

During that period, the region's population is expected to grow by 10 per cent. The type of public transport system we

The GBSTS also supports plans for more Showcase bus

"We need First and the city council to speed things up and deliver them sooner rather than later."

Eco-friendly family set for Big Green Gathering



Brigit Strawbridge: Green living

THEY have made the trials of going green compulsive television viewing, and now the Strawbridge family is looking forward to a break - at a Somerset green festival.

Brigit Strawbridge and her daughter Charlotte, stars of BBC 2's *It's Not Easy Being Green*, will be among 20,000 festival-goers and workers enjoying the Big Green Gathering when it returns to its site at Fernhill Farm, near Cheddar, in August.

Born out of Glastonbury Festival's own Green Field 15 years ago, the festival boasts the best in alternative technol-

ogy, workshops, forums, family activities and huge camping areas - including an award-winning disabled camping area - and presents an exciting new programme of music and performing arts.

The festival, powered by renewable energy, will be fully licensed for entertainment, from traditional folk to reggae, hip hop, Carnival and eastern European folk, right through to full-on tribal dance.

The 200-acre site, set in the middle of a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - covering both woodland, open space, and a magical hid-

den valley, lit by lanterns at night - allows freedom for creativity and relaxation.

Brigit and husband Dick have signed up for a second series of the television programme which has filmed their determination to go green at their home in Cornwall.

She said yesterday: "I went to the Big Green Gathering last year and thought it was wonderful. It is so good on so many levels and people should not make the mistake of thinking it is just a hippy gathering. Anyone would feel comfortable there and there is so much to learn. You could

spend the whole time in the craft area alone. The colour, community feel, the talks, the demonstrations - and the music - are inspirational."

A film crew is likely to accompany Brigit for one day, but for the rest of the time she will be enjoying the chance to be incognito.

Organiser Brig Oubridge said: "This is the largest outdoor green event in Europe, if not the world, and we really need to shout about that."

The Big Green Gathering runs from August 2 to 6. For tickets ring 01458 830281. For inquiries phone 01458 834621.