

Community Climate Action Email April 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.

Spring has sprung and there is news of ways you can part in a couple of summer events in the Local News section of this edition of the newsletter. Spring is a time when we often make changes to our homes and in the Local Events section you can find details of two Green Open Home events to inspire you to create a more eco-friendly home. And, as ever, our National News section is packed full of useful tool and resources, funding opportunities and campaigns and events to get involved in.

Get news throughout the month:

www.everybodys-talking.org

Twitter: @CCANNetwork

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ccan.network

Got Any News?

The vast majority of what you read about in this newsletter has been created/organised/put together by 'ordinary' people working away persistently in their extraordinary communities. If you're doing something in your community and would like us to include it in the May e-newsletter please send it to us by Tuesday 28th April: ccan@mea.org.uk

A. Local Events

Simple DIY with Anne Frazer and Ian Openshaw.

Sat 11th April, 2-4 pm

Loundsley Green Community Centre, Cuttholme Road, Chesterfield, S40 4QU

£2 per person

(Very) basic DIY workshop aimed at those who wish to learn the skills needed to do simple tasks within the home, from basic tool use to being able to wire a plug or put up a picture. Build your confidence and understanding of practical domestic repairs. Bring along nothing except your wish list of things you know you don't know and would like to. There is nothing too small and no questions too silly to be answered. Booking essential via workshop@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Caribbean/West Indian Vegetarian Cookery with Merle La Croix

Saturday 18th April, 11 am - 1 pm

Loundsley Green Community Centre, Cuttholme Road, Chesterfield, S40 4QU

£2 per person

Learn about the different styles of cooking and ingredients from the Caribbean/West Indies and cook a couple of simple vegetarian dishes. Booking essential via workshop@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Transition West Bridgford Low Carbon Open Homes

25th & 26th April, 3rd May

Various locations in West Bridgford

11 green homes in West Bridgford will be open to the public. The people who live in them are hoping to inspire you to make your own home more eco friendly by showing off a range of homes. Some have undergone a full transformation others have benefitted from government grants to make one or two energy efficient improvements. Come and visit the homes in a friendly and welcoming environment, enjoy a cup of tea and take a look at thermal imaging displays. The events are free but booking is essential. For more information please contact Tina Holt: 07962 453037 / wbecohouses@gmail.com

www.wbecohouses.co.uk

General Election Hustings

Wed 29th April, 7.30pm

The Royal Hotel, Hayfield

Organised by Sustainable Hayfield

All of High Peak's parliamentary candidates declared to date have accepted an invitation to attend. This will provide an unrivalled chance to meet the candidates, and ask key questions of all of them. More information will be on Sustainable Hayfield's website nearer the time.

www.sustainablehayfield.com

Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Eco Open Homes

May 2015

Various locations across the two counties

Throughout May around 10 homes and other buildings will be opening their doors to the public to show you their eco features. Come and meet the people who live and work in them and find out what it's really like to live in an energy efficient home. Ask all the questions you've ever had about how well things like insulation and renewables really work. If you'd like to open your home please contact Caroline Harmon b Mon 13th April. We will stop adding homes to our website on 17th April.

Event listings: www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes/events

Climate Change Campaign Organisers Training

12th-14th June

Castleton, Derbyshire

Friends of the Earth's (FOE) Campaign Organisers programme reveals the secrets behind great local campaigns and provides the skills to make them happen. In 2015-16 the programme will focus on the global campaign against climate change. If you're up for being a Climate Organiser, then this training will help you to organise your community for local climate change action. This could include FOE campaigns on fracking and solar power, or it could be another local issue. FOE will also support you to mobilise for major national actions such as a mass lobby of Parliament in the

summer and a global week of action in the autumn, ahead of the Paris climate talks this winter.

Apply online: <http://bit.ly/1CW5Zu6>

B. Local News

Stallholders and Performers Sought for Eco Centre 'Made in Derbyshire' Summer Fair

Calling all 'Made in Derbyshire' members, Derbyshire artists, crafts people, musicians and artisans. The Derbyshire Eco Centre Summer Fair 2015 will be a celebration of adult learning and all that is 'Made in Derbyshire'; from food to crafts to musical acts and all that is in-between!

