



EDITORIAL

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Welcome to issue 44 of the LAN Journal - The Hopeful Earth issue. The title reflects the belief that, despite the increasingly ominous ecological and atmospheric situation, there are forces inherent in the natural and social world that give us hope. These are represented in an article on the work of American eco-artist Mel Chin on the interface between science and art, using the power of plants literally to clean up our human pollutants. Anna M. Heineman is a writer new to the Journal but we will hopefully publish further articles by her. As the news about bee colony collapse is coming in, it is great to be able to present the work and lifestyle of two human nomadic pollinators – Jed Picksley and Tomas Remiaz. They represent and chronicle the transforming power of that potent combination of idealism and practical hard work that is finding grass roots solutions to the demands of the future. Donna Sanders with Ben's Quest has devised a project involving looking, learning and experiencing the world of the Lowestoft shore and developing a conscious awareness of landscape in children in primary education. The final element of hope is thus to be found in education and the awareness of children that societies and landscapes evolve and mutate and that present, past and future are intertwined.

And don't forget the age of wood is returning after a short blip! You heard it here first. If you are interested in how people managed living and constructing their lives without oil (and you should be) you can attend the Summer Solstice Hands on History Show at Bentley Wildfowl and Motor Museum on June 21st and 22nd. I'll be there with member Clinton Chaloner, an oak log boat and a shelter inspired by Ice Age hunters!

Jeff Higley