

Community Climate Action Email November 2013

Welcome to a bumper edition of Community Climate Action, with all the latest news, events and resources in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. A special hello to new subscribers and thanks to the many people who have contributed items this month - the two counties are a hive of climate-related activity!

From the Editor

Energy and Climate Change have loomed large in the press in recent months and from many different angles: the highly respected Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change recently announced that 'human influence on the climate system is clear'; the Department for Energy and Climate Change has announced the first new nuclear power plant in 20 years; fracking hit the headlines in the summer; and the government were criticised by fuel poverty campaigners for lowering the number of people in fuel poverty simply by changing the definition.

Mostly recently, four of the 'Big Six' energy companies have announced price hikes just in time for winter. Whilst these price rises will hit householders hard, what most of the media has largely ignored is that many households can save more money from energy efficiency measures than they can from tariff switching or avoiding price rises. And energy efficiency measures will also lower carbon emissions. If you want to make your own home more energy efficient, or help your community to do this, then we have some great events coming up:

Energy Efficient Communities

1st February 2014, Matlock

March 2014, Hockerton Housing Project (exact date tbc)

A training event to equip you with practical tools and ideas to help your community make their homes and community buildings more energy efficient. Discover some tools for assessing what your community needs to do to best improve their homes, discover roles your community group can play in this, hear about inspiring projects in other communities, find out how to lower energy use in community buildings, find out about sources of funding, meet others who want to/are doing the same. To book a place contact: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk or 07748 508704.

Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Eco Homes Open Event

10th-18th May 2014

Homes across the two counties will be opening their doors to show you what they have done to save energy and the planet. Everything from draught proofing, loft insulation and efficient lighting to solar panels, solid wall insulation and vegetable gardens will be on display. If you would like to open your own home, contact us to find out what support we can offer: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk. If you would like to visit a home, keep an eye on our website www.everybodys-talkingorg/ecohomes and this national site: www.greenopenhomes.net/ as this is where we'll add more details as we have them.

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

Got Any News?

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

Contents

A. Local Events

Alternative Economic Seminar
Film: Project Wild Things
Fracking Event: Film and Q&A
Transition Wirksworth Discussion Group
Tree Planting Events
Awards For All Workshop
Nottingham Fixers Meeting
Transition Café
Know Your Green Deal Loan and Your ECO Subsidy
Sharing Sherwood Meeting
Awards for All Workshop
Potato Day
Low Carbon Schools Conference
Community Buildings Away Day

B. Local News

Buy Shares in Your Local Common
Age UK Notts Makes Winter Warmer For the Elderly
Winter Is On It's Way – Are You Ready?
Wirksworth Pollinator Garden
Emergency Oil Filled Radiator Service

C. National News and Events

FUNDING: Green Open Homes
FUNDING: Lottery: Reaching Community Buildings
COMMUNITY RENEWABLES: Four Projects to Invest In
Energy Saving: It's a Social Thing
Support Fowey Community Wind Project
RESOURCE: Solar Microgen Database
FUNDING: Community Generation Fund
Community Action Award
RESOURCE: Community Shares Guidance
RESOURCE: Materials for Monitoring and Evaluation
National News in Brief

A. Local Events

Alternative Economic Seminar

9th November, 10am - 4pm

United Reformed Church, Hardwick Square East, Buxton

A day of talks and workshops led by experts hosted by Transition Buxton. Addressing questions like: Why is the economy in such a mess? Is perpetual growth essential? Can it be sustainable? Looking at possible solutions such as: Zero Growth, Steady State Strategy, Participatory Budgeting and Local Currencies FREE but we accept donations. Refreshments provided, 'bring and share' lunch. More information or to reserve a place call 07769 627133

www.transitionbuxton.co.uk

Film: Project Wild Thing

8th – 14th November, 8:45pm each day

Broadway Cinema, Nottingham

Filmmaker David Bond thinks Mother Nature needs a helping hand in getting his children's attention away from the powerful competing demands of the modern world. With no previous marketing experience, he decides to appoint himself the Marketing Director for Nature. Enlisting the help of marketing experts and with zero budget, he sets out to convince apathetic consumers, including his own family, of the benefits of this amazing, free, wonder product.

www.broadway.org.uk/events/film_project_wild_thing

Film: Chasing Ice

14th November, 7pm

Friends Meeting House, Nottingham

Organised by The Nottingham Greenpeace network and the Co-op

Photographer James Bolog was uncertain about climate change but after using revolutionary time lapse photography in the Canadian Arctic he changed his mind. This beautiful film compresses into hours what is happening in months and years. This is the biggest problem facing humanity and this film will leave you breathless. The film will be followed by a talk by Colin Baines, campaigns manager for the Co-op and a Q&A session. Drinks and nibbles will be served. The event is free but you do need to register a seat, You can do this online <http://s.coop/1thu8> or phoning 01908 361500.

