALONIA

*Everybody, all and sundry - welcome to the future. Here there are no rules or rulers as we are prepared to take responsibilities for our actions. Can we organise spontaneity? Can 'they' legalise freedom? Spirit that can be talked about and discussed in meetings is not spirit.

*When working work, when talking talk, when sleeping sleep, when wobbling wobble - but above all don't organise!

*Rainbow warriors are noticed for their impeccability.

*Nature commits no errors. The great good grows weary of constant grazing of the well-ordered pastures of righteousness. Another earthquake expected soon.

*Latest score: Riot police 0, Westbury pacifists 1 (own goal).

*Hopi Prophecy for 1985:

*This is the year of human to human communication. We will re-establish contact in a very knowledgeable way with our ancestors from the stars. The first wave will come from the Pleiades, and will be totally acknowledged and will be known to all world powers. The second wave will come from Sirius.

*At the moment there ain't no place to go but here. Take care, but take it often.

Stonehenge - atrocity - Westbury Peace Festival - where were the Greens?

No we weren't there but we certainly felt it, and were ever aware of the effect it was having on all concerned with the festivals in general. The violence perpetrated there should never be repeated, but the media violence and police harassment continues even now. Better understanding of the travelers is coming and the Convoy is changing, but there is a whole half-season to go. There is a vast wealth of information and views being published about the politics and feelings around it and the wave of reaction is forward in my mind.

Read 'Stonehenge, its Druids, Custodians, Festival and Future' by John Michell, Radical Traditionalist papers No 6.

Norwich .. Rainbow Fair ...

This was once the Peaceful Green Fair, which was given a hard time by the local Council and University authorities, due mostly to the Convoy coming a few months after the event in '83 and squatting the site. They were evicted and moved onto a rubbish tip provided by the Council (an early trashing?) and given vicious press from the Sun. The Fair was not allowed to happen in the same form last year but the Peaceful Green Collective and the UEA Students Union continued their events indoors, and this year got permission for a Fair on the old Earlham Park site, but without camping (which is a shame, but it did keep it more locally focussed).

We arrived on the beautiful riverside site within the space of about 3 hours of each other, and found the organisation flexible enough to let us create an avenue with Don's Animal Rights bus opposite One World Films, and Bruce and Steve's info outlets on the corner of the enormous stall circle around the open stage. Bruce did information for the site there. The avenue led down into the children's area which we created under two huge parachutes, spanning an enormous front between the vehicles - but the small area at the back under the tarps was not enough to protect us from the torrential rain which came at times (to marquee or not marquee, that is the question!).

There were lots of local kids in and out, getting off on some interesting relationships. A number of local people came to help us too. The Albion Big Top was there with 'Fairs Against Famine', and most of the travellers' stalls were there. Notably absent were Simon and Val (their children were with us), Moonlighters, Anne (who was on holiday), and Simon whose wholefoods van seized up on the way (but not far from a base). The event went off really well and ever made a little profit. The security were Bazos whose first contact with us (wearing their toy police helmets) was for one to ask in a panic if we knew who'd stolen his toy gun and 45p. A real antidote to Glastonbury.

A quick 360-mile dash via Kettering to collect the Green Collective and Green CND banners, down to South Devon to jump into the thick of ...

HIPPIES DESTROY

EXCLUSIVE SHOCK HORROR REPORT

SOUTH DEVON

I WAS MUGGED, MURDERED, PILLAGED,
AND DEPRIVED OF MY BATHING SUIT!

MILLIONS of mindless savages have laid waste most of South Devon and parts of neighbouring counties. A rampaging tribe of 'hippies' has invaded the area in a desperate thrust to reach 'Hood Fayre '85', a so-called Festival of Contemporary Arts in the River Dart Country Park.

The invasion, which began 15 years ago with the arrival of students and beatniks, reached crisis point last week as the ravaging hordes advanced, wreaking anarchy and mayhem in Social Security offices and tourist beauty spots. By Friday, more than 200 of them had barricaded themselves into a field on the edge of the Country Park, threatening to burn down the whole world if their demands were not met.

'Hood Fayre' organisers reacted by being upset. But one Country Park warden was more forthright. "It's not too bad really" he said. "In fact it makes quite a nice change".

*) - satirical quip from the unofficial 'Hood Free Times'. Some of the straight local press reports were scarcely less alarmist, and the festival organisers are considering suing the papers concerned for loss of revenue.

Hood Festival .. Near Ashburton under Dartmoor ...

With all that going on in the local press and the ensuing problems for organisers who found it nearly impossible to deal with the Green Roadshow because they couldn't tell the difference between us and the Convoy, this was compounded by the odd 20 vehicles which got in as the Green Roadshow, but only as far as the camping field. Over the weekend I suffered the abuse of all of the organisers, and did my best to make good the results of our very late booking ...

