

EarthFirst!

No. 48 May 1998

"Precisely because I do not have the beautiful words I need I call upon my acts to speak to you" Nicaraguan Sandinista Daisy Zamora



MONSANTO'S GE BULLSHIT RETURNED

Staff turning up for work at Monsanto's offices in both London and High Wycombe recently were greeted by a pile of bullshit which bore the message: "WE DON'T WANT MONSANTO'S BULLSHIT". A banner above the door read "KEEP ORGANIC FREE OF GENETIC ENGINEERING" (see photo below).

Super Heroes Against Genetics swooped in to alert the world to Monsanto's plans to contaminate organic food with genetically modified organisms. The action came as the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) concluded a 6-month consultation period on the definition of organic standards. This received over 100,000 complaints from around the world, particularly focussing on proposals to classify genetically engineered food as organic.

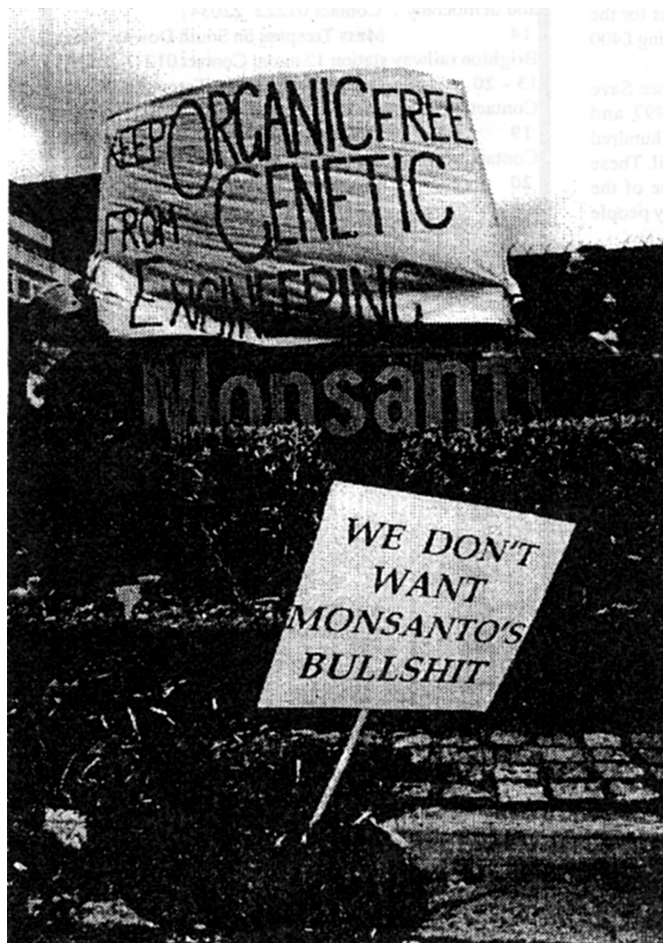
A Super Hero commented "This is yet another assault on truly sustainable agriculture. Companies such as Monsanto are attempting to swamp the market with unwanted and unnecessary genetically modified crops as well as threatening the nature of organic agriculture as a safe, natural and sustainable alternative to big agribusiness. We must stop this corporate bullying now." As the deadline fell on the consultation period the US Agriculture Secretary responded to the intense pressure and criticism by suggesting that genetically engineered and irradiated food, and crops fertilized with sewage sludge, should not be allowed to be labelled organic. While these comments are welcome, representatives of the US organic industry still see even these concessions as insufficient: the decision is not yet formalised and also could be undermined by a provision in the proposed rule that gives the agriculture secretary authority to add products to a national list of approved organic foods. Contact GEN on 0181 374 9516.

* On April 28th a farmer in Totnes received a visit from 600 local people, concerned about his release site of GM maize and the threat it posed to the local environment, their health and the local organic farmer's corn growing just metres away *

EITHINOG EVICTION

On March 31st the camp at Eithinog/Brewery Fields near Bangor (a green field site threatened by housing development) was violently evicted. 8 protestors were locked on and expected to be cut out. Instead the police tortured activists out of their lock-ons, using higher levels of pain until people unlocked screaming in agony. Activists were pressure-pointed; quick-cuffs were used to tighten a grip on wrists which were then twisted one way whilst their elbows were twisted another. All needed hospital treatment. This has implications for protests around the country. The officer in charge claimed to be using 'approved techniques'. The evidence is now with solicitors and it appears that the case hinges on two main issues: 1) the police are able to use these levels of force but not in this context, ie these techniques are for specific life threatening situations 2) the other possibility is that the police are sanctioned to do what they like, in which case this will have to be taken to the European court of human rights.

A new camp has been set up on another part of the green field site not covered by the original eviction order. The camp is on the route of an access road. Treehouses and walkways are up. Meanwhile, work has been stopped on the Eithinog site by early morning digger diving. Contact 01248 355821 or 0836 563980



CREATING CARNIVAL AND FESTIVAL..IT'S RTS TIME OF YEAR..

THE GOOD NEWS...CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge pulled off a successful street party on 25th May. Cunningly disguised as nuns, a small group of activists led the crowd from the railway station to a key road, less than 100 yards from the police station.

As the sound system pumped up the volume, those who weren't queuing outside Oddbins or stuck in traffic jams were surprised to notice an animal rights demo passing. These benevolent passers-by seemed delighted to join the festivities and soon the party stretched all the way to the police station. It was not long before the strong arm of the law flexed its goretex-clad muscles, plucking approximately 17 unsuspecting merry-makers from the crowd. Two police officers needed hospital treatment after the wind blew their CS gas sprays back into their faces.

