

BODHI NEWS June 06

Our website is currently being re-designed and upgraded to be as attractive as our links. You can still get basic information and documents such as past newsletters at www.bodhi-eco-project.org.uk and e-mail info@bodhi-eco-project.org.uk

We had a successful day in May at the Tramway celebrating with our first public stall and presentations by our development team: Diarmid Baillie and Lusi Alderslow. 12 new supporters have joined! Lusi and Diarmid have also made presentations to two Local Authority planning departments: Perth&Kinross, Ayrshire. In July they will be meeting with Argyle&Bute. Here are two extracts from their reports:

Ayrshire: 'Biosphere (sounds like a large nature reserve) is planned in Merrick Hills, eventually extending to coast but needs significant investment (time/money). Could Bodhi help this? The Scottish Executive is likely to push the Biosphere plan because it would be even more rare than a World Heritage site. It is to be in Dumfries and Galloway (extending through S. Ayrshire).

Perth&Kinross 'She (Brenda Murray – planning officer) seemed impressed with our vision and thought that this kind of development should be encouraged either as a stand alone rural development or integrated with an existing town. She thought that a location on the edge of a settlement would tend to be easier to get permission for but that a rural location would not be ruled out. She seemed encouraged that our project could be relatively self sufficient.'

Questions Bodhi want answered from our visit to each local authority:

- Is this local authority open to the Eco-Project (1-10)
- What locations would be suitable for Bodhi?
- Do they have any suggested sites?
- With whom do they suggest partnerships?
- What is their level of cynicism/ helpfulness (1-10)?
- What would interest them about this project?
- Are they 'walking their talk' re development plan?
- What is the level of environmental stuff on the ground? (e.g. biodiversity/composting) (what other projects in the area fulfil your environmental targets?)
- What is the cost of land in this area?

The Bodhi Design Study Group worked on our Local Authority Proposal which is now published on our website. They have been writing and re-writing a Draft Social Contract. We are on our 5th draft. The 6th draft will be sent to all Bodhi supporters for comment and feedback.

Bodhi Interim Business Development has been published on our website and is the basis for our current funding applications leading up to when we buy land. After much to & fro with our solicitor and the Inland Revenue, we are on the verge of forming a limited company and registering as a charity.

Working Retreat at Dhanakosa by Loch Voil was attended by 8 Bodhi supporters. We painted walls in pairs, meditated, swam, talked & sang as we worked - necessary team building for our village.

BODHI *Building* EVENTS:

Ceilidh on Saturday 29th July from 6pm @ 14 Garrioch Drive, Glasgow G20 8RS Bring veg. food, drink, poems, songs & stories to share. This is a chance to informally meet and get to know each other better. Please ring Ratnadevi to say you are coming. 0141 946 8096

Introduction to Permaculture. Bodhi have arranged for Ed Tyler to lead an Introduction to Permaculture day in Glasgow on **Saturday 2nd of September '06 – 10am to 5pm.** Ed is a trainer who teaches Permaculture design courses at Kilmartin House in Argyle <http://www.kilmartin.org/>.

Diarmid says: *'Along with a few other Bodhi members I have attended his full design course and I love his teaching style and depth of understanding of nature. Ed is charging £10 per person for the day which is an amazing rate. The introduction is intended to inspire you to attend the full training course. Ed will be adapting the day to the needs and concerns of the Bodhi Project.'*

The venue will be 14 Garrioch Drive & Kirklee Allotments. On Saturday evening will be an opportunity for a good Ceilidh until bedtime.

We see Permaculture as one of the foundations of the Bodhi project and it looks very likely that, as with NVC training, completion of a Permaculture design course will be a criterion for living in the village. Places are limited to 12. To book please send a cheque for £10 payable to "Bodhi" @ 14 Garrioch Drive Glasgow G20 8RS. Further details will be sent upon application.