

Bi-monthly Mailing for Green Collective Subscribers

The Green Collective

Mailing



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SUN X

Number
18
January-
February 1987



PO Box 23,
Glastonbury,
Somerset.

imity would be too much for a small village in one summer. We'd like to go for both, and we're following up another possible Gathering site at the moment ... further news on both events in the next Mailing.

A happy new year from here in Glastonbury, where it's cold and damp but there's plenty going on. The Green Collective weekend at the Assembly Rooms last month went well, with a positive feeling at the meeting and a good time on Saturday night. Thanks to Den Ray & the Flying Sombreros and Company of Strangers for playing; and to the Ploughshares Cafe who provided an excellent vegan Sunday lunch.

The only thing missing was the 'family' atmosphere which we've generated much better before when meeting in someone's (necessarily large) home. So at the next get-together we shall be hosted by the Wheatstone Community in Herefordshire.

There's mixed feelings about the fact that we're doing the Green Field at the Pilton CND Festival once again after all, whilst we've lost our site for the Green Gathering - because the two events in such close prox-

The feeling from 1986 was that the Green Field worked very well, but that it would have done better on its own - and needs its own space to develop in the future. Also that what we really want to see is lots of small events around the country rather than one or two big ones. So the hope here is that the Glastonbury Green Gathering will become much more of a local event by 1988 - open of course to others from all over, but one of many on the circuit. There are already several such events being organised for this summer, and we shall offer what help and support we can to encourage more in '88.

By then we should have been able to buy our own site - and once we've bought one we shall be looking to buy or to help to buy others. It feels this new year as if we're at the start of a long period of steady growth, after years of muddling through and producing occasional successes when things went right.

Lucy's not been well and Steve's not around at present, but I'm sure they both join me in wishing everyone the very best for 1987.

Bruce

STOP PRESS

GREEN COLLECTIVE MEETING: This space was originally left free to fill in details of the next Collective Meeting, map of how to get there, etc. However, it has not yet been possible to confirm the date and venue. It's getting on towards the end of January, half the Mailing's printed and it's time I got the rest together, so I'll do that and put details of the meeting on a separate piece of paper to be slipped in before the Mailing goes out in the post. So please examine this piece of paper and bear in mind that any references to the meeting on the next page or in the report of the last meeting may be inaccurate.

GREEN GATHERING SITE: We're following up two possible sites at the moment, but no further news yet.

THE LAND FUND: Due to abnormal weather conditions and breakdowns in communications, the working party meeting has not yet taken place. A new one is being arranged and should take place before the Collective meeting. Contact PO Box 23 if you want early details.

THE MAILING: Very few subs coming in, and we're completely out of money again. If you get a renewal slip with this mailing, please send us your sub as soon as possible. If you don't, but you can afford a donation, now's the time to send it. If you have friends who might like to subscribe, now's the time to encourage them. The next Mailing is very unlikely to come out until we've got enough money in to cover the cost, and at the moment its future feels ~~at~~ altogether wobbly. DON'T WORRY if you send money and we fold up anyway; we'll make sure you get a worthwhile replacement (such as the first few issues of Green Options).

STOP PRESS over. Crisis Consciousness diverted. Lots of Love, Bruce.

THE GREEN COLLECTIVE, 1987

GREEN FIELD at the GLASTONBURY ONE FESTIVAL
WORTHY FARM, PILTON, SOMERSET: MIDSUMMER

1987 GREEN GATHERING
AUGUST 13-19: Site to be confirmed

News of both these events in the Green Collective meeting report overpage.

THE GREEN COLLECTIVE LAND FUND

The Land Fund now stands at over £500 in its own right, and the 'Gunsed' environmental trust have offered to guarantee a loan of up to £25,000 to purchase a Green Gathering site. The next step is to work out an administrative structure to raise the loan and purchase & look after the land, and to decide where the land should be. At the moment the structure is likely to be based on Keith's proposal for a 'Green Land Co Ltd' as set out in the last mailing, and the favoured area is around Glastonbury. A Land Fund working group is meeting to work out a proposal in detail. We could still do with more feedback and ideas though, which should be sent c/o PO Box 23, Glastonbury

If you have sums of money, any size, which you would like to donate or lend to the Land Fund to help it on its way at this stage, this would be very welcome. Chris Walford has recently left Bristol so these should also be sent c/o PO Box 23 for the time being. All Land Fund money is being banked with the Ecology Building Society.

THE MAILING

We could do with more contributions from subscribers in the Mailing, particularly reports of local events. There has been a complaint that nobody ever knows when the copy date is; well, the Mailing comes out bi-monthly (the next one is March/April), and the copy date is the week before the end of the previous month - in this case in time for the Collective Meeting on February 28th. We'll make a point of publishing the next issue's copy date in each mailing.

Our finances are looking shaky again, with very few people re-subscribing over Christmas. If your subscription's due, please renew it as soon as you can (this will also add to the Land Fund, and put a little in the kitty towards the Gathering). And if you have a friend who'd like to subscribe, then the form below is for them ...

SUBSCRIBE TO THE GREEN COLLECTIVE

The Green Collective Mailing is available to subscribers only. Annual subscriptions cost £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 details of meetings of the Collective and its project groups, names and addresses of other subscribers in their areas (on request), and the opportunity to buy any Green Collective 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 (Mailing)', and send to: THE GREEN COLLECTIVE, c/o PO BOX 23, GLASTONBURY, SOMERSET.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

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

Green Collective Meeting held at the Glastonbury Assembly Rooms, December 13-14 1986

Most discussion concerned next year's Green Field (which is now going to be happening after all), the Green Gathering (for which the one over-riding problem is the lack of a site), and the Land Fund (the time is now approaching when we can look for our own site). This is a summary of the minutes:

Green Field: The Pilton CND Festival is now definitely on after all, and we have been invited to organise the Green Field once again. Kim McGavin has already been contacted as co-ordinator by Michael Eavis.

A midsummer festival at Pilton takes our energies away from Stonehenge, but is also an important counterbalance to Pilton festival Babylon. Both can happen and be different. We have to choose individually between the two.

There was a general desire to do the Green Field and the Green Gathering if possible. We should put more effort into greening the festival; and use the Green Field to help raise energy and resources for the Gathering.

David Taylor suggested drawing up a list/letter, proposing improvements to the CND festival; to be published liberally to stimulate debate amongst all those interested in maintaining the festival, which "will surely die without radical surgery". We should warn the festival organisers that we cannot make a commitment to an '88 festival without radical changes. "Let's fantasise a real festival of Avalonia. Now is the time to dream".

Green Gathering: Lambert's Hill site no longer available due to pressure on Teddy Stone from Michael Eavis, who wishes to keep events other than the CND festival away from the Pilton area. New site needed soon if we are to go ahead.

Practical size for a site is approx 40 acres (though a bit less would do) with access suitable for all traffic including emergency vehicles etc. Some people prefer Glastonbury area as resources are more suitable and readily available; others prefer somewhere more central. People generally felt they would be able to give more time and energy around Glastonbury (anywhere else would require a whole new group to come together) or the south/west/central area.

