
WWOOF
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Nelson

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Dear host,

hello from Jane and Andrew. We trust you have had a good summer with lots of interesting and helpful visitors. It has been a busy summer for both of us: visiting hosts, administration, writing and answering letters. We have also bought 18 acres which we are building on and wish to develop with the help of WWOOFers.

WWOOF is ever increasing in popularity, partly due to the rise in popularity of eco-tourism. A consequence is that WWOOF must remain attractive to good quality travellers - be competitive and well organised. All this takes time. As a result, we are now both working on WWOOF. This will mean more newsletters and hopefully more gatherings. It also means that we more reliant on it to support us.

We are again asking hosts to contribute \$15 towards their 1996 host membership. This should be sent to us at the above address. Any contributions would be gratefully received.

You'll find your WWOOF newsletter enclosed. Please take the time to read this as it contains some key information as well as valuable feedback from other members. Note the information about the new Health and Safety Act and some hints for hosting WWOOFers.

Please feel free to write to us with something for the newsletter. The more articles, comments and adds we have, the more interesting it is. It's a good way to see the many different views and needs of WWOOF members.

We are now calling for all updates etc to your listing for the next WWOOF edition. These need to be in by the end of March. Our biggest plea is for you to ring or write to us if you DO NOT wish to be listed in the WWOOF book any more! If you have moved, are too busy or basically WWOOF is not your cup of tea then we really do need to be informed. It costs WWOOFers time and money to try and contact you and it also costs us time and money to include you in the WWOOF printings.

In our last letter we asked hosts to provide us with some feedback on some aspects of WWOOF. We appreciated the time many of you took to write. In all about two hundred hosts replied with many ideas and interesting stories. Below is a summary of the responses.

- * Some hosts had as little as two WWOOFers in the previous year while others said they had over a hundred!
- * Many hosts said they practise some form of permaculture. One host commented "we're not into calling practical and common sense practices with a sophisticated name like that".
- * Hosts agreed that most WWOOFers are usually interested in the lifestyle and New Zealanders more than organic farming.
- * Many hosts said they would be able to provide a venue for a WWOOF gathering. In the past it has proved useful for hosts to share experiences and ideas. Discussing the joys and pit falls of organic farming and WWOOFing with like-minded people has been motivating for hosts.

If you wish to go ahead with a gathering drop us a line with date, time etc and we will let members in your area know (as well as come, hopefully). An informal pot-luck lunch or barbecue usually goes down well.

When hosting WWOOFers we have found it works well to make up a list of jobs that need doing. The WWOOFer can then choose which jobs they would like to do. If we are too casual about setting jobs then the WWOOFer is usually casual about doing them. Some other hosts find it is better to have a set routine with start time, breaks, chores, days off, etc clearly defined, while others prefer to be 'loose' and flexible. The WWOOF system is based on half a days help. Some hosts require more, some less. It is important to discuss these details with your prospective WWOOFer before they arrive. As long as you remember that WWOOF relies on mutual co-operation there shouldn't be too many problems.

Good luck and we look forward to hearing from you this year.

Jane and Andrew Strange

WWOOF AROUND THE WORLD
AND SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS AND ORGANIC APPRENTICESHIP
SCHEMES:

AUSTRALIA: WWOOF, Mt.Morrindal Co-opp, W.Trees, Via Buchan, Vic
3885, Australia.

GREAT BRITAIN: WWOOF, Donald Pynches, 19 Bradford Road, Lewes, Sussex,
BN7 1RB, England.

IRELAND: Annie Sampson, Crowhill, Newgrove, Tulla, Clare, Eire.

GERMANY: WWOOF, Stettiner Str 3, D-35415 Pohlheim, FRG.

SWITZERLAND: WWOOF-CH, Thomas Schwager, Postfach 615, 9001 St.Gallen
Switzerland.

DENMARK: V.H.H. Alternative Travelclub (Denmark), Bent and Inga
Nielsen, Asenvej 35, 9881 Sindstev, Denmark.

NORWAY: APOG, Torbjørn Dahl, Løkkest 23, 2650 Lillehammer,
Norway.

