

Community Climate Action Email February 2015

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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.

Get news throughout the month:

www.everybodys-talking.org

Twitter: @CCANNetwork

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ccan.network

Got Any News?

Most of the items in this newsletter are contributed by readers. If you have anything you'd like us to include in the February e-newsletter please send it to us by Thursday 26th February: ccan@mea.org.uk

You can also submit information about events via our [website](#)

A. Local Events

Film screening: The Truth Behind the Dash for Gas

Wed 3rd Feb, 6:30pm

Nottingham Contemporary

Organised by Frack Free Nottinghamshire

Free

This film examines the potential impacts of fracking and coal bed methane extraction in Somerset and beyond. It includes the social, health and environmental consequences associated with unconventional gas drilling. Introduced by Frack Free Notts.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-truth-behind-the-dash-for-gas-tickets-15006444680

Guided Tour of Proposed Ambergate Hydro Project

Sat 7th Feb, 10am-2pm

Litchfield Group, Derwent Works, Matlock Road

Organise by ADVyCE

A chance to tour the site of the proposed Ambergate Community Hydro power project. Drop in any time to see the plans and take the guided tour. Volunteers will meet you at the main gate. The project has the potential to generate 1.3 million kWh, reduce carbon emissions by 683 tonnes and power nearly 400 homes annually. ADVyCE are also running a survey on their website to find out what people think of the project and how funds generated might be spent in the local community.

www.advycce.co.uk

Making it Better: The Environmental Quality Mark

Tues 10th Feb, 7:30pm

Friends Meeting House, Chapel Row, Bakewell

Organised by Bakewell Quakers

Did you know that the Peak District has its own internationally acclaimed Eco-label? Discover how small local businesses and community groups have achieved the 'EQM' award as part of their journey to sustainability.

www.bakewellquakers.org

An Introduction to Permaculture

Thurs 12th Feb, 7 - 9pm

Meeting Room 2, The Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Chesterfield

Paul Paine, Garden Co-ordinator of Ecoworks Community Garden and Market Garden in Nottingham, will speak about permaculture and the project. Ecoworks works on 10 adjoining allotments growing a wide range of food using organic and permaculture principles. The group also offers willow workshops in a straw bale shed and works with users and ex-users of mental health services, people with learning difficulties and those with an interest in the environment.

www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Mass Closure of Fossil Fuel Bank Accounts

Sat 14th Feb, 10:30am

Nottingham Market Square

Organised by Move Your Money

The big banks have invested billions in fossil fuels. Ahead of this event open a new account with a greener bank (www.moveyourmoney.org.uk), then on the day come to Nottingham and we'll make a morning of closing our old fossil fuel accounts together. If you can't close your account, or you already have, come anyway because your belief to inspire others is what's most important. The event will also include something approachable to get noticed by other account holders and hopefully by the press too. There will be a petition people can sign.

We'll be talking to interested people who want to know more, helping them sign a petition for their bank to divest itself, and of course we'll be keeping warm with hot drinks and food.

<http://act.350.org/event/gdd/9939>

Fracking Pop-up Exhibition

Tues 17th Feb, 5:30pm-9pm

Govindas, Thurland Street, Nottingham

Organised by Frack Free Nottinghamshire

An exhibition of posters outlining why corporations and the government are 'going all-out for shale', the impacts of the industry and the PR spin that corporations use when selling this technology to communities. There will be a free hot-food buffet until 8pm.

<http://frackfreenotts.org.uk>

Whistlewood Common Tree Planting

Sat 20th & Sun 21st Feb, 10am-3pm
Nr Melbourne

Supporters of Whistlewood Common, a community-owned woodland and permaculture project, will be planting 1000 more trees over two days. Every tree planted will have a specific use or uses for our community: edibles, craft materials, timber, wildlife value and much more. Everyone welcome. Please dress suitably and bring a spade if you have one. For travel arrangements please see the website: www.whistlewoodcommon.org

Discussion of *Feral* by George Monbiot

Tues 24th Feb, 7:30pm
Marple Bridge
Organised by Transition New Mills Discussion Group

A discussion of George Monbiot's book, a part of which is summed up in this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysa5OBhXz-Q. Contact Sue for details: suecoopernewmills@hotmail.com

Pruning Fruit Trees Workshop

Sat 28 Feb, 10am-1pm
Southwood Farm, near Ticknall
Organised by Melbourne Area Transition with the National Trust
£30 (please contact the organisers if you think you might qualify for a concessionary rate)

A hands-on practical workshop to learn the basics of winter pruning to shape and prepare young trees and to improve the health and productivity of old fruit trees. Fees include expert tuition from a lead gardener at Calke Estate, a soup and bread lunch and an optional tour of a nearby brewery. There may also be the possibility of an afternoon visit to Whistlewood Common.

