

*Last Issue !
Please Renew*

Global Eco-village Network Newsletter
Issue 11, December 98

Recent Activities

As another year comes to its end, it is a time to reflect and also to look forward.

Education a Priority

We started the year with students from the Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) arriving for a 15 day Permaculture/ecovillage course. It was great to see 12 excited youngsters so eager to absorb what was offered, soak up information which we hope will help them choose a path and take with them tools for life. Val Oliver and I recently had the opportunity to visit their university and catch up with many of them. It was encouraging to see that the "sustainability message" we tried to impart in January seems to have stuck. We are now working towards a semester course which, with a bit of luck and lots of hard work, should start early in 2000.

1998 was also the year a group of us from the GEN got together to look at the Education Question. We considered the contribution we as an organisation could make. It is clear that the demand for places where people can experience community life is increasing. During the next 12 months many of us will be collecting more teaching resources, assessing the demand and further developing curriculum. The potential Community Studies programme could create a number of jobs - many in rural based education centres in ecovillages, including those located in the South. It would create an environment for students from many parts of the world to be part of a genuine cultural exchange, one, we believe, which will allow them to experience what people in communities really are doing, how they live and what their struggles and joys are.

Our growth as an organisation has been considerable. However, with a

limited budget we have to make regular choices about where we engage our resources and how to be most effective.

Information Sharing

As a networking organisation we recognise that this newsletter is one way to spread information. We see ourselves as a link between communities and people interested in ecovillages. We would like you, our readers, to tell us what you are doing. We are often contacted by, or hear of, projects who are just starting out, but often as these projects work through the process of setting up, they forget to keep us updated. We'd like these updates so that we can tell others. We would also like to hear about the positive things Councils are doing. We know that there are a growing number of local authorities who take Agenda 21 seriously. Their actions do not receive the publicity they deserve.

Personnel Changes in GEN

1999 will mean change within the

Inside this Newsletter

2. **South Asia Node Established**
Dr Vinya Ariyaratne takes on the task of co-ordinating GEN's work in South Asia
2. **Sarvodaya Shramadana**
This inspiring village-level organisation in Sri Lanka has joined the GEN network as GEN's South Asia node.
3. **Griffith University Eco-Centre**
This university is planning for an ecological future.
4. **1997 World Habitat Awards**
The winners have just been announced - the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and Wintringham Port Hostel in Australia.
5. **New Rural Enterprises, India**
The Appropriate Rural Technology Institute provides some business ideas for rural communities.
7. **Book Reviews**
8. **Events, Courses**

organisation. Hamish Stewart, our International Director for the last three years, is not able to move with the Head office to Copenhagen. We will miss him. His dedication and efforts have been inspiring and exemplary. He has successfully guided the organisation during the formation period and has been an important link between the regional secretariats. We wish Hamish every success in whichever career he will move into, and are sure that our paths will cross often in the future.

Dr Philip Snyder will join the team as International Director in January. He brings with him much needed fundraising skills and a background in consulting. The office move to Copenhagen will mean a closer involvement and guidance from Hildur and Ross Jackson from the Gaia Trust, and closer co-operation with Gaia Technologies (another arm of the Gaia Trust). We are looking forward to an exciting new growth phase which will allow us to build on what we have achieved.

Prof Declan Kennedy, the Regional Co-ordinator for Europe and current Chairman of GEN will be retiring in mid 1999. His design skills, Irish exuberance, sound judgement and capacity for sheer hard work will be missed as much as his entertainment qualities - the dancing and singing. His departure will leave a big gap. No replacement has been chosen at the time of writing.

South Asia Node Established

I was never very comfortable about 'representing' large and diverse regions such as the Indian Subcontinent. We are happy indeed to announce that Dr Vinya Ariyaratne from the Sarvodaya movement (see article) will now represent GEN's South Asia node (to include Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal). Vinya brings with him a huge experience in village work and the reputations of himself and his father are legendary. I will visit him in Sri Lanka during February 99 when we will work out a suitable approach for networking in this region. He will be contacting all GEN members in South Asia and we will support his efforts in every

way we can.