THE BAD NEWS...EDINBURGH

Two hours before the Edinburgh RTS was due to kick off, 30 police descended on five of the organisers and detained them for 'suspected conspiracy to cause a breach of the peace'. They also impounded a sound system, banners, the portable zebra crossing, a large barrel full of concrete, a pedal-powered police car and a bike. (contd next column)

(contd)

The suspected RTS miscreants were held for 4 hours until 'the reason for their detention no longer existed'. Meanwhile the meeting point was swamped with mounted police and 12 van loads with riot gear. No arrests, no charges, no street party.

In the near future street parties will be taking place in Hull, Lancaster, Leeds, various London areas and Salisbury (see Events for details).

This, of course, is not including the Global Street Party planned for 16th May. To date the party-o-meter for this worldwide event stands at a phenomenal 28 parties in 19 countries. Contact 0171 281 4621 for an event near you.

DERBY DEVELOPMENT D-I-Y

The Bass Recreation Park Camp in Derby is going strong, with about 20 folk living in to protect public-owned green space from being turned into a shopping centre. As a grade 1 wildlife site, the park gives diverse species such as water and land plants, kingfishers, local walkers and footballers a place in common. Locals have been energetically getting together a petition of 10,000 signatures in objection to such a disposal of public space, and on May 4th marched to the local council to deliver 200 letters of protest. Several events are planned around the campaign - a Planning for Real day in June to come up with a 'people's plan' for the site; a Reclaim the Park and open weekend in early summer; and several benefit gigs. Campaigners are worried that they may be up for eviction now that the council elections are over so help is needed - anything from how to tie a walkway to how to set up a phone tree. Contact the site on 0797 631397 or Nottingham EF! 0115 9585666

CITY CAMP AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Bromley council plan to 'develop' the site of the historic Crystal Palace which stood on the highest point in South London until it burned down in 1936. An understanding existed that if anything was to be built on the site it would 'reflect the style of the original Crystal Palace'. However current plans are for 18 multiplex cinemas and parking for 1000 cars on the roof. A recent public meeting saw significant sums of money raised to fight proposals and saw huge support for protestors who have set up a camp on the site. The camp is next to the radio tower in Crystal Palace Park and is easily seen for miles around. A circular garden has been designed and there is a fine communal structure as well as space for tents and benders and tree houses. Contact 0181 761 7826

CORPORATE ACTION NETWORK

On April 20, activists from the Corporate Action Network invaded the offices of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) protesting against the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI). Appalled by the ICC's stance supporting the MAI, the activists occupied the office of chairman Richard Bate, refusing to leave until a meeting had been arranged. Mr Bate claimed to be happy to argue with activists as long as they contact him (0171 823 2811) to make an appointment. The main MAI negotiations have stopped temporarily, to give time for informal intergovernmental talks to iron out any problems.

There was only one arrest at the action - a cameraman making a film about cameramen being arrested; the police attitude to him changed completely when they realised what he was doing. Contact CorporateWatch (from end of May) 01865 791391

DIRECT ACTION PLEDGE HELPS SAVE VALLEY

So incensed were the residents of Peacehaven by the government's proposal to build 113 commuter belt houses in their valley that they decided upon direct action as a possible first resort. Earth First!ers however took a back seat to act merely as catalysts while the Mayor, leader of the town council, councillors from all parties, teachers, families and veterans in their 80's signed up to a pledge to "lock on and be arrested". This came as a result of a meeting where local activists were invited to discuss tactics - a unanimous decision was taken for a bulldozer pledge to be circulated. The valley that lies on the north edge of Peacehaven is a mixture of wooded areas, pasture and scrub land with a wide range of flora and fauna. The eastern valley is an SCNI with the west and north bordering on the downlands designated AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The 'Save the Valley' campaign stated that no sufficient environmental assessment was done, not to mention the social impact of new families nesting in an area short of schools, employment, water supply and sewage systems and killing the only remaining recreational space.

Feeling outraged by the decision of the Environment Secretary, John Prescott, to overturn the council's ruling against the new homes, the local community took their battle to the High Court and took the direct action pledge to Prescott. The pledge stated, "We all hope that the High Court will overturn this undemocratic decision, but if it does not, we the undersigned are prepared to take on nonviolent direct action." After a two day hearing the judge ruled that Prescott had clearly failed to abide by the government's own guidelines in giving permission for 113 homes to be built on a greenfield site. This is the first time the government has faced - and lost - a High Court challenge to a greenfield housing decision. Contact South Downs EF!

EF! GATHERING 1998

The 1998 EF! Gathering is taking place in the south west of England around end August/September.

More details will be available nearer the time for you but for now the following is needed from you:

Equipment plea: Marquees, domes, tents, sound equipment, cinema, alternative energy, transport for moving equipment, plumbing stuff, paint / board for signs, blackboards, sellotape, condoms, C.B.s, site office & office equipment, 1st aid kit, outdoor electricity equipment, flip charts, pens, flouro jackets, torches, cushions, carpet.....and anything else useful you can think of!

Also needed: People with knowledge of First Aid / Health and Safety and all else useful..... If anyone has any (or all) of the above (or knows of anyone that has) and would be up for lending them to the gathering (we may be able to pay transport costs) then please contact the site crew, at: cornerstone@gn.apc.org / 0113 262 9365. The gathering can only take place successfully if we get together all the equipment we need. We have very little money and even less equipment at the moment, so please help if you can.

