June/July COP26 News

For internal BK circulation

As you may know there is at present a lot of uncertainty surrounding COP26 in Glasgow due to the COVID19 restrictions. We are waiting for an official announcement from the UK Government to know whether meetings will take place in person, online or both.

Despite all of this, the team of international BKs are still enthusiastically going ahead with plans and submissions. With this in mind, we suggest that calendars are kept clear of major programmes from October 31st to November 12th so that centres can take advantage of these environment-related opportunities if they wish.

We are also delighted to say that we have had two proposals short listed for the UK Government Green Zone (platform for the general public). One is a panel discussion: Deciding the Future: Renewable Energy Policy Scenarios along with invited speakers from the following: Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales (CAT) (confirmed); Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité (CIDSE), an umbrella organization for Catholic development agencies from Europe and North America. (tbc); UN Environment Programme (UNEP) (confirmed), and Future Earth Ltd, a company specialising in public and private initiatives which support gender-equitable, sustainable transitions. (confirmed).

The second is an exhibition: “India-One” Solar Thermal Power Plant – innovative decentralized power generation with storage. The aim of which is to accelerate the clean energy transition by inspiring and encouraging the public of the necessity and advantages of using renewable energy.

Online Green talks and Events
The COP group in the UK and Scotland have been hosting a series of online talks on environmental topics with the overall theme of Sustainable You.
Click the link to watch/listen to the recordings:

- **5 Keys to Sustainable Happiness** with Sonja Ohlsson, hosted by Manchester Inner Space on 8th May.
- **With Love for Mother Nature Meditation for World Environment Day** organised by GCH Eco Friends on 6th June.
- **Nature's friend** with Rose Goodenough hosted by Inner Space Glasgow on 6th June.
- **Sustainability Starts with Peace** with Rose Goodenough hosted by Inner Space Glasgow on 24th June.
- **Creating a Lifestyle that Empowers** with Carolin Fraude hosted by Manchester Inner Space on 26th June.
- **Ecological Wisdom and the Everyday Sacred** with Joanna Kitto hosted by Global Co-operation House on 1st July.

New Videos

Check out the youtube channel of the eco website for 3 new meditation videos and one short introduction to COP26 put together by Inner Space Glasgow.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7761fpU3ZPWxNJj3eU3Fl36HW5RGn Ned

Scottish Meditations

The new Scottish Green Group are continuing to facilitate a fortnightly nature meditation.

Green Champions Update

After our last training in June, there are now approximately 50 BKs mostly in the UK (but also from Greece, Germany, Turkey and Portugal) who have now completed the online training. We also have a number of projects that are being worked on by small teams of GCs meeting on a regular basis to support the COP26 initiative and the environment in general.

- **The Meditation Group** – Many have made their own pledges for regular meditations for the environment in their own time and every 3rd Saturday, there is a Green Wave Meditation. This is where GCs sign up on a spreadsheet for one or more 15mins slots so that we have an 8 hour continuous wave of meditation on that day.
- **The Virtual Green Champions Roadshow for BK Centres** – The Roadshow has now visited GCH and Wales and the South West. In July, the virtual roadshow will visit the Leicester morning class group and will move onto Glasgow in August. The Roadshow consists of an overview of the BKEI (including COP26), an overview of the Green Champions Training and the sharing of experiences of two GCs. Then there is time for questions and comments.
- Work is continuing on the **10 Ways to Change the World App** which will be for the public and the **Eco Games** projects.

We now have our own page on Spotify where you can find the first **Green Champions podcasts**. These are a series of 2-5 minute audio recordings on different aspects of the BKEI aimed primarily at BKs but open to the public. There is a series on each of the 10 Ways to Change the World by sister Nirmala from York and also the first episode of Get Growing Green by brother David in Leeds. Anyone can access them using this link: [Green Champions Podcasts](#)

Who to contact for more information about COP26 and BK Environment service

1. **BK Environment information, communications and resources**

Sister Sonja (Denmark) copenhagen@dk.brahmakumaris.org is the international coordinator for BK Environment service worldwide. She oversees communications within the BK family and shares information with the wider
family. Sonja welcomes all environment-related service news and resources that could be used for the website and public programmes. Resources include video clips, podcasts, commentaries, workshops and programme recordings.

Information for the public is available through the website [https://eco.brahmakumaris.org/](https://eco.brahmakumaris.org/) and regular newsletters. Centres and individuals can write to Sonja to join the BK newsletter mailing list.

2. **UN Youth service**

Brother Shantanu (Madhuban) [ecoshanti@brahmakumaris.com](mailto:ecoshanti@brahmakumaris.com) is the UN Conference of Youth delegate for Brahma Kumaris Environment.

3. **Environment Interfaith Service**

Sister Valériane (France) [valeriane.bernard@ch.brahmakumaris.org](mailto:valeriane.bernard@ch.brahmakumaris.org)

4. **BK Environment activities and training in the UK**

Sister Joanna (Isle of Man) [isleofman@uk.brahmakumaris.org](mailto:isleofman@uk.brahmakumaris.org)

5. **BK Environment social media team**

Sister Carolin (Germany) [carolin.fraude@de.brahmakumaris.org](mailto:carolin.fraude@de.brahmakumaris.org)

- BK Eco Facebook
- Eco YouTube Channel
- BK Eco Twitter
- BK Eco Instagram

Eco website: [eco.brahmakumaris.org](http://eco.brahmakumaris.org)