Plans for 1999

We will start 1999 with another PLU course. This time 29 students will participate. We are looking forward to exciting times and have a full programme planned for them. We will welcome students from a Japanese university later in 1999 who will visit Crystal Waters for a 5 week course starting in August.

I continue to take on consultancy work for ecovillages and ecological projects, and will be going to South Africa in June to work on a couple of projects. If given sufficient notice, I will be able to add other consultancy work into this trip.

We would like to remind all our readers that our web pages have been restructured. Well worth a surf on <http://www.gaia.org>. Also, the Crystal Waters pages have been updated, and can be seen at <http://www.ecovillages.org/australia/crystalwaters/>.

Wishing you all the best for the festive season, from all of us at GEN.

Max Lindegger, Regional Co-ordinator,
GEN Oceania/Asia (GENOA)

Sarvodaya Shramadana

The Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement (SSM) in Sri Lanka began as an educational experience. The founder, Dr A T Ariyaratne, was strongly influenced by Gandhi's concept of democracy and freedom based on village self governance. A teacher in Colombo, he took his students out of the classroom and into the villages: "I wanted to 'awaken' my students and I wanted to 'awaken' the villages. I decided the best way was to abandon the classroom, and take my students to the villages where people are poor and powerless, bringing them together. We helped construct schools, houses and so on. But soon the students

were asking "How is this related to our education?" So I had to build a theory. The philosophy slowly developed from the aim of personal awakening, into family, village, urban, national and world awakening."

The movement has been an inspiring success story where villagers have been empowered to improve their lot. Sarvodaya is operational in over 12,000 villages in Sri Lanka. About 90 percent of their six million workers are (mostly Sri Lankan) volunteers. For more details, contact Dr Vinya Ariyaratne at the address below, or check out their web page at <http://www.sarvodaya.org>.

Sarvodaya has formulated what they call the "Five Stage Village Development Process":

First Stage: This represents the initial stage where the community is still very loosely knit, there are no organizations to represent the community as a whole. The community lacks a sense of direction, there is disunity, and egoism.

The initial self-help work inspired and supported by Sarvodaya is to bring the community together, to give them an idea that collectively they are a considerable resource as well as a power.



Villagers at opening of Sarvodaya Community Bank

Second Stage: During this stage functional groups emerge in the community. They are the Children's group, the Youth Group, the Mothers group, the Farmer's Group and the Elder's Group. It has been found that the Mothers Group and the

Children's Group are the most prevalent and most active. The Sarvodaya field workers interact with the groups and development education courses are conducted at Sarvodaya field centres and special institutes for selected members of these Groups. The village child-care centre cum community kitchen generally arises during this stage.

Third Stage: The characteristic feature of this stage is the emergence of the village-level Sarvodaya Shramadana Society (SSS) which includes all of the functioning Groups and its registration under the Societies' Ordinance. This makes the village Society a legal entity which can sue and be sued, hold properties and other assets, open a bank account and enter into formal contracts and start their own economic enterprises to create employment and increase incomes.

At this stage Sarvodaya offers certain services which are contingent on a functioning registered society. The principle service is the initiation of economic activities starting with savings and credit schemes. The office bearers are provided with management training to run these savings and credit schemes. Another service which starts with this stage is the technological support to the village communities to improve their water supply and sanitation. This support consists of the services of professionals at village level and the supply of material not available in the village, as for example cement.

It is expected that the activities and programmes started during the earlier stages will continue but with lesser input from Sarvodaya.

Fourth Stage: This stage is characterized by the starting of economic activities under the aegis of the village SSS. Loans for economic activities are given, to be managed by the societies. Technical advice on economic activities are also given. This stage is also characterized by the increasing ability of the village Society to meet the costs of the various community programmes and activities on its own.

Sarvodaya will continue to provide technological services but the village is expected to bear an increasing portion of the cost.