The fair, to be held on Saturday 13th June at Derbyshire County Council's Eco Centre in Middleton-by-Wirksworth, will be a lively event with a vibrant atmosphere. We are planning a range of interesting demonstrations, activities, stalls and entertainment suitable for adults and families. It will be a free community event. If you are a musician or a singer and you are interested in performing, especially if you play or sing your own compositions or Derbyshire songs/tunes, the organisers would love to hear from you.

Email: ecocentre@derbyshire.gov.uk or phone 01629 533038 to ask for a booking form.

Stalls Available at Belper Goes Green

Community groups are invited to have a free stall at Belper Goes Green, a festival taking place on 30th & 31st May. Anyone who would like to sell things is asked to donate 10% of their turnover for the weekend. Stallholders should be of a nature that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability - local food, grow-your-own, recycling, reducing energy use, promoting conservation, natural health and wellbeing etc.

Booking forms can be found online: <http://bit.ly/1mOFSMn>

Potato Day Video

Transition Chesterfield have made a fantastic short video about their annual Potato Day. Now in its seventh year, the event is the group's major fundraiser of the year: <https://youtu.be/15vnjFf4HdQ> They would be happy to chat to other groups who would like advice on running their own Potato Day: hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Green Deal Assessment/EPC Certificate Provide Sought in High Peak Area

A reader of this newsletter, who is based in the High Peak area, has asked if anyone in the area could recommend a company/person to carry out a Green Deal Assessment or EPC Certificate on their home.

Reply to this post on our online forum: <http://bit.ly/1IsWnXC>

The Future of Sustainability in the Peak District

Last summer the Bakewell Green Festival brought together more than 80 groups and organisations to celebrate sustainability in the Peak District. An estimate 5000 visitors enjoyed the day. Since then Bakewell Quakers, organisers of the day, have been considering the question 'Where do we go from here?' and they now have a list of five possibilities: planning another festival; setting up a Green Book Club; setting up a Peak-wide umbrella Transition Group to share information etc; setting up a social media positive sharing news site; and having more regular evening meetings or specific campaigning sessions e.g. on fracking.

If you are interested in any of these options, or in looking at other ways of promoting green action in the Peak District, please contact Jeni Edwards:
jeni.edwards69@gmail.com

Wirksworth Energy Survey

The Transition Wirksworth Energy Group would like to find out how local households are currently managing their energy use, so they have created a quick online survey that asks about insulation, energy consumption, heating and alternative electricity generation.

www.transitionwirksworth.org/survey.php

Public Consultation On Solar Farms

Derbyshire County Council are asking local residents for their views on proposals to build solar farms at several county council sites. They have identified six locations, in the North East and Amber Valley areas, for the project. The proposals are to set up a series of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) sites, better known as solar farms, on council-owned land which is currently underused. This includes former colliery or underused agricultural land unsuitable for growing crops. The consultation is running online until 20/04/2015.

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/solarfarms

A Bit of Belper on Foundscape.com

Janek Schaefer, a respected sound artist and winner of the British Composer of Sonic Art 2008, has put together and subtly edited a wide range of field recordings collected from various locations throughout the world. Responding to an open call for field recordings Transition Member, Tony Webster, submitted 30 minutes worth of field recordings of bird song and other background noises sourced in Belper. The field recordings were accepted, and some of the sounds of Belper are now part of a 24 hour digital broadcast being transmitted to the world.

The digital broadcasting project called Foundsoundscape.com uses over 1000 hours of location recordings captured by 100 recordists (including Brian Eno). The sounds are simply edited, and then played back three at a time at various volumes in a shuffle mode so that the result is never the same twice.

Listen online: www.foundsoundscape.com

Call For Proposals Supporting a Shift to a Low Carbon Economy

D2N2, the Local Enterprise Partnership for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, are inviting project proposals that will help create a shift to a local carbon economy. Applications must be for a minimum of £500,000.