We were so far out we were off the edge of the map and the programme, and were only found by a very few of the few visitors who had so much else to see and do on the sunny, rambling, exciting, beautiful River Dart Country Park site. Our spot was a shady glade which became more a living alternative lifestyle camp than a children's space. We had been joined by Tristan's mandala painting workshop and Brer Rabbit, as well as Fran's bakery workshop and Moonlight Theatre.

The organisers had tried to create a commercial, accessible festival to raise money, impress the Council, police, and site owners in order to create a regular event to continue to raise funds for a local Arts Centre. As it turned out the gross reports in the press did put off many of the locals and the tourists, and the festival lost £10,000 as well as the goodwill of the landowner, police and council. They also blew it in terms of their own organisation, and half of the crew were hospitalised after the stresses of the event ... Several of their veteran committee will never organise a festival again and will have to cover the costs themselves. There will never be another Hood !!

It is odd that the old Hood Fayre tradition could not be eradicated. The locals didn't expect a commercial festival; the organisers tried to make it clear to all that it was now Hood Festival, but all the festival lists write it in as Hood Fayre !

We received much gratitude for moving out of the Park as promptly as we did after the event, but when it came to payment I had to be bone-headed and talk them to Armageddon and back to get an increase from their offer of half what we had been booked for, for a final three quarters "Now go away !"

RICHIE

INFORMATIVE

FESTIVAL LIST

26-28 July: Hey Revels - A very local Fair in the town of Hey-on-Wye, with a focus on puppets and street theatre. There will be music and a fair as well as stalls in the streets and market square. A regular and growing event.

26-28 July: Elephant Fayre - This year's highly commercial music and theatre event at Port Eliot, St Germans, Cornwall will cost you £16. The privilege of camping on their stubble fields outside the actual festival site is being refused to a number of named individuals who are connected with the Convey by the organisers and the police. They have photographs and registration numbers to go with their injunctions, which the police and SAS Security Glopits are prepared to enforce with their disgusting trashing techniques. Everyone else is assured a good time away from reality so long as they can afford it. Tel: 0503 30816 (but beware because your phone conversation is likely to be recorded).

3-4 August: Bristol Community Festival - on the Ashton Court estate, is absolutely free, with local music, theatre, a big youth day on Saturday and an on-going Green area with workshops, stalls, etc ... Camping restricted to stall holders, site workers, and performers; this must be observed. Tel: 0272 738072.

6-11 August: Liverpool Peace Festival - also funded by the local Council and is absolutely free. There is also camping here, on Otterspool Park, which will allow more continuous workshops and relationships to develop over the 6-day event. Lots of local bands and a Green area with healing and body/art workshops. See enclosed leaflet for more details. Tel: 051 2070221.

9-11 August: Brambles Farm Peace Festival - Organised and supported by many local groups and individuals around Portsmouth, this event is intended to draw attention to and protest against the weapons factory built on the local kids' old play-space at Waterlooville in Hampshire. It is very free and needs as much support as possible. Contact: 8 Durrants Road, Rowlands Castle, Hants.

10 August: Thanet Youth Awareness Festival - at Holy Cross School, Broadstairs, Kent, is a one day festival to bring together many of the very isolated kids' groups and concerns over the dreadfully decaying fabric of Thanet society - strength to Lucy!

All August: Cantlin Stone Free Festival - in Clwn Forest, 4 miles south of Montgomery, is really difficult to find, high up in the forestry mountains, beautiful, peaceful festival, is whatever you make it.

Randemondum Productions Present ALIVE IN '85 1 summer tour of the south west featuring two hot acoustic bands ...

PLANET WAVES, the simple infectious songs of Den Ray, crazy baldhead Wessex minstrel, blending musical flavours from folk-rock through Latin to Reggae with Sax, Fiddle, Flute, Harmonica, Guitar, Congas, Bass and a multitude of Voices! A cassette, 'Apocalypse Sunshine', recorded in Spring '84 with friends in South Devon captured the bright sound of Planetwaves brilliantly. This season's crew, based in North Devon, is now working on the follow-up 'Sombrero Moon Glow', and playing live - Alive in '85!

PENDRAGON From Irish, Breton, Swedish and Caucasian tunes to songs old and new, Pendragon's music will set you jiggin' and a-reelin' to the sweet sound of whistles, fiddle, mandolin, guitar, bazouki, drums, bodhrain and harmony vocals. They have an enthusiastic following in North Devon and plenty of musical friends likely to join in!

For further information and bookings for your fiesta, fair, club, concert, pop or bonfire please contact us at Newtown Farm, Snapper, Barnstaple, North Devon. Tel: Barnstaple 44775.

~~24-25~~ ²⁴ August ? Tree Fair - possibly in Essex or at Moat Farm in Rougham, as a Fairs against Famine production for Green Deserts' benefit. Tel: 0359 70798.

