

Community Climate Action Email January 2014

Welcome to the Community Climate Action newsletter, with all the latest news, events and resources in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. A special hello to new subscribers and thanks to those who have contributed items this month.

From the Editor

Happy New Year! I hope you're well rested and ready for some exciting events in 2014.

Energy Efficient Communities

1st February 2014, Matlock

15th March 2014, Hockerton Housing Project

FREE

Flier attached

A training event to equip you with practical tools and ideas to lower your energy bills, make your home more energy efficient and help others in your community do the same. Discover some practical tools, hear about inspiring projects in other communities (keynote speaker from the RECCKN project: <http://vimeo.com/70110525>), find out how to lower energy use in community buildings, find out about sources of funding, meet others who want to/are doing the same. Places are limited and pre-booking is essential: <http://bit.ly/17U5FJF>

After the event at Hockerton there will be the option to attend a tour of Hockerton Housing Project. This must be booked separately [directly with the project](#) and there is a cost (choose the tour that starts at 2pm on 15th March).

Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Event

10th-18th May 2014

Homes across the two counties will be opening their doors to show you what they have done to save energy and the planet. Everything from draught proofing, loft insulation and efficient lighting to solar panels, solid wall insulation and vegetable gardens will be on display. If you would like to open your own home, contact us to find out what support we can offer: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk. We will be holding a skill share training event for all households opening their homes on 29th March in Chesterfield.

If you would like to visit a home, keep an eye on our websites www.everybodys-talkingorg/ecohomes / www.greenopenhomes.net/ for more information as we have it.

I'm looking forward to meeting many of you at these events.

Caroline

Twitter: @CCANNetwork

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ccan.network

Got Any News?

If you have anything you'd like us to include in the February e-newsletter please send it to us by **Monday 3rd February**: ccan@mea.org.uk

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A. Local Events

Local Government and the Climate Agenda

11th January, 12pm-4pm

The Quad, Derby

Organised by Derby Climate Coalition

A free seminar for climate activists and those trying to working with local government. The Derby City Climate Strategy was published earlier in November. We will be looking at this, and what other councils are doing. Despite the gravity of the climate situation we have seen national and local government under-cutting commitments to combating climate change. Without a national lead, coupled with

massive attacks upon funding and resources, local governments are also finding it hard to ensure that the climate message is being heard and hard to sustain related activities. This is despite the opportunities for growth in the green economy.

Chris Church from LCCN, Charles Secrett from ACT!, an officer from Derby City Council, Darren Hall member of the Bristol Green Capital of Europe 2015 team and officers from the Campaign against Climate Change will be taking part. The event will hopefully be preceded by a short visit to the Council's Hydro-plant on the river Derwent, which supplies the Council with much of its own energy. This tour is tbc, but would take place at 11:30am.

Phone 07876 595993 for more information. Reserve a place: <http://local-governmentandclimate.eventbrite.co.uk>

Nottingham Fixers

15th January, 7pm
Fade Café, Mansfield Road, Nottingham

A social for anyone interested in getting involved in a Nottingham Repair Café (Nottingham Fixers) - whereby we help to fix people's broken products.

For more information, email info@nottinghamfixers.co.uk

Sustainable Living Tours

18th January 2013 or 15th March 2014
£20 (concessions and family tickets available)
Organised by Hockerton Housing Project

Intrigued by what an earth-sheltered home might look, or feel like, inside? Or wanting an overview of what it is to live sustainably? Visit Hockerton Housing Project to find out.

www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/how-we-help-you/sustainable-living-tours/

Frack Free Nottinghamshire Education Day

Sunday 19th January, 12pm-4pm
Garden Room, International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham

Frack Free Nottinghamshire is a group opposing fracking/unconventional hydrocarbon exploration/extraction in Nottinghamshire. The group will be holding an education day - educating ourselves on the facts of fracking, and its impacts on the environment (land, air, water, wildlife) as well as practising talking to the public. Working groups have formed around 'external comms', 'research', 'outreach' and 'fundraising'. Bring some food to share. [Agenda here](#)

To get involved, join the [Facebook group](#) or email: frackfreenotts@gmail.com

Free Smart Meter Workshop

21 January 2014, 9.30am-1pm
Nottingham

Organised by National Energy Action
FREE

With the rollout of smart metering already underway but not widely understood, fuel poverty charity National Energy Action (NEA), in partnership with British Gas, is organising a free half-day smart-meter workshop for community groups, support organisations, local authorities and housing associations. The workshop will demonstrate the potential of smart meters to benefit the fuel poor as well as other energy consumers, fuel suppliers and our energy infrastructure, helping communities get 'smart-ready'.