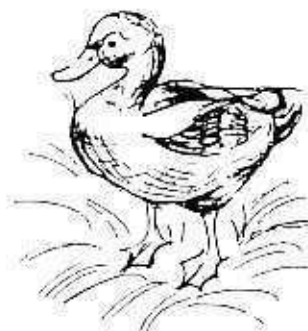
HUNGARY: WWOOF, H-2105 Godollo, GATE Kollégium, Ungarn;
Hungary.
Birkulture, Mr. Zsolt Mesáros, H-1021 Budapest, Torok
u.7.V.em.l., Ungarn, Hungary.

SPAIN: Integral, Agricultura Ecológica, Apdo 2580, E-08080
Barcelona, Spain.

CANADA: WWOOF, John Van den Heuvel, RR7 Carlson Road, Pilewett,
Nelson, British Columbia, Canada, V1L 5P5.

GHANA: WWOOF, Ebenezer Nortey-Mensah, P.O.Box 154, Trade Fair
Site, La-Accra, Ghana.

USA: Main Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association,
Apprentice Programme (MOFGA), Box 520, West Bay
Road, Gouldsboro, NE04607, USA.
NEWWOOF, New England Small Farms Institute (NESFI), PO
Box 937, Belchertown, MA 01007, USA.
South Organic Apprenticeship Programme, (SOAP), Utopia
Garden Centre, PO Box 54, Utopia, TX 78984, USA.
Tilth Placement Service, PO Box 95261, Seattle, WA,
98145-2261, USA.



WWOOF STYLE HOSTS

- MALAYSIA:** Penang Organic Farm, 116 Jln Bunga Raya, Gelugor 1700, Penang, Malaysia. Phone: (04) 6575591
Collective farm on top of a hill. Magnificent views. 2ha property supplying spray-free vegetables to the local market. Trying to encourage healthy and sustainable farming.
- THAILAND:** See and Loong-Hob Tillotson, Box 77, Chaiyaphum-36000, Thailand. Small homestead on a high plateau, two hours from Chaiyaphum. Big sky and fresh monsoonal winds. Growing chemical free fruits, vegetables and trees. Pedal, solar, wind power. WWOOFers welcome!
- JAPAN:** Mr Hiroshi Mine, Shin Shizen Juku, Tsurui-Mura, Akita-Gun, Hokkaido, Japan. Phone: (0154) 447821 or 362635.
Organic vegetable farm. English lessons. Community preferring long term WWOOFers. This place is what we help each other make it to be.
- ENGLAND:** Nigel Burnham, Mackeridge House, East Farndale, Kirkbymoorside, York YO6 6LE, UK. Phone/fax: 01752 433201. Cottage in a beautiful valley, in the centre of North York Moors National Park. Quite alot to do in the vegetable, herb and flower gardens.
- FRANCE:** Quema, La Planete, Anociation 1901, 83120 Ste Maxime, France. Phone: 94963964 before 8am and after 7pm. Permaculture, vegetarian farm. Room and food for half a day help.
Emilia Sateip, Permaculture Pyrenees, F-11300 Bouriege, France. Phone: 68315111. Small family farm in permaculture with big synergistic garden. Long stays only. Write and wait for confirmation before coming.
J.Nickel, Le Vergnas, 81330 Ladaze, France. Phone: (33)63375639. Help in restoring old farm building (masonry, woodwork etc.) 2 weeks minimum stay.
Antoine Ferrer, Les Courmettes Association, 06140 Tourrettes-Sur-Loup, France. Phone: (33)90241700. 600ha of beautiful countryside. 800m high with best view of the coast-Nice, Antibes, Cannes. Historic sites. Organic/permaculture gardening. House-cleaning, kitchen help. 15 day trial stay first.
- NORWAY:** Atlantis, Rolf Hofmogst. 18, N-0655 Oslo 6, Norway
- U.S.A:** Foodscapes Organic, 604 Yolo St, West Sacramento, CA 95605, U.S.A. Phone: (916)3710656.
Small landscaping company installing double-dig, raised-bed vegetable, flower and herb gardens. "Hands on" training for up to 3 WWOOFers. Minimum 3 days. San Francisco, skiing, wineries close by.