

econiche™

June 2007

Local Environmental Issues and Solutions

Feeling the HEAT

How solar power
can save on our
home energy bills

Creme de la creme

Make way this
summer for the 'green
tanning' revolution

Something borrowed, Something GREEN

We celebrate the growing
trend for eco-weddings

PLUS: Recipes from Total Raw Food • How to Recycle your Hardware • Book Reviews

Buttercups and Daisies

Picturesque Henfield in the shadow of the South Downs in Sussex offers a new pleasure. On June 16 and 17, as part of their annual gardens and arts festival, the public are being offered the chance to enjoy an English meadow in Summer. The Tanyard meadow was historically one of Britain's largest leather-tanning yards. Discover the forgotten art of 'butterfly-sweeping' and enjoy a tasty picnic. Trained Sussex Wildlife Trust leaders will be on hand. For further details of events visit www.henfieldgardensandarts.org



Brighton Celebrates Clean Air with a Song



The banning of smoking from pubs and restaurants from July 1, 2007 in England is likely to lead to a boom in the use of patio heaters, as pubs try to provide outdoor spaces for smoking, warns Jacob Skinner, spokesperson for Brighton Climate Change. A patio heater emits as much CO₂ as a small car does by travelling about 35 miles! Warm jumpers and quit smoking programmes are to be encouraged.

Back to the Bars – a celebration of being able to breathe more easily is being hosted on Sunday July 1, 2007 at the Joogleberry Playhouse, Manchester Street, Brighton (£6, £4 – donation to Brighton Climate Change) Saturday July 6, 2007 The George, Trafalgar Street, Brighton (free). Further information from www.healthyconcerts.com

Endangered Kent Reserve

Far from addressing the challenges of low-carbon living the Government's New White Paper which proposes changes to planning laws is seen by environmentalists as a way to speed up the planning process for large-scale developments, including new airport runways, road-widening schemes and nuclear power stations. Friends of the Earth's planning coordinator, Hugh Ellis, said that a new system to decide major infrastructure projects on a national level would "limit local involvement in decision making. You won't be able to object to a new nuclear power plant in your community, but you may be consulted on what colour gate it has," he said.

The RSPB is currently engaged in a campaign against the expansion of Lydd airport in Kent, which it says could endanger its Dungeness reserve, and it fears the rule changes will not help its case. For further information visit www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/d/dungeness

EcoFair 2007

This is a unique first time event. Explore the possibilities, buy sustainably, save money on heating bills, reduce ecological footprint and impact on the environment and also have fun. Plenty of Stalls and entertainment promise to make this a regular event for this Fair trade town. Organised by a group of dedicated people at Ecotecture and, yes, EcoNiche will be there in full support, come and meet us and let us know what you want from your own magazine. Further details www.ecofair.org.uk



Choc Head

Total Raw Food presents the answer to your dreams in the form of 'Real Raw Chocolate' – five chocolate bars that are set to improve your health, and turn you off 'junk food' chocolate for good! Wheat-free, gluten-free, dairy free and additive free, also sugar free, making it the weight watchers best friend.

Managing director, Jess Michael says "What's so unique about Real Raw Chocolate is that it's not going to pull your body out of balance. It's actually crammed full of important nutrients, from the blend of superfoods that have been lovingly added to each bar. Your system will actually thank you for eating handmade raw chocolate."

Available in stores such as 'Revital', 'As Nature Intended' and 'Fresh and Wild'. Buy on-line at www.totalrawfood.com