Details: www.bit.ly/1aC6QI2

Potato Day

25th January

The Pavements, Chesterfield Organised by Transition Chesterfield

Buy your seed potatoes for the forthcoming season with all proceeds going to Transition Chesterfield.

Volunteers are also needed on:

- 20th January from 7:30pm onwards the group are making aprons for volunteers to wear on the day and stamping paper bags with logos. Email hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk if you'd like to get involved.
- 24th January, approx. 5pm-8pm to make up pre-orders. There are more pre-orders this year than ever before.

<http://potatoday.wordpress.com/>

Big Energy Saving Week Stall

28th January, 10:30am-3pm

Eagle Centre Market Place, Derby

Organised by Derby Citizens Advice and Law Centre

BESW is a national campaign to help people cut their fuel bills by getting the best deal and saving energy as well as finding out what financial support they are entitled to.

Derby Citizens Advice and Law Centre will be running a joint stall with Derby City Council's Climate Team to raise awareness of methods to save money and energy, signposting consumers to information and helping those experiencing problems to access support. Freebies available on the day will include energy booklets; leaflets on local home energy schemes, understanding your energy bills and how to read your meter; stickers; bookmarks and room thermometers.

Big Energy Saving Week Kiosk

27th – 31st January

CALC Reception, Stuart House, Green Lane, Derby, DE1 1RS

Organised by Derby Citizens Advice and Law Centre (CALC)

Anyone is invited to drop in to pick up information on energy saving and tariff switching.

Rural Community Energy Masterclass

7th February 2014

£55-95 depending on income. Group discounts available

Hockerton Housing Project is a self-sufficient co-housing development. Five earth-sheltered homes are built with high thermal mass and high levels of insulation to eliminate the need for heating systems. Residents generate their own clean energy to meet their remaining energy needs. They also grow most of their own food, harvest their own water and recycle waste materials.

The project is an exemplar of community energy. Come and learn from their experiences of collective purchasing and billing of energy, having two wind turbines and seven solar pv arrays, and managing the financing and installation of a community-owned wind turbine in their parish. On this masterclass you'll gain a practical view on the key issues for communities and landowners such as project management, finance and potential pitfalls.

www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/renewable-energy/community-energy/

Low Carbon Schools Conference

7th March 2014

National College for Teaching and Leadership, Nottingham

Organised by Climate East Midlands and several Local Authorities

This event will explore what a low carbon school means in practice and why it's a desirable goal from a financial, educational and environmental perspective. Schools from across the region will be sharing their experiences. Speakers include Brian Owens, Headteacher at Edwalton Primary School in Nottinghamshire and Morgan Phillips, the new Education Manager for Eco-Schools.

www.climate-em.org.uk/events/item/low-carbon-school-conference/

Derbyshire Eco Centre Spring Fair

26th & 27th April, 11am-4pm

Free

This year, the ever popular Spring Fair takes the theme 'Woods and Water. Includes local food and bar, stalls, activities, woodland trail, crafts and music. Film night on Saturday evening (ticketed).

www.ecocentreexcahnge.org.uk

Spring Courses at Derbyshire Eco Centre

Spring courses include bike maintenance, introduction to renewables and grow your own organic fruit and veg.

www.ecocentreexchange.org.uk/media/docs/current_brochure.pdf

B. Local News

Roseland Community Windfarm Seeks Support

The Roseland Community Windfarm project is raising money through crowd funding to appeal a refusal to grant planning permission for a community-owned renewable energy project in Derbyshire.

The project, near Shirebrook in Derbyshire, would involve six turbines and would generate £0.75 million profit per year all of which would be spent on local community projects. It was recommended for planning approval by planning officers but turned down by a planning committee.

All net profits will be used to support community projects within the area including work to support young people, employment, tackle fuel poverty, debt problems, support local community activities and develop more sustainable energy projects. So far we have spent over £400,000 on feasibility studies, detailed design and engineering plans and had our financial projections approved by three major banks.