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EF!AU, Dept 29, 1 Newton St, Manchester M1 1NW. NB NO PHONE THIS ISSUE Email: actionupdate@gn.apc.org. subscribe via Email for free EF! Website: <http://www.hrc.wmln.ac.uk/campaigns/ef/earthfirst.html>

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hot(ish) off the press - CorporateWatch 7 -the magazine for updates on the corporate baddies. Contact CorporateWatch 01865 791391

Tiny wide-angle cameras with microphones, fitted to police helmets, are being tried out in Cleveland. Images can be stored on a Walkman-sized device attached to an officer's belt or sent via microwave link to other 'uniformed friends' up to two miles away.

Lancaster folk have been demonstrating each Friday about nuclear waste trains going through their town on the way to Hesham power station. Contact 01524 849 313

A camp has been set up in Cogh, Ireland, against plans by the Electricity Supply Board to erect a 15 mile ring of pylons around Cork harbour. Electromagnetic fields could affect residents' health and campaigners are asking for the cables to be laid underground. Contact +353 (087) 451065

The first issue of URGENT, newsletter of Urban Regeneration and Greenfield Environment NeTwork (promoting sustainable and appropriate housing policies which contribute to urban renewal) is out now. Contact 01865 721366

The decision on the Bingley Bypass has been put back yet again - until this autumn. The road is to service a proposed greenbelt housing development of 10 000 properties. A camp has existed on route for a while now featuring walkways, tree houses, lock-ons, communal bender and nearby squat. People needed. Contact 01274 504626 / 0961 3674211

Every home on earth does not contain a TV or computer, but each home has some food which is destined to be changed by gene splicing.

A Day Workshop on genetic engineering is being held in Cambridge on 7th June. To book your place contact 01223 570873.

The Gandalf 3 were unexpectedly released on bail on 27th March pending their appeal against their conviction and 3 year sentence. The G3 reckon that they have a strong case for their conviction to be quashed. The other 2 defendants in the trial go to court on 11th May. Contact 01442 240246

Reclaim The Streets is updating its database - to not miss out in any future insurrection contact 0171 281 4621.

On May 17th 1649 Corporal Perkins, Cornet Thompson and Private Church were executed in Burford churchyard. They were Levellers, a radical political party and wing of Cromwell's army, and died for their ideals of government by 'Agreement of the People' and for refusing to go to oppress the Irish. See Events for 16th May action.

The camp at Bury St Edmunds, set up to stop a proposed access road for local brewery Greene King, disbanded during April, tatting down before their eviction date. The campaign continues however. Contact 01359 240365

Hundreds of thousands of peasants, agricultural labourers, tribal people and industrial workers from all regions of India took the streets of Hyderabad on May 2nd to show their rejection of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and its neoliberal policies, and to demand the immediate withdrawal of India from the WTO.

The rally took place in the context of increasing state violence against peoples' movements all over India.

Tom McDermott, Monsanto's head of European Public Affairs, has been quoted as saying "Our genes are incorporated into approximately nineteen million acres around the world, covering an area larger than Switzerland and the Netherlands combined. Can Europe at this stage really resist?"

Paul Gill, the artist formerly known as Busker Paul, has released a tape 'Solid Ground'. Available for £6 inc p&p (cheques payable to R.Taylor) from End Cottage, Wood

CRITICAL MASS

Birmingham - first Saturday each month, Victoria Square, 12 noon
Manchester - last Friday each month, St Peter's Square, 5pm
Glasgow - last Saturday, Byres Road/University Avenue, 2pm
Edinburgh - last Friday, the Mound, 5.30pm

PRISONERS

On remand for charges relating to the Manchester Airport protest:

Chris Garrett (Scouse Chris), CL 4664 HMP Altcourse, Fazakerley, Liverpool L9 7LH

6 months related to anti-logging protests:
Bob Lawrence, #61950-065, FPC Lompoc, 3705 W. Farm, Lompoc, CA 93436, US

COUNCIL NIL, FASLANE ONE!

On April 6th Argyll & Bute council's eviction attempt against Faslane Peace Camp, Britain's longest-running protest camp, was thrown out of court. However, an appeal hearing is expected late May/early June. More money and bodies are needed to defeat this threat. Campers have demanded a public enquiry into the running of Argyll & Bute council, which has constantly misled the public, stating that there is a 900-signature-petition against the camp. There is not - only a 13-year-old petition against a former separate camp. 01546 604 263 is the number for complaints on this.

Meanwhile campers continue their campaigning against the 300 Trident nuclear warheads based in Scotland. The south gate of Faslane Naval Base is disrupted daily, with base workers' cars having to be diverted, and invading campers force shut-downs for security sweeps.

On March 30th campers disrupted the sailing of a Trident submarine (which has the destructive capacity of 1280 Hiroshima bombs) for 5 hours. Large sections of the base fence have also vanished.

On May 30/31 the camp is having a "business as usual" weekend of partying and actions. The camp turns 'sweet sixteen' on Monday June 15th, with partying beginning on Friday 12th. Come along for summer fun and defiance by the Gareloch. Contact 01436 820901.

BEAL VALLEY HOME VISIT

On Saturday 25th April Oldham EF! activists, including 3 children, descended on the home of Peter Casey of Casey Construction Group, contractors for the landfill project in the Beal Valley. Parkpit Landfill is planning to first create a toxic waste dump and then turn it into a golf course. A campaign against these proposals is ongoing - activists have already invaded council meetings and blockaded the site before this most recent visit to the contractor's home.

