

Community Climate Action Email November 2012

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

Feeling Nosey?

If, like me, you enjoy the opportunity to have a good look around someone else's home then you'll be very interested in our forthcoming Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Day. From 2nd -10th March 2013 lots of householders who have made environmentally-friendly improvements to their homes will be throwing open their doors so you can come and have a peek at what they've done and find out how and why they did it. If you think your home would be suitable to be part of the event please let us know and we'll send you a guide to taking part: ccan@mea.org.uk.

I also enjoy picking people's brains, and I'd like to invite you to pick mine, those of my colleagues and other community groups in the area. As part of the Community Climate Action Network (which supplies this e-newsletter) we also run the 'Ask Me a Climate Question' service. If you or your group have a question about a project you're running or an idea you have, or if you'd like to know how others have done the same or overcome a problem you're facing, simply send us an email with the details and we'll do some research for you. We might direct you to some online resources, direct you to another group who can help, or signpost you to training or funding pots or whatever is relevant. Every enquiry is unique and we create a tailored response to each one. If you're not sure what kind of thing we can help with take a look at this webpage for examples of recent enquiries: www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-support.

Got Any News?

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

Caroline

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A. Local Events

Transition Wirksworth Party and Discussion on Energy

9th November, 7pm-9pm
Hope and Anchor, Wirksworth

A bring-and-share meal. Please bring a modest savoury casserole, salad or dessert. There will also be an opportunity to discuss ways of supplying Wirksworth's energy needs in a sustainable manner in the future.

www.transitionwirksworth.org

Level 2 Award in Environmental Sustainability

9th & 16th November, 10am – 4pm
Derbyshire Eco Centre, Middleton by Wirksworth
£29 (on certain benefits) - £58

This qualification introduces the key issues in sustainability, raising awareness of the topic and encouraging participants to consider their role in helping others to make sustainable choices.

ecocentre@derbyshire.gov.uk or 01629 533038 for more details and to book.

Retro-Green Your House

Level 2 Award in Environmental Sustainability
10th & 11th November, 10am – 4pm
£20 (on certain benefits) - £78

This course is a mix of practical and classroom-based learning. It explores ways to make older properties more comfortable to live in and more thermally efficient, in an affordable way.

ecocentre@derbyshire.gov.uk or 01629 533038 for more details and to book.

Belper Railway Station Community Planting Day

14th November, 10am-3pm

Organised by Transition Belper

Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Please bring old/work clothes, waterproofs and sturdy footwear.

Contact: Kathy Fairweather: kathyf100@hotmail.com / 07779412702

The Community Day will bring together station adoption volunteers from Transition Belper, members of other local community groups and staff from East Midlands Trains. The main focus of the day will be the planting of shrubs and small trees in the four sections immediately behind the platforms. These shrubs and small trees will be a mixture of attractive native and other wildlife friendly species that will be beneficial to wildlife, as well as creating a colourful station environment throughout the year. Additionally some pruning, weeding and transplanting will be carried out along with other small scale improvement and maintenance work to station facilities. Transition Belper have 'adopted' the station and are working to create a more attractive and wildlife friendly station environment.

During the summer, volunteers from Transition Belper have been working with offenders from Derbyshire Probation Trust's Community Payback Scheme clearing overgrown vegetation. This project has been an integral part of Belper in Bloom's success at Britain In Bloom 2012 at which Belper received a Gold accolade and were awarded the 'Best Large Town' in the British Isles.

This community planting day will build on this great success by replanting the cleared areas which will help to create a more attractive and wildlife friendly station environment that Belper can be proud of.

Energy Event

17th November, 10am-12pm

Green Energy Centre, Nottingham, NG2 1AG

Organised by Transition West Bridgford and The Energy Saving Co-operative

Details: www.wbecohouses.co.uk

Top tips on finding the best options for your improving your home. The latest updates on financial incentives for energy improvements. Experts and pioneering householders will be available for questions.

Networking for Warmth Course

20th November, High Peak CVS Offices, Whaley Bridge

21st November, Venue TBC

FREE. Organised by High Peak CVS / National Energy Action

Would you like to be able to help vulnerable people in Derbyshire stay warm and healthy at home this Winter? Would you like to lower your fuel bills? Are you interested in becoming more energy aware and in working towards a nationally recognised qualification?

If so, come and join us for a free workshop where you will learn how to recognize fuel poverty, how to lower your fuel bills and what the Priority Services Register is and how to make the most of it.

You will also receive a resource pack to help you pass this information on to people you work with, family and friends, and others in your area to help them stay warm this Winter.