Bruce emphasised that we could not go ahead with publicity, presswork etc without a confirmed site, and that there is a limit to the amount of time we could wait before calling off the event. Agreed that if a site was not confirmed or reasonably certain by the end of Feb. we should not go ahead.

Availability of any site would be of interest (ring Glastonbury 32452 if you have any useful ideas), though hopefully in the Glastonbury/south-west region. The possibility of buying our own site in time for next summer is not discounted, but felt to be unlikely.

Discussion of practical details for the Gathering has been more-or-less brought to a halt by the lack of site, but anyone with energy, skills or resources to offer please still contact PO Box 23, Glastonbury - we'll be in touch in due course.

Land Fund: Mary, on behalf of the Sunseed Trust, offered a loan guarantee of up to £25,000 for the purchase of a Gathering site. Keith's proposals for a limited company to raise loans and to purchase and administer the land were acknowledged favourably (see details in Mailing No 17).

Discussion of details as to how such a company should be set up; also of where a site should be. On the latter, several Green Collective people favoured the Glastonbury area; Mary had no preference, but Green Deserts have an interest through their association with Sunseed. Both these discussions referred to smaller working party meetings.

David emphasised that our priority is for a Green Gathering site, and that possible problems concerning planning permission for change of use (if we envisage other groups staging several events a year) should not be an over-riding concern. Similar feelings expressed concerning possible lack of buildings/storage space, and/or travellers' park-up facility.

Decided that the Green Collective and Sunseed/Green Deserts should each hold a meeting of a few committed people to discuss details; and that the two groups should come together at or soon before the next Collective meeting to sort out a comprehensive proposal. In the meantime possible sites could be checked out, but this is a major commitment and not a matter to rush.

The Green Collective group is about to meet as we go to press (at Kim McGavin's near Banstaple); anyone not at the meeting who wishes to get closely and actively involved can contact Bruce (c/o PO Box 23, Glastonbury).

Other Business

Advice Pack: First edition sold out. We would like to produce a more professional-looking version, with amendments and extra material. £200 required for production (besides printing costs). FWS have been approached concerning possible sources of funds, but are unlikely to come up with anything. Probably best left for a year so that (a) funds can be put by from the Green Field, (b) experience of new public order laws can be included.

Public Order Act: Ricie is to get Don Aitken (FWS) to write this up with regard to its probable affect on Gatherings etc. This to be included in a future Mailing and possibly the Advice Pack.

Green Roadshow: not at present extant. £100 in bank account. Dave Jones still has some equipment.

Skool Bus: Money-raising and publicity going ahead. Time to get the bus together as soon as possible. Info/video/exhibition materials coming together. Suggestion to the Roadshow that their £100 goes towards the bus.

Fayres and Festivals

A short history

As long ago as 4,200 BC, women and men were gathering on hilltops in southern England at certain times of the year. The roughly circular enclosures where they met consisted of two or three concentric ditches with frequent gaps and entrances, the excavated earth being piled alongside to form banks enclosing the area inside the campsite. Evidence of short-term occupation, in the form of temporary hearths and large quantities of animal bones and refuse, have been found at many of the sites along with pottery from far afield; suggesting that people came from a wide area to meet together for festivals or fairs.

Since that time, people have continued to gather together for festivals. This has continued up to the present day, with the travelling fairground being a relatively modern innovation - albeit for commercial reasons - and the green or alternative fair the latest development.

In recent years these green fairs have been open to much criticism, some of it justified, some the result of state and media paranoia, and it is up to those who care about the future of festivals to answer these criticisms and to present alternatives.

Country Fayre or Sunday Market ?

Early fairs like Barsham and Rougham were brim full with entertainers, musicians, sights and sounds, a weekend of amazing and magical happenings from which everyone departed remembering the laughter, friendship, music and good vibes, and with a glimmer of the alternative opened to them. They were too successful, and each year saw them grow in size and problems until they were unmanagable and starting to exhibit many of the unsavoury aspects of the outside world. Many became disillusioned and gave up either organising or attending fairs, while smaller fairs began to appear where all too often the motivation was simply profit and where costs were cut. Fewer entertainers were booked, stall prices rose - cutting out the small crafts people who had always contributed so much to the early fairs - and the professional market traders moved in, selling ready-made goods, junk food and tourist kitsch. The worst became like poorly attended Sunday markets with bands; the joy and excitement were gone, the alternatives were gone, even the travellers desperate for a summer living stayed away.

A few attempts have been made to revive the ideals and spirit of the early fairs, but the profit motive (whether for a good cause or for personal gain) has caused compromise, with the inevitable dilution.

Let's do it right

Out of a workshop at the full moon gathering in Norwich has come a nucleus of people determined to organise a fair and to do it right. A first meeting has been held at the Third World Centre, several people have volunteered for specific tasks, and sites are being investigated; but there is no general agreement yet on what type of festival we want to put on, what will be its theme, and what exactly we want to put on a festival for.

The question as I see it is, Do we just organise a nice weekend of music, theatre, dance, arts and crafts, and go home satisfied with having put on a nice entertainment; or Do we try for a festival that is both traditional and innovative, that not only entertains but inspires and educates as well, so that people go home not just feeling happy, but with new ideas and perspectives ? Are we trying to change the world, or escape from it ?

The Global Village Fair

We live in an age of global pollution, starvation, war and misunderstanding; our planet is under threat, and with it the health and future happiness of all of us, and I feel it would no longer be relevant to ignore this and organise an escapist weekend on a trivial theme.

To continue with themes such as "fairies" and an imagined noble celtic past, or other themes that have been tried over the years, is to ignore the real world of the 20th century and its problems. That's not to say that there can't be fantasy, craziness, dressing up and all manner of wierd and wonderful happenings; but we must be more than this. We can't pass up our golden opportunity to communicate our vision to many thousands of people. We are denied a voice in the media; this is our major platform and we should seize it. To believe as some do that anything other than out-and-out entertainment will put people off coming is patronising and elitist; I believe people are hungry for information about alternatives to the present system.

There's no time left for apolitical hippies grooving in the sun, whimseying (sic) over tree spirits and the power in the stones; at the present rate of destruction there won't be many trees left for our children to enjoy; meanwhile millions suffer from famine and war, and all they ask is that we get off their backs and start helping to put right the actions of centuries of our forebears; to show solidarity with them in their struggle, which is also our struggle and liberation.

Having seen this, there is no alternative but to oppose the arms dealers and polluters; no sticking our heads in the sacred sand of Albion (this little Britain) will make the world go away - for it is truly one world, and what happens on one part affects all the rest. Post-Chernobyl, does anyone doubt this?

One World

A Global Village or One World Fair could be a multi-cultural, multi-racial gathering with musicians, dancers, drummers, theatre, mime, puppets and crafts from a wide variety of cultural and ethnic roots within our own multi-racial society, giving a weekend-long cavalcade of global entertainment. Groups concerned with change in our society could be encouraged to cooperate in creating large display and workshop areas - which could also include dance and music workshops, role plays, demonstrations, videos, healing, renewable energy and many more.

Crafts people likewise could be encouraged to give demonstrations and even workshops, and food stalls could perhaps be integrated with information and displays on animal rights, organic farming, and vegetarianism.