23-26 August: Maigan Fair - at last confirmed and definite for Gilfrach Farm, Llanysul, near Carmarthen, West Wales. The return of this very popular free festival after a season as the Blue Moon.

25 August: Crawley Peace Festival - for Crawley Peace Year - used to be the Family Festival as a regular event. No camping.

23-31 August: Glastonbury Living Astrology Camp - with workshops, conference, celebration and community. An activity holiday for around 250 people at £25 each, £40 for couples (limited edition unwaged tickets @ £15), £10 for dogs; kids are free but they rarely shit in the field or kill sheep! So much will be available in the week that it really is worth it. Further info from Palden on 0458 32601. £4 for day visitors.

29 August - 2 September: Women's Free Festival of the Moon Goddess at Avebury Stone Circle, Wilts. Encounters resistance from locals. Very powerful.

1-9 September: Children of the Rainbow Gathering in the Free State of Avalonia within half a mile of the Tor at Glastonbury. A beautiful, small Green site for this Christian, co-operative, self-help event for building responsibility and respect onto our skill and healing sharing. Rest home for tired festival workers ... have a break, sort things out; this event will incorporate the Festival Organisers' Festival over the weekend of Sept 6-8 as a forum to sort out the problems around festivals, and following exciting projects for next season. There will also be a chance to check out the several winter park-ups available within the Free State of Avalonia.

Acts of violence, criminal damage, stealing, or out-of-control dogs will not be tolerated ... smile, you are welcome ... firewood and toilet facilities will be provided ... Cost £1 per day or £5 and further info in advance to/from Charley Barley, PO Box 23, Glastonbury Post Office, Glastonbury, Somerset.

2-6 September: 'A Village' gathering in North Wales - for families with de-schooled children and supportive individuals. Contact through Education Otherwise, 8 Queensway, Liddell Park, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 1YJ.

All September: Strawberry Fields Forever - Free festival on Ra Tor, near old airfield; Camelford, Bodmin Moor, Cornwall. A growing event.

LATE NEWS

Ashton Court, Bristol: Please note that there will be no space at this event for the Green Roadshow or for Green Collective functions, as had been previously arranged.

There is a strong rumour of a Rainbow Gathering at Trentishoe, North Devon, beginning September 2nd if not before.

* THE FLYING PATROL GROUP: Our act is entirely transportable. Guitars, mikes, *
* amps, speakers, and effects units are all strapped on. We don't play on a stage *
* We normally start work at about midnight and patrol till about 5 or 6 in the *
* morning. We play the late night bar and snack stalls and the small camp fires. *
* We play in tents and in buses and trucks. We play in the main area or out in *
* the camp grounds. *
* We play wherever seems like a good idea, but not non-stop. All systems are *
* switched off between venues so that we can walk in silence and listen to the *
* situations. We only go in when we're certain we're not interfering with some- *
* thing already happening, ie acoustic music, singing, babies sleeping etc. Nor *
* do we play loudly enough to be heard outside the immediate circle. *
* Our rate is normally £150 for a 3-night event. We'll play for less if organis- *
* ers are short of funds, but we emphasise that our earnings go towards travel *
* to gigs, blockades and marches, which, of course, can't pay. *
* FPO, Rivermill House, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs. Tel: 0480 300862. *
* *****

Festivals Forum for a Future

or

From Silly Idea to Concrete Proposal towards
a Practical Reality

Festival Forum
PO Box 23
Glastonbury Post Office
High Street,
Glastonbury, Somerset.

Dear Everyone,

This letter is an invitation to take part in a Festivals Forum for a Future, within the Children of the Rainbow Gathering in the Free State of Avalonia from the 1st to 10th of September. The site is a beautiful, small, green field within sight of and half a mile from Glastonbury Tor. The Forum will focus over the weekend 6-8 September, beginning with a general meeting in the Forum Marquee at 7.00 on the Friday to fix an agenda for the weekend's activities.

There will be representatives from all the various groups involved with festival organisation, welfare and information, as well as travellers, performers, and legendary figures old and new. There will be a whole week available before the Forum in which to settle into the site (come prepared to camp, we're due for an Indian Summer), meet and make friends, and informally get to grips with what we want to achieve.

Everybody is welcome to come and take part in this attempt to address ourselves to the problems which beset the festivals at this time. This year, with the police powers and complex licensing laws, there have been far fewer festivals than before. The lack of co-operation and respect between artificial groups such as 'The Convoy', 'The Organisers', and 'The Press' have led to grave tensions. There has been little information freely available to tell festival goers what each festival is for and about. Couple these facts with the loss of many of the festival sites for the traveling community to gather on, and the resulting misunderstandings are clearly the result of poor communication (including poorly written silly ideas).

