

Important dates for your diary:

Climate Action conference on the 17th of March from 9am til 6pm

The Forest cafe at 3 Bristo Place Edinburgh has been booked for a Climate Action conference. We have also booked the hall there for a live music night that evening. It is hoped we can get some speakers from across the UK to come and do workshops specifically related to taking action against the root causes of Climate change.

This event is at an early stage and it would be great to get as much input and involvement as possible. There will be a meeting to discuss this event and other things like the G8 in Germany and the Climate camp 2007, this meeting will be on Thursday the 25th of January at 6pm, again in the Forest cafe. Hope to see some of you there.

garry.glass@gmail.com

Time Travellers' Tales – Saturday workshop in Edinburgh

24th March 2007 - 10am to 5pm

facilitated by Eva Schonveld – artist, mother & deep ecologist

"URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE YEAR 2027

Calling all those who want to make the difference! We, the free citizens of Bodhiton, are now recruiting time travellers to come and see how - at the last possible moment - people managed to turn the tide and save the planet for all beings. Climate change is biting hard; we passed Peak Oil a way back, but now we are working with one another and the earth to restore balance and abundance for everyone."

We invite you to visit your own future and see where your hopes and dreams have taken you. Bringing back that inspiration to your own time will help you take the first steps on the road back.

Using a variety of techniques; visualisation; visual art; drama; storytelling etc., we will look at where our lives are now and what they might be like as part of an ecovillage in the future.

Time Travellers' Tales aims to be inspiring and to help develop clarity about our aims for the future in fun and interesting ways. It will also help to identify common goals and start the process of building the connections and networks which will sustain us and help these dreams become realities.

To book a place: please send a donation of £15 payable to **Bodhi** to Hazel Gibson, 1F1, 52 The Causeway, Edinburgh, EH15 3PZ. Tel 0131 258 4081 email hazel.Gibson@gmail.com (Priority to Bodhi supporters in Edinburgh area, then other Bodhi supporters. Places are limited to 20 – bookings will be open to the public @ £20 from mid February.

‘The Work that Reconnects’ 27 – 29th April 2007 in Glasgow

A weekend workshop led by Akuppa and Ratnadevi,

A weekend workshop/retreat based on the work of eco-philosopher Joanna Macy, Ph.D., a scholar of Buddhism, general systems theory, and deep ecology. A respected voice in movements for peace, justice, and ecology, she interweaves her scholarship with four decades of activism. She has created a ground-breaking theoretical framework for personal and social change, as well as a powerful workshop methodology for its application.

The goals of the Work that Reconnects

The central purpose of the Work that Reconnects is to help people uncover and experience their innate connections with each other and with the systemic, self-healing powers in the web of life, so that they may be enlivened and motivated to play their part in creating a sustainable civilization. In order to do this, we pursue these contributing goals:

- provide people the opportunity to experience and share with others their innermost responses to the present condition of our world
- to reframe their pain for the world as evidence of their interconnectedness in the web of life, and hence of their power to take part in its healing
- to provide people with concepts--from systems science, deep ecology, or spiritual traditions--which illumine this power, along with exercises which reveal its play in their own lives
- to provide methods by which people can experience their interdependence with, their responsibility to, and the inspiration they can draw from past and future generations, and other life-forms
- to enable people to embrace the Great Turning as a challenge which they are fully capable of meeting in a variety of ways, and as a privilege in which they can take joy
- to bring people into mutual support and collaboration in working for the world

These assumptions are the basis for the Work that Reconnects:

This world, in which we are born and take our being, is alive. Our true nature is far more ancient and encompassing than the separate self defined by habit and society. Our experience of pain for the world springs from our inter-connectedness with all beings, from which also arises our powers to act on their behalf. When we reconnect with life, by willingly enduring our pain for it, the mind retrieves its natural clarity. Not only do we experience our interconnectedness in the community of Earth, but also mental eagerness arises to match this experience with new paradigm thinking. The experience of reconnection with the Earth community arouses desire to act on its behalf.

To book a place please send a suggested donation of £40.00 (or more!) payable to Bodhi along with your name, address, tel. & email if you have one. Further details will be sent once the venue is confirmed. Concessions are available.

Bodhi Eco Project, 14 Garrioch Drive, Glasgow G20 8RS. Tel. Larry or Ratnadevi if you have any questions: 0141 946 8096.

