

Community Climate Action Email July 2013

Welcome to the latest edition of Community Climate Action, with all the latest news, events and resources in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. A special hello to new subscribers.

From the Editor

Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Week to Return in 2014!

I love a good nosey round someone else's house! So I was very excited back in March when 12 eco houses and projects flung open their doors as part of the first ever Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Week. The feedback was great: around 100 people visited the homes, every visitor who filled out a feedback form would recommend the event to someone else, and every household that took part would recommend it to other households with eco features. We're also pretty sure it's only two county event of its kind in the UK.

The good news is EcoHomes Open Week will be returning from 15th-23rd March 2014. If you have a house with eco friendly features that you'd like to open to the public let us know or visit the website to download our guide: www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes.

Caroline

Twitter: @CCANNetwork

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ccan.network

Got Any News?

If you have anything you'd like us to include in the August e-newsletter please send it to us by **Wednesday 31st July**: ccan@mea.org.uk.

Contents

A. Local Events

Love Your Leftovers Tour
Sustainable Construction Course
Hockerton Housing Tour
Resilient Future Conference
Inkerman Buzz 2013
Wild Food Sessions

B. Local News

Sowing Sherwood Volunteering Opportunities and Tools Required
RCAN Wind Turbine Scheme
Bulk Buying Saves Notts Residents nearly £19,000
Eco House For Sale at Hockerton
Comic Relief Local Communities Programme

C. National News and Events

EVENT: PlanLoCal Toolkit Energy Efficiency and the Green Deal Training

EVENT: Superhomes Open Days

FUNDING: Rural Community Energy Fund is Launched – Support Available for Community Groups

FUNDING: Increase in Renewable Heat Premium Payment

National News in Brief

A. Local Events

Love Your Leftovers Tour

Various dates (see below)

Organised by Nottinghamshire County Council and Veolia Environmental Services

Each date will feature some or all of the following:

- live cookery demonstrations
- free leaflets
- free copies of our new Love Your Leftovers cookbook
- Hints and tips to help you save up to £50 a month by reducing waste and using up leftovers

6th July: Ashfield Festival

7th August: Lark in the Park, West Bridgford

25th-26th August: Moorgreen Show, Broxtowe

1st September, Gedling Sow

7th September: Langwith Community Show, Bassetlaw

26th October: Bramley Apple Festival, Southwell

More information:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/living/waste/recyclingadvice/lovefoodhatewaste/lfhwroa/dshows/?src=fb

Sustainable Construction Course

10th – 12th July

Derbyshire Eco Centre

Cost varies – see website

This three day course introduces you to the theory and practical skills needed to undertake your own sustainable self build and/or restoration projects. You will have a go at building timber framed and straw bale buildings and find out how to point and render them in traditional lime plaster/ mortar. This will also enable you to talk knowledgeably to contractors who are working on projects for you.

01629 533038 / www.ecocentreexchange.org.uk

Hockerton Housing Tour

13th July

Nr Hockerton

Cost varies – see website

If you are interested in living in or building homes that are comfortable yet consume only 15-25% of the energy used by most homes built today then this is the tour for you. Also includes a visit to the community-owned 225kW wind turbine as part of our exploration of how community renewable energy has developed in Hockerton from our first 5kW wind turbine.

www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk

Resilient Future Conference

13th July, 10am-4:30pm

University of Lincoln

supported by Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Services, Transition Lincoln, University of Lincoln & Lincoln City Council

FREE

A conference looking at practical action for the challenges we face. Surviving the planetary crisis will require all our determination, and our willingness to adapt. This free one day conference explores what this means for our Earth Care: for education, for food production, for economics, for energy, for transport - and for our self understanding. Workshop topics include community energy, biodiversity, sustainable finance, practical permaculture living and inner resilience.

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

Inkerman Buzz 2013

14th July, 11am-3pm

Inkerman Park (aka Wasp Nest), Chesterfield.

This year's festival includes displays from a range of community groups, craft stalls (wool spinning, woodworking, pole lathe, pedal power, a dog show and pedal powered entertainment. There is no public car parking, please arrive by foot, bicycle or bus. Bus No2 & 2A stop very close by - ask for Greenbank Drive or the Crispin.

www.friendsoftheinkerman.org

Wild Food Sessions

17th July, 5pm-7pm

Stonebridge City Farm

Harvest lime flowers, look for summer fruits and experiment with rose petal recipes.

info@stonebridgecityfarm.com / 0115 950 5113 / www.stonebridgecityfarm.com

B. Local News

Sowing Sherwood Volunteering Opportunities and Tools Required

Sowing Sherwood is a community gardening project in Sherwood, Nottingham, which aims to transform unloved and disused areas of land into bee-friendly and edible landscapes. The group is currently looking for volunteers to get involved. Volunteers don't need gardening skills as there will be volunteers on hand who can guide anyone - if you do have knowledge & skills, then this would be useful. The group are also looking for tools to use for the working party sessions.

Please get in touch if you are interested and can help: sowingsherwood@gmail.com

RCAN Wind Turbine Scheme

Rural Community Action Nottingham (RCAN) can now offer landowners cost-free using small scale wind turbines. A range of turbines are available from 5kW to 500kW and rental income is guaranteed for 22 years.

