



## Campaign to Protect Rural England LONDON

# SUMMER UPDATE **June 2008**

### Contact Us

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### Current News

We currently await the outcome of a bid to CPRE's £100,000 Organisational Development Fund which has been opened to all branches by the National Office.

Our £10k bid is intended to fund a raft of measures including applications to a range of funding bodies in relation to the projects we have identified for the next few years. It will also support improvements to our website and the initial stages of our promotion of the development of a vision for the future of London's countryside.

The ODF is heavily over-subscribed but we are hopeful that our proposals will be supported and that subsequent bids will be successful.

Watch this space!

### The Months Ahead

Following discussions by CPREL's Executive, the Branch's work during the coming months will focus on 3 main project themes:

*The Future of London's Countryside;*

*The Metropolitan Green Belt; and*

*The Thames Gateway*

in addition to responding to issues as they arise.

From our annual report you'll be aware of the importance which both the National Office and London Branch place on the former. Opportunities for improving – as well as protecting the Greenbelt - tie in well with this whilst ensuring that development in the Thames Gateway achieves the high quality and integration for which we have been calling.

Other themes - the future of planning, the sustainability of the city and London's commons – will be developed as these priority projects are realised.

We will be seeking sponsorship and other support for the various elements of these projects, but it is the efforts of our supporters and staff on which we will rely the most.

Enhancements to our website will help keep you informed. Sign up to receive our Update e-mail newsletter if you haven't already done so.

From September 2008 we will be establishing a Campaigns Committee to support and encourage involvement in the Branch's campaigning activities. This is a new initiative of interest to anyone who would want to help with the direct organisation or running of CPREL campaigns, leading our volunteers in related activities and identifying or providing the support they will need.

## Annual General Meeting 2008

This year's AGM will take place on *Thursday, July 24th* at 6.15 pm

Location: *The Gallery, 70-75 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ*

Drinks and light refreshments will be available from 6.00 pm

Guest Speaker - **John Hopkins, Olympic Development Authority**

The Olympic site, falls within the Thames Gateway, and is one of Europe's biggest regeneration projects. As well as providing the venue for the 2012 Games, creating a range of permanent facilities, the development is intended to leave a lasting legacy at the heart of the area's restoration.

John's talk will provide an excellent opportunity to learn about the stages and challenges involved in transforming one of the London's major areas of dereliction into the heart of a future sustainable community.

*Do we have your current and correct contact details?*

If not, please write to us or send an e-mail to

[office@cprelondon.org.uk](mailto:office@cprelondon.org.uk)

Sign up to receive CPRE London newsletters or to volunteer help with our work (See overleaf).

## **A New Slogan for CPRE London**

Although London is one of the World's greenest cities, many from outside the capital and many who live at its heart are unaware that it has countryside of its own which links with rural England beyond. On the other hand, London – as a city and as a region – has a unique character, more different to all of England's counties than they are from each other.

With respect to this situation CPRE London would like to identify a motto, slogan or tagline (of up to 12 words) which encapsulates what CPRE stands for in the city. This will then be included with our stationery, business cards and all publicity materials.

We very much want to involve CPREL's membership in this process. Between now and our AGM on July 24th we will compile a list of suggestions (and we'll be only too pleased if you'd like to encourage friends or family to inspire you). A list of ten will be selected by the Executive in August and we shall then ask 25 members (who haven't submitted slogans) to choose the winning suggestion (for which there will be a small prize).

We should therefore end up with a slogan selected for and by our membership. If you'd like to be part of the selection panel please send us an e-mail with the header 'slogan' to us at [office@cprelondon.org.uk](mailto:office@cprelondon.org.uk) or call on 020 7253 0300 by the end of July.

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## **Summer Events 2008**

### **Keston Countryside Day**

*Sunday July 6th—2-5 p.m.*

CPRE have been organising this annual event on the Hayes Common in Bromley for the past forty years. It's well worth a visit to see the Common, the stalls and exhibitions, and to meet our District Group, whether you catch the train to Hayes or travel by bike or car.

Highly recommended!

## **Getting Involved**

There are a whole range of opportunities to foster the work of the branch and its organisation at a local or regional level. If you would be interested in signing up for or would like to know about one of the following please contact us at the office.

### **Local**

CPREL Local Rep – We are seeking one or more local representatives in each borough who would provide a point of local contact with CPREL members and local authorities, including involvement with the local development plan process. Similarly, someone who will check weekly planning lists and alert us to significant developments where these may have an impact on countryside features, green infrastructure. It is not possible to respond to all of these individually on CPREL's behalf but it is helpful to be aware of trends and recurrent problems and to share this information between boroughs. Our District Groups cover most London Boroughs between them and are always pleased to encourage members to get involved at the local level.

### **CPREL Office**

We are presently looking for individuals to take on key roles in support of our work across London:

*Newsletter Editor*

*Media Co-ordinator*

*Events Organiser*

*Website Manager*

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### **CPRE London AGM**

We'll be delighted if you can join us at 6 p.m. on the evening of Thursday, July 24th.

### **Epping Forest Festival**

*Sunday September 7th*

The NE District Group will be representing us as one of the multitude of different organisations attending the Forest Festival on Chingford Plain, just 400 metres from Chingford Station.

Occasional help in the Office is very welcome and we will be delighted to hear from anyone who would be willing to lend a hand now and again.

### **Volunteering from home**

Being part of a panel who will write letters to MPs, Ministers, Chief Executives, Local Authorities etc with regard to key issues of concern is a helpful way of supporting CPRE's objectives. Past efforts have been very successful and could very usefully be expanded.

### **Campaigning**

If you would be willing to take part in activities to highlight current campaigns - from photo opportunities on town hall steps to manning stands at country fetes, or other organized awareness-raising events we'll be delighted.

### **Policy Work**

An additional role, for anyone who has expertise relating to any of CPREL's interests is to act as an expert advisor. This could include planning, design, water, transport, housing, agriculture, wildlife, energy, waste etc. You might also wish to put your experience to good use on our Policy Committee or collaborating on CPREL report production. For further information, contact our Director.

### **Organisation**

The Executive is responsible for guiding CPREL's strategy and overseeing its operation. With fresh proposals for positive projects, a new Mayor, new government agencies and a range of important issues to be addressed, this is a fascinating time for anyone choosing to take on the role as one of our Trustees.

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