Visually there are many possibilities for original ideas. It is important that the site looks attractive and exciting.

Some ideas I've had include a helium-filled planet earth floating over the centre of the site, with satellites apparently in orbit around it (suspended on wires); as many geodesic domes as we can muster for workshop, display and performance spaces; reduced admittance for ethnic or imaginative costumes (will there be space men and women? Aliens?); wind generators and solar panels everywhere; a planetary citizens' passport office; and Appropriate Tech demonstrations. The planetary theme should also be on posters and badges.

Over the next couple of months a site or sites should be secured, and a list of equipment available compiled; crafts people and entertainers will be contacted, as well as charities and pressure groups; and a number of fund-raising events organised.

The organising collective is open to all who want to be involved, whether they have fair experience or not - everyone has something to offer; a skill, insight, or fresh ideas - please get in touch with us at the Third World Centre (our temporary office) enclosing s.a.e.

Just as in the '70s East Anglia witnessed a revival of country fairs, so in the '80s we can initiate a new direction which, while keeping to the spirit of the green gatherings, is in tune with the growth in awareness and change of consciousness that is taking place (albeit too slowly). We are at the forefront of that global change, and must use every means and opportunity to maximise our effectiveness.

This unsigned article arrived indirectly from the Norwich collective, but seemed sufficiently interesting to re-print here. I feel the need to disassociate myself thoroughly from the author's comments about fairies, tree spirits and stones (believing that our connection with the earth is as or more important than the effect we might have on other people), but wish all the best to the Norwich Green Fayre.
Bruce

Anyone who would like to get involved with this event, or who'd like more information, can contact the organisers at the Third World Centre, Redwell St, Norwich NR2 4SN.

Kingston Green Fair will be a one-day event on May 25th 1987 (12 noon to 9 pm), at Canbury Gardens, Kingston-upon-Thames. More information: Des Kay, 8 Crescent Road, Kingston, Surrey; Tel: 01 546 1827.

SAMHAIN: UPON DARTMOOR WITH GUBOO

Dartmoor: southern highlands, volcanic navel, here the granite of tors and the freshness of wind and water, open moorlands and wooded valleys. All the human (?) hearts of this wildness: the web of standing stones and rows and the circle and the cycle here at work. Many beings and many people love this place, and here they live or visit: and more coming to experience 4,000 years of sacred history and a newness we cannot know ?

Guboo comes. He comes to visit Devon people and the moor: he is an aboriginal elder from south east Australia. One of the first leaders of the Land Rights movement and a Keeper of the Dreamtime and now a traveller of the world, a prophet of Love and One Earth.

Words of mouths and many of us gather at Merrivale on the middle of the moor, different people from many directions, mostly women, and several children. We all stand high on the moor at the start of a wide double double stone row. The afternoon light is low and clouding and the moor falls steep to the west, and from the remoteness of this place we can see the crowds of Plymouth and the ways to Cornwall.

Guboo is 77 years of youth, wise and gentle. He stands at home and smiles with the moor and I understand how the beautiful is humble. Guboo ties a red cord of respect for the Earth around his forehead and we walk a gentle procession west within one of the rows. Leats of clear water trickle through, sky darkens between tors, the calls of children and an excited hush. The Row is full of mysteries and stories and alignments, circles and pools and gaps, and here two big guardian stones.

The Row has brought us to a large wide circle still marked by several stones; we all walk sunways around their roundness and Guboo releases a rainbow kite high into the wind, whilst someone keeps the source of string within the circle. DREAMTIME sewn on the kite in large coloured letters, and now more people come summoned over the moors as we hold a large circle of hands. Guboo sings and taps a rhythm with his sticks; his companion plays the didgeridoo and we're ready to stand in silence.

Guboo asks us to read aloud his stories: a tale of Love and a tale of Creation and a tale of peace and the sacred lands now.

"Thankyou" says Guboo. "Everyone come closer and cuddle, in the middle, children first"

This is an amazing cuddle. We giggle and smile and calm and close eyes and slowly sing "Arrrrr Aarrrrr " and the energy becomes "Oooooo Oooooo" until we all cry out "THE BEST IS YET TO COME".

Ancient Aborigine ritual, as witches make a cone of power, as friends share and make warm, as tribes first spaced these Dartmoor stones. The sun is setting and the cloud black with hallowe'en, yet it does not rain.

We connected with the other side of the world and the different culture/same Dream-Time. Many crystals, and an Australian stone being buried here at Merrivale. I give thanks for this hallowe'en/Samhain moment when the people meet the dark and make merry with the winter spirits. We here with a Shaman and the magic of everybody, and the whole world must be made so sacred.

"I live with these stones in Australia" says Guboo. "The same granite and the same stones. This is Dream Time".

Andy P.

Story of a Rainbow: For the story of the successful Rainbow Green Fayres of Norwich, with lots of practical information etc, please send s.a.e. to: Andrew, Stoodley, Holne, Newton Abbott, Devon TQ13 7RY (Tel: Poundsgate 477). Also available - local alternative newsletters and magazines.

News from Portsmouth/Brambles Farm
Human Rights Under Attack

There has been much publicity lately about Havant Council's attack on 'Torpedo Town', the Peace Festival that has been held annually for the past 3 years in protest against the Marconi Underwater Systems Plant at Brambles Farm, Waterlooville, Hants. Less widely known however is that Havant Council's attempts to outlaw the 'Torpedo Town' festivals are part of a much wider, nationwide Government attack on Civil Liberties.

The Law is a Political Weapon

The crackdown on festivals is no accident. In 1984 the Government showed how far they were prepared to use the police and courts as a political weapon against the miners. The traditional working class and their unions were however not the only group to face repression in this run-up to the passing of the new Public Order Act. How better to pave the way for new, repressive legislation than to outlaw anyone the rulers find undesirable? Hence a whole wave of attacks through the press and the law against workers, the unemployed, ethnic and other minorities, the sick, the elderly, the low-paid, Peace People and others.

"Making Life Difficult": Festivals in Crisis

Shortly before the planned 1986 Stonehenge Free Festival, Mrs Thatcher stated she would do everything she could to "make life difficult" for the Stonehenge people - a pledge fulfilled a few weeks later when police moved into Stoney Cross and broke up 'the Convoy' (mediaspeak for the groups of travellers who each year provide the entertainments and food stalls at Stonehenge and other festivals). People were evicted from the land and their vehicles were impounded, simply because Mrs Thatcher and her ilk disagree with their life-style.

With Stonehenge 'out of the way', it was left to the local councils to widen the campaign to the smaller festivals held elsewhere later in the year.

Havant Council and the Law

In Havant Council's case they tried to force a member of the 'Torpedo Town' festival committee to sign an undertaking not to trespass on their land at Brambles Farm, although the committee were already looking for an alternative site. He wanted the Council to undertake not to interfere with a festival held on another site. Havant Council refused and took him to court, seeking a perpetual injunction to prevent trespass. The Hearing was on July 22, but he was granted an adjournment as the summons was served late (i.e. he was not given the statutory two clear days' notice).

