

Link up

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the sacred earth

global linking

networks of light

From the Grapevine

edited by
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Green on the screen

On Christmas day 1987 a world-wide network was inaugurated for people everywhere working for peace, ecology and social justice. The University for Peace Global Computer Network was officially launched by Nobel Peace prize winner President Arias of Costa Rica.

In Europe, connection to the global network is through Green Net, the London-based hub of a UK communications network which, for the past two years, has provided invaluable 'communicating power' for groups such as Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth who use it to, 'dial locally, act globally'.

The relevance to groups involved with natural living and healing, lies in a new potential for wider co-operation and collective action. Today we can not afford to shun the technology but must embrace these powerful tools at our disposal and use them wisely to create a safer, more sacred world.

By such means, individuals and minority groups in the community can draw more widely on information which will strengthen their roles. Green Net's team have taken the ideas from mainstream communications science and developed computer networking to put us in touch with like minds and ideals for the cost of a telephone call.

A link to a system like Green Net tells you what others are thinking and doing at home and abroad on issues like acid rain, star wars, etc and allows you to

spread information about your activities and views on the subject. To receive the information, a home computer can be hooked up to the telephone at low cost to provide the means of access in and out of the network. Green Net can supply the information and support necessary to enable new subscribers to get started. They also have a supply of re-cycled computer equipment which is tested and ready to be put to good use, for networking.

Sophisticated facilities such as these have traditionally been available only to the military and international business and commerce. Now, thanks to the generosity and help of funding bodies and the efforts of skilled and dedicated people with knowledge and vision, a lot of communicating power is available to individuals who care about the quality of human life on the planet.

International singer, Peter Gabriel is one of many people in the creative and performing arts who supports a concerted effort to push towards sanity and wholeness in the entertainment and communications business. He said, "Information is power. Much of the information revolution grew in the womb of the military and the multinationals. It is time to take it into the hands and homes of the people and to make it very accessible to those working to improve the world. Green Net deserves to succeed".

Any reader who is interested, and would like to know how to set up a 'green connection' can contact the Green Net office at 26 - 28 Underwood Street, London N1 7JQ. Tel: 01 490 1510

The buzz from Norfolk and Suffolk indicates a thriving sense of participation in the natural health and wholesome scene. At Norfolk House Yard, Diss, is John Millar's wholesome vegetarian restaurant and shop - 'Les Amandines' with associated

East Anglian Initiatives

Magic of the Land

Experiencing perfection and harmony where the landscape has been free of uncaring and aggressive intervention by man is something that more and more people cherish. The theme of man working with nature is one taken up time and time again in disciplines from acupuncture to agriculture.

Therefore it is good to hear from Suki Pryce about a workshop planned for landscape professionals to be run by a group of geomantists offering their ancient traditions and perspectives to a mainly unaware establishment. The group, John Michell, Jess Cormack, Nigel Pennick and Colin Bloy encourage a return to a harmony, healing and attunement with the earth and will hold the four day Geomancy and Earth Energies workshop at Runnings Park between 29 May and 2 June this summer. Visits to sacred sites will be among the many activities.



Suki is a university lecturer in landscape management and can be contacted for more details at 12 Mersey View, Higher Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside L63 8QP, Tel: 051 608 7407

Natural Health Centre. And at East Bergholt, Michael Baker opens 'The Gaia Environmental Centre' in April. Much more than environmental issues, there will be books and music for sale, and the theme will be 'Think Globally, Act Locally'.

Cordon Verte at Compton Green

One of the nicest compensations of working in London for me was lunch-time at City Wholefoods. This was a small shop and restaurant in the heart of the City, where I mixed with a fascinating cross-section of people and enjoyed generous portions of good food and the hospitality of the proprietor and staff. It was quite normal for the 20 seat restaurant to be bulging, with a queue right out of the door and along the pavement.

Sadly that ended in 1986 when the building was earmarked for the bulldozer and Robert Martinez had to close the thriving business he'd set up and run for over ten years. Naturally the customers protested to the authorities and a petition of more than 4000 signatures was sent, but to no avail.

Therefore I was delighted to learn that Robert had opened a brand new cafe-style vegetarian restaurant called Compton Green at 14 Old Compton Street. New restaurant, new image; they are now catering to a young and demanding clientele in an area already teeming with places to eat. So the accent is on fun and excitement with cocktails, art exhibitions and live music, mostly jazz or piano, as well as food.

Opening Monday to Saturday, lunch-time and evenings until 11.00 o'clock, the 80 seat vegetarian restaurant has a menu of international dishes which change every two months or so. A typical meal without alcohol costs £7. You can pay less, under a fiver for the set meal of the day. For me, the standards