

If you are a member with an email address, let us know, so that we can send newsletters and bulletins direct to your P.C.

MetMail

Winter/ spring 2004

Edited by: Karen Evans

Contributions:
Sefton MBC
Don Thompson

You can contact MET, by writing to us at:

Merseyside
Environmental Trust,
C/o Dept of Civic Design
Gordon Stephenson
House,
74 Bedford Street South,
University Of Liverpool
Liverpool
L69 7ZQ

Or, you can telephone us
on
0151 794 3137

Fax 0151 794 2766

Or,
Email karen.Met@tesco.net

www.metnet.org.uk

MET is a Registered
Charity No 517132

**CALLING ALL
SCHOOLS,
DON'T FORGET TO
LOOK OUT FOR
DETAILS OF
MERSEYSIDE
ENVIRONMENT
WEEK. Application
forms are available
from 1.3.04 - Don't
miss out**



1984 - 2004
20 years of Environmental Action

1984

On 21st October 1984, a group of individuals decided to get together and do something about the state of the environment. And twenty years on, while initiatives have come and gone, MET is still here, still working to raise awareness of the environment and still doing what it can to change things for the better.

2004

2004 looks set to be a great year for MET with a range of events throughout the year to celebrate our 20th Anniversary: -

- ◆ **Symposium on Regeneration 24.2.04,**
- ◆ **Your School, Your Environment 4.3.04,**
- ◆ **Merseyside Environment Week 23.5.04 - 30.5.04,**
- ◆ **As well as talks, seminars, a reception and other events to mark our special year.**

Keep up to date with events through MetMail; by logging on to the website metnet.org.uk and most importantly by joining the Trust, that way you can find out about our activities directly, posted to your door. So if you haven't renewed your membership yet, get to it! And if you thinking of joining then do - be a part of our next twenty years, be a part of MET.

Environment Week 2004 will take place from 23rd - 30th May 2004

If you are a member with an email address, let us know, so that we can send newsletters and bulletins direct to your P.C.

Eco-Centre Work Underway

Work is underway to construct a new Eco-Centre on the Southport seafront. The futuristic facility, located at the Esplanade Park and Ride site, is being built using environmentally sustainable materials.

The Eco-Centre will include a 20 kW wind turbine, natural ventilation, solar water heating, water saving features, underground heating and be "super-insulated".

It will provide a superb facility for thousands of commuters and visitors who use the Park and Ride each year. Containing a classroom and conference facility, it will also be used by schools and interested groups to promote sustainable living.

Project Leader, Dave Richardson said: "It is hoped that once complete, the facility could attract in excess of 250,000 visitors a year.

"The building will also contain an exhibition space to promote the many aspects of renewable energy, alternative technologies and environmental awareness."

Calling all Schools in Merseyside

Supported by
East Prescott Road Nursery School
"A Beacon School Project"

Your School, Your Environment

A free seminar open to **all Primary teachers and education staff on Merseyside**, looking at how schools can make the most of their grounds, make school a more sustainable environment and how to obtain that all important funding too.

Date : Thursday 4th March 2004
Time : 9.30am - 3.00pm
Venue: National Wildflower Centre,
Court Hey Park, Liverpool

There will be a talk from our keynote speaker **Helen Bilton**; workshops from specialists such as **Jane Williams** an expert on Forest Schools in the rural and urban environment and **Carl Thurston** from Eco Schools, and hopefully a representative of **Learning through Landscapes**. And, there's the chance to pose your questions to a panel of experts with hands on experience of creating environmentally friendly buildings, and more enjoyable grounds.

Places are strictly limited, make a date in your diary, and register your intention to attend by contacting MET on 794 3137, or email karen.met@tesco.net

Environment Week 2004 will take place from 23rd - 30th May 2004

If you are a member with an email address, let us know, so that we can send newsletters and bulletins direct to your P.C.

LOCAL NEWS

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk - for the latest info about the national coast to coast route linking Liverpool and Hull. A great route for walkers, cyclists and horses too. Enjoy the beauty of the Pennine Moorland of Northern England.
Tel: 01226 772 574.

Knowsley's parks are set for a busy year.

Pick up a leaflet at libraries, call 0151 443 3682, or look at their website

www.knowsley.gov.uk/eisure/sedd/

There will be a series of Easter egg hunts at various locations on 8/9/10/11th of April, and Sunday 25th April sees the Kite Festival in Halewood Park.