The adjournment was for seven days. He wrote to the Council giving an undertaking not to trespass on their land during August, and received in reply a request for him to sign an undertaking not to trespass from August to October - an admission on the Council's part that they accepted he did not want to trespass and was prepared to enter a written agreement. He also withdrew his earlier condition, but still formally asked the Council not to interfere with the festival.

The court passed an order not to trespass from August to October, and at the insistence of Havant Council's Counsel, passed another order compelling the tenant farmer at Brambles Farm to join with them in bringing the action against the Defendant, whom they named as an 'organiser' of the festival (though they had no conclusive proof that he was). Havant Council also pressed for and obtained an order that all the costs should be paid by the Defendant.

Havant Council's Buingle

So far so good - for Havant Council: it looks as if they have won and sent 'Torpedo Town' packing. However, in pressing for the order enjoining the 'Second Plaintiff' (the tenant farmer) to the action, they invoked clause 12.3 of their tenancy agreement, which compels the farmer to join with them in "taking possession of the land". The tenant farmer was, however, already in possession of the land. The Defendant had been told he need not attend court. Had he not done so it would have been difficult for him to prove that he was not in possession of the land; and had he been in possession of the land he would also have been in contempt of court, since a 7-day interim injunction passed on July 22 was still in force.

Since however the Defendant was in the court on July 29, he was neither committing trespass nor in contempt of court - so why press for an order invoking clause 12.3 ? If there is no basis for invoking clause 12.3 there is no basis for bringing the action.

Havant Council are now threatening to sue for £1250 costs, which are for the whole action; but in order to obtain them they will have to prove that the whole action was justified. To do this, they must prove that the Defendant was in possession of the land at Brambles Farm at the time the order was passed - rather difficult as he was at that time standing in the courtroom.

The Law and Human Rights

Both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Strasbourg Convention provide internationally-recognised frameworks on the use of Law. In particular the law should be used to protect people's civil liberties - including basic rights of freedom of peaceful assembly and free association - and in good faith, e.g. "to protect the public" or "to defend the State". Such use of the law may itself be subject to controversy, but blatant use of the law to enforce the political views of the government of the day is wholly unacceptable. Britain, the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R. and many other countries are signatory to the Universal Declaration, and Britain and other European countries are signatory to the Strasbourg Convention. They are thus bound to observe International Law. We are expected to vote in Euro-elections, pay Euro-taxes and observe Euro-laws etc. Why should government and local councils be exempt ?

When the Law is Abused it is time the People Fought Back

For details of 'Torpedo Town' and the fight for peaceful alternatives to the arms race, and for free & peaceful protest, contact: Torpedo Town Defence Group, c/o 167 Fawcett Road, Southsea, Hants. Tel: (0705) 737819. Please enclose an sae when writing.

From the 1986 Festival Welfare Services Annual Report

"... Convoy paranoia ... reached new heights of absurdity which, apart from its other results, effectively made the holding of all but the smallest free festivals impossible. Much to our surprise an exception occurred in Hampshire, where the same police force which was responsible for Stoney Cross decided to tolerate the first large-scale free festival since Stonehenge 1984. The case of Wickham Common proves quite clearly that when they choose to do so the authorities can cope with travellers and festival-goers in a civilised way."
- Don Aitken, Chair, FWS Trust.

"The site that the organisers of Brambles Farm festival had originally intended to use had had court action taken against it. Therefore when we arrived in the area ... we were eventually directed to a piece of waste ground where about 20-30 people were camped. This site ... was unsuitable for a festival because there was no wood or water nearby and the site sloped and was quite small ...

"People decided to try to move to a piece of common ground about 8 miles away. By this time there were about 500 people in 100-150 vehicles. A convoy formed up and off we went ...

"Some travellers tried to gain access to the common but were prevented by a number of police officers present. Tash then put himself forward as a negotiator ... The police officers, who were quite amiable and obviously not wanting any arrests, suggested that Tash accompany them in a police car to negotiate further. About 20 minutes later Tash arrived back and asked everyone to get in their vehicles and follow him ... We drove about 4 miles along the road and turned into a small lane which opened out into a very large open piece of ground. It transpired that the police had shown Tash this site as an alternative, where the festival could go ahead without any criminal offences being committed to gain access ...

"We believe the police assisted in finding a site because they knew large numbers of people were congregating in the area ... Within an hour or two about 3000 people had arrived

"The festival was one of the best we have had the pleasure to attend for many years. There were very few problems once it was underway. Water was obtained and a bowser brought to the site. Rubbish was collected and the site was kept very clean ... After the weekend everyone left quite peacefully and there were few complaints about the festival. It was generally agreed this festival was very good and a shame there could not be more like it."

- Mo and Tash Lodge, FWS volunteers.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

HUMAN RIGHTS CANDIDATES are standing at the next election in a number of constituencies. They intend to confront the foundations of the growing police state by enforcing the European Convention of Human Rights, to which this country is a signatory, and to oppose all violations of it - whether these be the thousands of old people who lose their right to life through not being able to afford adequate fuel, or travelling people having their homes destroyed and confiscated.

They need help now, support, fundraising and organising ability ... only a few MPs would be needed to force the issue of the illegality of many government actions under the ECHR, and keep the pressure up. Contact ECHR Information Centres: (south) 16 Homewell, Havant, Hants PO9 1EE; (north) 22 Stubbing Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

THE NATURAL MEDICINES SOCIETY has been set up to campaign against the imminent withdrawal of the licenses for thousands of natural medicines, which would mean that they could no longer be manufactured or sold - effectively limiting our choice in medicine. There is also much work needed to promote, research and educate in natural medicine, and to defend it against future health regulations. Information office: Regency House, 95 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8LA; 021 454 9390.

NON-VIOLENCE IN ACTION: Two new 30-minute videos with detailed teaching/discussion notes:

A Door in the Wall - Communication, mediation and reconciliation; Northern Ireland, Israel, London, Greenham, Molesworth

Common Ground - Responsibility, resistance and change; Nicaragua, The Philippines, South Africa, Northern Ireland, Greenham, Molesworth.

Available from: Concord Films Council, 201 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich IP3 9BJ; 0473 76012/715754.

"PERMACULTURE" is a word coined by an Australian, Bill Mollison, to describe a radical approach to agricultural design. It is the conscious use of ecological principles in designing self-sustaining food, fibre and energy producing ecosystems. The idea is to set up systems for human use that are sustainable because they learn from natural ecosystems the use of diversity (of species and activities), inter-dependence, recycling and conservation, and perennial plants (especially trees), to produce a stable and self-reliant system.

Permaculture is not about technique, it is about design. Within it, many techniques can be used - organic growing and pest control techniques; forest farming and old forestry practices such as coppicing; free-range poultry and animal raising; technology for energy conservation and the use of solar energy, and recycling wastes. What is important is the way all the different elements are consciously designed to work together, creating an intricate web of inter-relationships that is both stable and high-yielding.

Permaculture offers a set of design principles into which various techniques fit as appropriate. Once having grasped the principles, it is for the user to apply them with intelligence and knowledge to suit a particular situation or preference. There are no "rules"; the underlying philosophy is to use your common sense, local knowledge and observation. In a sense, this is rediscovering and developing on a conscious and informed level the wisdom of ancient polycultures which continued for centuries in balance with their surroundings.