Book by phoning 01332-862028 or emailing info@whistlewoodcommon.org
More info: www.whistlewoodcommon.org

Derbyshire Eco Centre Courses

Feb 2015
Middleton-by-Wirksworth

Courses coming up in February 2015 include Willow Sculpture, Making Family Bird Boxes, Practical Woodland Management, a Sustainability Masterclass, Organic Gardening – Fruit, Winter Tree Identification and Willow Garden and Plant Frames.

www.ecocentreexchange.org.uk

Transition Chesterfield Skillshare Workshops

Feb 2015
All workshops £2 per person. Booking essential

Upcoming workshops include bread making, Indian vegetarian cooking and a Love Food Hate Waste Session where you can learn about ways to save food and money.

Booking essential: workshop@transitionchesterfield.org.uk.

Locations: www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk/content/new-workshops-added-0

Climate Week Question Time

Monday 2nd March, 7pm for 7.30pm

Strutts Community Centre, Belper

Organised by Transition Belper

Come and meet the main party election candidates (four or the five main party candidates have confirmed their attendance). Each member of the panel will have seven minutes to introduce themselves and their party's stance on climate change and then run through as many pre-arranged questions as there is time for with follow-up questions and comments from the floor.

Questions can be submitted by [email](#) and are limited to two per subscriber to the Transition Belper newsletter: www.transitionbelper.org

Give or Take Event

Sat 7th March, 10am-1pm (bring things from 9am)

Wellspring Church Hall, St John's Street, Wirksworth

Organised by Transition Wirksworth's Waste and Recycling Group

Bring safe, usable items (no CRT televisions) to giveaway. You can bring without taking and take without bringing.

www.transitionwirksworth.org

Sustainable Living Tour

7th March, 2pm

Hockerton Housing Project, nr Hockerton

£0-£20 depending on status

Intrigued by what an earth-sheltered home might look, or feel like, inside? Wanting an overview of what it is to live sustainably? Join a small group tour led by a resident of the project to give you a personal view on what it's like to live in this sustainable co-housing project. The tour includes a guided walk around the site to learn about our food, water and renewable energy systems, a tour of one of the homes, and a presentation on the challenges faced during the build, and subsequent development, of the project.

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

Nottingham Bus to the Time to Act Climate March

Sat 7th March, 8am-8pm

London with a bus from Nottingham

£8-£20 depending on status (free tickets for those who can't afford to pay, contact:

g.hewitt501@gmail.com)

15 seats have already been sold for a coach to the Time to Act Climate March, taking place in London ahead of the general election. Join blocs which together tell the story of climate change: from the causes (fossil fuels and investment in them), the consequences (for food and water, for example) to the solutions (renewable energy, climate jobs, better transport). Following imaginative actions to highlight these, we will all assemble around Parliament for a mass wake-up call - Time to Act!

Book a place on the coach: www.eventbrite.com/e/nottingham-coach-to-time-to-act-climate-march-tickets-15045529584

National event: www.facebook.com/events/983117875035949

Living Willow Sculpture and Woodland Crafts

28th & 29th March, 10am-4pm

Whistlewood Common, Melbourne

FREE

Come and help create a living willow dragon and make your own woodland crafts. Free entry with small materials charge for individual crafts and refreshments. The willow dragon will be made under the expert instruction of 'world champion bodger' and talented craftsman Peter Wood of Greenwooddays.

www.whistlewoodcommon.org

Weekly Garden Club

Starting Saturday 31st January, 10:30am for six weeks

Radford-Lenton Library, Lenton Boulevard, NG7 2BY

Grow gorgeous greens in the heart of Radford! All ages welcome, no experience necessary.

Contact: Naomi on 0115 958 8590 or dunkirkclenton@gmail.com

B. Local News

Hayfield Sustainable Transport Ltd: Shared-Access Minibuses

Hayfield Sustainable Transport Ltd (HSTL) is conducting a community share offer to raise the capital required to buy a second minibus. This will provide organisations with access to minibuses without them needing to own one. They will be used by local schools, to reduce the cost of whole class trips, and by community groups for activities in the evenings and at weekends. The offer is live until 30th March 2015 and the minimum investment is £200.