The entrance to Casey's "Mansion" was blockaded until he came out to see what the commotion was. When he went back to his house everyone went for a walk in his garden. More Beal Valley actions are planned (see Events). Contact Oldham EF! 0161 628 5128

SIX LANES - YOU MUST BE CHOKING!

A new anti-road campaign has kicked off in Oxford against a six-lane road in the city centre to be paid for by green-belt trasher, Persimmon Homes, and Oxford University. The £1m road will destroy trees and slice through one end of the Grade II listed old railway station, conveniently leaving the area free for 'development'. The station however was squatted on 2nd May and is now being done up (one of the many ideas for it is turning it into a rickshaw rank and bike hire centre!). Contact <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~envnment/lg/lmsroad.html>

SELLAFIELD CASTOR TRANSPORT DELAYED

On the 6th of April about 30 activists went to stop a nuclear waste train carrying three CASTORs travelling from Germany to Sellafield. One group locked onto the railtrack near Sellafield with thumbcuffs. The police responded to the situation with force, arresting everyone who wasn't locked on inside half an hour and then brutally removing those who were, dragging them out of their thumbcuffs or cutting through them with boltcroppers having little regard for safety. This delayed the train by maybe two hours and all of the first group of activists had just been arrested when over the dunes came a valiant second wave, arriving in time to watch the first group be driven away. They did however manage to delay the train further through police paranoia.

18 arrests took place but nobody was charged, although videotape was confiscated. There was much evidence of local support, from cars beeping past the police station to old men in the pub afterwards. It was felt to be a positive action, everyone intended to go home and set up affinity groups to make the next one even more so.

BICYCLING AGAINST THE BIRMINGHAM NORTHERN RELIEF ROAD

The March 14 "Cycle Lanes Not Fast Lanes - Stop the BNRR" Rally in Birmingham was supported by 50 cyclists, including several kids on their BMXs, plus some skateboarders and rollerbladers. The city's normally car-mad inner ring-road was gridlocked by the actions of the happy, slow (very slow) -moving riders. Music was provided by the bike-mounted "Little Nora" sound system. The one sour note was a malicious bus driver who drove his bus at a cyclist, knocking him off and buckling his rear wheel. The police, who had continually threatened to arrest everyone for obstruction, showed their customary bias by throwing the damaged bike onto the pavement and refusing to take action against the driver. The action ended at the local Highways Agency office where a copy of Max Power magazine and a large photocopy of car-junkie Jeremy Clarkson went up in flames to the accompaniment of whoops and cheers.

A55 CAMPAIGN

Gwynedd and Mon EF! is preparing for the Anglesey Euroroute (A55) due to start work in the Autumn. Not many trees but plenty of defence opportunities for lateral-thinking activists, ie wetland dwellings, rivers and a very wide estuary (anyone got a boat/barge?). The A55 would be a good 20 miles long and is a DBFO scheme. Contact Gwynedd and Mon EF! 01248 355821

BAe EASTER ACTION

Just before midnight on Easter Sunday 12 peace protesters, including three East Timorese victims of genocide, entered the British Aerospace factory at Warton. Calling upon the government and British Aerospace to choose life over death they held a Christian liturgy and planted seeds in a symbolic gesture of hope for the end of arms sales to Indonesia. All twelve were arrested.

The following day a mass liturgy was held outside the gates of the British Aerospace factory. As soon as it was over those who had been arrested the previous night were released without charge.

The ongoing trial of six East Timorese exiles and three Britons who followed a similar line of civil disobedience last November has been postponed while the company do everything in their power to stop high ranking BAE witnesses being called to give evidence for the defence.

RADSTOCK RAILWAY

The campaign at Radstock Railway continues. A camp has been set up in an area in which Bath and North Somerset Council are planning to build housing, shops and industrial units. The development would destroy a Site of Nature Conservation Importance. Proposals have also been put forward to reopen a railway line on what the campaigners now believe to be common land - its former owner, the National Coal Board, having closed the line a while ago. Lack of campers has been a disappointment recently. Contact Bath EF! 01249 713742

HILLGROVE CATS DEMO

Hillgrove Farm has been breeding cats and kittens for the vivisection industry for the last thirty years. Charging £400 per kitten, this is big business.

Six national demonstrations have taken place since Save the Hillgrove Cats was formed in August 1997 and numbers at the demos have soared from a few hundred to over 3 000 at the most recent event on 18th April. These people are not merely hardcore activists as some of the press would have us believe but are many ordinary people from around the Oxford area.

The cost of policing Hillgrove Farm in the last 8 months is around £1million: local taxpayers are apparently angry that this huge sum of money is being spent to protect a concentration camp for cats with the police being used as a private security force.

The 1000 cats and kittens at Hillgrove Farm are kept in windowless sheds and all of the cats sold end up in vivisection laboratories all over the world. The breeding queens are bred from continuously until they are exhausted - then they are destroyed.

Save the Hillgrove Cats next national demonstration takes place on Sunday May 31st 1998 - meet 12 noon. Contact 0121 632 6460

CHESTER EU PROTEST

As EU Transport and Environment Ministers met in Chester at the end of April they were confronted with the spectacle of banner waving EF!ers and a 10 minute ear-bashing. Later on, the UK's John Prescott was interrupted as he opened a greenwash transport exhibition and a spokesman for the car industry was silenced when his microphone was grabbed by activists.

