

## Community Climate Action Email December 2014

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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.

### Highlights This Month:

Christmas is a wonderful time of year, but it can also be very expensive and lead to lots of waste! Fortunately we have some top tips for a Greener Christmas.

- Sustainable Hayfield have produced 20 [Going Greener for Xmas Tips](#)
- Love Food Hate Waste have lots of tips to save waste in the kitchen and they've packed them into a [handy advent calendar](#)
- Friends of the Earth have produced [25 eco-friendly Christmas tips](#)
- A great guide to [green christmas decorations](#)

### Win a Book About the Environment by a Local Author!

There's still time to recommend this newsletter to someone and be entered into a prize draw to win a copy of [The Astronaut, The Cake and Tomorrow](#) by Nottinghamshire-based author Matt Sisson. Anyone signing up to receive the newsletter before 28<sup>th</sup> December will have the chance to win one of three copies of the book. If they provide your name as the person who recommended the newsletter to them then they'll be entered too: [www.everybodys-talking.org/newsletter-sign](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/newsletter-sign).

### Get news throughout the month:

[www.everybodys-talking.org](http://www.everybodys-talking.org)

Twitter: @CCANNetwork

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ccan.network](http://www.facebook.com/ccan.network)

### Got Any News?

Most of the items in this newsletter are contributed by readers. If you have anything you'd like us to include in the December e-newsletter please send it to us by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December: [ccan@mea.org.uk](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk)

You can also submit information about events via our [website](#)

## A. Local Events

### Community Rules OK

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30pm

Friends Meeting House, Chapel Row, Bakewell

Organised by Bakewell Quakers

Following from Bakewell's Green Festival earlier this year, which was attended by more than 4000 people, Bakewell Quakers are organising a series of evening events. This one will explore community action. From local shops to allotments, house building and much more - this is a meeting to encourage each other, inform each other and build a united front.

[www.bakewellquakers.org](http://www.bakewellquakers.org)

### **ADVyCE Project Meeting**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30pm  
St Anne's Church Hall, Ambergate

An open meeting to discuss progress on a community-owned hydro project at Ambergate. There will be an update on feasibility work completed so far.

[www.advvyce.co.uk](http://www.advvyce.co.uk)

### **Derbyshire Climate Change Charter Launch**

12<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am-1pm  
Derbyshire Eco Centre, Middleton-by-Wirksworth, DE4 4LS

Derbyshire County Council would like to cordially invite you to the formal launch of the Derbyshire Climate Change Charter (2014-19). This exciting document has been developed in conjunction with the Derbyshire Partnership Forum and will form the basis of on-going action to mitigate and adapt to climate change across the whole county. The half day event will see the Charter formally introduced and a short PR launch, followed by a number of workshops and lunch. The full agenda can be found [online](#).

To book a place email: [climate.change@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:climate.change@derbyshire.gov.uk) with an indication of which two workshops you would like to attend and any dietary requirements.

### **Sumac Centre Winter Fair**

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm-6pm  
Sumac Centre, 245 Gladstone street, Nottingham NG7 6HX

Winter Fair with handmade gifts from local crafts people, plus food from Veggies. On sale: patchwork, preserves, candles, jewellery, poi, flower sticks, prints, winter festival decorations, bags, cards, craft packs, glassware, plaques, soaps and much more!

[www.facebook.com/events/1539919769582836/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1539919769582836/)

### **Frack Free Nottinghamshire Christmas Party**

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm  
Fade & The Hard to Find Cafe, Mansfield Rd, Nottingham

Following a fantastic year of campaigning in Nottinghamshire the group are organising a party to celebrate.

[www.facebook.com/events/302083216667300/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/events/302083216667300/?fref=ts)

### **Hockerton Housing Project Tour**

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm-6pm

Nr Hockerton

£20 (£15 for students, £55 for a family, Hockerton residents: free, NG25 residents: £2.50)

Tour a self-sufficient co-housing development. See inside one of five earth-sheltered homes, tour the grounds and find out how the householders generate their own clean energy, grow most of their own food, harvest our own water and recycle waste materials.