People taking part in this one-day workshop will also be offered the opportunity to continue on to a further 3-day course to gain a level 3 City and Guilds accredited qualification in Energy Awareness in the Home

For more information and to book a place at either workshop, please contact Esther Jones at High Peak CVS: 01663 735350 / esther@highpeakcvs.org.uk or Victoria Eynon at National Energy Action: victoria.eynon@nea.org.uk. Places are limited so don't leave booking till the last minute!

Ginger Beer Making Workshop

24th November, 10am-12pm

Organised by Transition Chesterfield, £2/person

Learn how to make the real thing, not the pale imitation sold in shops. For more details or to book a place, please email: hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

B. Local News

First Ever Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Day

The Community and Climate Action Network is organising the first ever Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Day in March 2013. Over nine days householders who have made their homes more environmentally friendly will open their doors to the public for a few hours each. So far homes in Netherfield, Chesterfield, Belper and Rushcliffe are involved and we're looking for more! Have you:

- Installed **renewable technologies?**

- Installed **solid wall insulation**? We're keen to include homes which have measures which householders will be able to use ECO and Green Deal funding for.
- **Eco-renovated a whole house or room or built a house?**
- **Made improvements on a tight budget.** We don't just want expensive high-tech solutions on show.
- **Made a rented home more eco friendly.**
- **Incorporated a lot of waste materials** into your improvements that would have otherwise ended up in landfill.
- **Produced a lot of your own food** in your garden. If you could provide a short tour of how and why you've done this, we'd love to include it.

MEA has produced a guide for households and groups that want to be involved in the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Day which will be available shortly. If you'd like a copy please email: ccan@mea.org.uk.

Derby City Business Energy Efficiency Grants and Advice

Businesses in Derby have the opportunity to access free advice and grants of up to £5,000 through Bespoke a new project that has been launched by Derby City Council. Bespoke aims to promote practical energy efficiency and help businesses in Derby to make improvements to their premises and processes that will save money and reduce carbon emissions.

Further information: www.derby.gov.uk/bspoke / bspoke@derby.gov.uk or contact the Climate Change Team on 01332 287251. Bespoke is part-funded by the European regional Development Fund and eligibility criteria apply.

www.derby.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-change-and-energy-management/bspoke/

Pre-Order Your Potato Tubers from Transition Chesterfield

Transition Chesterfield are already taking orders for their popular potato day in January. Each year for the last three years they've taken over an empty unit in The Pavements in the town and this year they plan to have 41 varieties of potato tubers on sale, plus onions, shallot and garlic.

Last year some varieties sold out early in the day. If you want guarantee you get what you want you can pre-order here:

www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk/sites/default/files/file/2013_order_form.pdf. Orders will need to be picked up on the day from The Pavements.

Order places by 10th December will cost 12p/tuber. Orders placed after this, or bought on the day, are likely to cost 14p/tuber, although prices will be finalised nearer the time.

Enquiries: food@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

Nottinghamshire Community Groups Support Survey

A number of organisations which support community groups in Nottinghamshire are working together to improve their services and are seeking your views on how to do this. Your group's views are vital to improve services and to provide evidence to enable these organisations to receive continued funding so that they can keep supporting you. Groups entering the survey will be entered into a draw to win a brand new laptop computer, with four runner-up prizes of books from the Directory of Social Change.

Organisations involved in the survey include: Gedling CVS, Newark and Sherwood CVS, Rushcliffe CVS, NAVO and Rural Communities Action Network (RCAN).

Complete the survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/s/BLNTX53.

Celebrating People Award

Groups in the High Peak area are invited to apply for the Celebrating People Award. Created in honour of the second chairperson of High Peak CVS, Chris Woodcock, the award offers local groups the opportunity to raise their profile and gain recognition for the work they do. Key assessment criteria will be around acknowledging your achievements and progress. Examples of the types of changes include revitalising your group, attracting new members, attracting new funding, developing a new project or making a significant impact in your local community. You can apply on behalf of your group, or you can be nominated by, or nominate, another group. A small panel will make the decision.

High Peak CVS will present the Award, a commemorative plaque, framed certificate and cheque for £100 for the group, at its Annual General Meeting in November. The Award is open to all groups, however small or large, newly formed or long established and we encourage everyone to apply. The closing date for applications is Monday 19th November 2012.

Contact Jackie Donnelley for an application form: jackie@highpeakcvs.org.uk / 01663 736436

Resident-Powered Guide to Waste for Derbyshire Dales

Derbyshire Dales District Council has put together a guide to waste and recycling which is powered by local residents. If you don't know which bin to put a certain item in simply fill in the online form and the council will add it to their list of items, including an explanation of what to do with that item.

www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/waste-a-recycling/a-to-z-of-waste

Time is Running Out For Free Insulation

Time is running out for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire residents to take advantage of lofty savings on their energy bills. A number of free and heavily subsidised schemes operate in the two counties and both cities, but their funding is likely to end at the end soon. At present many schemes will install loft and cavity wall insulation for free. Once funding ends these measures are likely to cost several hundred pounds each.

