

Summer 1988
(The rainy season!)

GRAHAM

YOUR STARTER for 10%

This man lives on the land.
Every year he sprays tons of chemicals on to the fields.
He grubs up miles of ancient hedgerows. He shoots hundreds of birds. He hunts down foxes.
He collects a generous grant from the European Agricultural Policy.



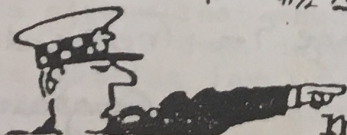
This man lives on the land.

Every year he turns up for a festival.
He has just broken a small bit of corn.

He signs on at the D.H.S.S.



Q:



Who does the policeman ask to move along for damaging the land?



City Green is the newsletter of South Manchester Green Party and is free to members. Two issues will be sent free to anyone who is interested, after which an annual subscription is £2. Please contact the Membership Secretary if interested.

A full newsletter comes out every two months, with a brief newsheet in between (which may not be sent to everyone to reduce expenses). This may vary slightly according to prevailing circumstances.

Articles for publication are welcomed as long as they are consistent with editorial policy.

Members and supporters are welcome to attend editorial collective meetings. The next one is mentioned in the Diary on the back page.

Contributors to this issue:

Bruce Bingham

Paul Harrison

Juhet Denham

Mary Candeland

Brian Candeland

Colin Kirby

(John Poole - from a leaflet on the Community Health Association)

Deadline for next issue:
August 28th (or phone me)

Editorial Policy: To promote the ideals of a Green society, to inform of relevant events and ideas and to act as a forum for any group or individual who in the view of the editorial collective is/are likely to be influenced by or contribute to the development of Green thought. To encourage and facilitate the development of local Green party policy. To encourage the formation and development of local parties and Green groups in Greater Manchester. To encourage greener lifestyles. No view will be expressed which fosters prejudice or discrimination against any section of the community. Notice will be given of editorial collective meetings, which all members and supporters will be welcome to attend.

Editorial

It might be the time of year for summer holidays, though I wouldn't guess by the weather but in fact there are many things going on at the moment. So I hope you'll all find time to read this newsletter, because you might find something you'd like to get involved in.

European election preparation, the fluoride campaign, a jumble sale and a 'Save the Rainforests' campaign are amongst the things we are doing now. We've also got to get working on the Poll Tax campaign.

Following the recent E. G. M., we're attempting to revitalise the Party, so if we're not doing what you hoped of us, now's the time to do something about it. Please fill in the questionnaire, even if you don't feel like playing an active role in the Party.

In the next few weeks we'll be arranging the launch of our Euro campaign. If you feel like helping in any way (and we're going to make sure it's fun) please get in touch with one of the contacts.

Have a nice summer,

Cheers,
Bruce

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Fun in the Lake District

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Campaign news
+ surprise items!

Gareth Le
Nation
8000

New Members - Welcome!

Gareth Lee, G.A. Quick, Peter Boyce, Liz Drew, Barbara Lally.

Nationally membership continues to grow, recently reaching over 8000. Before the elections we had less than 7000 !

European Elections - June 1989..

The recent ballot to select our Euro-candidate was won by Brian Candeland. Here he speaks..

Thank you very much to everyone who bothered to vote in our selection procedure - whether for me, for Colin or for 'Reopen nominations'.

We are the only major party in this country which is unequivocally opposed to the European "Economic" Community as presently constituted. However, we do want to build a different kind of Europe based on sound ecological principles, and I believe it is important that we play a constructive role in these coming elections.

Areas I want to stress include challenging the conventional obsession with economic growth, instead calling for a radical change in attitudes towards consumption and waste before we all drown in our own pollution, a devolution of power from centralised European bureaucracy to a much more local level, and a fairer deal for the people of the so-called 'Third' World.

The Green Party also rejects the '1992' European Market proposals: a very recent study from the Henley Centre for Forecasting * states that "if the UK is to substantially gain from the proposals, it will be the South-East rather than any other region which benefits...the North-South divide will be exacerbated." Yet the other major parties seem to be wholeheartedly in favour of these proposals.

On the environmental front, the world is currently facing the depletion of the ozone layer, destruction of the rain-forests, the threat of the greenhouse effect and the mysterious 'killer algae' in the North Sea. The need for some green consciousness-raising to be injected into what is usually regarded as a dull election cannot be underestimated.