NON VIOLENT COMMUNICATION (NVC) PRACTICE GROUP

This group meets monthly to practice communication with compassion, it is open to people who have done a basic NVC training and are Bodhi supporters. We recognise the need for everyone interested in the Bodhi Eco Village to be committed to learning and practicing these skills in everyday communication.

PERMACULTURE PRACTICE GROUP: Sunday 3rd February from midday at 14 Garrioch Drive, Glasgow G20. Please let us know if you are coming: 0141 946 8096 or email: butlerlarry@talktalk.net Bring food to share for lunch, then Lusi will continue helping us to measure our ecofootprints. This group meets monthly to study & practice permaculture.

‘How to measure your own ecological footprint’

By Lusi Alderslowe

1. Introduction

An ecological footprint is a way of measuring the impact which an individual, organisation, or region has on the environment. It is thus a means of accounting, which was developed so that people could see the effect which they are having on their environment and most importantly, how they could most significantly reduce their impact. For example, one could see that recycling yogurt pots would not be as significant as taking fewer aeroplane journeys.

2. How is it calculated?

The initial calculations performed by ecological footprinting organisations involve complicated calculations based on all the inputs to a region, all the exports, and the processing of all the waste. For example, if we wondered what the eco-footprint for a loaf of bread is we would have to consider how much land was used to grow the wheat and other ingredients. How was the oven heated? If electric, how was the electricity generated, and what proportion of the inputs to the power stations can be attributed to this loaf? If gas fired, what land area is required to absorb the pollution created? Alternatively, if it were heated by a wood burning stove which used entirely recycled wood this aspect would not incur an ecological footprint. We would then have to consider how much land the oven/bakery takes up. Then we would consider the packaging's inputs, processing and waste; and of course transportation of the ingredients to the baker and the bread to the consumer. Air pollution (e.g. from transportation) is measured in terms of how much forested land would be required to sequester the carbon emissions (other gaseous emissions are hard to measure, for example the possibility of acid rain is not included in the calculations).

Globally, some land is more productive than other land, for example a desert compared to a rainforest or temperate arable land, or the ocean. Ecological footprint results are expressed in units which average the productivity of these different land types, called "global hectares" (gha).

The results are intended to underestimate human impact and overestimate the available biological capacity, making them more agreeable to critics.

3. How can I measure my own eco-footprint?

There are a couple of websites on which there is a simple questionnaire for any individual to complete. Please see www.myfootprint.org or www.bestfootforward.com. I also have a pack of cards which ask similar questions to calculate an individual's footprint, ask Larry or myself if you would like to borrow a set of these cards.

On one of the above websites you are able to vary the amount of land which should be set aside for other species, which humans do not use for anything, including carbon sequestration. On others (such as the cards) there is no land whatever set aside for non-humans only.

Other variables are sometimes included in your personal eco-footprint and sometimes attributed elsewhere, for example, industrial manufacture, road-building, health care, and the civil service. These can be very significant, especially in industrialised nations. For example a recent eco-footprint analysis of the National Health Service in England and Wales found that they emit 3.18 million tonnes of pollution per year, together with the products which they use, the land taken up, water, waste, etc it was found that the NHS eco-footprint was 4,964,825 global hectares (or 0.09 gha per person), which is 1.8% of the total ecological footprint per person in England and Wales.

4. How many planets do we need?

After calculating the area of land which each individual person, organisation, or nation is currently consuming, it was found that since the late 1980's we have been consuming more than the land area available on Planet Earth. We are therefore gradually depleting the resources available for our use. Since there are more and more people, the area of land available for each individual is actually decreasing, but rather than using fewer resources to match this, most individuals, organisations and nations are actually increasing their resource use.

The United Kingdom for example, covers a total of 1.6 hectares per resident, but the average resident uses 5.6 global hectares. If the whole planet was equally divided up per human resident, each would be allotted 1.9 gha. Therefore if everybody lived like the average UK resident we would require 3 planets to sustain us.

Some people would say that is OK because people in India and Africa don't use so many resources so it should even out. However in India the land available is much less than the land available to UK residents (because of the high population density), 0.4 global hectares per resident. This means that even with low resource use per person the land used, at 0.7 global hectares, still exceeds that available.

Globally, early in the second millennium, across the planet we have been using resources equal to 2.2 gha, whilst the land available is 1.8 gha. We therefore require approximately 1.2 planets to sustain ourselves at our current population and rate of consumption.

5. What about Scotland?

An ecological footprint of Scotland was published in 2004. The full report is available from www.scotlands-footprint.com

Using data from 2001, they found that Scotland residents' ecological footprint was 5.35 gha per person. Thus if everyone on the planet lived as the average Scot we would require 2.8 planets to sustainably support global resource consumption.