Fifth Stage: This stage is characterized by the ability of the village not only to meet the costs of its own services but be able to help other villages financially as well as co-operate with adjacent villages in bigger mutually beneficial tasks.

Dr Vinya Ariyaratne can be contacted at: Sarvodaya Damsak, Damsak Mandira, 98 Rawatawatta Rd, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Tel +94 1 647159, Fax +94 1 645255, email ssmpln@sri.lanka.net

Sources: V S Ariyaratne "An Integrated Approach to Community Health; The Sarvodaya Experience in Sri Lanka", and Orbit magazine, Voluntary Service Organisation, London SW1, UK

technologies/government/industry initiatives and accredited courses for public and industry.

Sinclair Knight Merz have been commissioned to develop plans, and are keen to hear from anyone interested in supporting and/or benefiting from such a centre. Support may be in the form of funding, provision of alternative technologies (eg solar, grey water recycling units, composting toilets, recycled lumber), expertise, interactive displays and low energy IT systems.

The university has already raised \$800,000 of the needed \$1.2 million. This amount is enough to construct most of the Centre which they aim to start building in early 99. They believe that once construction



Griffith University Eco Centre

Griffith University, in Brisbane, Qld, will soon commence construction of Australia's first eco-centre, a 1.8 million facility designed to tackle environmental education in its broadest sense. The centre will facilitate the promotion of sustainable development by improving awareness, understanding and access to leading Australian environmental technologies and expertise.

The Eco-centre will be open to the public, including tourists, 7 days a week and will be a working showcase of alternative technologies. It will offer workshop and conference facilities, a marketing avenue for alternative

technologies. If you want to be involved, contact: Penny Shehadeh now at Griffith University Fund, (Tel (07) 3875-7930, fx: (07) 3875-7928, email p.shehadeh@er.gu.edu.au)

Dave Lennon, Sinclair Knight Merz, Tel: (07) 3244 7100, Fax: (07) 3244 7307, email: dlennon@skm.com.au



WORLD HABITAT AWARD WINNERS

The World Habitat Award winning projects for 1997 are:

GRAMEEN BANK HOUSING PROGRAMME

The Grameen Bank Housing Programme was established in Bangladesh in 1984 and to date has enabled over 400,000 poor rural families to provide themselves with a permanent and cyclone-proof home. The programme provides affordable housing loans of between \$300 and \$625, without formal collateral and repayable over ten years. Repayments amount to little more than a family would have to spend every year in repairing their temporary shelters. The title to the home is vested with the woman, who thereby obtains financial security and improved status within the family and society. The Bank has achieved a 98 per cent recovery rate for these loans and is continuing the programme with 7,000 new loans being issued every month.

[Ed Note: The Grameen Bank works in over 57 countries around the world. In 1997 Brian Ridgeway brought the idea to Australia. His 'Ridgeway Microcredit' is a non profit, non political, community service organisation. He can be contacted 2 Kowara Crescent, Merimbula NSW 2548, Ph (02) 6495 1276, Fax (02) 6495 1931. - Source: Renew Magazine]

WINTRINGHAM PORT MELBOURNE HOSTEL

The Wintringham Port Melbourne Hostel in Melbourne, Australia provides a permanent home to 36 frail older people who were formerly living on the streets or in temporary housing and who are particularly vulnerable to life in homeless persons' shelters. The hostel is of high-quality design and consists of six cottages set within landscaped gardens. Each of the cottages houses between five and seven residents, each with their own en-suite room. A part-time housecarer prepares the daily meals and

gives support and assistance. Innovative approaches to design and management have been used, enabling lower than average construction and running costs to be achieved, whilst providing a high quality of life for the residents. Further details and contact points can be obtained on the BSHF website (<http://www.bshf.org>) or from Diane Deacon.

Diane Diacon, Deputy Director, Building and Social Housing Foundation, Memorial Square, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 3TU, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1530 510444, Fax: +44 (0)1530 510332.