Brian Candeland.

* Reported in the Guardian - June 27th.

The Campaign

Although the European elections are not until June next year we are already beginning the process of planning our campaign. At the constituency level we have had our first meeting with Altrincham & Sale with whom we are contesting Manchester Central. No firm plans have been made as yet, but it seems likely that the campaign will have to be mainly media oriented. Due to the size of the constituency mailing or leafletting the whole will probably prove prohibitively expensive. One of the best eye-catchers for publicity are 'stunts' or outdoor events of any kind preferably with good visual impact - so if you have any good ideas don't keep them to yourself!

The North West Greens are also in the process of campaign planning: very good ideas are coming out of there for a region-wide rolling media circus that should attract a good deal of attention if all goes well. This does depend though on adequate funding. Anyone interested in getting involved in the election campaign, or anyone with any good ideas, come along to the next Euro-elections meeting on Wed. 27th July 8pm. at 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range, or phone Paul on 226-6683.

The Way Ahead

One of the most important things in life is to set aside some time now and then for reflection : to reconsider our aims and objectives, to re-examine our beliefs and our views of the world around us. This applies equally well to any group of people who get together for some common purpose. South Manchester Green Party has now reached the stage where such reflection is needed.

Up until now our local party has simply existed to contest what elections it can and done so on the basis of the policy handed down in the sacred texts of the nationally produced manifesto. But our childhood has to end sometime, self-awareness begins to take hold, and it is only right that we should question the received wisdom. To this end we intend to convene some sort of forum for discussion of these issues, and we would like as wide a participation as possible.

As 'policy coordinator' it is my task to convene this forum and as a matter of personal taste I would like it to be informal and easy to contribute to. Inevitably we shall have meetings to discuss policy, but for all those who don't like this form an 'ideas box' will be open to all - Just write or phone them in, no need for formal papers or motions, or indeed use the space on the questionnaire in this issue. Our first discussion will be 'What should SMGP be doing?', will take place on Saturday 6th August at 96 Gretney Walk next to the Moss Side shopping centre, at 2.30pm. Come late rather than not at all, or phone in your ideas to Paul on 226-6683.

CAMPAIGNS

A new post of Campaigns Coordinator has been set up. The task has been assigned to Colin but he cannot do it without your support! So if you have any ideas, good or bad, or would like to help, please get in touch with him. If enough people are interested we can arrange a meeting.

Fundraising

As well as the job of Treasurer, Dave Howarth has recently taken over as Fundraiser. This doesn't mean he has to raise it all himself, so if you have any ideas any time, don't hesitate to suggest them.

The Party is run on a shoe-string - most of the membership fee goes to run Party office in London and other national or Area level organisation. So it's really up to us to do what we can locally. Without money we can't get down to what it's really all about - spreading green ideas.

Jumble Sale

On 13th August we will be holding a jumble sale (hopefully with some added attractions) and require as much help as possible in collecting it. People with vehicles will receive an unusually special welcome! If you can help out we will be leafletting on Tuesday and Wednesday 9th & 10th and collecting on Thursday and Friday 11th & 12th - meeting at 7.30 at 9 Whalley Grove, W.Range. We will also need help setting up on the day, from 10 o'clock onwards. The sale will take place at St Margaret's Church Hall, Rufford Road, Whalley Range at 2 o'clock - please come along.

Raffle Tickets

You will have recently received some with the national Econews. These provide much needed revenue for the Party, not just nationally but locally as well provided you write South Manchester Green Party on them. If you can't sell them or would like some more please contact Colin or Bruce/Juliet.

The People's Petition Against the Poll Tax, a non-Party political petition, has already been signed by thousands of people.

We have already used this and plan to do so again in the future. We shall also be pushing the Green Party's Charter for Democracy

We have also taken part in a meeting with members of the other political parties (Tories excluded) and there promises to be more.

If you feel like you'd like to take part in the campaign against this anti-democratic tax, get in touch with Colin.

And now for something completely different...

words of encouragement from our new 'Branch Enabler'

As well as Paul's role as policy coordinator and Colin's new one of Campaigns Organiser, a third post was created at the recent EGM - that of Branch Enabler. This post was the result of the recognition that someone needs to take responsibility for finding out why people aren't active and finding the support/changes needed to enable them to become more active if they want to. It is also important that there is someone who people can bring their suggestions and moans to if they can't/don't want to bring them to a business meeting. This questionnaire has been produced to try and find out some of the reasons why people aren't actively involved at the moment.