Summer sees the arrival of various events, from theatre to exotic animals.

Autumn and winter offers loads of festive fun and the chance to make bird feeders for "ravenous Robins and Starving Sparrows".

Whatever your preference there's something for everyone in Knowsley's parks this year. So make the most of your open spaces, and get along and support a positive council making a positive impact.

Mersey Forest is celebrating another great year of achievement. The creation of the forest is one of the biggest regeneration programmes in the Northwest and will transform the landscape not just for us now, but for generations to come. But, the forest is not just about planting trees; it is also bringing together disadvantaged communities, encouraging healthier lifestyles, and strengthening communities creating a more sustainable and cohesive environment. During 2002 /03, the Mersey Forest planted 280 hectares of woodland, 139 of which were on derelict land. They held 3016 community events, of which 418 were training, 2254 were for schools and 1006 for information and publicity. So remember, next time someone asks you about the Mersey Forest, you can tell them it does a lot more than plant trees. For further info on the forest, check out their website on www.merseyforest.org.uk, or give them a call on 01925 816 217.

A Message from M.E.T.'s newly elected chair - Don Thompson.

M.E.T. – the year ahead and beyond.

With all that is going on around Merseyside over the next few years, with new build in and around the city centre, proposed changes to the transport infrastructure, the themed years for the City of Culture, to identify a few. Perhaps now, at the beginning of this 'New Year' this would be a good time to consider adopting a few resolutions specifically as an M.E.T. member?

Santa left me a few books for Christmas, one that was recommended by Bishop James in the first of our lectures on the theme 'What is Sustainability?' In his book the author Alistair McIntosh illustrates that with belief, passion and commitment great changes can be achieved.

So, in consideration of what resolution(s) to adopt to support the ethos of M.E.T., they could be many things-

- ◆ start recycling at home/work
- ◆ develop a more sustainable lifestyle
- ◆ Create a wildflower habitat for your local community or come along to the next event at the trust and perhaps ask the question 'what can you do for M.E.T. to develop and improve the outdoor environment in the Merseyside area.'

Environment Week 2004 will take place from 23rd - 30th May 2004

If you are a member with an email address, let us know, so that we can send newsletters and bulletins direct to your P.C.

To join MET, fill in you details below, and mail it to the address shown.

Rates are as follows:
 Individuals
 Unwaged £ 5-00
 Waged £10-00
 Voluntary Organisations
 Paid staff £20-00
 Without paid staff £15-00
 Schools £10-00
 Local authorities £100-00

Name

 Address.....

Postcode

Tel number

Fax/email.....

I wish to become a member of MET, I enclose my annual subscription of
 £.....

The MET AGM was held on Wednesday 14th November. As is often the case with these "business" events, the turnout was low. We appreciate that many of our members are involved in many other organisations, but your support for all our events is vital.
 It is notable that our Midsummer events attract considerably more members than our AGM's! However, despite the turnout, the meeting was useful and informative, and a discussion took place on the agenda for MET over the next year - a particularly important year for us.
 A new executive committee was also announced. Geoff Woodcock stood down as chair, after many years of loyal service, but thankfully he will not be removing his font of knowledge from our grip, as he is staying on as an ordinary executive member. Don Thompson has now taken over as Chair, and you can read his New Year message on p3.
 We also welcomed new executive member Alan Cunningham. Alan has been a member of the Trust for some time, and has a particular interest in health and its role in the creation of sustainable communities.
 The rest of the committee consists of, Prof. Tony Bradshaw (President), David Holland (Vice Chair), Jim Martin, Rita Walker and Louise Boyd. The Trust always welcomes new members, and would especially like to hear from women and younger members, who are under represented.

1904-2004
Liverpool Cathedral

And finally, just to reiterate that 2004 is a year to celebrate, and not just for MET. This year also marks the 100th Anniversary of Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, and there will be lots of celebrations to mark that special event. This includes a week long celebration of all things environmental, which MET is linking up with as it is the same week in which we will celebrate Merseyside Environment Week. The Cathedral has lots of exiting things planned, some that cannot yet be revealed! There is sure to be something of interest for everyone with a love of the environment, so keep an eye out for the next MET newsletter which will be full of details of Environment Week Activities. It's due out in late April.

Environment Week 2004 will take place from 23rd - 30th May 2004

If you are a member with an email address, let us know, so that we can send newsletters and bulletins direct to your P.C.

Environment Week 2004 will take place from 23rd - 30th May 2004