A series of three weekend events are being held at Sharpham North Community, Ashprington, Near Totnes, South Devon. These will be 'An Introduction to Permaculture', 'Practical Permaculture Design' and a 'Permaculture Symposium'. For full details and bookings, contact: Dart Valley Permaculture, 8 Hunter's Moon, Dartington, Totnes, South Devon; Tel.: (0803) 865115.

DENTAL PROPAGANDA: As far as we know, "official" and "government" information regarding dental care, in the form of leaflets etc distributed in schools, are in fact produced by the manufacturers of Mars bars. Another generation of children is being mis-educated into believing that the most important thing to do to have healthy teeth is to brush them twice a day. In fact, tooth decay is caused by a reaction between dental plaque and sugar, and brushing will make only a marginal difference. The real cause of widespread tooth decay is our ridiculously high sugar consumption - as promoted by the manufacturers of Mars bars etc. We'd be pleased to hear from anyone with further information on this subject - Green Collective Mailing, PO Box 23, Glastonbury, Somerset.

GREEN PEAK is a new organisation formed by ex-members of Brigantia Arts Co-op in Derbyshire, who organised the High Tor Fayre in May '86 and the solstice celebrations at Arbor Low, winter '86. Their long-term objective is to purchase land which is already wooded or for afforestation and possible settlement by ecologically acceptable dwellings (e.g. tipis, benders), and to create employment in coppicing and wood-related crafts for travelling peoples.

"Green Peak" intend to organise a Green Gathering in May of this year, to bring people together to discuss their ideas with the Green Movement at large and also to raise funds for the land project. They are negotiating with the County Council, who have already offered two possible sites, and hope to have one confirmed by the end of February. Until talks with the Council are complete there can be no definite date, but they are hoping the Gathering can take place either over the weekend of 23/24 May or else 30/31 May.

For up-to-date information contact: "Green Peak", c/o 109 Wharf Road, Pinxton, Derbyshire.

*
WHY USE RECYCLED PAPER ?

STOP THE WASTE: Every year British tax-payers are forced to spend millions of pounds destroying and disposing of waste. Much of this waste could be recycled or re-used. Half the rubbish in our dustbins is made up of paper, a staggering 16,000 tonnes a day. 70% of this paper could be re-cycled, but less than 30% is. If more people, businesses, charities etc switched to using re-cycled paper products, this would encourage local authorities to salvage and sell waste paper. If more waste paper was re-cycled the cost to rate-payers for rubbish collection could be reduced. Making re-cycled paper uses half the water and energy compared with making new paper.

CREATE EMPLOYMENT: It has been estimated that nearly 23,000 jobs could be created in used paper collection and manufacture of British re-cycled paper. Most paper in the home and office is made from imported pulp, or is foreign made paper. In the early 1980s one-fifth of Britain's paper mills closed, with the loss of 10,000 jobs.

SAVE TREES: Saving trees is not born out of silly sentimentalism. Trees are the world's oxygen factories. If too many are destroyed we could upset the delicate balance of gases which make up our atmosphere. Every year a forest the size of Wales is destroyed to supply Britain's paper needs.

CONSERVE NATURE: Britain's natural woodlands are being replaced by plantations of fast-growing conifers. It is softwood, such as conifers, that is used for wood pulp. A conifer can support only 16 species of wild life, compared to an English Oak which supports over 280 species.

REDUCE BRITAIN'S TRADE DEFICIT: Britain spends over £1,000,000,000 on importing paper and wood pulp every year. By using British re-cycled paper you will be helping to reduce Britain's trade deficit.

GREENSCENE CO-OPERATIVE LTD of Devon are retailers and wholesalers of re-cycled paper products. They can supply photocopying and duplicating paper, as well as envelopes and other stationery. Their shop is at 123 Fore Street, Exeter, Devon; Tel: Exeter 215969.

*
THE WOMEN staying at GREENLANDS FARM, Glastonbury last year were given cervical cancer smears. At least two of these tests were positive, but the women concerned had moved out of the area before the results were available and have not been contacted since. If anyone who thinks they might be one of these wishes to contact Lucy, c/o PO Box 23, Glastonbury, Somerset, the necessary connections can be made.

*
VERY VAGUE AND INACCURATE LIST OF PROPOSED FESTIVALS AND GATHERINGS, 1987:

Andy's Beltane Party (South Devon)	Sisbury Ring festival
Avalonian Beltane Camp	Bideford Park
Derbyshire Green Gathering (May)	Norwich Green Gathering
Kingston Green Fayre: Kingston-upon-Thames, May 25th.	Deeply Vale - August (provisional)
Stonehenge Free Festival - June.	Glastonbury Green Gathering: August 13-19
Glastonbury CND Festival is definitely on (midsummer)	Glastonbury Children's festival
Wirral Green Day - mid-July	Rougham Oak Fayre
	De-schooled festival (Wales ?)

*
FWS ANNUAL REPORT includes reports from last year's festivals and lots of other useful information: £6.00 from, Festival Welfare Services, 347a Upper Street, London N1 0PD.

LETTERS

Thanks to everyone who has written, and this time there have been plenty of letters as well as cards in the post and we are most appreciative ... but ... owing to a couple of weeks in hospital following a threatened miscarriage, my new and compulsory stress-free lifestyle & a chaotic filing system, I do not have them to hand for this issue. Thanks to everyone who has written, and a happy new year to one and all ... I am being well looked after, particularly by Lissie, Tim and Pixie, as are the children ... and I am putting all my energy into nothing more stressful than knitting !

Lots of Love, Lucy

Chernobyl and Vegetables

Dear Friends,

A snippet in the November issue asks for info on Chernobyl and fruit & veg - FoE advised me to ring the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology when I wanted to know about the levels in lamb. I never got round to doing it, but if you ring FoE they'll give you the number - I don't even know where the Institute is !

Also, FoE had a gift of two portable radioactivity-measuring gadgets from 'Harwell' - they were specially for use with food products; as there was no need to digest the sample, you just put it in a box, which, and a reading came out in whatever units you wanted.

Good Luck. Yours in Peace, Kevin Bews, London.

Healing & Growth Centre

Dear Green Collective,

I am looking for people interested in starting a healing and growth centre in Pembrokeshire, Wales. I am a homeopath and a single parent. I am interested in ritual, myth, movement and dance. I am looking for people, with or without children, with a sincere interest in treading a challenging path of personal and spiritual development. As a woman, I have been looking at the different Goddess archetypes within myself and at my shadow side, as well as my 'male' energy. I am interested in exploring the 'Gentle God/Strong Goddess' idea put forward by David Urie Ravensway in his Shamanistic workshops. I also want to carry on de-schooling my two sons, and would welcome the support of other people - especially men - in doing this.

If any of these ideas resonate with you, please contact me initially for a discussion or a visit:

Dyana Hart, Blaenffos Farm, Blaenffos, Boncath, Dyfed.