[www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk](http://www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk)

### **Foundation Derbyshire Funding Appointments**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 10am – 3.00pm

The Granville Centre, Long Eaton

An opportunity to meet with the foundation if you would like to bid for funding from them. Book a 20-30 minutes appointment: [stella@erewashcvs.org.uk](mailto:stella@erewashcvs.org.uk)

[www.foundationderbyshire.org](http://www.foundationderbyshire.org)

### **Public Ownership For Railways Protest**

5<sup>th</sup> Jan, 7am-7pm

The following train stations: Derby, Nottingham, Sheffield, Burton

A call for the railways to be brought back into public ownership.

[www.thepeoplesassembly.org.uk/public\\_ownership\\_for\\_railways\\_protest](http://www.thepeoplesassembly.org.uk/public_ownership_for_railways_protest)

Contact [peterfrobinson@ntlworld.com](mailto:peterfrobinson@ntlworld.com) from Derby Climate Coalition

### **Rich World-Poor World**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

Friends Meeting House, Chapel Row, Bakewell

Organised by Bakewell Quakers

Following from Bakewell's Green Festival earlier this year, which was attended by more than 4000 people, Bakewell Quakers are organising a series of evening events. Is charity enough? A look at economic systems which shows how we can encourage the rich world to downsize and the poor world to upsize in order to build a fairer world. Changing goals!

[www.bakewellquakers.org](http://www.bakewellquakers.org)

### **Hand Held Bouquet Workshop**

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> January, 10am-1pm

£25 (£20 per person for students or for a group of three or more)

Learn how to create a beautiful hand-tied bouquet to take home or give as a gift. We will take you through selecting your flowers and foliage, and preparing them to keep them fresher for longer, before learning the stem spiralling technique to build a beautiful domed bouquet. The ticket price includes materials for making a bouquet to

take home with you, and home-made refreshments. Homemade soup and bread lunch available for an extra £5.00.

[www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk](http://www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk)

### **Derbyshire Eco Centre Courses**

Jan- Feb 2015

Middleton-by-Wirksworth

Courses coming up in January and February 2015 include Permaculture Design Certificate, Introduction to Beekeeping, Family Bird Boxes Using Recycled Materials, Explore Renewable Energy, Organic Gardening and Introduction to Green Homes.

[www.ecocentreexchange.org.uk](http://www.ecocentreexchange.org.uk)

### **Sumac Sewing Club**

Fortnightly, 12:30pm-5:30pm

Sumac Centre, 245 Gladstone street, Nottingham NG7 6HX

A fortnightly gathering for pattern cutting, dressmaking, general sewing, clothing, household, crafts, alterations & mending.

[www.veggies.org.uk/event.php?ref=71](http://www.veggies.org.uk/event.php?ref=71)

## **B. Local News**

### **New Opportunity to Invest in Local Hydro Project**

Local people have a rare opportunity to invest in a community-owned renewable energy project thanks to a new share offer from Torrs Hydro. Generating clean, green electricity since 2008, Torrs Hydro has been heralded as a shining example of what can be achieved through co-operative working. It is located in the Torrs Riverside Park in New Mills, Derbyshire. To date, it has generated over 880,000 KWh which is equivalent to over 380 Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. The owner of the hydro-electric scheme is a volunteer run Community Benefit Society, a co-op, with around 230 members. The society took out a bank loan, as well as selling shares, to enable Torrs Hydro to build the hydro scheme. Now members want to sell more shares to raise money to pay off the balance of the loan. Paying off the loan early will release more funding for the local community.

New shareholders can invest as little as £250. Once this share offer ends opportunities to buy shares in this scheme are likely to be few. An 'Invitation to Invest' document is available online: [www.torrshydro.org](http://www.torrshydro.org), by email: [secretary@torrshydro.org](mailto:secretary@torrshydro.org), or by telephone (answering machine): 01663 898070.

### **Design a Frack Free Notts Christmas Card**

Frack Free Nottinghamshire are looking for a design for a Christmas card. Send yours to: [frackfreenotts@gmail.com](mailto:frackfreenotts@gmail.com)

### **Thermal Imaging Available in Belper**

Belper households have the opportunity to take advantage of Transition Belper's Thermal Imaging Service this winter. If you would like to find out where your home may be leaking heat contact the group: [info@transitionbelper.org](mailto:info@transitionbelper.org)

## **Energy mentor offer for community projects**

Hockerton Housing Project, a Nottinghamshire-based project, is delighted to join a new community energy mentoring service, adding to our range of advice services. The scheme will match existing and new community energy groups to mentors on the basis of the type of project and location, and there's a great range of experience to learn from.