Once we can see a clear agenda for the weekend, we can decide how best to structure (or not) our workshops, discussions, meetings, games and domestics. We have the ability to conduct ourselves well in these meetings, with good facilitation and the explicit support of all present for the matters in hand. We should be able to avoid the boredom of time-wasting and ego-tripping by consciously creating the space for everyone to share their ideas, knowledge and feelings. It will therefore be possible to move towards fulfilling some of the aims of the forum, which I see as being:

1. To find and secure sites for festivals, gatherings and settlements.
2. To form on-going working groups to deal with legal matters, information, advice, and:
3. To realise collective projects such as the Travelers' Skool Bus (?), a new Festival Aid group, and a resource pool - the Open Roadshow ?
4. To improve understanding and respect through communication between "us" and "them" ... you and me.
5. To come up with concrete proposals to present at a future meeting with the National Trust etc for Stonehenge '86.
6. To have stimulating and effective meetings that are fun too.
7. To encourage new festivals and secure the legal rights of travelers and festival organisers towards a peaceful future.

The gathering will cost £1 per day or £5 in advance for the whole time, to cover the cost of putting it on. There is a list of commonsense rules and a map with further information available from the address above. Please let us know if you're coming or not by contacting this address.

We look forwards to your reply,

In Peace,

Richie Cotterill.

"The aim of TRIPAL MESSENGER will be 'people not politics', hoping to create a better understanding between people generally." Exciting new magazine for and from festival and traveling folk. Incorporating Freedom Festivals information. From B21, Full Marks, 110 Cheltenham Road, Bristol, Avon. No price but I'm sure a donation of at least 50p would be appropriate.

** Buy these UNIQUE PUBLICATIONS only from us -

** THE LAST NIGHT OF RAINBOW FIELDS AT MOLESWORTH - vivid and heartrending account of the Invasion of Rainbow Fields Village by the Flying Flackjacket and his army of professionals.

** "Sappers biggest operation since Rhine Crossing in 1944" - Daily Telegraph.

** "The elite - see how only 3,000 men overcame more than 100 ageing hippies"

** - Spittin' Image. 24pp. £1.

** THE GREEN COLLECTIVE ANNUAL 1985 - The best from the first year of the Green Collective Mailing. Specially selected gems including 'The Fifth Test at the Oval', 'Rainbow Fields Village goes out for a Saturday Evening Drink', etc.

** If you've not subscribed to this mailing - now's your chance to find out: not just your normal newsletter - and if you have - here's the perfect birthday/Christmas present for that relative in the corner!

** 20 pp A4, printed entirely on ideologically-sound recycled paper. 75p.

** THE ARROW - The Founding of the New Cathedral at Salisbury. The history and the legends. The connection with Stonehenge. As stashed away gathering dust in the reference department of Salisbury Divisional Library. Now re-issued - fresh as the day it was born! 12pp, with line illustrations. 50p.

** Send for UNIQUE PUBLICATIONS, c/o Waterleat, Ashburton, Newton Abbott, South Devon. All prices include postage and packing. All three for two quid.

THE GREEN GATHERING ADVICE PACK

The Advice Pack has been prepared by members of the Green Collective, and is based on their experience in organising the Glastonbury Green Gatherings. It is intended as an information resource and, through its availability, as an encouragement to other groups who may be planning similar events.

The material covers all aspects of putting on a Gathering, and is arranged in sections covering: Working as a Collective; Finance and Budgeting; Press and Publicity; Police and Local Authorities; Site Arrangements and Site management; Site Kitchen; Gate; Health and Welfare; Information; Workshops; Entertainments; Kidz; Stalls; Site Services and Facilities.

The sections are printed on different coloured paper for easy reference, and are designed so that they can be divided up between the different members of an organising group.

The cost is £4 (including postage, and packing in a neat cardboard folder), or @ £2.50 each in bulk. Collective subscribers can purchase single copies at the bulk order price. Please make cheques/Postal Orders out to 'The Green Collective' and send to: Anne Waterhouse, 55 Stuart Close, Emmer Green, Reading, Berks.

"The Information is worth its weight in gold" - Greenline.

"The Green Gathering Advice Pack provides a wealth of most excellent advice, and any organiser who fails to get a copy (AND LEARN FROM IT) is asking for disaster".
- STONE newsletter.

GREEN COLLECTIVE LAND FUND

Since the formation of the Land Fund, some £200 has been collected through taking £1 from each subscription. At the same time a number of groups and individuals with access to more substantial sums have shown a positive interest, whilst the need for land and access to land has grown more acute. A number of ideas and priorities as to how it should be used have been expressed, but the general feeling is that it's time the Fund should start working positively.

A special meeting will take place during the Ashton Court community festival in Bristol (July/August 3/4) to take this further - look out for details in the festival Green area. As background material, we have here an article from David Taylor of the Green Collective, and a contribution from Keith of Cartwheel - one of the other organisations most interested in joining with us in this project.

