Readers Forum

A Happy Tourist in Ecuador
Expert Member's System makes headline
Estonian Tourism Fair
Himalayas Crying
Greenpeace promotes ecotourism in Baikal
Ecotourism Cooperative in Bhopal
UNESCO Cultural Landscapes Nominations
Ecotourism Workshop in Thailand
Ecolodge for Sale in Mexico

By Sally Scott
just back from visiting Ecolodge Members Black Sheep Inn

"On your travels in south america you hear the "echo" of "eco" everywhere, however it is a rare time that you actually find a business that is run sincerely based on the principals of ecotourism. Having spent two months travelling in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia we honestly feel that the Black Sheep Inn is the only business we have found that you can hear the true values of ecotourism echoed in EVERY decision.

I believe, as tourists we have an obligation to spend our money responsibly on businesses that truly support local communities and (not only sustain, but) positively contribute to the environment in which they operate. I whole heartedly recommend the Black Sheep Inn as a place that you can feel confident that your money is responsibly spent and that you will have a fantastic, enjoyable, fulfilling, relaxing, true Andean-village-life experience. What's more, the food is delicious and even my carnivorous-beef farmer-boyfriend survived and thrived on a few days of Black Sheep Inn cooking!!"
site is checked. "We have to take care of the ecology of these sites so future generations can actually get to see the same things we are seeing now," he said in his paper on Expert Rating System for Sustainable Management of Ecotourism Sites in Peninsular Malaysia presented at the Second World Engineering Congress 2002 here. Citing Gunung Ledang as a site that was deteriorating, Mr. Nair said it had no proper enforcement and the environmental and safety aspect of the site was getting worse. This was in addition to insufficient environmental and ecological expertise, lack of consistent approaches and unreliable and incomplete databases, he said. The ecotourism sites that are doing well are mostly in Sabah and Sarawak, although some sites like Mount Kinabalu have been getting some flak over its safety features.

by Mr. Saulius Jocbalis, Expert Member, Tourism Manager at Nemunas Delta Regional Park, Lithuania:

In the end of September we will take part in the Estonian Tourism Fair. If any ECOCCLUB Members are interested we can distribute some of their leaflets, etc. to colleagues from Baltic states, Russia, Finland, Sweden. Please, let me know till the end of August.”
For more information please contact:
Mr. Saulius Jocbalis at http://ecoclub.com/experts/jocbalis.html

by Agha Iqrar Haroon, President, Ecotourism Society Pakistan

"Himalayas are crying"

"Skillfully carved and beautified hundreds of thousand years ago, the Great Himalayas was erected in a geological era by the in thrust of Indian plate into the great Asian landmass and decorated for ever by the unique ecology of the world. This valuable piece sustained myriad of lives providing shelter to live, flowing crystal clear water to drink and does work as greatest water towers of the world. Furthermore, the great civilizations of Indus, Brahmaputra and Ganges culminated on its lap. The entire agriculture of India and Pakistan depends on water flowing from this land of great mass----Himalaya.

World is celebrating year 2002 as Year of Mountains and Year of Ecotourism but nothing concrete has been done so far to save environments in mountain areas during on going year. United Nations which has announced this year as Year of Mountains has actually failed to offer something practical for Himalayas. A quick event of 45 years has messed such pristine natural part of the world by littering. Pollution in the Himalayas has been basically generated by expedition, trekking and camping activities of trekkers. Siachen glacier issue between India and