Church Bells/Keeping in Touch

Dear Lucy,

I read two of your items in the latest Mailing, and would like to put forward one or two comments:

Item One - Church bells. We sympathise ! We too live a few hundred yards from the village church, and have to endure the clanging and banging of the bells (one of which is out of tune, and sounds like a tin gazunder being kicked by a horse !) On rare occasions we even have to endure 2-3 hour marathons when visiting ringing teams descend. Twice in the dim past the bell tower was hit by lightning. Maybe God was trying to tell 'em something.

Re your comments on Gaps In The Collective - I can only speak from my own, frustrated, experience; but feel sure there are others in the same situation. (I recently wrote an item for the Glastonbury Communicator in which I made roughly the same points as the following ...)

The truth is that some of us would like to get more involved, but not all of us (a) live in or near Glastonbury, (b) own cars, and (c) have money for bed & breakfast or (d) tents. Therefore we're obliged to sit tight, starved of contact with like minds, and waiting eagerly for the post to bring our copies of the Green Collective, Communicator etc, which are our sole contact with the real world !

So please ~~don't~~ don't be too hard on us. Perhaps you could print some suggestions about how we could get involved from afar ? Or even put more isolated subscribers in touch with each other ... ?

By the way, we really enjoy the Mailing. The poem on the inside cover of the current issue is marvellous. It almost had me in tears.

Be thou thrice blessed. Love, Ariane MacLaren, 7 Church Street, Steeple Ashton, Wilts.

(If anyone would like to get in touch with other subscribers in their area, please let us know and we can send a list of addresses. Getting involved with things here in Glastonbury is difficult if you're not actually here, but we'd like to hear from anyone who can commit time and energy to the Green Gathering or the Green Field, so that we can keep in touch by post in the mean time. - Bruce).

Networking

Sir,

... Boris Gestetner. Who is this fellow? I demand an explanation immediately. I have written to a number of other periodicals requesting further information with regard to this imposter - as yet none have been able to come up with the goods, despite my generous offer of a not inconsiderable amount of boodle. There seems to be but one small point on which I may agree with the fellow, and that is his waryness of "Networking", and I quote: "I feel like a fish being chased by a trawler". Now, as it strikes me, every honest Christian knows that the only decent way to catch a fish is with a rod and fly. My good lady wife and myself tie our own, utilising a No. 4 "Fisherman's Friend" platinum hook, the head feathers from a Bald Headed Ibis, and the gut from a Brahman bull calf slain at Martinmas.

Gussett of the Empire, Swaziland, Africa.

English and German Greens

Dear Friends !

This will be quite an undertaking, writing down what I think and feel when I read your Mailing, which I've done for a year now. I seem to experience everything quite different and to have other views, interests and aims, than you do in my eyes. The reason for this to me seems to lie in the difference between the English Green and the German - so called - Alternative movement, which influenced me up to two years ago. First I was very thrilled, when I found a leaflet about the Collective, and only the distance between Bath and Glastonbury (why Glastonbury?) stopped me from becoming active, since I don't have (because I don't approve of) a car. But on a closer look I also didn't find any group or subject with which I really could identify or work with. I see that the aim, the ideal is quite similar, but some aspects and ways are very strange to me.

Whatever has to do with mystic, ritualism etc is very far from me. There is a small tendency towards this in Germany, but as far as I know it doesn't reach further than yoga or mediation. To me, Stonehenge is only a political question.

Another difference - which struck me a lot - was, we buy organically grown food more for the reason not to destroy nature than only because of our health. For many people it is in the first place a political motive.

Most of the groups or initiatives in Germany have a social or political motivation. "Communication Centrum Africa", "Unemployment Shop", schools with alternative concepts, neighbourhood shops, "Forum Natural Scientists for Peace", initiatives for local traffic development, food co-ops, cultural centres - to name a few, which I found when looking through the "Guide to Alternative Berlin". Often small groups which only loosely communicate with each other, when the need arises; all with different but similar ideas of an ideal world and the steps towards it. A lot is similar to here, some is different, and some English features don't exist in Germany. I don't know of anything to be compared with your Gathering, or the travelling community.

There also seems to be more interference and partaking in local politics in Germany. I do not only mean the German Green Party, but there is more political initiative at universities, partaking in the unions or county/town councils, more demonstrations. Have you in England already left this stage, or never come to it? What do you think are the reasons for this?

The point most strange to me personally is your absent awareness of the dangers of modern technology. In Germany there is a lot of discussion and research going on about the inherent dangers of highly developed technology and its natural contradiction to 'alternative' views. Not always, or not even often, is the result of such discussions to reject such developments. But there are fundamental opponents to, for example, computer technology. Whatever the result, no organisation introduces computers or sophisticated machines without controversial discussions and excusing arguments. There certainly is an awareness that modern machinery was developed for the established political system and its industry, and that it can't really be a tool for an alternative world. I might be wrong, but I didn't find a lot of this here in England.

During this year, I definitely was very interested in The Mailing and in what is going on, and I enjoyed a lot of articles. I also thought of contributing some of my experience, writing about something called "future workshop"; but haven't come far yet. I don't feel urged to stay up long to accomplish something, I often feel only strange in England. Except for today to answer your question for comments on the Mailing, since I feel your interest, your ambition, and your love in the Mailing, and think you deserve an honest response. You are welcome to publish if you wish.

Love, Ariane Franssen, Bath.

An article by Ariane Franssen on "Future Workshops" - visualising and constructing viable alternatives to the world's present problems - will appear in the next Mailing.

Christmas Tree

Dear Everyone, This happened to me, I think it's a lesson for us all:

Although Christmas is truly over now, and most people seem to have packed their Christmas spirit away with their decorations, I still find myself pondering on an incident that presented itself to me then; it is, I think, important, and I'd like to share it with you.

It was the day after Boxing Day. Ray and I were walking past our local corner shop - it's been there as long as I can remember (some 30 years now !); indeed I have fond memories of my grandfather carrying me inside to buy sweeties ! It's one of those wonderfully old-fashioned places that sell everything you might possibly need, and if they haven't got just what you want they'll get it specially for you.

The people inside make time to ask how you are, and they know most people around here by their Christian names. I count myself fortunate living near it. Anyway, at Christmas it turns into something reminiscent of a Dickensian emporium ! As we walked by, its fairy-light windows positively bristled with magic in the inky, frosty night air. My gaze fell on something lying down on the cold, wet pavement underneath the window.

It was an unsold Christmas tree, and it seemed to me to be very sad, gently embraced by the strange light. I found myself thinking that it somehow reminded me of a spent firework (these were the sorry things I used to gather up from the garden in the cold light of morning as a child). I felt so sad I remarked about it to Ray.

"Look, isn't it a shame, that poor little tree has missed its Christmas". I lamented about how it was probably grown especially for this year, this Christmas, and nobody wanted it. Nobody would want it now; a feeling of hopelessness drifted into the situation, and over me too.

Ray turned to me and with all his wisdom shining through his eyes said "Nothing has been wasted you know. It's graced the Earth with its presence and that was its true purpose". So, it seems to me that the Earth was a better place for having grown that little tree; for knowing about it is enough. I looked at it again, and this time it looked splendidly decorated in the soft glow of the window lights.