Scotland's ecological footprint is composed of the elements described in the table below.

Footprint component	Land used (gha)	Percentage of total footprint
Scotland's ecological footprint	5.35	100%
Direct Energy	0.97	18%
Materials and Waste	2.01	38%
Food	1.55	29%
Personal transport	0.6	11%
Built Land	0.21	4%

The largest component of our ecological impact is therefore arising from our consumption of material goods, and the disposal of them. To reduce your personal impact on this you could repair and reuse items rather than buying new ones. You can also buy things from second hand shops rather than buying new or check out sites on the internet for getting second-hand, unwanted items for free e.g uk.freecycle.org and glasgow-freeshare. Also get into recycling and encourage your Council to do more.

The second largest component of our eco-footprint is food. Animal based food products were responsible for 77% of this. To reduce your food ecological footprint you could therefore reduce your consumption of meat and dairy products, this is better for your health and your waistline too! In addition you could buy locally grown food (rather than that flown from overseas), check out local organic vegetable box delivery schemes (we use the Whole Shebag from West Lothian phone 07931 738767).

Direct energy is the third largest component of the eco-footprint. To reduce this you firstly need to reduce your consumption of electricity and gas, most easily done by energy conservation measures such as turning off electricity at the socket when you are not using appliances (like lights, TVs, stereos, photocopiers, computers etc), ensuring good insulation, cooking with lids on pots, only boil enough water for what you immediately require and so on. For more ideas on this see www.est.org.uk www.powerscorecard.org/reduce_energy.cfm and www.seeo.org.uk

Additionally you can switch to Green electricity providers, see www.greenprices.com/uk/pricesbox.asp (or e.g. Good Energy 0845 6011410) and ensure that your phone company uses green electricity (and save yourself money) by switching to the phone coop (0800 781 3344).

At 11%, personal transport is still a significant contributor to Scotland's ecological footprint and car use is responsible for 78% of the personal transport eco-footprint. Reducing car use through public transport use, walking, cycling, and car sharing are all vital to reduce air pollution and congestion, whilst improving health and your eco-footprint. Also, air travel uses more fuel and contributes even more air pollution per mile than even driving a car, so stay out of the sky whenever you can.

6. Conclusion

Hopefully you have now got a clearer idea of what ecological footprinting is all about, and how to reduce it. If you would like a more detailed analysis of your organisation's ecological footprint, or would like me to do a workshop for your workplace/community group please contact Lusi on 0141 632 3101.

Heartmind

a personal profile of a sister project in England by Leon Moore

Heartmind is a not-for-profit social enterprise set up to pursue the aims of promoting peace and well-being through the education and practice of yoga, mindfulness meditation and healthy conscious living.

We derive our name from the Buddhist term [bodhicitta](#) and its translation as [heartmind](#), which refers to an awakened or enlightened state of being. Out of respect for the Buddhist and Taoist traditions, both of which share a deep understanding of the term 'heartmind', we decided to use it as an emblem for our endeavours.

Our logo represents symbolically the non-dual nature of heart and mind. When the mind is clear and unburdened, then the heart shines the light of our true nature. There is then no separation between the heart, the mind and the entire universe. There is only heartmind.

The idea for Heartmind as a social enterprise was conceived by Leon Moore when he experienced a revelation as to the nature of the heartmind whilst in Hampi, India during a trip there in January 2004, He has been developing the company now for the past couple of years and has formed a management committee to help direct Heartmind's activities.

Leon Moore has held an interest in practicing yoga and meditation for the past 20 years and recently qualified as a hatha yoga teacher in January 2005 at the Sivananda Forest Ashram in Kerala, India. He is fully trained and insured to teach yoga and meditation and over the past two years has been involved with the Centre for Mindfulness Research at Bangor University in Wales, completing both the 8 week program and the mindfulness teacher training retreat in MBCT (Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy).

Leon has been accepted to teach yoga and mindfulness as a complementary therapy in the NHS, and works part-time for an NHS Drug Team specialising in Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention. He has worked in the field of mental health for the past 15

years, and has a deep interest in the role of eastern approaches to promoting peace and well-being, especially in regard to tackling stress, anxiety, depression and substance misuse. Leon is also trained in organic horticulture and permaculture design, and draws upon the wisdom of nature found in these disciplines to inform and influence his practice and teaching style.