Fracking - Film Screening and Q&A

18th November, Door open 7pm. Film begins 7:30pm

The Maze, Mansfield Road, Nottingham

There's a lot of information out there, and most of us are really new to the notion of Fracking. This event aims to clue everyone up. 7pm Doors Open, 7.30 - 8 Half hour clip of Gasland II, 8 - 8.30 Q&A asking everything you might want to know, 9 - close

Promised Land Film Screening (trailer: www.youtube.com/watch?v=163o3JAIZ98)

Transition Wirksworth Discussion Group

- Thursday 21st November 7.30pm - film 'Even the Rain' (contribution to the cost of buying the DVD is requested (around £11, NOT from Amazon!))
- Thursday 19th December 7.30pm - book 'Cancel the Apocalypse' by Andrew Simms

Please email suecoopernewmills@hotmail.com if you are coming to either of the meetings.

Tree Planting Events

23rd November, Allestree Park

30th November, Macworth Park

30th November, Lea Valley Woods, Dronfield

Organised by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

These are all-day drop-in events and the Trust need as many people as possible to join in and plant trees at each site. No experience is necessary and all the family are welcome - come along and help us!

01773 881188 / enquiries@derbyshirewt.co.uk

Nottingham Fixers Meeting

25th November, 7pm

Rosy Lees, Broad Street, Nottingham

Nottingham Fixers is Nottingham's answer to a repair cafe, held once a month at Sneinton Market. The project aims to fix people's broken items for them and teaches people how to fix them themselves. The project is now looking for people to push it forwards and this meeting will look at creating a steering group and going over health and safety, legality, and managing volunteers. Volunteers are also required for setting up the stall and talking to the public at the monthly events. All volunteers are eligible to sign up to the Skills Exchange, gaining time credits for however many hours they donate their time to. To find out more email info@nottinghamfixers.co.uk

Awards For All Workshop

Community Action, 4 Charnwood Street, Derby

26th November 2013, 10.30am – 12.30pm (registration at 10.15am)

Matt Rowe from the BIG Lottery will be delivering a workshop aimed at those voluntary organisations that are already in the process of applying for funding or who are thinking about applying. The aim of this free workshop is to give an overview of the new Awards For All programme and to increase understanding of what makes an application fundable, common errors made and how to avoid them, issues BIG considers when assessing applications so that applicants can maximise their chances of success, and which applications should be directed to a different Lottery distributor

To reserve a place contact Abigail.steanson@communityactionderby.org.uk or 01332 227710.

Transition Café

Strutts Centre, Derby Road, Belper
27th November, 7:30pm-9:40pm (arrive from 7pm)
Organised by Transition Chesterfield and Transition Belper

A get-together of individuals, grassroots groups and other organisations in the area who are aiming to create more sustainable, low impact communities. Come and be inspired by what others are doing and find out how we can support each other.

Participants will be invited to talk for five minutes about their group, what their aims are and what would help them to achieve them. If you prefer you can attend without talking. If you can't attend you can forward information about your group or activities to be read out for you. There will also be a chance to chat with other participants over drinks, Feel free to bring a cake to share if you would like to.

For more information: hello@transitionchesterfield.org.uk / 01246 566598 / 07715 109210.

Know Your Green Deal Loan and Your ECO Subsidy

7-9pm, 28th November (date provisional, but hoping it will not change!)
Jesse Gray School Hall, Musters Rd, West Bridgford, NG2 7DD (also provisional)
Organised by Transition West Bridgford's Eco House Group and the Energy Saving Co-operative.

If your house can't have cavity wall insulation, did you know (a) it can be insulated and (b) there is a government scheme to subsidise the cost, regardless of your income. An evening of short presentations and surgeries - the chance to talk 1:1 with a number of experts in home energy efficiency. For householders and community representatives who want to take this information back to their communities.

Presentations will include:

- **The Green Deal Loan.** Is it the best deal? What energy saving options will save me money fastest?
- **The ECO subsidy.** Did you know that if your home can't have cavity wall insulation, you could get subsidised External or Internal Wall Insulation (and other linked improvements)? And you do not need to be on benefits - this is for anyone.
- **Energy efficiency and having a healthy house** - how to do both.

To book your free place, email wbecohouses@gmail.com or tina.holt@energysaving.coop

Community Buildings Away Day

30 Nov 2013, 10am – 3pm
Hulland Ward Millennium Village Hall, Dog Lane, Hulland Ward, DE6 3EH

The Away Day is an ideal opportunity for community hall managers to increase their knowledge and understanding on a range of topical issues including energy best deals, the Green Deal and the Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities Programme, amongst other non-environmental topics. Delegates will also have the opportunity to pose questions to speakers on matters affecting their hall. The event is also a great networking opportunity whereby delegates get to hear about what happens at other halls, the issues they face and possibly learn how they were resolved.