DELTA/SHELL UPDATE

In Shell-backed Nigeria, General Abacha continues his plans to succeed himself as a civilian dictator this year. Pro-Abacha rallies have been organised by front groups such as the enthusiastically-named 'Youths Earnestly Ask for Abacha 98', but opposition groups gathering under the banner of the newly active United Action for Democracy have held counter-rallies. It is certain that this year will see a significant challenge to the State in Nigeria.

During January the Niger Delta suffered one of the worst oil spills in recent years courtesy of Mobil. 90% of Nigeria's coastline was affected. From the end of January a fire burned adjacent to Shell facilities in Rivers State, leading to much protest. A year-old Shell oil spill in Bayelsa state also caught fire through negligence and caused massive damage from the end of March.

The 20 Ogonis being held hostage by the government are still in appalling conditions in Port Harcourt prison. There is an ongoing saga for bail application and requests for either a trial or the prisoners' release. Countless other environmental activists and pro-democracy campaigners are in and out of detention all the time. Contact 0116 255 3223

PCB BLOCKADE

Scottish activists have been blockading Greengairs Landfill Site near Airdrie to stop PCB contaminated soil from England being dumped at the depot. Contact 01236 830452

EVENTS

MAY

16 Global Street Party, Birmingham. Meet B'ham New Street station 4pm
16 Levellers' Day, Burford, Oxfordshire (see News In Brief). Contact 01865 735360
20 - 24 Hope & Resistance, Kiel, Germany. Gathering of European ploughshares activists. UK contact 01865 770833.
23/24 Occupy a genetics test site, somewhere in East Anglia. Contact 01603 768235
23 Lancaster RTS, 12 noon, Dalton Square
23 Hull RTS, 1pm, Queens Gardens
30 Dockers' second March for Social Justice, London. Contact 0181 442 0090
31 Hillgrove Cat Farm Nation Demo, 1pm at gates, Dry Ln, Witney. Contact 0171 278 3068

JUNE

June 98-99 Interfaith Pilgrimage, retracing the journey of slavery. Walk from Liverpool to Senegal. Contact 0171 228 9620
1-3 EuroSatory Arms Fair, Paris. Contact (0)20 61 64684 amokmar@antenna.nl
6 London street parties - various locations. Contact RTS 0171 281 4621
6 Beal Valley march and weekend camp. Contact Oldham EF! 0161 628 5128
8 Beal Valley Day of Action. Contact Oldham EF! 0161 628 5128
9 - 16 Reclaim Europe! - various events opposing the corporate agenda of the EU Summit, taking place in Cardiff during this week. Contact 01222 220347
10 Anti-hunt demo. Houses of Parliament, 12 noon. Contact 0171 278 3068
13-15 Bingley 2nd Anniversary weekend.: party; discussion on greenbelt housing; action! Contact 0961 367421
13 Cardiff Eurosummit Demonstration: 'No to a big business Europe - Yes to jobs, public services and democracy'. Contact 01222 220347
14 Mass Trespass on South Downs. Meet Brighton railway station 12 noon. Contact 01273 388392
13 - 20 Nottingham Green Transport Week. Contact Nottingham EF!
19 McLibel Anniversary Day of Action. Contact McLibel Support Campaign 0171 713 1269
20 Salisbury RTS, 12 noon, railway station

JULY

5 Mass Trespass on South Downs. Brighton railway station 12 noon. Contact 01273 388392

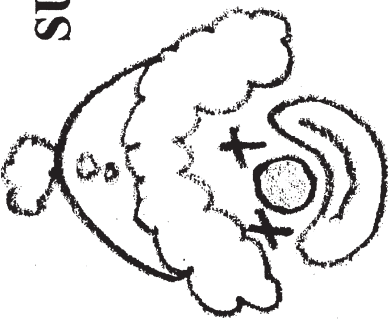
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OCCUPY A GENETIX TEST SITE

MAY 23/24

Spring is coming so let's have some fun!!

At the current time agriculture is taking a big leap forward into the world of genetic engineering. It's where the money, power and Nobel prizes are. For a number of reasons many people are unhappy about the risks involved with changing both our diet and our countryside in a way unseen since the green revolution. Science seems to be yet again creating a tunnel vision for agricultural research, leaving no money for work on organic and alternative farming techniques. Under the spurious argument of sustainable agriculture we have seen the development of herbicide tolerant crops (obviously these varieties will bring back our topsoil, hedgerows, jobs..??). It would seem that the idea of sustainable agriculture has been twisted by the Multinational Corporations. At a time when the British government is discussing how they can back organic farming and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is under review, we need to question the often made presumption that genetic engineering is a necessary part of progress and is therefore inevitable.

An idea has formed to create, for one month, a site which demonstrates our disdain at the current direction of agriculture and puts forward sensible alternatives. In order to do this lots of people, tat, workshops, singing and tidiness are needed. The tidiness issue has been discussed and it was felt that the site must put forward a positive image which will not alienate people but make them say "oh, isn't that a good idea".

The location of this site is at present confidential but the ideas around what will happen there are open for discussion.

WHAT COULD THE SITE BE LIKE?

The current idea is to create a site which is clean, tidy and has areas that show the many examples of sustainable agriculture and living. Some examples are areas of intercropping vegetables with herbs; areas showing methods of maintaining ground cover for the entire year; how to make compost; how to use wind and solar power and there may be a full permaculture design course running. These are some ideas, all will be shown clearly with info boards to explain them. Some will need people to run workshops, others may jsut need to be set up.