Maybe we shouldn't be so busy doing "things", maybe we should all stop now and again and just do some "grace-ing". The words were few and simple that night, but they really struck home - for me anyway.

May you do all you can do and be all you can be, AnitaDear, Gillingham, Dorset.

WEST MIDLANDS THINK GREEN NETWORK is an energetic project linking many organisations working on the Greening of Birmingham and the Black Country (sorely needed in areas blighted by declining industries). It offers a Resource Centre with reference library, information service, and equipment for loan; all sorts of educational resources, small local training workshops, projects in schools and back-up for teachers, a travelling exhibition, etc. Contact: 3 Tower Street, Birmingham B19 3RL, Tel 021 359 3973.

From FIN (Free Information Network) Newsletter ... FIN Newsletter: sae c/o 99 Torriano Ave, London NW5 2RX

WINTER SOLSTICE '86

"Oh look, there's the Stones. Oh look, there's the pigs. What's going on ?" Well, pigs being pigs, they got it wrong again. "The Solstice was yesterday. Fuck off !" so we did. Off to a farmhouse two miles from Stonehenge, and parked up. In the house there was silence. I thought there was a meeting going on, but everyone was thinking. It felt electric. "Mushy brew's on !" Cheer. (Louder).

Fully revived, we set off to reach Stonehenge for 4.06 am. The SOLSTICE. By parking a full van one mile up an ancient track on a ley line, we walked up to the Stones. "Oh look, there's the Stones ... Nope, hallucinating again". Suddenly there we were in the Stones.

"Boo !" Well it felt like Boo ! This man with a viscous dog jumps out and shines a torch in my eyes. The moon was up and looked well-placed in the middle of the sky. Having been chased around the Stones, trying to look casual, we rejoined the others outside the fence by the Hele stone, where we had a firework display and freaked out the fascists. Bloody cold so we found a van with a radiator and a cup of hot apple juice with fresh lemon and honey. I fell asleep for an hour, then it was up to the Stones. After a lot of hassle (my mate got bit) we survived the fascist werewolves and got into the Stones. The Stones took over and we danced the Sun up. The pigs finally turned up when it was all over and most people had left. They got heavy and waved goodbye as we went back to London to sleep for a day.

CAT

A point made at the Stonehenge meeting was that the solstice gathering was so peaceful and spiritual that it freaked the police, who disappeared and left us to it. As the sun came up, all faced its warmth. Then we all sang and danced in a huge circle around the Stones. At the same moment, everyone ran into the Stone circle and hugged. I'm sure a record was broken ! As we drove home in bright sunlight we felt like new people, and when we got home our bus had passed its MOT.

Anon.

Deserts invade healthy land like cancer. This process can be arrested only if we act soon enough.

Can there be any ideal more constructive or creative for the community of nations than utilising our resources to produce a sustainable basis to carry us into an otherwise uncertain future?

Projects in sustainable development, though inexpensive in comparison to capital-intensive projects, nevertheless need considerable sums of money to get started. But over the years the costs come down dramatically.

For example, in the first year of our village tree nursery scheme the unit cost of the trees is £2.29. In the fourth year it is estimated to be 48p. Thereafter the price should drop as low as 10 pence a tree.

The support you give is a way of making a lasting contribution to one of the most pressing problems facing the world today.

Join Green Deserts now in helping to restore the fragile Earth. To continue the struggle against desertification we need your financial support.

I would like to become a Life Member £100.00

I would like to become a Member and subscribe to the magazine £ 10.00

I do not wish to become a Member but I would like to receive your biannual magazine (report) £ 2.50

I wish to donate to your work in: SUDAN (a) Forestry & Nomadic Pastoralism

(b) ~~The Village Extension Scheme in partnership with SOF (Sudan)~~

SPAIN (a) Research & Development (in association with Cambridge Green Deserts)

(b) Pilot Projects (Reclamation & Water Resources)

UK (a) Tree Nursery

(b) Organic Garden

(c) Other Projects

Please send magazine £ 1.00

I would like to Covenant my Subscription/Donation. Please send Covenant Form and Bankers Order

I would like to receive additional information

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

Green Deserts
Rougham
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Registered charity No. 271553

GREEN DESERTS

COMMUNITY FORESTRY IN ACTION



DESERTIFICATION

A desert is a land where plants do not grow. Very few people live in the desert itself, although they may pass through it. But people — almost 700 million of them — do live on the fragile arid and semi-arid lands around deserts. The growing populations on these relatively productive lands may, in their daily fight for survival, turn them into desert — not a desert of dunes and cactus, but ground which is economically useless. Some 80 million people around the Earth are in the process of doing this to 30 million square kilometres — an area larger than China, Canada and the U.S. combined. This ugly process has an ugly name; Desertification.

(*Earthscan*).

DROUGHT

Deserts create deserts. Deserts deter rain. Without trees and perennial vegetation to absorb extremes of weather, a cycle of drought and flash flood further devastates the land.

INTENSIFIED CULTIVATION AND GRAZING PATTERNS

Population growth has contributed to a shortening of the slash and burn rotation, and severe over-grazing. This has put such a strain on the ecology of the desert fringes that vast tracts are being made untenable.

THE OTHER FUEL CRISIS

Worldwide 1½ billion people heat and cook with wood. Firewood is the chief source of fuel for up to 90% of the people in the poorer countries of the world, the average family burning 4 tonnes of wood a year. Trees are rapidly disappearing. When firewood and petroleum are too expensive the people resort to burning dung, depriving the soil of nutrients.

LACK OF RELEVANT EDUCATION

For those struggling for survival on the desert fringes, education is often unavailable or beyond their means, frequently unsuited to their needs, and can encourage the drift to cities.

FAMINE

900 million people wake up every morning with starvation staring them in the face. Of the 3,000 plant species which have been used for food the majority of mankind today relies on 20. Most of these 20 crops originate outside the arid areas and are not well suited to the conditions. Emergency food aid, even when effective, is an expensive way of dealing with a problem that has been allowed to become a crisis.

POVERTY

Poverty can be seeing your children and land die.

Poverty can be eating your seed corn.

Poverty can be a feeling of powerlessness and frustration.

Poverty can be overcome.

GREENING THE DESERT

Green Deserts acts as a catalyst encouraging communities threatened by desertification to mobilise their resources and skills to lay the foundations of long-term environmental recovery.

WATER MANAGEMENT & RE-AFFORESTATION

Conservation and maximum utilisation of the rain which does fall is essential. Micro-catchments and percolation dams concentrate the precious water where it can be used. Trees slow down the rate of surface run-off, reducing erosion and flooding while retaining the water where it is needed. Large areas of trees actually generate rainfall. Fast growing, drought-hardy trees provide shelter, shade, lower temperatures and higher humidity. At the same time they can pay for themselves with food, fodder, fibre, fuel and timber.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Faced with the reality of a devastated homeland, indigenous populations often see the need to change, but are ill-equipped to adapt. Particularly difficult is the question of grazing control. Green Deserts' approach is to encourage such people to understand the underlying causes, and work together towards the appropriate local answers.

BIOMASS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Re-afforestation and fuel conservation through improved stoves offer practical solutions to the fuel crisis. Methane production, and the utilisation of wind and solar power may offer an alternative in specific cases.