Please return questionnaires to Juliet at 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range, M16 8DN and feel free to phone any time on 227 9167. Thank you for helping.

Questionnaire

Reasons for not attending meetings:

- The times of meetings are inconvenient. ☐
- Baby-sitting problems. ☐
- Other commitments. ☐
- Transport. ☐
- Not interested. ☐
- Others (please specify). ☐

Campaigns/Policy/Activities

Are you a member of any other campaigning groups? eg. CND, Friends of the Earth, War on Want etc. (Please specify which)

Would you like the South Manchester Green Party to have:

- more social events. ☐
- more issue campaigns. ☐
- locally relevant policies. ☐
- other (please specify). ☐

Resources

Could you help with any of the following?

- Specialist areas of Knowledge
(eg medicine, town planning). ☐
- Skills
(eg artwork, juggling). ☐
- Access to equipment
(eg printing, public address). ☐
- Transport
(car, van, minibus). ☐

Please give
details of
these over
the page.

P. T. O.

The Telephone Network

Some time ago we set up a telephone network to spread information on events, campaigns etc. through the Party quickly. It is designed to be non-hierarchical - everyone has equal responsibility and anyone can start a message - and reliable - if a few people are away the message will still get around.

Each person on the network has three contacts. The person who starts the message phones all three of their contacts; when someone receives a message they pass it on to their other two contacts.

To work effectively, the network needs to be used regularly, ideally about once a week. Also the more different people who start messages the better - in particular, don't expect Mary or Brian to start your message for you.

To avoid misunderstanding, please make it clear at the start of a message that it is a message for the Green Telephone Network.

Currently there are 24 numbers on the network; this can be expanded, provided it is expanded by two numbers at a time. If you want to be included in the network, or if you are currently on it and want to come off, please contact Mary Candeland on 434 7116. If you change your phone number whilst on the network, please inform your three contacts as well as Mary.

If anyone wants any further information on the network and how it works, please contact Mary or Brian.

Mary Candeland.

Please feel free to use this space to make any comments you like, not just those specifically related to the questionnaire, and return it to Juliet. Don't forget to add your name if you are offering your services.



An Introduction to the Community Health Association

7

Health is... "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not just the absence of disease or infirmity." from the constitution of the World Health Organisation

Despite the efforts of many sincere and dedicated people, our existing health service does not seem able to cope with the present demands being placed upon it. Although successful in treating many disease conditions, it rarely helps people achieve the state of "physical, mental and social well-being" referred to in the W.H.O. constitution. This becomes evident when we consider the following aspects of present trends:

- (i) the increased incidence of degenerative and stress-related disease in recent years.
- (ii) increasing breakdown of social and personal relationships.
- (iii) rising levels of crime and vandalism.
- (iv) dissatisfaction of those within the service who are trying to implement the W.H.O. principles.

Shortage of funding is often held to be the cause of these difficulties but there are other factors that must also be taken into account:

- (i) the form of medicine which predominates in the NHS regards "health" as the absence of disease and in consequence is designed only to treat specific, identifiable disease conditions, not to promote well-being.
- (ii) treatment is applied for particular parts of a person and not for the whole person.
- (iii) initiative and the development of a healing relationship between givers and receivers of the service is discouraged.
- (iv) there is over-emphasis on high-technology and chemical treatment.

Although capable of dealing with disease after it has appeared, our health service is generally unable to deal with the root of the problems from which much of our disease grows. To make this possible we need to introduce a new approach to health-care which:

- (i) regards and encourages "health" as a state of positive well-being.
- (ii) treats people as integrated physical and non-physical beings.
- (iii) gives people an opportunity to participate in their own health-care and to play a role in local, community-based health services.

It is unlikely that such developments are within the scope and present resources of our existing services. However, to make the introduction of these measures a possibility, a new organisation, to be known as the

Community Health Association

is being established. Its principal aims are:

- (i) to assist self-help groups in developing low-tech methods of dealing with everyday problems.
- (ii) to enable local groups to establish effective community health-care facilities, directed and run by members of the community
- (iii) to facilitate the provision of holistic medicine, incorporating both "alternative" and orthodox techniques, within these communities.
- (iv) to support individuals or groups of individuals working to achieve social or environmental conditions which will optimise the health of the people of Manchester.