For more information on the scheme operating in your area visit: www.everybodys-talking.org/insulation-offers.

E.ON Sustainable Energy Community Fund for Nottingham

E.ON has made £20,000 available for projects that improve the energy efficiency of non-residential properties within Nottingham. The funding can be used to introduce energy projects including insulation, draught proofing and renewable energy sources, such as solar panels. It can also be used to promote, educate or raise general public awareness and carry out feasibility studies relating to the use of energy saving measures in the building.

Nottingham City Council Councillor Alan Clark said: 'We'd like to see applications from community groups who are committed to reducing their carbon footprint and want to become more energy efficient. Whether it's tackling gas guzzling boilers or introducing eco friendly kettles, successful applicants should be able to enjoy cheaper energy bills and a sustainable future.'

Constituted not-for-profit organisations and voluntary sector organisations based and working in Nottingham City may apply. The deadline for applications is 4pm on 30 November 2012.

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2556

Nottingham Energy Partnership Solid Wall Insulation Video

Nottingham Energy Partnership have made a video about solid wall insulation.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-6pJxohbzY.

C. National News and Events

1.5m in 'Transport Poverty'

A new report by Sustrans reveals that over 1.5 million people living in England are at serious risk of being cut off from work and healthcare because of the rising costs of owning and running a car, and a lack of alternatives. The report, backed by anti-poverty campaigners, also outlines how 35 million of us are facing the prospect of debt just from getting around.

www.sustrans.org.uk/lockedout?dm_i=6EB,ZIRL,N9AVE,2ZLJ9,1

The Big Street Survey

Sustrans' Big Street Survey is an exciting new resource enabling pupils to investigate the area around their school and create a manifesto on how to make their streets safer and greener. Working both inside and outside the classroom. It is a two-hour curriculum activity where pupils explore what they like and dislike about their neighbourhood, before using their manifesto to lobby decision-makers and elected representatives at national and local level to make their changes happen. All the resources, which are aimed at Years 5-7, are free to download from Sustran's website. Participating schools who submit their manifesto to Sustrans by 7th December will have the chance to win a camcorder.

www.sustrans.org.uk/freerangekids/get-involved/the-big-street-survey?dm_i=6EB,ZIRL,N9AVE,2ZLJ9,1

£125m Green Deal cash back offer

Hundreds of pounds of cash back will be available to householders in England and Wales who make energy saving home improvements under the Green Deal from January 2013. The Green Deal is the Government's new initiative to transform the UK market for energy efficiency. It will let homes and businesses pay for energy efficiency improvements, like insulation, through expected savings on their energy bills. Households quick off the mark could get as much as £1,000 cash back.

From 28th January 2013, households who use the Green Deal to make improvements such as loft insulation, solid wall insulation and replacement windows will qualify. The Green Deal Cashback Scheme is a first-come, first-served offer, and the more work households have done, the more cash back they could receive.

The time-bound offer is limited to one per household, but can cover a package of improvements so long as the householder is contributing to installation costs and work done is overseen by an authorised Green Deal Provider. The key to getting the cash back is to have a Green Deal assessment carried out on your property, then install some or all of the improvements recommended.

A total of £125 million is up for grabs so hundreds of thousands of people could qualify. The rates published are guaranteed for the first £40 million of the scheme. The best offers are available first, so people should act fast once the scheme opens in January because cash back rates may reduce after that.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/green_deal/gd_customer/gd_cashback/gd_cashback.aspx

Green Deal Video

Not sure what the Green Deal is? Watch this short video:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ms93fcXhSig&feature=youtu.be.

OFGEM Aims for Simple, Clearer and Fairer Energy Market

OFGEM has published plans to deliver a simpler, clearer, and fairer energy market for consumers:

www.ofgem.gov.uk/Media/PressRel/Documents1/20121019_RMR.pdf.

Energy Audit Tool for Anglican Churches

Shrinking the Footprint has produced an Energy Audit Tool for Anglican Church buildings.

<http://shrinkingthefootprint.smeasure.com/>

D. And Finally...

Not Sure if You're in Fuel Poverty?

Complete this simple questionnaire to find out and get help if you are:
http://fuelpoverty.turn2us.org.uk/?utm_source=sm&utm_medium=tw&utm_content=int&utm_campaign=fp

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.