Some ground rules have been laid down to give a good feel to the site. It will not be a holiday camp, though it is hoped that people will enjoy it. So far the idea of no drinking before dark has been discussed and limiting the number of vehicles on site. Only vehicles which have a definite role on site that cannot be filled any other way are wanted. This may include a catering van for example. All vehicles should be by prior arrangement NOW. If you have a vehicle which you think may be useful get in touch right away. There will be communal sleeping space and an area for people to put up their own tents, benders, etc. The site should be big enough for about 100 - 200 people.

To create this haven of sensibility help is needed. Below is a wish list. If you can help with any of the items on it get in touch. They can be picked up - once a van is acquired!

It is essential for now for people to grow seedlings and young plants to create instant gardens. Herbs and vegetables are a priority but flowers (especially those with medicinal properties) will give the site a good feel.

JOBS/ROLES

If you want to help in these areas get in touch:

* catering * helping design the site and thinking about how a permaculture course could be run there * legal eviction challenging * skills to design/build a section of the site * looking after kids * looking after adults * producing professional display boards * growing seedlings *

THE WISH LIST

All these things are needed and can be picked up

* money, money, money! * van - either to buy or lend for a few months * tarps * benders, yurts, etc * poles (willow and scaff) * kitchen tat * oil drums * gas bottles * wood burners * flue pipe * drain pipes * cement, sand and aggregate * fairy lights * lanterns * solar and wind generators * garden stuff - wheelbarrows, spades, hoes, rakes, trowels, mulch - old carpet, rotted leaves * DIY stuff - saws, hammers, drills, nails, screws, paint and paint brushes * straw bales * tyres * stuff to make a bender look/feel nice - carpets, blankets, cushions * water butts * brew kegs * crumpets * video camera * blue water pipe * tressel tables * compost loos * wood off cuts * planks of wood * and generally things to make the site work well and feel comfortable.

If you can contribute please contact:

Box EF! The Greenhouse, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich NR2 1NR 01603 768235

EF! CONTACTS MAY '98

Arun Valley EF!
c/o 1 York Rd,
Littlehampton, W. Sussex
01903 721615
arunef@radicaluffdemon.co.uk

Bath EF!
PO Box 426,
Bath BA1 2ZD

Blackburn EF!
12 Balmoral Road,
Darwen, Lancashire BB3
2EW 01254 777079
Bristol EF!
c/o Box 51, Greenleaf
Bookshop, 82 Colston St,
Bristol BS1 5BB
0117 939 3093

Cambourne EF!
c/o Hartis Farm, Copper
Hill, Troon, Cambourne
Cornwall

Cambridge EF!
Box E, 12 Mill Rd,
Cambridge

Cardiff EF!
c/o Green Group, Glamorgan
Uni SU, Pontypridd,
Mid-Glamorgan CF37 1DL

Cardigan Bay EF!
Temperance House, Taliesin,
Powys, Mid Wales

Chichester EF!
c/o West Sussex Wildlife
Protection, PO Box 3058,
Littlehampton
W. Sussex BN16 3LG

Exeter Env'l Network
PO Box 185
Exeter EX4 4EW

Fife EF!
c/o 91 South Street,
St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9Q
01334 477411

Glasgow EF!
PO Box 180,
Glasgow G4 9AB

Guildford EF!
PO Box 217,
Guildford GU1 1WS
Fax: 01483 203212

Gwendraeth Valley EF!
Y Gymru Annibynol
24 Yr erw, Burry Port,
Cams SA16 0DA

Gwynedd & Mon EF!
The Greenhouse 1
Trevelyan Terrace
Bangor, Gwynedd
LL57 1AX
01286 355821
afu01b@bangor.ac.uk

Hereford EF!
58 Aylestone Hill,
Hereford HR11HX
01432 358618

Hillfort EF!
21 Tower Hill,
Dilton Marsh, Westbury,
Wiltshire BA13 4DA
01249 650078

Hull On Earth, c/o PO Box
33, Hull HU1 1AA
LEAF
Box Z, 13, Biddulph St,
Leicester LE2 1BH
0116 255 3223

Leeds EF!
16 Sholebroke Avenue,
Chapelton,
Leeds LS7 3HB
0113 262 9365
cornerstone@gn.apc.org
www.geocities.com/RainForest/3081/tl.html

Liverpool EF!
96 Bold Street, Liverpool L1

Lune EF! c/o Bookcellar,
9 Meeting House Lane,
Lancaster LA1 1TJ
01524 849313

Manchester EF!
Dept 29, 1 Newton Street,

Manchester M1 1HW
0161 224 4846
mancef@avocados.globalnet.co.uk

Mid-Somerset EF!
PO Box 23, 5 High St,
Glastonbury, Somerset

Norfolk EF!
The Greenhouse,
42-46 Bethel Street,
Norwich NR2 1NR

Nottingham EF!
c/o The Rainbow Centre,
182 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham NG1 3HW
0115 958 5666

Oldham EF!
Dept 110, 1 Newton Street,
Manchester M1 1HW
0161 628 5128

Oxford EF!
Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd
Oxford OX4 1RQ

REACT
6 Edinburgh Crescent,
Leamington Spa CV3 13LL

Reclaim the Streets
PO Box 9656,
London N4 4JY
0171 281 4621

Reclaim the Valleys
c/o Swansea Environment
Centre, Pier Street,
Swansea SA1 1RY

Reading Roadbusters
Reading International
Solidarity Centre, 35-39
London Street, Reading,
Berkshire