GEN Oceania Eco-village Directory



We're working on the GEN Oceania Eco-village Directory. It will list eco-villages and sustainable communities from throughout our area, from Australia and New Zealand through Asia, the Pacific (including Hawaii) and South Africa. Questionnaires have been sent out to eco-villages, communities and projects we know of - if you haven't been contacted yet, please get in touch!

Solar Plant for Sydney



BP plans to build a A\$57 million solar power cell plant in Sydney capable of producing 50 megawatts a year - half the world's solar power generated in 1997. The solar plant, one of the world's largest, is due to come on line in October 1999, making Australia the third-biggest supplier of photovoltaic cells after the United States and Japan.

In announcing the plant, BP Group Chief of Staff and BP Solar chairman Byron Grote said "For BP to be sustainable, the impacts of our actions must be sustainable too".

The plant's buried grid laser

technology photovoltaic cells, known as Saturn, were developed and commercialised by BP over 10 years in partnership with the University of New South Wales in Sydney, the company said. BP said exports, including solar modules and complete systems from the new Sydney solar plant, would total about A\$100 million by the year 2000. Power generated by solar cells from the Sydney plant would represent a saving of some seven million tonnes of greenhouse gas, said BP in a statement.

Achieving Sustainable Development

We include this very personal account from Malcolm Hollick and Christine Connelly, although it does not reflect our own experience. The many enquiries we receive seem to indicate that people wanting to start eco-villages are more interested in themes like: "How can I convince my council?" "How can I finance such a project?" They want to know about land use issues, wastewater management, strawbale houses... Existing communities and villages are also very concerned with issues related to work and economics.

In the second half of 1997, we visited 11 eco-villages and similar communities in Australia, the USA and Europe. We sought to learn as much as possible about how successful communities work, and our interests spanned the full spectrum of issues from legal and financial structures, through social issues such as membership rules, decision-making and conflict management, to economics and technology.

Much of the energy of the eco-village movement is focused on development and use of 'green' technologies such as renewable energy and energy-efficient housing. These are very important for creating a sustainable society, but, in our view, the dominant issues are human ones. After all, the best technologies in the world are ultimately useless if we cannot learn to live and work

together in harmony. Hence much of our attention during our visits and in this report was devoted to issues such as creating a caring and sharing community, making collective decisions, and managing inter-personal conflicts. Also of critical importance are legal and financial structures, and the development of local economies that are reasonably independent of the mainstream economy.

Our travels confirmed our belief that eco-villages have an important role to play in creating a sustainable future. Although none of the communities we visited measure up against all the criteria for an eco-village, they all have strengths from which others can learn. If all the best features of the 11 communities we visited could be combined, the result would be wonderful indeed! In the long term, we envisage a society based on networks of eco-villages which can capture the economies of scale and diversity of our present mass society without sacrificing the virtues of human scale and local autonomy.

When asked "What are the 10 most important things you've learned?" we responded with the following list:

1. The most important thing for the future of humanity and the planet is personal transformation. Aggressive, angry, competitive, alienated people cannot build a society that is peaceful, cooperative, sustainable and just.

2. Of similar importance is creation of loving relationships with ourselves, our families, the wider community, our natural environment, humanity, the planet.

3. It is very helpful, perhaps even essential, to meditate. Meditation is a wonderful tool for contacting our inner selves, and developing insight, awareness and mindfulness. Also for helping us slow down!

4. Work is an essential part of daily life, and we were particularly struck by work as 'love in action' as practised by the Findhorn Community. The process of attunement to self, others, our

environment and the work at hand with an attitude of love can transform any task, even cleaning the toilets.

5. Learning to deal promptly and effectively with personal conflicts so that they do not fester is vital to any relationship or community.

6. Decision making is one of the most difficult parts of community life. We were most impressed by those groups which are able to listen deeply to each other, quietly sharing their concerns, ideas, hopes and fears. These groups often meditate together to tune in to each other before getting down to business, and again after they have discussed an issue but before trying to reach agreement.

