

Community Climate Action Email September 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

Four days ago I was sitting on a Norfolk beach in a swimming costume wondering if I needed to put more suntan lotion on. Today I'm shivering in lots of layers and wondering if it's time to programme the heating to come on in the morning (surely not yet?!)

While summer was still in full swing our Fantastic Home mobile exhibition toured Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire visiting outdoor events offering advice on energy efficiency and domestic renewables. The sun may have been beating down on us as we spoke to our visitors, but we were already thinking about how to help them keep their homes warm once autumn set in. We spoke to hundreds of people about topics ranging from solid wall insulation and replacing boilers, to making best use of your heating controls and switching to LED lightbulbs. We gave away free items that will save people thousands of pounds on their energy bills and thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions. Children (and children-at-heart) queued up to take a turn on our Watt Bike or play a game of giant Low Carbon Snakes and Ladders.

The Fantastic Home tours the area all year long and we'd like to invite you to join us. We're looking for volunteers who would like to help us take the exhibition to locations around the two counties and offer advice to people. More information [here](#).

As well as bringing the Fantastic Home to people, we're also bringing people to local eco homes. Back in March more than 100 people crossed the threshold of a dozen homes and eco projects around the two counties. In March 2014 we're doing it again and we'd like to involve more homes and more visitors. For more information on how to open your home visit the project's [website](#).

Caroline
Twitter: @CCANNetwork
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ccan.network

Got Any News?

If you have anything you'd like us to include in the October e-newsletter please send it to us by **Sunday 29th September**: ccan@mea.org.uk

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A. Local Events

The Arctic to Buxton

10th September, 7:30pm
The Paupers' Pit, Old Hall Hotel, Buxton
Hosted by Transition Buxton

An evening with two fascinating talks, followed by a discussion:

- **Prof Terry Callaghan: *The Rapidly Changing Arctic: What it Means to You.*** The Arctic's climate is changing faster than anywhere else on earth. The changes are having major impacts on the extent of snow and ice and on the animals, plants and people who live there. However, as the Arctic regulates global climate and sea level, the changes there will affect everyone: there will be both winners and losers. Terry Callaghan, with 46 years of working throughout the Arctic, will illustrate the changes and their consequences for people who live there.
- **Prof J.P.Grime: *Testing Predictions of Ecosystem Response to Climate Change: The Buxton Experiments.*** In 2013 scientists celebrated the 20th year of continuous manipulation of rainfall and temperature in an ancient sheep pasture at Harpur Hill. In this talk ecologist Phil Grime and engineer Andrew Askew will explain how the experiments are conducted and how the results relate to the future of agriculture and nature conservation in the South Pennines.

More information from Charles: 01298 22557 / www.transitionbuxton.co.uk

Introduction to Trading and Selling for Voluntary and Community Groups

12 September, 2pm - 4pm

Acacia Centre, Acacia Avenue, off Forest Road, Annesley Woodhouse, NG17 9BH

Is your group thinking of earning income from trading or selling your services? Or are you already trading and looking to do more or sell to a new market? Maria Ward from Nottingham CVS, an experienced entrepreneur and fundraiser, will ask groups to think about what they have to sell and who they can sell it to. She will also cover topics including: legal structures, business plans, market research, effective marketing, pricing, budgets and cash flow.

To book a place: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/6378059949, email: susan.meech@nottinghamshirefirst.org.uk, or ring: 01636 705447

Inspiring Communities Conference

24th September, 8:3am – 6pm

Julien Cahn Pavillion, West Park, Loughborough Road, West Bridgford
£40, concession available

This one day conference offers a platform to highlight local and national initiatives that have been developed by individuals and communities, identifying, practical and constructive solutions to sustainability. The conference has secured a line-up of speakers with a proven track record of inspiring communities. The speakers will be sharing knowledge, advice and information, while demonstrating how initiatives can be created, developed and strengthened to facilitate economic and social cohesion, locally and nationally.

Over the past five years, the West Bridgford community have developed a number of initiatives that provide answers to the challenges communities face when energy becomes more expensive, climates more chaotic and economic situation more uncertain. These projects look to make communities more robust, more content and ultimately better places to live.

<http://inspiringcommunities2013.wordpress.com/>

How to write a good funding application

24th September, 10am-12pm

Newark and Sherwood CVS

In this session we will look at why funders give grants and how they decide which projects to support. We will also consider what groups need to do before they decide which funder to approach and how to pitch ideas. We will then go through a sample application form, line by line, providing hints and tips on what should be included in each section. We will cover 'evidence of need'; 'outputs'; and 'outcomes' in more detail. By the end of the session groups will have a good understanding of what funders are looking for; how to plan a project before looking for funding; and how to complete an application form.

To book a place: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/6378059949, email: susan.meech@nottinghamshirefirst.org.uk, or ring: 01636 705447

EcoHome Opens Days

28th September (Southwell)

29th September (West Bridgford)

Advance booking essential: wbecohouses@gmail.com

Householders who are interested in ways to reduce energy use and improve comfort in their homes are invited to a series of 'Open Homes' days in Nottinghamshire this autumn. Tina Holt, the founder of Transition West Bridgford's Eco House Group, is arranging visits to a number of low energy homes in the Nottingham area. It's a great opportunity to see these houses and to talk to the owners about their experiences – and it is free!

On Saturday 28th September, Roger Bell will open up his home near Southwell.

This is a new build which was designed to follow Passive House principles while at the same time using many elements of standard UK construction (e.g. cavity walls). The home owners moved in at the start of winter 2012-13 so are able to share their first impressions on how the house is performing thermally, and the build itself is of course still fresh in their minds!