Contact Oliver Fenech on 07806 772435 or oliverf@quietrevolution.com

Bulk Buying Saves Notts Residents nearly £19,000

A Nottinghamshire bulk purchasing oil scheme has saved residents nearly £19,000 since it began. The scheme, which is run by Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) and negotiates a bulk purchasing discount for households who use oil for their heating, saved households buying 1000 litres of oil £71 on normal prices the last time it placed an order.

Households can currently join at a discounted cost of £10 (normally membership costs £20). If people would like to volunteer to co-ordinate orders in their area they can join for free. Co-ordinators simply bring together all the local orders in their area and pass them to RCAN, before letting households know the price and delivery date. They don't have to deal with money or payments.

01623 727600 / oil@rcan.org.uk / www.rcan.org.uk/downloads/A5Membershipbooklettemp.pdf

Eco House For Sale at Hockerton

The largest house at Hockerton Housing Project is up for sale. The private four-bedroomed, earth sheltered house and front garden have stunning views overlooking a lake and woodland, and the new residents will share in the use of land for food-growing, renewable energy generation and rainwater harvesting with other houses at the project. Energy bills at houses are 1/5th of the national average and income is generated by renewable energy systems to cut bills even more.

www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/contact-us/

Comic Relief Local Communities Programme

Nottinghamshire Community Foundation is administering Comic Relief funding to tackle economic and social deprivation in local communities. Local groups can apply for between £1000 and £10,000. The programme aims to empower local people, enabling them to create lasting change in their communities. Projects should be run

by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and priority will be given to small, locally based groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community. Types of activities that might be funded include projects to combat fuel poverty and food co-ops. Deadline: 8th August.

www.nottscf.org.uk

C. National News

EVENT: PlanLoCal Toolkit Energy Efficiency and the Green Deal Training Events

Centre for Sustainable Energy are running free events around the country to showcase their new PlanLoCal toolkit on energy efficiency and the Green Deal. Ideal for community groups who want to help their communities become more energy efficient. A limited number of travel bursaries are available for voluntary groups. Sign up by following the links to each individual event below:

- Friday 5th July – The Priory Rooms, Birmingham
<http://planlocalbirmingham.eventbrite.co.uk/>
- Saturday 6th July – Bridge 5 Mill, Manchester
<http://planlocalmanchester.eventbrite.co.uk/>
- Friday 12th July – Roots and Shoots, London
<http://planlocallondon.eventbrite.co.uk/>
- Saturday 13th July – The Create Centre, Bristol
<http://planlocalbristol.eventbrite.co.uk/>

EVENT: Superhomes Open Days

This September you can get the inside story on some exceptional home improvement projects across the UK. Superhomes are older homes which have been refurbished to be amongst the most energy efficient older homes in the UK. In every SuperHome you can learn about a range of installed technologies. Tours and Q&A sessions let you quiz the owners on specifics. You'll discover what worked and get frank feedback on anything that didn't. If your goal is increased home comfort, reduced energy bills or a smaller carbon footprint, a visit is sure to inspire. Entry is free, but you need to book. A number of Superhomes can be found in Nottinghamshire.

www.superhomes.org.uk

FUNDING: Rural Community Energy Fund is Launched – Support Available for Community Groups

The Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) has been launched to support rural communities in England to develop renewable energy projects which provide economic and social benefits to the community.

The fund will provide up to approximately £150,000 of funding for feasibility and pre-planning development work to help projects become investment ready: approximately £20,000 to pay for an initial investigation into the feasibility of a renewable energy project followed by an unsecured loan of up to approximately £130,000 to support planning applications and develop a robust business case to attract further investment. Community groups will need to pay back a set amount on top of the loan borrowed which will be rolled back into the fund to help support even more community energy projects across rural England.

Funding can be used to support rural projects across the renewable and low carbon energy spectrum including wind, solar, biomass, heat pumps, anaerobic digestion, gas Combined Heat and Power and hydro.

Two organisations are offering help to community groups looking to apply to the fund:

Centre for Sustainable Energy: www.cse.org.uk/news/view/1740

Nottingham Energy Partnership: www.nottenergy.com

More on the fund: www.wrap.org.uk/node/14587

FUNDING: Increase in Renewable Heat Premium Payment

Householders can now get even more cash to install renewable heating equipment. Vouchers are increasing as follows:

- £2,300 for ground source heat pumps
- £2,000 for biomass boilers
- £1,300 for air source heat pumps
- £600 for solar thermal systems

The RHPP scheme is targeted at those living off the gas grid, where most money on bills and carbon can be saved. It is designed to encourage householders to switch to renewable heat from traditional heating systems by offering money off the cost of the equipment.

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generating-energy/Getting-money-back/Renewable-Heat-Premium-Payment-Phase-2

National News in Brief

www.nesta.org.uk/assets/blog_entries/working_the_crowd - NESTA Launches First UK Crowdfunding Directory.

www.communityshares.org.uk – Community Shares website relaunched.

www.cse.org.uk/news/view/1736 - Those with electric heating will pay more for government's energy policy.

www.greenwisebusiness.co.uk/news/writing-on-the-wall-a-collapse-in-insulation-activity-spells-trouble-for-the-green-deal-3974.aspx - Massive drop in insulation installations.

<http://ow.ly/i/2to6k/original> - The reality of the Green Deal.

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/community-energy-call-for-evidence - Community energy call for evidence.

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: ccan@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.