THE LAND IN TRUST

It was in the Autumn of 1983 that the idea of a Land Trust was first raised. At the time we were, in common with many other festival/gathering organisers, having great problems in finding a site. It seemed that the only sure way of obtaining one was to actually buy the land ourselves; and after four years of Green Gatherings at Glastonbury, that felt as much like home as anywhere.

Since then the idea has slowly developed as new people have shown an interest. Charities can take up to three years to get registered; rather than wait we decided to start a Land Fund immediately. Every Green Collective subscriber now contributes £1 to that fund. No clear use has been decided upon for that money but it was felt important not only to involve large numbers of people in the project but also to get things moving as soon as possible.

Our most recent Land Trust meeting, held at the Beltane Green Gathering in Harewarren Woods, discussed the possibility of dividing this account into two, one for the on-going expenses of setting up the Trust, the other to be an accumulating and untouchable account. If anyone would like to contribute to the Land Fund directly they should contact the Treasurer, Simon Jackson, at The Laurels, 64 High St, New Bradwell, Milton Keynes, Bucks (Tel MK 311519).

Our discussions about the Trust have brought us in contact with quite a few other organisations with similar aims. The Albion Land Club was started some five years ago to secure land for free festivals. The membership form then stated that

"This land will belong to the people and be used by the people to return to the earth. We've waited long enough to be 'allowed' to prove that, in our own way, we can be responsible and capable human beings who want to live in peaceful harmony with nature and the earth. Now is the time to prove we can work together in order to find our land, so that we can have some control of our own destiny without having to pay taxes to Caesar's army. This dichotomy (them versus us) has gotten out of hand.

"Are we not one with the sun, the moon, the stars ... the earth? Can we not live in harmony together? If we are one, we can. As individuals we are powerless, but together we have the earth amen".

Reminiscent of the Wallies and early free festival rhetoric perhaps, but still a powerful statement of the spirit of land liberation. The Albion Land Club never made it; the membership was apathetic and the club slowly slipped into bankruptcy.

Back in the 1920's there was an attempt to set up a 'Land Trust' and 'return the land to the people'. Having bought the land, in Gloucestershire, they then burnt the deeds. Hopes were high but soon faded when the originators discovered that they had no way of restricting access to the land. Many came who wouldn't contribute and only wanted to 'take'. In the end the government took over the land 'because there were no deeds'. Apparently untitled property automatically reverts to the government.

The Land Heritage Trust, on the other hand, is a far more positive example of what can be done. John Comben approached them on our behalf and reported that they have now raised a million pounds. All their land is specifically used for organic farming.

The movement for land reform in Britain is littered with stories of small groups who have attempted to gain greater access to the land; some have been successful but many have failed. It is the rise of the greens, however, that provides us with the political context for some real progress. One recent indicator of this was the formation of a Labour Land Campaign. They held a major conference on land abuse and reform at County Hall in London last month. One of the speakers, Tony Benn, has recently announced plans for a bill which will introduce to parliament the idea of Community Land Rent, a scheme very similar to one proposed by the Ecology Party.

Major land reform might necessitate parliamentary action in the future, but it is clear that we have a long way to go before that is likely to happen. Our priority now has to be the creation of a movement for land liberation that is international and radical. It is the strength of the movement outside parliament that will, in the end, determine the speed of change.

The Green Collective has a dual strategy in its approach to land reform. Whilst one hand is setting up a Trust to purchase or rent land, the other is planning massive land squats to actually start reclaiming the land ourselves, here and now. Pete Drown is trying to pull together a group that can plan and publicise a large-scale land squat in 1986. If you can help please contact him at Green Street Cottage, Cam Green, Dursley, Gloucestershire (Tel Dursley 3260). Molesworth has given us a glimpse of the kind of impact that well-selected squats can have.

We've now had two meetings to discuss the aims and objectives of the Land Trust. At the second John Comben, David Horn and Dave Jones all presented papers. It now feels as if a consensus is emerging. Very broadly, four kinds of land have been identified. The first is gathering or festival sites and linked with this is the second, the need for space where travelling people can park up and camp.

The third category is 'sacred land'. This might mean the Trust falling within the 'religious' category for charities. The difficulty here is defining 'sacred land'; surely all the Earth is sacred? But there are particular areas of land that we are especially interested in; stone circles, fairy mounds, healing springs and sacred groves. A Trust is urgently needed to safeguard them and keep them accessible for the worship and celebration of the seasons. It might be that this area is distinctive and urgent enough to require a Trust of its own.

The fourth category is that of land for green villages and new communities. Many of those now involved with the Land Trust have had or have got links with Cartwheel, Greentown, or A Village; all networks seeking land for such a project. The feeling is that we'd like land with relatively few planning restrictions and with the space to develop organic farming, craft workshops, office space and appropriate technology. Clearly this is a long-term project and very difficult to organise, especially in an over-crowded island such as ours.

