

METMAIL

Jan—April 2007

MERSEYSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

Towards a low carbon and well adapted economy?

One of the fastest growing contributors to CO₂ emissions is Air Travel, as can be seen from the massive growth of our local airport (John Lennon) over the past few years.

Consultation for the proposals of even more expansion and development was carried out over the summer.

Although the consultation has now closed copies of the Draft Master Plan and subsequent support materials can be obtained by contacting: 0151 907 1645 and leaving your details or log onto their website: www.liverpoolairport.com.

The plans are pretty extensive the proposals are until 2030.

North West Development

Agency have published an Action Plan.

The Action Plan aims to stimulate and measure the progress of the region towards a low carbon economy, preparing it for the challenges of a changing climate and future energy demands, whilst protecting and enhancing our quality of life and rich environment.

It is intended that the Action Plan will be reviewed every three years.

The region's success will be monitored using measures, indicators and targets and progress will be reported annually.

This Plan will be launched in November 2006.



The Coop has also been active this month considering the implications of CC and invited MET and others to discuss a way forward to carbon reduction.

For further information about what we can all do, 'from acorns do oak trees grow' why not visit www.carbontrust.co.uk and www.co-op.co.uk

Sad Demise of Groundwork in Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens & Knowsley

It's sad news to report the closing of Groundwork in Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Knowsley. This was the first Groundwork established 25 years ago and have sadly had to say goodbye to 25 of their experienced staff.

Over the years they have worked on many large schemes these have included Wasteland to Woodland.

Groundwork have offered a fantastic service over the years and they will be greatly missed

by everyone who has ever had the pleasure of working with them. It's such a pity to lose their expertise in Merseyside, especially when environmental issues are now high on the political agenda, locally and nationally.

Inside this issue:

Your World—Your Children's Future	2
What about the School Run	2
Global Warming—Fact or Fiction?	2
We are a Nation of Gardeners	3
Energy Efficiency	3
Don't be a drip—every drop counts	3
Notice of MET's AGM	4

Special points of interest:

- Check out Free Environmental Toolkit
- Professor Sam Berry's Debate

Is your MET subscription up to date?

If not, don't delay—renew today.....

Your World, Your Children's Future

However busy your life-style, you can always make time for something important to you and your family. What could be more important than the future of your World?

Going Green needn't be time consuming or daunting just by making a few simple changes to your daily life will make an environmental impact. A small one granted, but I'll let you into a secret, if we can convince you to make a change and you

convince just one other person the effect of change would 'mushroom' and spread. And lets be honest once you start making a few small changes into your daily routine, they will soon become a habit, and one that will effect and change the lives of your children and their children.

Wow! What a legacy.

We are certainly heading towards changes in

climate temperature that will have extremely serious consequences unless we do something about it and NOW!

The Government have recently taken action to help prevent such a catastrophe, this is why everyone needs to get involved and do their bit, our small actions can soon add up to a major impact on YOUR world.

This publication will help in answering some of



This is our world, a thing of beauty and wonderment. A legacy for our children and future generations to enjoy.

What about the School Run

Schools have been back for a few weeks now and all those extra journeys in the car have a huge impact on the environment. So what can you do to help?

Depending on the distance and weather maybe you could walk. Not only is it good for the environment but it's a good way of introducing a little exercise into your daily routine.

You could also check with the school maybe they operate a walking bus scheme and if not ask the question 'why not?' It's easy to operate for a small fee kids can join the scheme and meet anywhere on the walking bus route. Parents volunteer to take turns daily to support the children in getting safely to school.

Another way of getting to

school if its too far to walk is by public transport.

Or what about dusting off the bike? Cycling is a great green transport option, keeps you fit and encourages schools to run cycling proficiency courses for older children. Check out Merseyside Cycle Campaign for further information and support

Besides protecting the environment walking or cycling to school can also help increase daily exercise for you and your children

Global Warming—Fact or Fiction?

Fact : the earths temperature has risen by an over of 0.6 deg over the last century.

Not a lot, nothing to worry about—well you're wrong.

Although we are not experiencing great change now it will have a devastating effect on the environment in the future.

Over the past 50 years in some of our coldest areas around the world namely Alaska, Canada and Russia the average temperatures have increased by 3 to 4 degs. This means if increases continue Polar Ice Caps will melt causing sea levels to rise. There will be floods, storms, droughts and heatwaves. Areas will turn into

deserts, while others just get wetter and wetter. Whatever the affect you can be sure it will destroy wildlife habitats both on land and in the sea.

Stuff Science Fiction Books and Movies are made of becoming reality and what kind of world will this be for your Children?



We are a Nation of Gardeners

Everyone wants to have their garden as an extension to their living space these days. We are bombarded with creating the perfect outside entertaining room through magazines and TV.

Guess what—it too can help the Planet.

Having lots of greenery in the Garden, Trees, shrubs and other foliage will help absorb carbon dioxide. This is a

wonderful time for planting, why not consider planting a tree, this will provide a natural habitat for wildlife over the winter.

Don't be too quick in tidying up the garden after the summer, the seed heads are still a valuable source of food to a number of garden visitors such as Hedgehogs and Birds. Even your leaves and other debris make perfect insulation for

garden visitors.