The project needs to raise £30,000 during January to make an appeal. You can also write a message of support on the website without making a donation:

<https://spacehive.com/roselandcommunitywindfarm>

Waste Strategy Consultation

Derbyshire County Council, in partnership with the eight Derbyshire district/borough councils, are undertaking a public consultation to help find out what people think of the revised draft strategy and draft individual council waste action plans detailing plans for the next five years and a Strategic Environment Assessment draft environment report. Anyone completing a questionnaire can enter a prize draw to win £50.

The documents are at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/wastestrategy. An online questionnaire can be completed at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/dealingwithwaste.

C. National News

Free Trees for Your Community

The Woodland Trust have over 3,000 free tree packs to give away to schools, community and youth groups. Apply before 10 January 2014 for the chance to receive a free tree pack to plant in March.

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/in-your-community/

Get ready for RCEF training

CSE will be hosting a training event in March to help community groups make an application to the Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF). The session will help break down some key barriers, provide information for the particular situation each group finds itself in, and look at how to produce a focused application.

There will be space for two members from up to 16 groups and the training will take place in Bristol. The exact date and venue is yet to be confirmed, but the event will be structured into a series of surgeries covering topics such as:

- Renewable energy (pre-feasibility)
- Legal support
- Financial advice (project finance considerations etc)
- Running a community consultation
- Crowdfunding
- Share Issues
- Setting up a community ESCo

Relevant professionals will lead each surgery including financial advice from Triodos bank, legal advice from TLT solicitors and technical advice from Garrad Hassan. WRAP, who administer the fund, will also be there to answer questions.

If you'd like to be put on a waiting list to attend the training, email us at communities@cse.org.uk and we'll contact you when registration is open.

Webinar: Building smarter community energy schemes: some lessons from behavioural theory and practice

13th February, 4pm

Email communities@cse.org.uk if you'd like to attend

This webinar will introduce some of the fundamental theories of behaviour applicable in the context of a community energy scheme, e.g. encouraging changes to the way the home is used, retrofitting or community owned or managed energy generation schemes. We will also explore some case studies which give insights into where things can go wrong and where schemes have got it right.

The webinar will be uploaded to YouTube at a later date, along with our previous webinars:

- Using the National Heat Map: <http://youtu.be/MMvFBxPIN7c>
- Common concerns about wind power: http://youtu.be/5dTyTlx_otk

Future Learn: Free Online Courses

Future Learn, part of the Open University, is offering two free short online courses:

- **Sustainability, Society and You** is from the University of Nottingham and it starts this week: www.futurelearn.com/courses/sustainability-society-and-you

- **Climate Change: Challenges and Solutions** is from the University of Exeter and starts on 13th January: www.futurelearn.com/courses/climate-change-challenges-and-solutions

There are also free courses from universities around the world at Coursera: www.coursera.org. Type 'climate change' or 'energy' into the search box.

Power to Change Fund to Launch This Year

The Big Lottery is launching a new fund later this year to support the development of community-led enterprises. Watch the launch video, which includes Torrs Hydro in Derbyshire as an inspiring example.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/powertochange

National News in Brief

- Test your knowledge of energy myths: www.cse.org.uk/advice/energy-saving-tips/energy-mythbuster
- UK's largest solar farm closer to approval: www.solarpowerportal.co.uk/news/science_museum_and_swindon_council_w_in_planning_consent_for_uks_largest_653
- Advice on heating you home with oil: www.cse.org.uk/domestic-heating-oil

Thanks to everyone who provided items for this newsletter. If you have any events or news you would like to be included in future newsletters please send the details to: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk. You can send comments about the e-newsletter to the same email address.

To read this e-newsletter as a pdf visit: www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-bulletins.

If you are receiving these emails via someone else, and are not subscribed to this e-newsletter but would like to be, please send an email with the title '**Subscribe**' to ccan@mea.org.uk. Include **the name of any community climate action group you belong to** (e.g.: a Transition group or Sustainable group) and **the area you live in** (E.g.: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Nottingham or Derby).

If you no longer wish to receive these emails please send an email with '**Unsubscribe**' in the title to ccan@mea.org.uk.

The Everybody's Talking Website is the climate change portal for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire: www.everybodys-talking.org.