Whatever comes out of our discussions with the Charity Commissioners we will, undoubtedly, have to compromise on a number of points. What we really need now is a solicitor, or anyone, with experience of registering charities. Is there anyone out there with a contact who might be able to help? If you can help or if you'd like to get involved in any aspect of the Land Trust, please contact me at 4 Bridge House, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs, Tel 0480 63054 (until the end of July), or 9 Kings Street, Glastonbury, Somerset (August onwards).

David Taylor.

The article from Cartwheel on the following two pages has unfortunately had to be severely edited due to lack of space.

CARTWHEEL

Towards the end of 1978 a group calling itself the Alternative Community Information Exchange was set up with the aim of establishing a large-scale alternative community in Britain. They put out adverts asking people for their ideas about such a community and how it might be established; compiled and circulated the many and varied replies they received; and held a series of meetings to take the matter further. The group which resulted chose the name Cartwheel, and after a good deal of debate drew up a manifesto which outlined the aims and ideals of their proposed community.

This was to be a village of 200 or more members, holding land, buildings and capital equipment in common, taking major decisions by consensus, caring for the earth, working for non-violence in their relationships and to be free of stereotyped roles. The community was to be set up on ecologically-sound principles, and was to be as self-sufficient as possible.

In the past, such projects had almost always got bogged down in the personal and practical problems of middle-sized communal households - too large to function as a family - too small to succeed economically and socially as an alternative village. Add to this the burden of paying off loans on the property and/or the hassles resulting from people leaving and wanting their share of the capital back, and it is no surprise that such ventures have failed to produce large alternative communities.

Cartwheel chose a different path, to go straight for the "Big Idea", a village of 200 people on 200 acres, by appealing for outside funds. We believed that if we did our homework, we could present the village as a credible practical alternative, a valuable resource and a small-scale integrated solution for many of modern society's ills (unemployment, homelessness, alienation ...). Although we estimated we'd need at least £250,000 (in 1980), we bargained on the idea of a big self-supporting co-operative village being able to capture the imagination of potential donors, in a way that more modest schemes could not.

An initial publicity/fundraising project - the Wheelroll - was already being enthusiastically planned. Before long we'd agreed to have a giant Cartwheel (9 ft diameter) specially made, and to push it 1,000 miles all round England that summer. Between 14th June and 4th September 1980, we rolled our wheel from near Bath to Stonehenge, to Sheffield, to Scarborough, to King's Lynn, to London, to Brighton, and all along the south coast to finish beyond Plymouth. Every night we reached our planned destination. We covered our costs and collected a surplus of around £2,000 - mostly in donations from passers-by.

By the autumn of 1980 the Wheelroll had been carried through, we'd made a little money and learnt a good deal. We'd also grown closer as a group through co-operating on a practical project, and through physical and sometimes emotional closeness on the road. We were starting to think of ourselves as a community or maybe a tribe; it felt good but caused us problems about what to do next. There was a feeling that we ought to build on the solidarity that had been created during the Wheelroll, by setting up a small interim living situation where we could practise and develop our Cartwheel ideals, while continuing to work for the big village. This view was particularly attractive to those of us who needed alternative living/working situations immediately, not a few years into the future. On the other hand it was argued that the whole point of Cartwheel was to establish a big community, something completely new in England, and that to settle for anything less would at best be a diversion of energy, and at worst a complete blind alley. Why set up one more commune, there were plenty already that needed more people? Part of the problem was that after the very practical business of wheelrolling, with its down-to-earth day-to-day decisions, the thought of raising a large sum of money on the strength of a mere idea began to seem more and more unrealistic, especially after some of the people who had most confidence in this approach had left Cartwheel to concentrate on projects of their own.

The Nook was a largish partly-derelict house in Brighton which we squatted in December 1980. For a time at least a lively and supportive Cartwheel group flourished in Brighton. By now Cartwheel had developed quite an 'organisation', with people scattered around the country handling subscriptions, newsletters,

advertising, enquiries, and the search for possible village sites. All of this became centralised at the Nook, and along with repairing the house and looking for ways of making a living, took up most of everyone's time. It was argued that the way forward was to have a clear vision of our goals, and to get things together on a practical level. That way, people would see what we were about, and support - money, help, offers of land etc - would come flowing in. Perhaps this could have worked had the whole of Cartwheel been solidly behind the Nook as an example of 'living Cartwheel now'. But for many this was quite ridiculous; Cartwheel was about a big rural village, not a squat in Brighton; and the Nook existed simply to write a fundraising document - the one thing that it just wasn't doing! As things slowly began to come apart, an atmosphere of panic and desperation gradually developed, and people dropped out when they'd had too much.