<http://bit.ly/1MGH3x0>

Hazel and Ken Greig Fund

The Hazel and Ken Greig Fund is a fund to support local community groups in Derbyshire undertaking craft based projects in rural areas, getting local residents together to develop skills and build friendships. The Fund makes one grant of around £500-£1000 every year, selected from the hundreds of applications received from across Derbyshire. There are no closing dates for the fund and the decision is made by the grants committee meeting once every 12-16 weeks.

www.foundationderbyshire.org/funds/hazel-ken-greig-fund

C. National News

Government Publishes Update to Community Energy Strategy

The government has published an update to the Community Energy Strategy, which was first published in January 2014. It lists key achievements in 2014 and plans for 2015. The original document called on Local Authorities to support community energy projects.

<http://bit.ly/1xEL0vg>

My Home Energy Planner Survey and Prize Draw

My Home Energy Planner will be an online tool to help householders to understand their current energy usage and decide which energy efficiency improvements suit their home best. The tool is currently being developed and householders are invited to complete a short survey (www.svy.mk/1FFC8sc) that features a prize draw for one of 12 OWL micro energy monitors. Find out more about My Home Energy Planner: www.urbed.coop/projects/my-home-energy-planner

Guardian Launches Divestment Campaign

The Guardian is joining the fight to keep fossil fuels underground by launching its own divestment campaign in partnership with 350.org. The Guardian is urging the two biggest health and development organisations, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Wellcome Trust, to divest from fossil fuels.

Add your voice to the campaign: <http://bit.ly/1GLB7f4>

Green Open Homes Funding Success

After some negotiation with the Department for Energy and Climate Change, the Centre for Sustainable Energy now have additional funding for Green Open Homes. At least £68K will be available for grant applications for Green Open Homes events

taking place this autumn. Green Open Homes events allow people who have made energy saving improvements to open up their homes to share their experiences. Visiting a home is a great way to find out about the reality of these improvements and see if they might work for you.

www.GreenOpenHomes.net

Community Biomass Guidance Released

The Forestry Commission has just launched a new guide to setting up a community biomass project. Guidance covers the ins and outs of running a biomass system as well as advice on setting up a project, consulting the community and funding options.

www.forestry.gov.uk/communitybiomass

Mapping 'Off-Gas' Homes

The Government's recent fuel poverty strategy highlighted a need for better information to target fuel poverty programmes at those not on the gas network. This test map shows the spread of non-gas connected properties across England and Wales:

<http://bit.ly/1DYbEBH>

Better Communities

Better Communities is an award scheme from Jewson building supplies to fund a small number of community building projects across the country. Tell them about your project - it may be a new roof for your village hall, a sensory garden for local school children or the renovation of a long-forgotten community building. The company will produce a short-list of nominated projects, then communities will be asked to vote on which ones to support. A panel will pick regional winners to receive support of £1-5,000. One lucky project will also receive the main £50,000 prize. The deadline is 12th April 2015.

www.buildingbettercommunities.co.uk/works

Friends of the Earth Open Wild Gardens

Friends of the Earth are inviting people to open their wild gardens to the public in May and June to raise money for the charity. Forget manicured lawns and perfectly pruned rose bushes, they want you to open up your beautiful, wild bee worlds to inspire people to create a safe haven for our buzzing friends and other wildlife. Whether you have a tiny back garden, an allotment or a community space that has become a great place for bees, throw open your gates and take part.

<http://bit.ly/1DAyXAO>

Photo Competition

Sheffield Climate Alliance are collecting photos and stories from around the world of the changes that are happening to the climate and how local communities are

responding. They are looking for stories from people who are from, or have friends and families in, places that are experiencing the effects of climate change.

<http://bit.ly/1GkpX2C>

News In Brief:

- Anyone involved in a community energy project can sign up to this e-newsletter: www.energymentoring.org.uk/news-and-events
- A short video exploring the connections between our attitudes to climate change and the sinking of the titanic: <http://lexisurl.com/iema59165>