So before you chop down that old tree, have a rethink, if it really needs to come down then please plant two more to replace it.

In our throw away society, its comforting to plan and plant things in the garden that will be there for many years to come. Happy memories as the children grow and the wonderment of nature on your doorstep.



Think twice before chopping and changing this Autumn.

Get the kids involved November is a perfect time for planting trees and spring flowering bulbs.

Energy Efficiency

Everyday we use so much power in our homes and where we work and play. It's really easy to cut down our consumption and even save some money. Just 'SWITCH' things 'OFF'.

Leaving TVs & Micro-waves on Standby still costs you money and wastes so much energy.

There are lots of products on the market to help reduce your costs

e.g.: Energy Saving Lightbulbs, they use less than a quarter of the electricity consumed by ordinary bulbs. The price of these have come down drastically to, you can pick them up in any local supermarket for around £2.70 each.

Energy Saving Week this year will be 23-29 Oct this is organized by Energy Saving Trust Call: 0800 915 7722 for

more details, or check out their website: www.est.org.uk

Another good source is PowerGen for energy saving ideas on 0500 201 000 their website is: www.energyefficiency.powergen.co.uk

So what are you waiting for, turn off that PC, your TV and the Microwave, think of all the things you can buy with the extra savings.

No time like the present, start today, 'SWITCH OFF—Start Saving' and build a brighter future for you and your children.

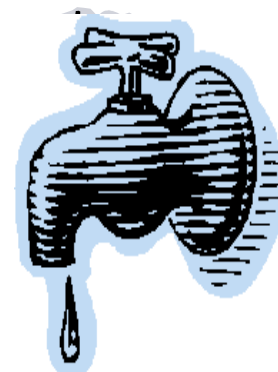
Don't be a drip—Every drop counts

So much rain in the country and yet we read so much about water shortages. We think as we pay our Water Bills that we have a right to expect clean, running water to do with what we will, just by turning on the tap. How inconvenient is it when we have no hot, clean water even for a few hours? We rush around like people

possessed filling pans and kettles if we hear UU are in the are doing repairs. A few tips on ways you can help save this valuable resource and again they are easy:

Brush your teeth without leaving the tap running. Use a water butt to collect your rainwater, it has great nutrients which are good for your plants.

When buying a new washing machine or dishwasher look out for energy efficient models when you boil an egg, don't throw away the water, let it cool and use it on your plants fix all your leaky taps and pipes cut down the amount of water when flushing your loo, add a brick to your cistern



MERSEYSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

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We're on the Web
www.metnet.org.uk

Look out for a brand new bike in your next pay packet...

How can you find out more?

By talking to your HR Dept or for more general information visit

<http://www.dft.gov.uk> click on Sustainable Travel and then Cycling and see Cycling to work Implementation Guidance so get pedalling !

The Trust was founded 21 year ago as 'an Alliance of Public, Private and Voluntary Agencies and Individuals working for the improvement of the Outdoor Environment in Merseyside'

MET still strives to raise environmental awareness across the region by dialogue, organizing public events and meetings in partnership with other like minded groups.

MET has representation on panels and advisory groups that make decisions about our environment such as

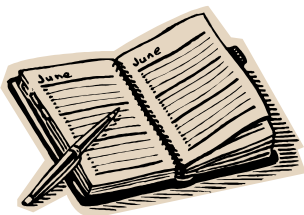
- Airport expansion
- Transport & Health
- Sustainability
- Mersey Estuary
- North West Environment Link
- Liverpool Community Environment Network
- Environment Agencyand many others

MET works with schools and community groups to improve their local environment through Environment Week offering practical help, funding and publicity advice.

MET has produced guidance to living lightly and developing environmental policies. A recent seminar involved major stakeholders in Regeneration in this 'City of Culture'.

MET is funded through subscriptions and donations and in kind by the University of Liverpool. We are continually looking for new supporters committed to the need for an independent environmental voice in Merseyside.

Would you like a copy of our Environmental Toolkit?



Launched

Together with LCEN (Liverpool Community Environment Network) we produced an Environmental Toolkit to support Community Groups, Individuals and Organisations in tackling Environmental Issues in their workplace, home and even with any projects they may undertake. If you would like a free copy please contact Lyn on the above numbers or email who will be only too happy to send them to you.

NOTICE OF AGM

This year the AGM will be on Saturday Nov. 18th, 2006 at St Francis of Assisi Academy, in Newsham Park

The meeting will be at 9.30 with refreshments.

Following the AGM at 10.30 our guest speaker will be

Sam Berry, Professor of Genetics at Royal Free Hospital, formerly Trustee of Liverpool Museum considering the topic

CREATIONISM & EVOLUTION

There will be an opportunity to tour the Academy afterwards

To ensure a place please call Lyn on 0151 794 3137

Or email: lyn.lowther@ntlworld.com

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Professor Sam Berry is an eminent evolutionist and Christian who will be joining MET in this age old argument. You are more than welcome to come along and discover Sam's creative and Christian approach to this subject, that everyone ponders over and questions at sometime or another throughout their lives. We do anticipate this event will be well attended so book your place today to avoid disappointment.

**Do join us.**