Reclaim the Valleys
c/o Swansea Environment
Centre, Pier Street,
Swansea SA1 1RY

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c/o Swansea Environment
Centre, Pier Street,
Swansea SA1 1RY

London SE17
Fax: 0171 326 0353

Corporate Watch
(address same as Oxford EF!)
01865 791391
mail@corporatewatch.i-way.co.uk

Counter Information
c/o Transmission, 28 King
Street, Glasgow G1 5QP

Dead Trees EF! (distro) &
'Do or Die'

c/o South Downs EF!
DELTA c/o LEAF

EF! Action Update
c/o Manchester EF!
NB NOT PHONE NO.
actionupdate@gn.apc.org

Genetix Update (see GEN)

FINs - for a full list of
Free Information Networks
(& more), send SAE to
London FIN c/o 99,
Torriano Avenue, London
NW5 2RX

NottsFIN/Ned Ludds News
(same address as NottsEF!)

PeaceNews
5 Caledonian Road
London N1 9DY
0171 278 3344
peacenews@gn.apc.org

The Porkbolter
PO Box 4144,
Worthing BN14

Schnews/Justice?
PO Box 2600, Brighton,
E. Sussex BN2 2DX
01273 685913
www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/index.html

Squall
PO Box 8959,
London N12 5HW
0171 561 1204

Undercurrents (video)
16b Cherwell Street,
Oxford OX4 1BG
01865 203661
underc@gn.apc.org
www.undercurrents.org

West Country Activist
(same address as Bath EF!)

Y Ddeilen Werdd/The
Green Leaf c/o Gwynedd
& Mon EF!

Advisory Service for
Squatters 2, St Pauls
Road, London N1 2QN
0171 359 8814

ALF Supporters Group
BCM Box 1160,
London WC1N 3XX

Anarchist Black Cross
c/o PO Box 446,
Sheffield S1 1NY

Anarchist-Primitivist
Network PO Box 252,
Rickmansworth,
Hertfordshire WD3 3AY

Anti-Fascist Action
BM Box 1734,
London WC1N 3XX

Campaign Legal Group
43 Swan Meadow Road,
Poolstock, Wigan WN3 5BJ
01942 513792

Counter Culture Collective
c/o Manchester EF!

Disabled Action Network
3 Crawley Road, Wood
Green, London N22 6AN
0181 8891361

Earth Circus Network

c/o PO Box 2679,
Brighton BN2 2DN
0378 636254

EarthRights
Battlebridge Centre,
Battlebridge Road,
London NW1 2TL
0171 278 1005
earthrights@gn.apc.org

Environmental Ploughshares
Box W, 111 Magdalen Rd
Oxford OX4 1RQ

Forest Action Network UK
(same address as NorfolkEF!)

Freedom Network
PO Box 9384,
London SW9 7ZB
0171 793 7343

Gandalf Support Campaign
c/o London Greenpeace,
Panther House, 38 Mount
Pleasant,
London WC1X 0AP
lgn@envirolink.org

Genetic Engineering Network
(GEN)
(address same as RTS)

Green Anarchist Network
BCM 1715,
London WC1N 3XX

Head State Support Group
72 Park Road,
Worthing BN11 2AN

Hunt Saboteurs Association
PO Box 2786,
Brighton BN2 2AX
01273 622827
hsa@gn.apc.org
envirolink.org/arrs/HSA/
hsa.html

Friends of MOVE
PO Box 14129,
London W12 8GR

The Land is Ours
(address same as OxfordEF!)

Legal Defence & Monitoring
Group, BM Haven,
London WC1N 3XX
0181 533 7116

Making Waves
PO Box 13, Ottery St Mary,
Devon EX11 1ZD
01404 811006

London GreenPeace &
McLibel Support Campaign
5 Caledonian Road,
London N1 9DX
0171 713 1269
info@mcspspotlight.org

No Opencast
190 Shepherds Bush Road,
London W6 7NL
0171 603 1831

Parents' Action Network
Brambles Housing Co-op,
82 Andover St,
Sheffield S3 9EH
0114 279 7164

Reclaim Europe!
1B Waterlow Road,
London N19 5NJ
0171 272 9333
europ@globalnet.co.uk

Road Alert!
PO Box 5544, Newbury,
Berkshire RG14 7YB
roadalert@gn.apc.org

Save the Hillgrove Cats
Box CB,
111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford

Spirit of Freedom
(Earth Lib. Prisoners)
c/o BM Health,
London WC1N 3XX

STROPP (Stop the Road on
Peaks Parkway)
PO Box 162, Grimsby,

01472 278845

Third Battle of Newbury
PO Box 5520,
Newbury RG14 7YW
01635 45544
www.gn.apc.org/newbury/

Trident Ploughshares 2000
(address same as NorfolkEF!)