Book your place: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/8850202193

Contact Helena Stubbs at [Rural Action Derbyshire](http://www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk) for further details.

Sharing Sherwood Meeting

7th December, 10:30am

Sam Hall Pub

Transition Sherwood is on the lookout for new volunteers to help deliver Sharing Sherwood, a monthly cafe cooking up food that would have otherwise been thrown away. To find out more come along to this meeting or email info@transitionsherwood.org.uk

Awards for All Workshop

10am-12pm, 11 December 2013

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Are you looking for money to run a new community project or to buy new equipment? Awards for All is the Big Lottery's quick and easy way to get grants of between £300 and £10,000. This briefing will talk you through what Awards for All will and won't fund, and how to approach the application form. Shylet Mudzamiri from BIG Lottery will lead this workshop. Book a place: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/9044043979
Alternatively, contact Susan Meech on 01636705447 or email focusonfunding@gmail.com

Potato Day

25th January

The Pavements, Chesterfield (exact location to be confirmed nearer the time)

Pre-order your seed potatoes from this popular event now and pay less than on the day: <http://potatoday.wordpress.com/>

Low Carbon Schools Conference

7th March 2014

National College for Teaching and Leadership, Nottingham

Organised by Climate East Midlands and several Local Authorities

This event will explore what a low carbon school means in practice and why it's a desirable goal from a financial, educational and environmental perspective. Talks will include 'making it happen' and 'keeping the momentum going', 'approaching new build', 'improving old school buildings', 'using technologies' and 'financing energy

projects'. Schools from across the region will be sharing their experiences, including pioneers like Silverhill Primary, Derby and Edwalton Primary, Nottinghamshire.

Speakers include Brian Owens, Headteacher at Edwalton Primary School in Nottinghamshire and Morgan Phillips, the new Education Manager for Eco-Schools.

www.climate-em.org.uk/events/item/low-carbon-school-conference/

B. Local News

Buy Shares in Your Local Common

There's still time to buy shares in a exciting new local woodland project: but only if you're quick. Whistlewood Common, situated between Melbourne and Ticknall in Derbyshire, will feature fruit and nut tree and berries, alongside lots of wildlife friendly projects. Melbourne Area Transition, the community group behind the project, recently held its first event to celebrate purchasing the land. The event involved a bring-and-share picnic, the unveiling of the Whistlewood Yurt and a 'beating of the bounds'. Great fun was had by all. The share offer for the project closes on the 8th November 2013 so check out the website now if you want to be involved:

www.whistlewoodcommon.org.

Age UK Notts Make Winter Warmer for the Elderly

A £17,500 grant from E.ON will enable Age UK Notts, to help older people in Gedling, Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Nottingham City to keep warm and well this winter. The funding will allow the Charity to provide 150 free benefits advice sessions and 125 energy efficiency checks. These checks will help to maximise income, reduce energy consumption and lower spending on energy bills during the most difficult months for vulnerable older people. The scheme is open from now until March on a first come, first served basis. To find out more about how you could benefit from free energy efficiency checks call Age UK Notts on **0115 952 3509** or call **0115 844 0011** for benefits advice sessions.

Winter Is On Its Way – Are You Ready?

Rushcliffe CVS Housing Choices service provides information about discounted energy saving measures including insulation and replacement boilers. The service is free and confidential and is open to people over 50 and to families with children under 14 on certain means-tested benefits. For more information please contact housing@rushcliffecvs.org.uk or telephone 0115 969 9060 ext 106.

Wirksworth Pollinator Garden

Transition Wirksworth have teamed up with St James Arts Centre and New Mills School to create a pollinator garden at St James'. The garden's aim is to make the area beautiful and provide food for bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects. New Mills School produced a design and a planting day in May involve students, staff and volunteers. Future plans may include planting a dwarf apple tree, spring

bulbs, climbing plants and lavender. If anyone would like to help maintain the garden please get in touch with the group: www.transitionnewmills.org.

Emergency Oil Filled Radiator Service

Nottinghamshire County Council's 'Keep Warm this Winter' campaign is supplying emergency oil filled radiators to households at risk this winter due to cold housing. The scheme begins on **18 November 2013**. The criteria for families applying for the service:

- People aged 60 or over
- People with a disability
- People living with a long term condition specifically though not exclusively cardiac/stroke, lung, kidney disease
- Families on a low income defined as on a means-tested benefit

If you, or someone you know, need this service telephone **0300 500 80 80** and discuss your needs. www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/keep-warm/

C. National News

Green Open Homes

Green Open Homes is a new national network that the Centre for Sustainable Energy is running with Bristol Green Doors to support low carbon open homes events across the country. The networks website features help for local groups to prepare, run and publicise open homes events that focus on low carbon improvements. Groups running such an event are able to create their own page on the site to help promote their event.