The last thing Cartwheel really did was to investigate possible interim sites, mainly in the north of England. But the whole thing had become rather unreal by then (early '81), and no agreement could be reached on any particular place. The fundraising document was never written, the Nook was slowly abandoned (by Cartwheel; it remained a squat and is now managed by a housing co-op), and by the end of March 1981 all the active functions of Cartwheel had been wound up. It nevertheless lingered on for a year or two as a kind of network, putting out newsletters and holding the occasional meeting. Several Cartwheelers had settled on Inis Fri off Donegal, Eire, which they saw as a continuation of the Cartwheel idea, while others had become involved with existing or proposed alternative projects around the country.

The Inis Fri settlement looked quite promising for a while, attracting about eight people at its height, who leased and renovated abandoned cottages on the almost deserted island. By the end of 1983 however, the settlement had been abandoned. All that now remained of Cartwheel was a small caretaker group in London. A general meeting called in December 1983 failed to wind up Cartwheel, partly because there was no very obvious successor organisation for us to pass our money (and our hopes) on to, but perhaps mainly because those present were still emotionally attached to the Cartwheel idea and wouldn't rule out the possibility of a revival. However, when the next general meeting was called in January 1985 the mood had changed. We looked for a group or organisation with aims similar to those of Cartwheel, that we could pass our funds on to. Rainbow Fields which hadn't then been evicted seemed a good candidate. Eventually we found out about the proposed Green Collective Land Trust (Village Dept.) and have agreed that this will probably be the best home for our funds. Perhaps you'll be able to take on board some of our hopes and dreams as well, they were very beautiful and very powerful; another small stream flowing into the growing river of vision?

Cartwheel and the Land Trust

It now looks as though we'll have to set up separate structures to cover the various aims of the Land Fund. An educational charity has been proposed to look after festival/gathering/conference sites, and this may be registered first as it seems the most straightforward, involving only the purchase and upkeep of land. In the case of a permanent village however, we have to think about the people who will actually be living there. How, if at all, should they be selected, and what should their relationship be to the trustees who nominally own and administer the land? The following outline is intended as a basis for discussion:

A charitable trust should be set up to promote the establishment of co-operative villages in Britain. The principles on which these are run (ie non-violence, consensus, organic farming etc) should be similar to those of the Cartwheel Manifesto, and should be clearly written into the trust deed, so binding the trustees. If we want big names to help us raise money, these should be patrons (ie figure-heads; Lord Soper comes as part of the Cartwheel package). The trustees should be seen principally as administrators; the people living in the trust village should have the maximum amount of autonomy over their daily lives, with the trustees only able to step in to safeguard the 'constitution' or settle serious disputes. I'd like the village to be open to everyone who accepts the trust's principles, as far as this is possible. If selection is necessary we should favour people lacking capital, as those with money can always get together and buy their own land. In any case anyone having substantial capital (over £5000?) would be required to loan most of it to the trust for as long as they were resident.

MANY THANKS to Sue, Tam, Sue and Glenmy, who collected £9 from a jumble sale, to be used for putting on the next Green Gathering.

SMALL AD: COUPLE, 30s, START/JOIN COMMUNITY. FLEXIBLE IDEAS, MODERATE CAPITAL.
1, BEECHWOOD HOUSE, BARTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON.

LETTERS

Stonehenge, and picking up on the culture ...

I think it was a good idea to print the piece about the history of Stonehenge I'm sure many of the people in Winchester and these parts have never heard of Wally Hope etc. I remember reading about him in 'International Times', which I used to sell at school. Watchfield was the first festival I went to. I was 15 at the time and however naive I may have appeared to "folks back home", I knew I was laying down foundations and a lifestyle for years to come. 10 years later I still quit work in May, to spend the summer at Fayres. This year I may have a truck on the road, later. So perhaps I will be able to play a more constructive role at these events ... Anyway look forward to meeting everyone,

Ben Lovegrove, Winchester, Hants.

... And more from a different angle ...

In brief my life, it seems, has so far been turmoil and reassessment. At the age of 17 I began taking various hallucinogens. I have since come to the conclusion that they reinforced my own natural revulsion to the things I witnessed around me - they being greed, waste, pollution, violence etc.

The enhanced natural revulsion I felt manifested itself in confusion. However I have now come to terms with the difference between myself and an apparently thoughtless society who openly worship the God of Economics with its inherent laws of diminishing returns, and found many others who share my feelings of revulsion and dismay. Plans for my own and others' future are taking shape, and with time and patience they will become reality, making us once more Friends of this Earth.

I see the Green Collective as a manifestation of that which fills the minds of thinking people. In your leaflet you say "The Greens Are Gathering"; very apt. This person realises after a long dark winter of hibernation, there are many who are still sleeping, and a cosmic spring has no definable beginning. So the drum must beat long and hard, and to do so there are certain practicalities to be faced. It is my intention to perform and display within and without the collective fulfilling and expressing my selves and to contribute as much as possible, so the drum may continue to beat.