Continued...

At present the association comprises a group of people from a wide range of backgrounds, interests and personal situations. Membership is open to all who are prepared to explore new ways of dealing with our health problems and who wish to work for a true state of well-being within ourselves and our communities.

For further information, or to add any comments or suggestions you may have, feel free to contact John Poole on 445 0074.

FLUORIDATION: THE BATTLE BEGINS

When I asked people, in March, to write to their local health authority I had no idea of what was to come. For those who've recently joined, or not read any of the fluoride material, the Green Party is opposed to fluoridation - we are the only UK party although many politicians of all shades are opposed to it. It has in fact been banned or discontinued throughout Europe due to the many and varied side-effects.

What followed the so-called public announcement was a series of lies and deceptions on the part of the pro-fluoridation lobby. As I read more about the subject it became clear that this issue is very big indeed. There is in fact bitter hostility towards anti-fluoridationists with the pro-fluoridationists simply ignoring the danger signs.

Fluoridation is VERY big business and loadsamoney = loadsapower. Power, as we all know, corrupts.

As the health authorities voted one by one in favour of the proposal to fluoridate, it became apparent that they always intended to vote that way (many members of ha's abstained but were AFRAID to vote against). In Bolton 7000 letters were received opposed - only 1000 in favour - the council said No, the Community Health Council said No but the health authority said Yes.

Towards the end of April we approached Jim Reeve from Piccadilly Radio. June went to the studio and took part in a phone-in. The following day the health authority phones were jammed. Where had been the public debate? A further programme will take place on Jim Reeve's show in the near future - listen out for it or get in touch with June or Bruce.

It now seems that Brass Tacks will do a programme too.

Three MPs have put forward an Early Day Motion, number 1072, opposing fluoridation. Please write to your MP very soon before they go on holiday, urging him(?) to sign this - but better to write late than not at all.

An all-party group "North Against Fluoridation" was recently set up. We need to organise media stunts, lobbying etc.

If you want to know more about this subject, or can help in ANY way, please get in touch with June or Bruce.

euroelectionactionspecial

We will be arranging some kind of 'Euro-stunt', to launch the campaign probably before the next newsletter so please get in touch if you want to take part. You won't necessarily have to do anything, but the more people the better the impact. Get in touch with Paul, Brian or Juliet if you want to take part.

Lake District Conference

If you're not doing anything on September 3rd/4th, perhaps you'd like to take part in what promises to be a very exciting conference in the Lakes. We'll be discussing the future of the Party!

There will be a wide range of workshops on all aspects of the Party. It's been organised by the North-West but will be open to all members - perhaps you'll meet some of the well-known members in the flesh! See diary for details.

Vast areas of the World were once covered in trees. They were part of an ecological system in which each species of plant or animal depended on the others. Over many hundreds of years much of the non-tropical forest (which once covered Europe) disappeared. During this period the tall, straight hard-wooded trees of the Tropics remained largely untouched. There the balance between species still exists, just - perhaps half the world's total, many un-named, with medical and other secrets yet to be discovered.

In the last thirty years 40% of the TRF's have been destroyed. And we can't blame the locals - economic pressure by the rich Western countries is to blame.

We are not just destroying people's lives and plants and animals but changing weather patterns across the Globe; destroying forests changes rainfall patterns, causing flooding, drought and desertification.

Tropical hard-woods are the subject of a Friends of the Earth campaign, aimed at both the public and the retailers. Salford GP recently held a 'Save the Rainforests' evening, bringing together Oxfam, Survival International, FoE, Organic Gardeners and many others. The (costly) evening was a great success in drawing links and raising awareness BUT it only reached a few people and therefore won't affect the suppliers.

The FoE campaign draws attention to wood suppliers, differentiating between wood which is sustainably managed and wood which is not. It also suggests hardwood alternatives. A copy of this "Good Wood Guide" is in our possession if you'd like to see it (currently at Bruce and Juliet's).

Some towns e.g. Sheffield and Cambridge, seem to have taken a lead - let's help FoE and the University Greens put pressure on our local suppliers who are probably fully aware of what they are doing. Please write to the following suppliers, pointing out the rashness of using hardwoods from non-sustainable sources:

Window Care	WHSmith Do It All	Magnet & Southernns
Monsall Hill	25 Elizabeth St	(Southernns-Evans Ltd)
Monsall Road	M8 8BE	Greg St, Reddish,
Mcr M18		Stockport

B&Q, Great Stone Road, Stretford.