Group who want to run an open homes event can apply for funding of up to £20,000 along with expert advice and support. For more information and an application form: www.greenopenhomes.net

FUNDING: Lottery: Reaching Community Buildings

The buildings strand of Reaching Communities provides funding for land and buildings projects costing more than £100,000. It can also provide revenue funding to help to get the building running and deliver project activities.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/reaching-communities-buildings-england

COMMUNITY RENEWABLES: Four Projects to Invest In

Four current share offers for renewable projects:

- Wedmore Solar, this project has already been built: <http://wedmorecpc.co.uk>
- Llangattock Green Valleys Micro Hydro, Wales first hydro-coop: www.llangattockgreenvalleys.org

- Dingwall Wind Co-op's, Scotland's first 100% co-op owned wind turbine: <http://dingwallwind.org.uk>
- JCC Community Woodheat: Aiming to heat an entire school with locally sourced woodchip in Leicestershire: www.microgenius.org.uk/project/jcc-community-woodheat-10 / <http://greenfoxcommunityenergy.coop>

Energy Saving: It's a Social Thing

With energy bills rising again and the winter approaching, researchers from Keele University have found a positive way of helping householders to keep their energy costs down and houses warm. The *Reducing Energy Consumption through Community Knowledge Networks* (RECCKN) project team, which worked with households for two years on low-cost and low-tech approaches to saving energy, found that consumers are sceptical of the commercial motives of the Big Six energy companies, and are much more likely to trust advice that comes from friends, family, local companies and organisations, and the third sector.

Face-to-face discussion helps to cut through the often confusing range of offers and information with which consumers are bombarded, and the chance to ask questions provides the detailed advice and reassurance often absent from leaflets and other forms of written advice. As one householder commented, 'It's a minefield out there, so you end up doing nothing because there is so much choice'.

Project participants, including those from local communities, have contributed to a short video about their findings: www.recckn.org.uk/videos.htm.

Support Fowey Community Wind Project

Fowey Renewable Energy Enterprise has applied for planning consent for single 50kW community-owned wind turbine at Penhale in Cornwall. YOU can express your support on the Cornwall Council planning portal: <http://bit.ly/17784UI> or emailing: planning@cornwall.gov.uk. Please include the reference: PA13/06802 – Endurance turbine community owned'.

RESOURCE: Solar Microgen Database

Sheffield Solar is offering solar PV owners a free monthly performance analysis in return for donating the generation data to the Microgen Database. This analysis can identify any issues with the performance of your PV installations. The aim is to collect information about domestic installations across the UK and thus create better predictions on potential solar PV performance on new sites. If you have an installation your home or a community building you can input the details: www.microgen-database.org.uk.

FUNDING: Community Generation Fund

This fund provides development loans and construction loans to social enterprises which have identified the development and ownership for renewable energy assets as a way to increase revenues to help them continue to do work in their communities. The fund is particularly interested in talking with community groups who have achieved planning consents but are finding it challenging to progress due to

gaps in the funding markets, perhaps because of the size of the project or limitations on how much money can be raised by the community. <http://bit.ly.15ZXmhE>

FUNDING: Community Action Award

A scheme from National Energy Action (NEA) is offering up to £3500 to those working to tackle fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency in their communities. 15 awards will be made to organisations that demonstrate innovative approaches to tackling fuel poverty amongst vulnerable people, hard-to-reach groups and those in rural areas. The deadline is 14th February 2014. <http://bit.ly/GOT7wo>

RESOURCE: Community Shares Guidance

The Community Shares Unit are developing guidance for community enterprises and advisers supporting community share offers. This will take the form of an evolving Community Shares Handbook.

They are holding three events to consult on the handbook and show case some best practice guidance.

- Manchester, 7th November, 9:30-16:30, <http://bit.ly/l9Yrx6e>
- London, 21st November, 1pm-4pm, <http://bit.ly/17dLCeE>
- Bristol, 26th Nov, 1pm-4pm, <http://bit.ly/1deaq7w>

Materials for Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation for Sustainable Communities is a project from Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute. Materials for workshops they have run, and findings from their research are available on their website:

www.geog.ox.ac.uk/research/technologies/projects/monitoringandevaluation_HEIF_summary_report.pdf

National News in Brief

Sign a petition asking the government to make homes more energy efficient: www.energybillrevolution.org/

We've lost confidence in tariff switching: www.cse.org.uk/news/view/1773.

A two page summary of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report: www.ipcc.ch/news_and_events/docs/ar5/ar5_wg1_headlines.pdf

Research into how prepared cities are for climate change:

www.ncl.ac.uk/ceser/researchprogramme/integratedsystems/demonstrationcities/climatechange/preparednessofukurbanareas/

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.

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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.