7. A sense of timelessness and patience is vital for creating the kind of community represented by the eco-village vision. This is not the timelessness of sleep or laziness, but complements a sense of urgency and mission regarding the future of the planet. This is the laid-back way of the Taoist sage who does nothing, and yet everything gets done.

8. The issue of economic independence for eco-villages has grown in importance in our minds throughout our travels. A meditative, low stress lifestyle that is responsive to natural and personal rhythms is possible only for communities that do not depend heavily on outside jobs for their livelihood.

9. One of the greatest barriers to creating a sustainable way of life and an independent economy is dependence on the automobile. Few of the communities we visited are really tackling this successfully, but eco-villages will fail to achieve their objectives until they do.

10. Many eco-villages are still hooked on the idea that human excrement must be flushed away. Composting toilets can save huge amounts of water and other resources, and connect us more closely with the cycles of nature.

Malcolm Hollick, Findhorn, Forres Park, Scotland. Email hollick@findhorn.org

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The International Symposium on Society and Resource Management is an interdisciplinary forum focused on the interactions between society and natural resources for Researchers and Practitioners to discuss research and management strategies.

Date: 7-10 July 1999

Venue: The University of Queensland and Griffith University, Brisbane

Themes include:

- Social and environmental assessment
- Community participation in resource management
- Environmental interpretation
- Social science of parks and protected areas
- Human-wildlife interactions
- Integrated resource management
- Watershed management and soil conservation
- Indigenous land and resource management

The first ISSRM symposium was held in Oregon in 1986 and biennially since in the USA.

Further information: Sally Brown, Conference Connections, PO Box 108, KENMORE, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA 4069. Tel: 07 3201 2808 Fax: 07 3201 2809 Email: sally.brown@uq.net.au <http://www.geosp.uq.edu.au/issrm99/>

New Rural Enterprises, India

The Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (ARTI) is an NGO working towards development, standardisation and popularisation of innovative technologies with special emphasis on making the traditional rural, businesses more profitable and on generating new business opportunities which would enhance the employment potential in rural areas through sustainable utilisation of available natural resources. Our ultimate aim is to help the rural poor earn sufficient income from their local environment in a sustainable



New Australian intentional communities email discussion list now available at <mailto:anica@bayweb.com.au>
Web site is under development at: <http://oceania.ecovillages.org/ic.net.au/>

manner, so that the need to migrate to the cities shall be eliminated.

We have standardised several appropriate technologies that hold a great promise for establishment of new rural enterprises as described below. Several such enterprises have actually come up and are enjoying considerable success.

Farming on Permanent Raised Beds

Farming on raised beds gives very good yield due to proper drainage of water, proper supply of fertilizers and micro nutrients, adequate supply of oxygen to the roots as well as due to absence of weeds, accumulated salt, etc. This cultivation technique can also prove profitable in the case of floriculture or plantations of medicinal plants. It is possible to produce fodder using the permanent raised beds.

Tissue cultured Plantlets

Micro-propagated plantlets of ginger, turmeric, sugarcane, potato, etc. are costly. But the cost can be reduced by multiplying the ex vitro plantlets for one or two generations under field or nursery conditions. It is imperative to keep these plants disease free and therefore it is more profitable to use the raised bed technique.

Bamboo Plantation

The bamboo species *Dendrocalamus strictus* is in great demand in India for making ladders, shelters, baskets, partitions, etc. Bamboo poles can be used for making supports for vines, erecting green houses as well as in rural housing as an alternative to structural elements of steel. This kind of replacement has a double advantage because weight for weight bamboo is six times as strong as steel but costs only 5% of the price. A bamboo plantation starts yielding 10,000 poles per acre from the 6/7th year.

Nursery

If one uses the branch of a flowering or fruiting tree as a scion, the grafted plant starts flowering in an year or two. It is possible to get flowering or fruiting trees just 1m in height. Such grafts of tree species offer a business opportunity without competition.