On Sunday 29th September, Tina will open up her own house to visitors.

This is a typical 1950's solid wall house in West Bridgford which has undergone a whole house low energy refurbishment. How did the newly insulated house stand up to its first year, including a cold winter and the hot weather in July? What was the energy use before and after? Come along and find out.

Although these two homes differ greatly in many ways, both include renewable energy technologies, ventilation systems with heat recovery and high levels of air tightness and insulation.

More visits will be featured on <http://wbecohouses.co.uk> over the coming weeks, and opening times through the autumn will be included as dates are finalised. Events are also listed here: www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes/

Repair Café

12th October, 10am-3pm

Lifeshouse Church (near West Bars), Chesterfield

Organised by Transition Chesterfield

Members of Transition Chesterfield will be on hand to fix things such as sewing machines, small electrical appliances, or anything portable that might be mendable. Bring along your broken items. If you have skills in repairing things and would like to help on the day please get in touch: hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Week

15th-23rd March 2014

Dozens of homes and projects across the two counties will be opening their doors to the public to inspire you with their eco features. Last year we had everything from solar panels and solid wall insulation to a straw bale extension. The event received

fantastic feedback with everyone who visited a house saying they would recommend it to other people.

If your house has some eco features and you'd like to open it to the public please get in touch: ccan@mea.org.uk. We can provide a guide to opening your home and publicise your event on the website www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes

Traditional Woodland Management Workshops

Various dates

Woodside Farm (nr Shipley)

This autumn the [Derbyshire Wildlife Trust](http://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org) are organising courses in Charcoal making, coppicing and hazel hurdle making.

B. Local News

New Information on Green Deal and ECO

There are new information pages on the government's Green Deal and ECO programmes on the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire website for climate change:

www.everybodys-talking.org/green-deal

www.everybodys-talking.org/node/776

Chesterfield Abundance Campaign

Transition Chesterfield are running their annual abundance campaign to pick fruit that would otherwise go to waste. Some goes to the owners, some is shared amongst those who pick it, some is used for juicing at events, and some goes to those who need it: lunch clubs and soup kitchens.

If you would like to get involved email your mobile phone no to hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk and they will text you a couple of days before each picking event. Adding yourself to this list doesn't commit you to getting involved.

Nottingham Fixers

Do you have skills in fixing, mending, repairing? Have you ever wanted to help fix people's stuff, but you feel you don't have the confidence or skills? Or perhaps you're interested in learning how to fix things? Nottingham Fixers can help – you can come and shadow our fixers at Sneinton Market! A small group has formed to aim to run a Repair Café at Sneinton Market, Nottingham on the 3rd Sat of the month where people will bring items and be taught how fix them.

If you'd like to be a fixer please either join our Facebook group www.facebook.com/groups/111941592309531/ or email info@nottinghamfixers.co.uk.

Volunteer Gardeners

The Nottinghamshire Hospice on Woodborough Road in Nottingham are in urgent need of volunteer gardeners. Help maintain the gardens for patients and visitors with a friendly team of volunteers. Please note some roles may require physical exertion

Contact Stephen Goddard on stephengoddard@nottshospice.org. Website: www.nottshospice.org

C. National News

NEWS: New Definition of Fuel Poverty

The government has introduced a new definition of fuel poverty. Under the old definition a household was in fuel poverty if it spend more than 10% of its income on fuel bills. Under the new definition a households needs to have low income and high fuel bill.

Previously 15% of the population of England was living in fuel poverty. Under the new definition this falls to 11%.

Statistics on fuel poverty in local areas can be found on [DECC's website](#).

FUNDING: Biffaward

Biffaward awards grants to projects that provide or improve community spaces, cultural facilities and places for outdoor recreation. You may have a building that needs improvement in order to increase the range of services on offer to the local community. Or maybe an open space such as a park, play area or woodland that needs transforming to benefit local people of all ages. In a nutshell, they want to make sure that everyone has access to high quality local community facilities. Grants between £5,000 and £50,000 are available. There are no deadlines.

www.biffa-award.org

REPORT: The New Economy in 20 Enterprises

A new report showcasing 20 social enterprises which could be replicated in any community. They each demonstrate a different way of doing business in a way that is sustainable.

www.transitionnetwork.org/news/2013-09-03/new-economy-20-enterprises-report-released

EVENT: Superhomes Open Days

Throughout September

This September you can get the inside story on more than 50 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

EVENT: Communities Buying Land

27th November, 10:30am-4pm
The Priory Rooms, Birmingham
Organised by FCFGG
Fee: £5-£50 depending on status

This event is aimed at community groups interested in buying land, for community gardens, community woods or Community Supported Agriculture. Advisors and support organisations are also welcome. The day will include hearing from a group that has already bought land.

www.farmgarden.org.uk/events/fcfcg-events-in-england/communities-buying-land?view=Events

Villages Will Support Renewables in 25 years?

A number of leading architectural thinkers have produced a series of short essays in which they suggest that villages will increasingly support renewables in the future. The pieces explore how those living in the countryside will respond to new opportunities and threats from globalisation and how villages can come to terms with modern life without losing the past.

www.buildingfutures.org.uk/think/all/

National News in Brief

Government urged to make every home in Britain energy efficient by [New Green Deal Group](#).

Find out if there are [plans for Fracking](#) in your area and which local councillor to contact about it..

An ambitious [long-term online diary project](#) from The Open University is asking you to use your creative to share what you're thinking about environmental issues.

Half of last year's extreme weather were due in part to climate change according to [new research](#).

[Is large scale biomass a good idea?](#)

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.