We need to raise at least £100/month to avoid going into debt next year. Don't feel pressurised (!), but if you can afford anything please think about it.

SOUTH MANCHESTER GREEN PARTY

STANDING ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

YOUR BANK DETAILS

Name and address of Branch: _____

Sort Code : - (top right of cheque)

Account No. :

Account in the name of : _____

Please pay the sum of £ _____
on / / (date) to Trustee Savings
Bank, 453 Wilmslow Road, Manchester
M20 9AN, 77-19-26, and credit South
Manchester Green Party, Account no.
12339168. Please make similar pay-
ments on the _____ day of every
month until further notice.

Signed _____

Date _____

Please tick the box if you want this
to cover your membership. ☐

Please return to: South Manchester Green
Party, 72 Milwain Road, Levenshulme,
Manchester M19 2PR

DIARY

JULY

Wednesday 27th - Euro election coordinating meeting. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 8pm.

22nd to 29th CLEAR - Less Free Petrol provision week

AUGUST

Wednesday 3rd - Green Party team at the War On Want pub quiz, The Southern Hotel (corner of Nell Lane and Mauldeth Rd, Chorlton). 7.30pm.

Saturday 6th - Policy coordination meeting. 96 Gretney Walk, Moss Side. 2.30pm.

Tuesday 9th - Leaflet for jumble sale. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 7.30pm.

Wednesday 10th - Leaflet for jumble sale. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 7.30pm.

Thursday 11th - Collect jumble. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 7.30pm.

Friday 12th - Collect jumble. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 7.30pm.

Saturday 13th - Jumble sale. St. Margaret's church hall, Rufford Rd, Whalley Range. Set up from 10am, Sale begins at 2pm.

Thursday 18th - War on Want public meeting.....'women and development'. Speaker Helen Allison, War on Want women's officer. Town Hall. 7.30pm.

Saturday 20th - Animal rights living without cruelty fair. 9.30-5, Picadilly Plaza.

Wednesday 24th - Editorial collective. 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range. 8pm.

Monday 29th - Social. Bring a picnic! Alexandra park. 12.30pm by the duck pond.

SEPTEMBER

Weekend 3-4th - Political futures conference. Marchesi centre, Windermere. Contact Sue Ledger (480 2656/7048) for more details.

Wednesday 7th - Business meeting. Contact Juliet or Brian for more details.

Other events may be going on.

Get in touch with Brian or

Juliet for additions.

If anyone knows of anything else going on please activate the telephone network :-

to:-

A. Kahan
201 Slade Lane
Levenshulme
M14 2AC

CONTACTS

BRANCH CONTACT:

Brian Candeland, 28 Tintern Ave., W. Didsbury
(434 7116)

SECRETARY:

Juliet Denham, 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range.
(227 9167)

TREASURER:

Dave Howarth, 72 Milwain Rd., Levenshulme
(256 3160)

CAMPAIGNS COORDINATOR/TWIG COORDINATOR

Colin Kirby, Flat 1, 16-18 Whalley Rd, Whalley Range [c/o 227 9167]

ELECTIONS COORDINATOR/POLICY COORDINATOR

Paul Harrison, 96 Gretney Walk, Moss Side
(226 6683)

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Steve Clarke, 82 Milwain Rd, Levenshulme
(225 1347)

FLUORIDE:

June Buchan, 31 Sandhurst Ave, Withington
(445 6946)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Bruce Bingham, 9 Whalley Grove, Whalley Range
(227 9167)

MATERIALS:

Beryl Clarke, 82 Milwain Ave, Levenshulme
(225 1347)

BRANCH ENABLER:

Juliet Denham [as for Sec.]

FUNDRAISING:

Dave Howarth [as for Treasurer]

PRESS AND PUBLICITY:

post vacant

Please note
that some of the
posts have changed

Want to keep in touch with what's
going on? Join the network now!

Telephone Network: Mary Candeland
(434 7116)

**Membership
Rates
Join today**

Joint	£ 15-00
Standard	£ 10-00
Joint-low	£ 8-00
Low / unwaged	£ 5-00