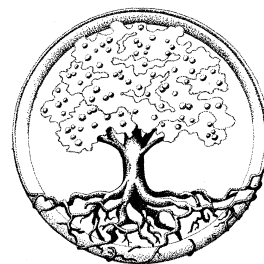


COLE STREET FARM COHOUSING COMMUNITY

THE THRESHOLD CENTRE
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NEWSLETTER – April 2009

Dear Everyone,

OUR BIG BUILD

We have lift-off!

The builders have arrived and are making speedy headway already – helped by the recent spell of excellent weather. It's so exciting, after all this time to finally see (and hear) it happening before our very eyes. We have an excellent line of communication to and from the builders via Michael, and we have enjoyed a site visit when we could see it all up close and have our questions answered. As the site is fenced off for safety reasons, up to now we have had to peer through the wire and wonder.

As half the car park is taken up with contractor's vehicles (talk about boy's toys, they are all over the place), our neighbour over the road, Kevin, has kindly allowed us to use his field for parking – thank you Kevin. So if anyone is coming to visit and cannot get into Cole St. Farm, just park over the road in the field on the left hand side.

Nancy has successfully applied for a grant towards our photo-voltaic panels, and has also put in a bid for a biomass grant – involving a massive amount of work, for which we are all very grateful. We await the decision with bated breath and all fingers crossed – thank you Nancy.

MARKET GARDEN

We have a polytunnel!

Nothing happens for ages, then it's all systems go. The plan to erect the polytunnel on the garden/work weekend was blessed with perfect weather. Much gratitude goes to Paul who organised it all, Muriel who dug holes on the Friday and to Andrew (who rented here for a while) whose experience in putting up a previous tunnel proved invaluable. There were enough bodies to do the work on the days, and the sun even came out to soften the huge length of plastic as it was manhandled over the frame. Michael caught the latter on film for posterity, so within minutes of finishing the task we could watch the picture loop and feel very proud of ourselves. Now comes the discussion time to work out the best use of our warm sun-filled space.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS – 2009

Cohousing Workshops :

These are residential and run from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. They provide an opportunity for individuals or groups to experience life in a cohousing community for a weekend, at the same time learning how to go about setting up a project. They are very popular, so book early to secure a place. 2009 charges: £130 for course, lunch and evening meal. B&B £25/£35 per night, depending on location.

April 24-26: June 26-28 : September 11-13 : November 13-15

Gardening/Work Weekends

We offer bed and board in exchange for your help and it's not all work! Arrive in time for Friday supper if you can, otherwise early on the Saturday. 2009 dates so far.

May 15-17: July 17-19

Open Afternoons for Visitors/Enquirers

These take place on the Sunday afternoon of the work weekends. A chance for enquirers and potential joiners to have a look around, ask questions about cohousing and enjoy a cup of tea.

Sundays: 17th May, 19th July. 2-4pm

Contact Caroline at info@thresholdcentre.org.uk or at 01747 821929 for booking form for any of the above.

Open Lunches

These take place on the **first Sunday of each month**, from 12.30-3pm. An informal gathering, chance to look around, and meet the residents. Please let us know if you would like to come, and bring vegetarian food to share.

Meditation

We hold an open meditation on **the first Thursday of each month**, from 8-9pm. Meditation and visualisation techniques suitable for all levels of experience.

It is helpful to know in advance if you would like to come to either of these events. Please ring 01747 821929, or email as above.

With best wishes from us all,
Caroline, Jane, Gay, Alan, Michael, Amanda and Peter (& Monty!), Nancy and Vita.
Not forgetting Paul, John, Muriel and Chris.