Shampoo Powder from Acacia

The pods of Australian acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*) contain saponin which can be used to make shampoo powder. The powder can be used for washing hair, woollen and silk clothing, jewellery, etc.

Use of Dried Sugarcane Leaves

After harvesting sugarcane, one ends up with 4-5 tons of dried sugarcane leaves per acre. Generally they are burnt off in situ. We have developed a technique for converting this waste biomass into compost. It is also possible to convert the biomass into char and make fuel briquettes for domestic cookstoves.

Improved Cookstoves

We have developed a number of improved designs for domestic as well as community cookstoves working on wood and biomass as fuel, by introducing a tunnel and a fire grate below the fuel so as to optimise the air flow into the fuel chamber. Because of the design improvements, the stoves give the double benefit of minimal smoke emission and 50% less fuel consumption. We impart training to stove users and entrepreneurs wishing

to start a business of making and selling these improved cookstoves.

ARTI provides training in all the above technologies. For advice, consultancy, training or material, contact as below.

Priyadarshini Karve, Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (ARTI), 6, Koyna Apartments, Survey No. 133, Kothrud, Pune 411 029, India. Ph: +91 0212-342217/590348/233258. Email: gpk@physics.unipune.ernet.in



Eco-Consultancy Service

GEN Oceania now offers a consultancy service. We aim to provide ecological solutions for new and established human settlements, and design assistance for new projects. Fees by consultation. Contact Max Lindegger at the GEN Oceania office.



RENEWABLE ENERGY IN AUROVILLE

The alternative spiritual community of Auroville in Tamil Nadu, India uses photovoltaics (PV) on 135 houses with most of the PV panels manufactured in India. They also utilise 150 solar pumps as well as solar hot water systems, stoves and dryers. A 15m parabolic mirror is planned to utilise solar to generate steam for cooking for up to 350 people in the Visitors Centre, and may be the first in daily use in the world.

Biogas plants are installed in every farm in Auroville. They have also developed electric bicycles. Auroville produces wind pumps, solar cookers, solar PV tracking devices, ferrocement biogas systems and a variety of other renewable energy devices for the Indian and export market.

Real Recycled Paper!

Canon 100 is made from 100% recycled post consumer waste, and is guaranteed safe by Canon for its machines. Here at GENOA we use it in all our office machines, and have had no problems. Contact PaperNet, PO Box 191, Rainbow Beach, Qld 4581. Tel: 1800 804 124.

the 'inside' trying to 'live it', I find that the book illustrates quite adequately that nobody thinks it's easy, nobody believes they have got all the solutions or live a perfect life.

For those of us living in communities, the Schwarzs did us a favour by informing us that we are not alone and, yes, progress is being made. For the balance of the population it must be reassuring to know that there is more to life than highways, supermarkets and chlorinated water. Deep down, I suspect many a city dweller wants to make the little changes which together add up to something significant. *Living Lightly* will not so much show them how but that it is possible - and that it can be done in small steps. I recommend the book to both community dwellers and to people looking for a quality life.

Max Lindegger

FUNDING SOURCE for Asian projects -

Asia Urbs proramme. Web site: www.asia-urbs.com. Fax: +32 2 732 87 07. Email secretariat@asia-urbs.com, or via GEN South Asia node.

Events/ Courses

Please send us details of your course/event/workshop for inclusion here.

Permaculture Design Certificate Courses. Crystal Waters, Australia. 6-20 Mar 99; 1-17 May 99; 3-17 Jul 99; 18 Sept-2 Oct 99. Tchrs: Morag Gamble & Evan Raymond, plus Max Lindegger. Permaculture is a holistic ecological approach to the design & development of human settlements, considering food production, structures, technologies; energy, natural resources, landscape, animal & plant systems, social & economic structures. Applicable to urban & rural contexts and any scale of design. Contact: Morag, 50 Crystal Waters MS16 Maleny Qld 4552. Tel: (+61) 07 54944833, email syzygy@squirrel.com.au.