SCHOOLS WITHOUT WALLS

For new methods to be accepted, non-formal education in the villages can equip the community with the ideas and the means to improve their own environment and to better provide for their needs.

FOOD

The virtually untapped wealth of unimproved traditionally grown crops is a resource which should contribute to the return to self-sufficiency in food for the arid areas. Certain trees which are productive in their own right also serve to increase ground crop yields.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Real stability depends on the reliable production and distribution of the necessities of life. The reclamation of lost land is fundamental in broadening the resource base of the poverty-stricken countries.

GREEN DESERTS AIMS

Green Deserts is motivated by an idea that has fired the imagination of many: to see the deserts green again. It is within the capabilities of man to halt the desertification process and reclaim areas already lost to useful production. Green Deserts exists to channel resources into forestry, agriculture and appropriate technology, enabling rural communities to become self-reliant.

GREEN DESERTS IN PRACTICE

Green Deserts is operating with the Sudanese Forestry Department in the Sahara's southern fringe, planting goat resistant trees and building simple rain catchments to establish a system of sustainable forestry, capable of being adapted and replicated by the local people with the minimum of outside help.

By the Nile The Forestry and Nomadic Pastoralism Project is encouraging the regeneration of shelter belt trees in the desert. In a remote mountainous area percolation dams have been built to hold back flash flood waters long enough for trees to be planted and survive in the wadis. The active participation of the local people is central to our involvement. This project has been acknowledged as successful by both the EEC (Lome 111) and (in Charles Tapp's report for) USAID where it is praised for cost effectiveness and results. This project has run for four years and has now been extended and will run for another four years.

THE NEXT STEPS

In association with S O S Sahel International, Green Deserts will help establish Village Tree Nurseries, providing farmers with the necessary skills and seedlings for productive wind breaks around their fields. A mobile puppet theatre, successfully field tested in the Sudan, is to be part of an extension team to carry the ideas into the heart of the villages.

TREES LINK OUR ACTIVITIES AT HOME & ABROAD

Green Deserts promotes desert reclamation and sustainable developments in the arid zones of the world. We are equally concerned with working towards a sustainable existence at home. Green Deserts is sponsoring an Organic Market Garden and Tree Nursery to supply saplings of native broadleaf species for planting on Community Programme projects in Suffolk. Green Deserts will seize any chance of forming a support group that will (a) Carry these ideas into the community; (b) Encourage tree planting and waste land recovery in their own areas; (c) Raise funds to help implement our projects in a practical way, so that the impact of sustainable solutions can be seen in action.



HENGE '87, Go for it!!

STONEHENGE '87 patches (screen printed, black on white cotton) - 10p each + sae. Also t-shirts etc, many designs - full list: Jen, c/o White House, Baggrave End, Barsby, Leics LE7 8RB.

THE AMBASSADOR OR INFILTRATOR?

Anarchy, Animal Rights, poetry etc. No 8 now out - 10p + sae from: Harry, c/o 173 Vernon Road, Aylestone, Leics LE2 8GG.

The **Harmony Centre**
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Residential Workshops,
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For more details ring (07586) 612
or send s.a.e.:

The Harmony Centre, 22 St Mary's Road,
Meare, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9SP.

GreenOptions

A new, countrywide newsletter covering green politics and the wider movement. GREEN OPTIONS will be:

- * reporting on the greening of politics, the parties and society at large.
- * bringing together writers, thinkers, activists and others to explore new ways forward for the movement as a whole, especially fresh, co-operative structures centred in strength in diversity, local networking and community politics.
- * informative: addresses, events etc., building issue by issue into a comprehensive network-reference file.
- * independent and based in Glastonbury.

For a year's sub. (8 issues) please send £5.50 (65p for a sample copy) to Green Options (Q), 12 Polden View, Glastonbury, Somerset. Groups & Institutions - £9



GREEN COLLECTIVE TRADING

8 Wordsworth Road,
Braintree, Essex CM7 5SX.

STOCK LIST AND ORDER FORM

	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Quantity Required</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Post Cards			
Green Collective banner .....	.....	.....	.....
10 or more, each .....	.....	.....	.....
Dove flying over Tor (detail from banner)	0.20	.....	.....
10 or more, each	0.12	.....	.....
T-shirts			
'The Greens are Gathering' and sunflower motif, printed yellow on green cotton size S,M,L,	4.50	S.....	.....
In bulk for re-sale	4.00	M..... L.....	.....
Booklets			
'The Green Collective - the best from the Mailing - 1984'	1.00	.....	.....
Ditto - 1985	1.00	.....	.....
2 booklets or more, each	0.75	.....	.....
Envelope re-sealers			
'The Greens are Gathering', green gold & black. Per 100	2.50	.....	.....
5 packs or more, per 100	2.00	.....	.....
Badges			
1 1/2" 'The Greens are Gathering'	0.25	.....	.....
10 or more, each	0.20	.....	.....
Green star reflector badges; metallic, 1 1/2"	0.50	.....	.....
5 or more, each	0.40	.....	.....
Peel-off Sunflower stickers, 4 1/2":			
'The Greens are Gathering'	0.30	.....	.....
'Liberate the Earth'	0.30	.....	.....
'Animal Liberation'	0.30	.....	.....
'Women's Liberation'	0.30	.....	.....
'Green QND'	0.30	.....	.....
10 stickers or more, each	0.20	.....	.....
Peel-off stickers, 1 1/2" 'The Greens are Gathering':			
per sheet of 20	0.50	.....	.....
10 sheets or more, per sheet	0.40	.....	.....
Leaflets			
'The Greens are Gathering': per 100	1.00	.....	.....
The Green Pack: includes car sticker, sample Greenline magazine, leaflets, articles, stickers, badge			
	1.50	.....	.....
Green Collective Mailing: current issue			
	0.65	.....	.....
Total:			.....
Postage & Packing: please add 15% to orders of £20 or less; £3 for orders over £20			
		
Cheque payable to SUNFLOWERS enclosed:			
		
NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
.....			
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Send to: 'Sunflowers', c/o Ann Gunn, 8 Wordsworth Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 5SX (0373 21184).			

THE RAINBOW CHRONICLES

now cover events from the Molesworth eviction in February 1985, up to the events surrounding Stonehenge in June '86 ...



Stonehenge 86



'STONEHENGE 86' is the latest pamphlet from Unique Publications. It sets out the events of the summer in a chronological order, interspersed with the memories and views of the festival goers, convoy travellers and Greenham wimmin etc, who were there.

As with all previous Unique booklets, this is written in an easygoing style by people closely involved with the subject matter and conveys a sense of what it was like to be there as well as explaining the processes which led up to the events of late June. Even though I was at Stonehenge this year, I felt it to be a very worthwhile read.

It's packed with photo's, graphics and newspaper cuttings and costs £1.50 from Unique Publications, PO Box 23, Glastonbury, Somerset or your local radical bookshop.

As for Stonehenge 87, well that's up to you! A network is forming to agitate for next years festival and they can be contacted at 99 Torriano Avenue, London NW5.

... from Green CND Newsletter.

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