And in conclusion; we are born from darkness into light, the beginning of a journey. Depending on the lessons at the outset will depend the path to be taken when the time comes to choose. It would seem that 'Life' is not taught in the ways of the wise, that is, with respect, love, compassion, patience and wonder; instead we dissect, analyse, estimate, value and compare, therefore the first path is not completed and a second set of circles appear that move toward ever deepening darkness.

Bob & Dee.

GREETINGS

Tim Pye of Lowestoft and Julie Brown of Portsmouth have both sent greetings and messages to say that they are with us in spirit but cannot be with us physically for reasons of age or ill-health.

Many thanks to them for the donations they have sent, as well as for their letters which were much appreciated.....

ANIMAL RIGHTS CENTRE

You may have heard of, or seen in *Outrage* or *Liberator*, the announcement of a project to establish an Animal Rights Centre in London. This has met with a lot of interest; and support in principle has come from organisations and individuals. The Centre, which will be situated in the inner London area, will provide facilities for communication and co-ordination of events, and will be a focal point for the Animal Rights movement as a whole.

Initially, as a step towards achieving this, we are looking for a shop or office, either on a short or long term basis, which will have room for offices and store. The sale of second-hand articles and animal rights goods from the shop once it is open would provide the money for rent and running costs, but in the immediate future we urgently need working funds to get started. With an office we will be able to gather and disseminate information and apply to organisations and local Councils for grants and support, a process which has already begun.

Eventually, the Centre will have a computer and video; a library with reference books and research facilities; rooms for meetings, film shows, talks, conferences; campaigning literature; a shop for selling animal rights and associated goods; and a vegan snack bar. There are almost unlimited possibilities for what a Centre could do: it can be an agency for contact between all animal rights and welfare activities and the general public; and it can provide educational facilities. But it will be as large and as comprehensive as the Animal Rights Movement wants it to be, because it will depend in the main on animal rights people to support and run it. Above all, we want animal rights people to feel welcome at the Centre and to take part in the development and progress of the Animal Rights movement as a whole.

We are appealing to Animal Rights groups to contribute money and time to this project; it will give an information service which groups badly need. Anyone with skills in the Law, Administration, Accounting, or Fundraising, who can give assistance or advice will be very welcome; and those able and willing to undertake the tasks of typing, filing, telephoning, and selling, are going to be in great demand if the Centre is to be kept open 5 or 6 days a week.

The Centre will be a base and, we believe, will provide the cohesion and impetus that is needed to keep up the momentum of the Animal Rights movement if it is ever to succeed in liberating animals from persecution.

Don Jenkins (Co-Ordinator, A.R.C. Planning Committee), Gorphwyffa, High Street, Penmachno, Nr Betws-y-Coed, Gwynedd, North Wales. Tel Penmachno 315.

THE COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE, articles and poems about communal living, selected from the Communes Network. Available from 89 Evington Rd, Leicester. 52 pp A4. Price £1.80 inc p&p; £1 in bulk for re-sale.

BUILD A YURT, low-cost Mongolian round house - "sturdy, well-designed and organically beautiful latticework dwelling with slanted roof beams whirling to the skylight and outward to the stars. Adaptable to any climate. Portable and permanent. Spacious. Easier to build than geodesic domes" - Book by Len Charney available from Collier books, 866 third Ave, New York, NY 10022. Price is \$3.95 - £5 inc postage ?

CRAFTSPEOPLE TO THE GREEN MOVEMENT ! People wanted to start CO-OP. Women rather than men, but both. Willing to teach and learn crafts etc. Are you interested in starting a Co-op which DESIGNS & MAKES (and grows) the following sorts of things for small-scale marketing ?

COMPOST SYSTEMS/WATERPROOF NON-LEATHER SHOES/MARKET STALLS/LONG BLINDS AND CURTAINS BIRD NEST)BOXES/BAT BOXES/PRINTING PRESSES/NATIVE PLANTS & FLOWERS/DRAUGHT-PROOFING/COOL BOXES/EFFICIENT FIRE PLACES/BICYCLE TRAILERS/INSECT REPELLENT FROM PLANTS/HERBALIST EQUIPMENT/INSULATION MATERIALS/SOLAR OVENS & WATER DE-SALINATORS FOR GREEN DESERTS/COSMETICS WITHOUT CRUELTY/PANNIERS/DOG CARTS/NETTLE CLOTH/RENOVATED FURNITURE/CONTAINERS/UTENSILS/ ETC? EMPLOYING SCRAP AND USED MATERIALS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

The space: a large Victorian terraced house in London, living "fairly communally" etc. If interested, contact Gus, 22 Clapton Passage, Hackney, London E5.