Leon is about to start a meditation group in Chesterfield aimed at 'Awakening the Heartmind', a core energy approach combining scientific insight, philosophy, gentle yoga and mindfulness meditation. He has also recently taken on work to teach the 'Awakening the Heartmind' program in the prison service. He is available for personal tuition, workshops, corporate and group sessions covering the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire areas.

The Heartmind vision is to open a retreat center and develop an eco-hamlet around the center that is in sympathy with the core understanding of the aims of the company. We are currently looking for land in the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire areas where it might be possible for us to fulfill our vision. We have in the pursuit of our aims and vision had the privilege to form links with the directors of the Bodhi Eco-Project in Scotland and see ourselves as a smaller, sister project to what Bodhi are trying to establish. We look forward to collaboration on our joint ventures in the future and wish everyone involved with Bodhi many blessings and energy to achieve their dream.

If you would like to find out more about Heartmind, you can visit our website at www.heartmind.co.uk or call Leon on 01246 555839.

TORRI SUPERIORE ECOVILLAGE– LIGURIA, ITALY

Report based on the Bodhi Ecovillage Questionnaire

Visited by Hazel Gibson

When 17 – 21 October 2006

Part time volunteer (4 hours a day) with full board.

Contact - Torri Superiore, via Torri Superiore 5, 18039 Ventimiglia (IM), Italy.
www.torri-superiore.org Tel - 0039 0184 215504

Background information and questionnaire responses

The community is situated in the mountain/coastal region of Liguria in northern Italy, right on the border with France. Nice is situated very close by.

The town is a late fourteenth century village which is essentially one massive structure built into the hillside on eight levels with intricate stairways and corridors connecting them. The guiding principles of the community (which is lay) are respect for the community and the environment. Torri was the Secretariat for the Global Ecovillage Network (Europe) from 1999-2003.

From vision phase to implementation phase– the project was conceptualised in 1989 and it took 7 years to start practical work which continues today. There are twenty members of the community and another four members of the community living outside it. There are twenty apartments in various states of habitation and renovation.

The main aims of the project are to restore the village (architecturally, socially etc); to provide a welcome centre and centre for eco-tourism, to experience life together as a community group, and to provide cultural and educational activities for visiting young people from around the world. The aims of the community do not differ much from the original aims – in practice the community may have had to shrink some of its ambitions, but they say that that's life – there are many things you can't foresee until you are in the development phase. Obtaining planning permission was long, complex and expensive (eg. four years to get permission to change the status of the development from "house" to "guesthouse".) The community benefited from having very clear guidelines they had to meet eg. they were told what colour and size the shutters should be for that type of refurbishment of an ancient building to fit in with the traditional local style. Members pooled their money to begin development. They have maintained the sense of focus on the aims and vision through discussion in the community and with external people – dialogue has been key. The community funds itself presently through a mixture of support from its members and money from guests/guest volunteers. Members believe that the most successful aspect has been the focus that the building itself has brought to the project - the restoration of an ancient building which they have saved from certain decay.

The structures are as follows: there is an "associazione culturale" which owns the guesthouse business and has about 30 members. Seven members of this body form a cooperative which work with the tourists. There are also members of the community who are like associate members who do not operate within the "associazione". The apartments are owned by individual community members. The land belongs to the "associazione" (and the individual owner occupiers of the apartments.) You do not have to work in the community if you live in one of the apartments, for example, one of those living there works as a teacher in the local school. Members of the community eat together in a communal mensa with people taking turns at cooking, and they all pay a monthly allowance for food. There are no rented apartments in the development, only bought ones. Apartments cost Euro 2,000 per square metre and the average sized apartment is 60 square metres – or around Euro 120,000 or £85,700 per finished apartment. Apartments have to be renovated from being just the stone walls to a finished state including all the internal construction, plastering, electrics, carpentry, decorating etc. The managers of the guesthouse business (the cooperative) always make decisions after discussing issues fully with the members of the community. Agreements are sought on a consensus basis with the "associazione" but the process is not always clear. The majority vote wins. If members wish to leave, the community tries to identify someone else from within the community who might wish to purchase the property from the individual. It is a close knit community which strives for stability and there is not a lot of movement of members in and out.

The community has its own olive groves and vegetable plots which it cultivates organically but these have not been officially certified. They also buy food from outside, and most of this is organic, but not all of it is locally grown, although they do look to support local growers where possible. They get electricity direct from the grid as they cannot put solar panels on the buildings. They don't have enough land to put in a reed bed system. Water comes from local springs and rain tanks.