Crystal Waters Eco-village video
\$19.20 (inc p&p in Oz)
Contact GEN Oceania for details

Permaculture Design/ECOVillage Design Workshop: Mexico. Mar 12-14 1999. (English and Spanish). Teachers: Albert Bates, Giovanni Ciarlo. Email: sircoyote@aol.com.

Advanced Permaculture Design/ECOVillage Course, Gaia Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mar 23-28 1999. Contact Asociación Gaia, Almafuerite 1732, San Martín (1650), Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel/Fax: (54-1) 752-2197. email gaia@wamani.apc.org. This course will be taught by Max Lindegger, Albert Bates, Declan Kennedy - the GEN team.

Advanced Permaculture Design/ECOVillage Course. Crystal Waters, Australia. 18-26 Sept 99. Max Lindegger, Morag Gamble, Evan Raymond. Contact Morag (as detailed above).

Schumacher College, UK. Contact: Administrator, Schumacher College, The Old Postern, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EA, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1803 865934; Fax: +44 (0)1803 866899; Email: schumcoll@gn.apc.org Web: <http://www.gn.apc.org/schumachercollege/> Acting For The Earth, Feb 7-26, 99. S Bahuguna, W Maathai, R Cummins. The Tree Of Knowledge: Life, Knowledge, Creativity. Mar 7-26 H Maturana, B Goodwin. Form & Transformation. Apr 7-16, 99. T Roszak, B Roszak. Wholeness & Healing: Molecules of Emotion. Apr 18-May 7, 99. C Pert, M Ruff, B Goodwin. Wild Mind, Gentle Heart, May 16-Jun 4, 99. P Matthiessen, W McKibben, D Abram. Natural Capitalism; Greening of Business. Jun 6-18, 99. A Lovins, E von Weizsaecker. Beyond An Economy Of Work And Spend; Sustainability for the 21st Century. Jul 4-23, 99. J Schor, P Parthasarathi, R Douthwaite.

Wanted!

ARGAYALL, LA GOMERA is looking for gardener in leading position; cook for groups of around 40 people, exp technician for leading position; and all rounders to take responsibility. Knowledge of Spanish and/or English language would be ideal. Community of 20 running a Seminary & Meditation-Center with guesthouse, vegetable/herb garden, mango/banana plantation. 20m from Atlantic Ocean. Most Crew members are German-speakers, but we want community to become more international. (So we got already 2 Israelis, 1 Persian, 1 English person). Contact Argayall, Valle Gran Rey, La Gomera, Canary Islands. Fax/Ph: 0034-922-697008. email: argayall@infocanarias.com

GLOBAL ECO-VILLAGE NETWORK

- The Global Eco-village Network (GEN) was founded in 1994 and formally inaugurated in 1996 to:
- Support the development of sustainable human settlements
- Assist in the exchange of information amongst the settlements
- Make information widely available about Eco-village concepts and demonstration sites.

For more information about GEN contact the office covering your area:

Max Lindegger, Global Eco-village Network (Oceania/Asia), MS 16, Lot 59, Crystal Waters Qld 4552, Australia. Ph: +61 7 5494 4741, Fax: +61 7 5494 4578, email: lindegger@gen-oceania.org. web site: <http://www.gaia.org/thegen/genocean/index.html>.

Dr Vinya Ariyaratne, GEN South Asia, c/o Sarvodaya Dhamsak, Damsak Mandira, 98 Rawatawatta Rd, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Tel: +94 1 647159, Fax: +94 1 6452555, email: ssmpln@sri.lanka.net.

GEN Oceania/Asia secretariat (GENOA) covers the region from Australia through the Pacific to Hawaii, and through Asia as far as (and including) South Africa. The GEN South Asia node covers Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan. The rest of the globe is covered by GEN's other two secretariats: GEN-Americas and GEN-Europe.

Share the Info!

We aim to keep people informed about eco-village and related subject areas. **Please, write in, let us know what you are doing. Keep sharing the information!**

Note: projects described or opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily supported by the GEN.