URGENT (greenbelt
housing)
c/o 26-28 Underwood St
London N17JQ
01865 721366

AUTONOMOUS ZONES

Aldermaston Women's Peace
Camp (every 2nd weekend)
33 Heron Road,
Bristol BS5 0LT
0117 939 3746/0170 355
4434/0122 239 6563

Alvis Factory (Scorpion
tanks to Indonesia)
Northview, Walsgrave,
Coventry
01926 338805/0336 774113

Anarchist Teapot
Box B, Public House
Bookshop, 21, Little
Preston Street, Brighton
teapot@brighton.co.uk

Ashton Court (quarry
extension into public park),
Bristol
0117 939 3093/0467 430211

Autonomous Centre of
Edinburgh
17 West Montgomery Place,
Edinburgh EH7 5HA
0131 557 6242

Brewery Fields Campaign
The Greenhouse, High
Street, Bangor (greenbelt
housing) 0836 563980
jimk@undeb.bangor.ac.uk

BARC (Bingley Anti-Road
Campaign)
Rye Loaf Camp, Bingley
BD16 2HZ
01274 504626/0961 367421

Birmingham Northern Relief
Road Campaign
Greenwood Protest Site,
London Road, Canwell,
W. Midlands 0797 0301978

Cobhanti-pylon camp, Eire
+353 (087) 451065

Crystal Palace
(development), Big Willow
Ecovillage, Palace Parade,
London 0181 761 7826

Deadwoman's Bottom Camp
Nr Green Farm,
Chantry, Frome BA 11
01749 880144

Derby (city development)
Treetop Dwellings
Bass Recreation Ground
Derby 0797 0318397
reclaim@mcmail.com

Faslane Peace Camp
Shandon, Helensburgh,
Dunbartonshire,
Scotland G84 8HT
01436 820901

Kebele Community Centre
14, Robertson Road,
Eastville, Bristol BS5 6JY
0117 939 9469

Menwith Womens' Peace
Camp (spybase)
A59 Lay-By, Nr Harrogate,
N. Yorkshire HG3 2RA
01943 468593

121 Centre
121 Raiton Road, Brixton
London SE24
0171 274 6655

1 in 12 Club

21-23 Albion Street,
Bradford W. Yorkshire
BD1 2LY
01274 734160

Oxford (squat in path of
proposed 6-lane road)
0797 0343486

Radstock Railway
(development), near Bath
01761 432 273

Save Lyminge Forest
Greensword, The Spout
House, Lyminge,
Kent CT21 4LQ
01303 265737/0468 945595

Sellafield Women's Peace
Camp (bimonthly)
Peace House, 5 New Road,
Littleborough,
Lancashire OL15
0141 2265066/0113 2621534

INTERNATIONAL

ASEED Europe
PO Box 92066, 1090 AB
Amsterdam, Netherlands
+31-20 6682236
aseedur@antenna.nl

Action For Social Ecology
Box 34089, 10026
Stockholm, Sweden
ekologisten@usa.net

Australian EF! AU
PO Box 12046, Elizabeth
St, Brisbane 4002, Australia
ef_au@hotmail.com

Coast Mountains EF!
1472 Commercial Drive,
Box 128, Vancouver V5L
3X9, Canada
+1-604-708 9660

Czech Republic EF!
Zeme predevsim!
PO Box 237, 16041 Prague
6, Czech Republic
zemepredevsim@czn.cz

Earth First! Journal
POB 1415, Eugene OR
97440, USA +1-541-344
8004 earthfirst@jgc.apc.org

Eco-Action EF! France
95, rue de la Marine 62224
Equihen-plage, France
eco-action.ef.mala@wanadoo.fr

Ecodefence! Moskovsky
prospekt 120-34236006
Kaliningrad/Koenigsburg
Russia
ecodefence@glas.apc.org

Finland EF!
Viivinkatu 17 AS 17,
33610 Tampere 61,
Finland
ransu@sci.fi
www.sci.fi/~ransu

FIN
Umweltprojektwerkstatt,
Yorkstrasse 59 HH,
10965 Berlin, Germany
+49-30 78913144
mprowe@ipberlin.berlinet.de

Greene Front!
Postbus 85069, 3508 AB
Utrecht, The Netherlands
ruigord@hotmail.com

An Talamh Glas & Pobal an
Dulra (Irish AU)
Unit 66, Liffey Trust
Building, 117 Upper Sherriff
Street, Dublin 1, Eire
+353-1-855 0965
allenr@bluwin.ch

Rainbow Keepers (Ukraine)
PO Box 322,
Kiev 252187, Ukraine
nadia@gluk.apc.org

Volunteers For Earth Defence
189 San Antonio Ext
SFD, 1105 Quezon City,
Philippines

OTHER CONTACTS

Advisory Service for
Squatters 2, St Pauls
Road, London N1 2QN
0171 359 8814

ALF Supporters Group
BCM Box 1160,
London WC1N 3XX

Anarchist Black Cross
c/o PO Box 446,
Sheffield S1 1NY

Anarchist-Primitivist
Network PO Box 252,
Rickmansworth,
Hertfordshire WD3 3AY

Anti-Fascist Action
BM Box 1734,
London WC1N 3XX

Campaign Legal Group
43 Swan Meadow Road,
Poolstock, Wigan WN3 5BJ
01942 513792

Counter Culture Collective
c/o Manchester EF!

Disabled Action Network
3 Crawley Road, Wood
Green, London N22 6AN
0181 8891361

Earth Circus Network

Contraflow
c/o 56A Info Shop,
56 Crampton Street,

PUBLICATIONS/MEDIA

WHAT IS EARTH FIRST!?

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or a campaign, but a convenient banner for people who share similar philosophies to work under. The general principles behind the name are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of direct action to confront, stop, and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and it's inhabitants. The above contacts are autonomous groups that consider themselves to share these principles. International contacts are entry points into that country's own network of groups. Other contacts are ones whose aims and principles are ones that we agree with fully or in part, or groups that we think may be of use or interest to people.

NEW ADDITIONS OR ALTERATIONS ARE SHOWN IN BOLD.