There is a lot of interaction with external people, coming as visitors to the community, either as (young) volunteers (mainly from abroad but also from the rest of Italy), or as

guests. The main advantage has been the creation of six jobs and the inflow of money this business generates. It keeps the community alive to a fresh input of personality and ideas. Having guesthouse facilities also means that relatives of those living in the community can stay. The community “shuts down” to visitors just two months a year – before and after Christmas. The local community utilises Torri Superiore for its restaurant, and also for free events in the summer including dance, music and theatre events performed in and around the ancient buildings (the community talked warmly of a Shakespeare play they had performed during the summer.) The value of volunteers as a free labour resource over years and years was emphasised very strongly.

My comments:

I was welcomed into the community warmly as a guest and they were happy to respond to the questionnaire questions. Being able to speak Italian was a definite advantage although the community was refreshingly multinational with a number of Germans living there and amongst the guests too. However, I arrived at the end of the summer season and I think they were looking forward to having less guests around after their peak season and a bit of a return to some privacy! They were happy to sit and chat at meals or after dinner especially aspects of their own particular roles eg. some were directly involved in restoration, others in the guesthouse business and some in organic agriculture etc

One thing which may curtail expansion of the community is the building itself - although a number of apartments still have to be renovated and there is much work still to be done, space is not limitless. Perhaps people could move into houses nearby to work with the community.

The aspect that most impressed me was the way the kids were looked after by the adults – children are looked after by their own parents – but there is a level of engagement and interaction there with other adults especially at the mealtimes and in the communal area which I think we have lost in today's society and which I think provides a very strong social/psychological extended support network for these children growing up.

When I left, there were some informal discussions going on about how to "green" the community more, in particular looking at getting solar panels (stands.)

Rachel McCann visits czech republic eco-project

This Spring , I spent three weeks working at a small eco-project in the Czech Republic. Having worked for a few years at an outdoor and environmental centre on Mull, I had had an ambition to visit similar projects in Europe for some time.

The Blue Stone House is in a very rural part of the Czech Republic in a small village called Kostelecke Horky. It is run by a local Czech organisation in partnership with a collective European initiative which enables a working cultural exchange for volunteers from all over Europe. The aim of the project is to support and revitalise local community initiatives on ecological and traditional themes. Local businesses such as honey-making and agriculture work with the centre. Many schools and community groups visit to see and learn about examples of sustainability. Planting trees, organic gardening, environmental art and leisure activities all take place, as well as the care and development of animals (milking a goat was a definite challenge).

The Blue Stone House is a traditional Czech farming house which has been redeveloped using eco-friendly material and technology. One of the aims of the centre is to preserve and restore local historical and cultural traditions and it was a privilege to hear stories and songs of rural Czech life. In the context of a country still feeling the effects of communism and peaceful revolution, the centre is seeking to engage with local and global concerns of ecology.

Whilst there I was part of a team of ten international short term volunteers. We supported the work on the gardens and buildings, engaged with the local community and undertook practical tasks. For me a highlight was talking to a group of Czech young people about the environmental work I have done in Scotland with young people here (though I quickly realised how regional my English is!) Supporting environmental concerns in a very different European country and listening to the concerns of local people was very informative. All of us felt we received much more than we gave, and the hospitality and kindness of the Czech people we met was outstanding.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION: ECOVILLAGE LIVING - RESTORING THE EARTH AND HER PEOPLE edited by **HILDUR JACKSON AND KAREN SVENSSON** published by **GREEN BOOKS** (www.greenbooks.co.uk)

Full of down to earth advice on the practical realities of Eco-Village living yet inspirational in its capacity to encourage the reader to dream dreams, this book beautifully reflects the power and potential of the growing worldwide Eco-Village movement to affect local and global transformation.

There are sections on the Ecological, Spiritual, Cultural and Social aspects of Eco Villages. Each chapter is interwoven with examples of Eco villages throughout the globe which focus on the particular theme. The book is presented in an engaging and readable way, using colourful photographs, case studies, diagrams, interviews and mission statements. Drawing on many sources the editors creatively bring together international expertise. For example, in the Ecological chapter, the Australian

Crystal Waters Eco-Village is used as a model of effective water usage. This is placed alongside teaching on permaculture and then an exploration of Trees For Life founder and Findhorn based Alan Watson Featherstone's 'Ten Principles of Earth Restoration'.