Buy shares: www.microgenius.org.uk

Find out more: www.hstl.org.uk/user_groups.php or email: roland.strube@gmail.com

Heating Support Scheme Available in Amber Valley

Amber Valley Borough Council have a small budget (circa £12,000) from repaid grants that they are able to offer to residents to help with heating repairs or to contribute to replacement of a heating system. Apply via Metropolitan Home

Improvement Agency who will support clients to match with other funding sources where applicable.

Apply: hiaderbyshire@metropolitan.org.uk or contact Collette Watson on 01773 512076.

New Online Community Forum!

Following local demand, the *Everybody's Talking About Climate Change* website now features an online community forum where you can share ideas and information and problem solve with others in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire who are taking action on climate change. With more than 80 community groups in the area taking action on climate change there are plenty of people locally with experience, knowledge and skills to share. Visit our website to create an account and get talking.

We are looking for Volunteer Community Forum Moderators to help make the Forum a lively engaging place for people to discuss local action on climate change. No prior experience of online forums is necessary as full training will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Caroline Harmon.

First Company Officially Explores Fracking in Nottinghamshire

The first company to seriously explore fracking in Nottinghamshire has made a scoping request to Nottinghamshire County Council. Igas Energy Ltd wants to extract shale gas near the north Bassetlaw village of Misson.

www.nottinghampost.com/company-officially-explore-fracking/story-25943935-detail/story.html

Green Jobs in Nottingham

Nottingham City Homes are currently recruiting a Sustainability Energy Officer and a Fuel Poverty Officer. Apply for both by 25th Feb: www.jobsatnch.org.uk/Index.aspx

Red Nose Day Community Grants

Groups in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire can apply for grants of £500-£1000 before 3rd March 2015.

www.foundationderbyshire.org/funds/red-nose-day-community-cash-2015/

Grants for Community Buildings in South Derbyshire

South Derbyshire District Council are looking to re-launch the Community Partnership Scheme. The intention is to provide capital grants to community groups, sports organisations, voluntary organisations, church groups, parish councils. The scheme will offer grants between £1,000 and £25,000. Project supported will include the refurbishment of existing community buildings.

For more information please contact Ian Hey, Community Partnership Officer on 01283 228741
ian.hey@south-derbys.gov.uk

Nottingham Trent Ranks in Top Five Greenest Universities

Nottingham Trent University has ranked 4th in an annual league table which ranks universities according to their green credentials. The university has ranked in the top ten every year since 2009 when it came first (it also topped the table in 2011). By comparison the University of Nottingham ranked 42nd and the University of Derby ranked 60th.

<http://peopleandplanet.org/university-league/2015/tables>

C. National News

Plug to be Pulled on Tax Breaks for Community Energy

Many community energy schemes may struggle to get off the ground following an announcement that tax relief will be withdrawn from schemes launched after the end of March. In recent years some schemes have offered returns as high as 13% but some believe that returns could fall to 4.5% at most once the changes come into force. Some schemes are now in a race against time to get their share offer documents published as soon as possible.

www.theguardian.com/money/2015/jan/31/treasury-tax-breaks-green-energy-schemes

Floods Cause Rise in Belief in Climate Change

The results of a new study show that the British public's belief in climate change has risen over the past year to levels not seen since 2005. Researchers at the University of Nottingham and Cardiff University are attributing the rise, at least in part, to the flood of December 2013 and January 2014. Although it is very difficult to attribute any single set of weather events to climate change, such extremes of weather are predicted to happen more frequently as the climate changes.

News in Brief

- Invest in solar panels on council homes in Staffordshire: <http://chasesolar.org.uk>
- Ofgem accredited energy company switching websites will have to be more transparent about when they receive a commission for a switch under new rules from Ofgem: <http://bit.ly/1BzoF0A>
- All of the Big Six announce price cuts: <http://bit.ly/1yxCrvW>
- Nuclear power subsidy plans threatened by legal challenge: <http://bit.ly/1y9rqSK>
- Small suppliers outperform Big Six in customer service rankings: <http://bit.ly/1uF7cyB>
- Biomass boilers up to 20 percent less efficient than expected: <http://bit.ly/1CD1cNs>
- Over one million working households in fuel poverty: <http://bit.ly/1yTg88L>
- Warm Homes Discount extend to next winter and more people will benefit: <http://bit.ly/1yTjUiu>

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