



April showers - Dive into our latest edition!

April arrived and left, bringing with it a multitude of exciting events and milestones. In this edition of our newsletter, we delve into an inspiring visit by our team to Timbaktu Collective, Mathew's travels to Taiwan - immersing himself in the vibrant culture through organic agriculture. Back on home ground, our quarterly staff meeting, and a session led by Hema that kept us in pursuit of setting new targets for the upcoming financial year. A momentous occasion unfolded with the official opening of Aadhimalai's Banagudi production center. Art and storytelling came together harmoniously with a captivating screening of 'The Elephant Whisperers'

Honey training at Timbaktu Collective



Miller, Kalpana, and Mari along with members from Timbaktu Collective spent three days in three different villages in and around the Timbaktu Collective as part of a training for honey hunters. This was Kalpana's first field visit outside of The Nilgiris, and so it was an extremely valuable experience for her to learn about how honey trainings are conducted. They worked with the honey hunters in these villages and covered various topics like sustainable methods of honey harvesting, beeswax extraction and preparation, hygienic handling, and storage of honey at the field level and so on. There was special focus on the handling of combs and wax extraction, hive anatomy and brood, sustainable collection, mid-rib cutting technique instead of squeezing the honeycomb.

Mathew's travels



Mathew made a visit to Taiwan, where he had the opportunity to explore the rich cultural heritage of the country and engage in meaningful discussions about organic agriculture. One of the highlights of his trip was a visit to an indigenous township, where he had the privilege of spending time with the Chief, learning about their traditional farming practices. The indigenous township provided valuable insights into the importance of preserving local knowledge and incorporating sustainable methods in agriculture. In a significant development, Mathew signed a contract with the Mayor of Hualien County in Taiwan on behalf of IFOAM-ASIA (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements - Asia). The contract aimed to establish a collaborative partnership between IFOAM-ASIA and Hualien County to promote organic agriculture and sustainability initiatives.

Hualien County would host the 2nd World Organic Youth Summit in September. This would bring together more than 50 young individuals from various countries around the world, providing them with an opportunity to share and learn about best practices in organic agriculture. The conference attendees would have the unique chance to interact with a host of pioneers and experts in the field of organic agriculture. The exchange of ideas and experiences between the young participants and the pioneers was expected to foster innovation and inspire future leaders in sustainable agriculture.

Staff Meeting



Our quarterly staff meeting held towards the end of April proved to be a dynamic and engaging event. The meeting served as a platform for different teams within the organization to share their progress and updates. One significant topic of discussion was the growing importance of e-commerce in today's market landscape, with teams highlighting the strategies and innovations they had employed to leverage this digital platform successfully. The meeting also struck a perfect balance between work and play, as the team incorporated fun games and activities to foster team-building and creativity. A delicious lunch was served to top it off. Our quarterly staff meeting was a valuable gathering that not only ensured effective communication and alignment but also celebrated the team's accomplishments.

Looking forward to the new financial year



In the month of April, we organized a workshop that focused on personal and team goals for the upcoming financial year. The workshop was skillfully led by Hema, a long-time friend of the organization. The objective of the workshop was to explore and articulate personal aspirations while aligning them with the collective vision of Last Forest. During the workshop, the team reflected on their personal dreams and ambitions. Each of us delved into our own desires, aspirations, and long-term goals. There were some important questions such as: 'What are our passions?' 'What kind of impact do we envision?' 'What personal achievements do we strive for and so on.'

Simultaneously, the workshop emphasized on the financial targets for each team of Last Forest for the year ahead. The workshop facilitated discussions and ideas on how to achieve the organization's targets and how personal dreams and Last Forest's aspirations intertwine and support each other. The workshop highlighted the symbiotic relationship between personal dreams and Last Forest's aspirations. It emphasized the need for continuous communication, support, and collaboration within the team to ensure that both individual and organizational objectives are achieved. By nurturing personal dreams and aligning them with Last Forest's vision, the workshop aimed to create a dynamic and driven team that can propel the organization towards a successful year ahead.

Banagudi center opening



In the vibrant month of April, Aadhimalai's Banagudi production center celebrated its official opening, marking a significant milestone for the production of handmade beeswax products. The event was filled with joy and excitement as the center unveiled its new location, promising enhanced production capabilities. The occasion was graced with the felicitations of all the esteemed producers who played a pivotal role in the center's establishment. The atmosphere was alive with dancing, exuberant celebrations, and an abundance of delectable food. This momentous event served as a testament to Aadhimalai's dedication to sustainable practices and the preservation of traditional craftsmanship.

Elephant whisperers screening



It was an exciting day towards the end of the month at the Keystone campus when the Oscar-winning documentary, "The Elephant Whisperers," was screened. The much-anticipated event brought together members on campus who were captivated by the remarkable story of Bomman and Belle, the couple featured in the film, and the Elephants they cared for. After the screening, Bomman and Belle generously took the time to answer questions from the intrigued audience, sharing their experiences into the world of elephants and their conservation efforts. Their passion and knowledge resonated with everyone present, leaving a lasting impact on those fortunate enough to be a part of the event.

Visit us at our Green Shops in the Nilgiris this Summer!



If you have planned a summer getaway to the breathtaking Nilgiris, we invite you to immerse yourself in an extraordinary shopping experience. Discover the Green Shops, where the beauty of fair trade products meets sustainability.

When you visit the Nilgiris this summer, don't miss the opportunity to discover our Green Shops in Coonoor and Kotagiri. Join us in supporting fair trade, and creating a world where every purchase makes a difference and become a custodian of the earth!

Featured Product
 A power-packed gift box equipped with all your needs!
 This gift box holds the essence of jasmine in the form of beeswax balms and real jasmine petal infused soap, a kiss from the sweet earth, a harvest of the best honey and an indispensable pocket companion!

Shop Now!

April's Favorite
 Raw, Unprocessed Wild Honey with Natural Extracts - Cinnamon Honey
 Bringing to you another truly remarkable product from the forest, Cinnamon Honey to let the happiness flow through you!

Shop Now!

