



News and information from the Hebden Bridge Alternative Technology Centre

### ATC CONTACTS

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The views expressed by individuals on the Green Page do not necessarily represent the views of the ATC.

# RAIN OR SHINE...



JOHN BOGGIS, OWNER OF CROWN FISHERIES IN HEBDEN BRIDGE, is delighted with the solar water heating system he has recently installed at his home in Mytholmroyd.

"I am very impressed with the system" said John. "Even in mid February the solar panels were heating the water up to 46 degrees Centigrade - much better than I had expected for this time of year."

So far there have been over 60 installations under the Simply Solar scheme, some DIY like John's but mostly professional installations, which benefit from a £700 grant.

### BEYOND THE VALLEY

#### VOTING GREEN

Green energy has received a big boost in San Francisco, where voters have given an overwhelming 73% approval at the ballot box to a plan for the city to raise \$100 million for renewables.

#### WIND TAKES OFF

The Horns Rev wind farm off the coast of Denmark will come on line in April with a generating capacity of 160MW - four times larger than anything seen so far.

Positive green news snippets like these and excellent articles are available every two months in Green Futures published by Forum for the Future and on sale at the ATC's Green Shop for £3.95.

### HEDGELAYING

Last month the ATC ran an extremely popular course in hedgelaying during which we managed to complete a quarter of the planned hedge at Salem Fields.

### VOLUNTEER VACANCY

The ATC has an exciting volunteer opportunity and is looking for someone to join us as soon as possible. The vacancy is for someone to act as a general maintenance manager within the Centre.

## A to Z of Recycling

This month's selection from our A to Z of Recycling (soon to be available in full on the ATC website) looks at C for.....

- Cans - aluminium & steel cans - wash, flatten, take to a recycling point.
Cardboard - flatten, remove staples and packaging and take to your nearest collection point.
Charity shops - recycling at it's best!

- Christmas Trees - Buy a fake tree to use year after year.
Copper - pipes, tanks and wire can all be recycled.
Computers and IT equipment - contact community on 01422 843792.
Composting - Almost 1/3 of our domestic waste could be put back into the soil.

organic waste (eg tea bags and egg shells) goes to landfill each year - once it's in landfill it's deprived of oxygen and does not biodegrade.

If you have any suggestions or amendments for our A to Z please send them to Sharon at the ATC.

#### Key Contacts:

- Kerbside Tel. 881110
Calderdale Council Recycling Officer Tel. 392385



John Morrison
A Sideways Look

## A License to Kill

BANNING FOX-HUNTING IS TO LABOUR WHAT HOUSEWORK IS TO ME. We know these things have to be done, but there always seem to be more important things to do first.

Every time fox-hunting gets onto the parliamentary agenda, more important issues take precedence. And, as issues go, maybe hunting isn't quite as critical as, say, war in Afghanistan.

For years the government has promised to ban fox-hunting. Then someone pointed out that a person who could dress up in a pink jacket and ride around the country was perfectly capable of putting a cross on a ballot paper.

an 'acceptable' level of brutality? It makes no more sense than getting cannibals to eat with a knife and fork.

Where I was born and raised, near Otley, the hunt was a familiar and colourful spectacle. But even as a young lad I realised there was more to it than just chasing a fox.

What particularly grates - with me, anyway - is the dishonesty of the hunting lobby. On the one hand they insist that hunting with hounds is the most efficient and humane way to cull foxes.

The apologists for hunting say they are engaging in a dance of death with a worthy quarry. In regarding the fox as an adversary - not just vermin, like a rat - they are trying to elevate the whole sordid business into a noble

contest. They paint a picture of hunting as a cohesive social activity that binds country people together.

"If these animals weren't hunted", they insist, "the delicate ecological balance would be upset. We are conservationists. We love foxes..."

Ah, that's more like it. "OK, it's a fair cop. We are bloodthirsty people. It is our delight, at weekends, to chase small mammals to the point of exhaustion, then let the dogs tear them limb from limb."

Fox hunting is not a suitable pastime, in the year 2002, for sentient adults who still have their frontal lobes intact. Let's be in no doubt: there are many other kinds of hunting for horsey folk to enjoy, that do not have the death of an animal at their heart.

### Green Avenger - Mike Bryson