For me, Eco-villages are about an engagement with not an escape from the social, political, and ecological issues of our context and I particularly enjoyed the book's focus in highlighting the role of eco-villages as a creative, viable and sustainable response to these issues. For example the study of the Tlholego eco village in South Africa shows how a group of people who came together to prevent the closure of a school farm were able to develop an eco village model based on local engagement, community participation and poverty reduction.

The book also recognises the role of the individual within the collective and offers ample space for people to tell their stories of hope and of challenge. It covers such important issues as the role of children, communication and conflict, personal and collective spiritual development, the role of ritual and celebration in community life, the balance between living in community and personal needs. There is also a valuable section on the developmental realities of creating an Eco Village looking at such issues as finance and group process.

Thorough in looking at the diverse facts of eco-villages, and creative in discussing these, the editors have produced an Eco-Village handbook. I was left with an even greater sense of hope and passion for the Global Eco Village movement and I would highly recommend this book as an inspirational and invaluable guide to the realities and aspirations of eco village living.

Rachel Mica McCann

CAMAS CENTRE: OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL WORK AND EXPERIENCING COMMUNITY - Rachel Mica McCann

As some of you may know Camas is an outdoor environmental centre and small spiritual community based on the Ross of Mull and run by the Iona Community. Camas is close to nature and is situated in a beautiful bay off a wild track surrounded by the pink granite and the moors of Mull. Peat fires, seals and otters, a small tree plantation and a large organic garden enable people to work and play with the earth and one another. Recently the Iona Community invested a great deal of time and money into Camas to ensure its environmental, ecological and economic sustainability over the next several decades.

Primarily Camas runs outdoor education and personal development courses for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. However, there are opportunities for adults to experience and contribute to the place through REFLECTIVE WEEKS and through WORK WEEKS in the Spring and Summer. People are also needed immediately to help with the finishing touches of the rebuilding and development work.

As a former Leader of Camas, I would recommend it as a good place to experience life in community and to share in living closely with the earth. As we care for the earth she cares graciously for us.

To find out more about visiting Camas please contact Dot Stewart on 01681 700367 or visit the Iona Community website on www.iona.org.uk.

GEN: GLOBAL ECOVILLAGE NETWORK – 7TH TO 13TH JULY 2007

A wonderful opportunity to meet again this year will be our General Assembly of members. This year we will meet in Italy, in the convent of Nanni Laurent, near Rome.

- *The dates for 2007 will be: 7/8 – 13 of July 07
- *Arrival day for workshop: Saturday 7th of July, Workshop Sunday 8th, and Arrival for GA
- *Monday 9th – Thursday 12th core time for GA
- *Friday 13th departure

It is possible to stay longer at the convent, please check this with Nanni. Due to the lack of EU funding we will not organize an Italian ecovillage tour.

Please register directly at:
Nanni Laurent nanni@conventosangiorgio.it
Legambiente Convento San Giorgio
Via Colle 1
67020 Goriano Valli (AQ)

tel. +39 0862 88368

fax +39 0862 88261

cell. +39 3332633735

www.conventosangiorgio.it <<http://www.conventosangiorgio.it>>

NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM KAREN WOOD (Bodhi Administrator)

at this
still dark point
of another turning year
may you be well
may you be happy
may we find new ways
to live together in peace
on this, our beautiful planet
and may one of those ways be dance!
Hope you had a restful and peaceful festive season
I look forward to working&playing with you in this New Year
Peace, light and good wishes to you for 2007

Eco-poem by Tim Pomeroy

Made with one hundred per cent recycled words
Dragged with chains via lexicons
From my own sustainable emotions,
This, my verse, incurred no poem-miles and
Will leave no carbon-paper footprint.
Emitting no toxins it cannot poison,
And can only reflect global warming.

My poem denuded no place or people
Exploited only my cheap labour
Belched only words into the environment
It will choke no seabirds in clotted voes,
Refuses to admit to a half-life
And will set neither Geiger counter nor
Carbon monoxide detector ticking.
It will not mutate simple organisms
Will monopolise no natural habitats
And will not threaten the biodiversity;
Nor will it suffocate prose.
It is totally biodegradable,
And can be composted or used as a mulch
At the end.

I shall cleverly fold it into a windmill
To generate energy to power a crèche,
Or as a propeller attached to my dreams
Fly me beyond that place where discords mesh
And society is more than what it seems.
Take it. It is free and will go where it will.

Editorial note: next news bulletin will be in March, please send your contributions before the end of February 2007 to:

14 GARRIOCH DRIVE, GLASGOW G20 8RS
www.bodhi-eco-project.org.uk info@bodhi-eco-project.org.uk