[www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/2014/11/energy-mentoring-service](http://www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/2014/11/energy-mentoring-service)

## **Are smart tickets the way forward?**

Fed up of having multiple tickets and passes for journeys around Nottinghamshire with different operators? Then have your say on whether Nottinghamshire should introduce integrated 'smart tickets'. Survey closes 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

## **Grants Available to Plant Trees in Nottinghamshire**

Greenwood Community Forest is offering schools and community groups advice and up to £250 to help them plant trees in schools and publicly accessible land in the Mansfield, Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood, Gedling and Broxtowe areas of Nottinghamshire. The theme for this year's grant is 'Trees for Shade' as planting trees is one way of dealing with the adverse effects of climate change – a 10% increase in tree cover can significantly reduce temperatures in an urban area.

Deadline: 12<sup>th</sup> December. Application form: [greenwood@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:greenwood@nottsc.gov.uk)

## **Belper wins Great British High Street**

Belper has won the Great British High street 'Market Town' and 'Winner of Winners' awards. The judges were impressed with the way the whole community uses the High Street. Transition Belper's Totally Locally Belper project played an important parts in the competition entry. Ian Jackson, a Transition Belper member, will be attending a prize giving at Westminster on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Derbyshire Pilots National Love Food, Hate Waste Resource**

Derbyshire Adult Community Education Services (DACES) has piloted a new resource designed to help people cut down on food waste. 'Save More' was piloted in early 2014 with young mums, the unemployed and those with lower levels of literacy and numeracy in the Derbyshire area. It has been produced by the Love Food Hate Waste campaign and is now available nationally.

DACE was one of just 17 organisations across England, Scotland and Wales to pilot the material earlier this year before it was rolled out nationally. 97% of those taking part in the pilot said they would use at least some of what they had learnt at home.

The 'Save More' resource is now available for download for use in your community: <http://england.lovefoodhatewaste.com/content/love-food-hate-waste-save-more-1>

### **Nottinghamshire Top Tips To Keep Warm This Winter**

Nottinghamshire County Council has lots of information online to help you keep warm in your home this winter, including energy efficiency advice.

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/keep-warm/](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/keep-warm/)

### **Wirksworth's French Twin Holds Eco Event**

Die, the French town twinned with Wirksworth, is holding a number of green talks and other events as part of its Ecologie au Quotidien (Ecology Daily) event in January and February 2015. Topics include climate and growing local. Wirksworth residents are invited to take part by either travelling to the event France or in some other way from a distance. Anyone wishing to know more can contact Alastair Clark [alastairclark@yahoo.com](mailto:alastairclark@yahoo.com)

### **Rural Community Energy Fund**

Village hall and community building committees can access help with applying for Rural Community Energy Funding from Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN). If you're interested in installing solar panels on your building then funding is available. Contact Rob Crowder, RCAN Chief Executive, for more information: [rcrowder@rcan.org.uk](mailto:rcrowder@rcan.org.uk)

### **Become a Nature Reserve Volunteer**

There are five nature reserves in the Amber Valley area and the 'Friends' groups who look after them are looking for new volunteers. The groups are made up of local people who get involved in the management of these sites through meetings, practical work, surveying, events and walks. Activities include planting trees, shrubs, bulbs, hedgerow laying, improving access points and footpaths, creating wildlife habitats, clearing shrubs, establishing wildflowers.

To apply contact Amber Valley CVS: 01773 512076

### **Recycling of Unused Medicines Begins in Wirksworth**

Wirksworth residents can now pass on surplus medicines to rural health centres in the poorest countries in Africa by taking them to Hannage Brook Medical Centre. The medicines will be passed to charity Inter Care. The practice will take any medicines with at least 15 months before expiry and in complete strips in the original pack. Nationally over 1200 GP practices are now registered for this scheme. Last year Inter Care sent off nearly £700,000 worth of vital aid to those who can't afford to buy it. Until this year any surplus medicines in Wirksworth could only be disposed of in landfill or by incineration.

### **BESPOKE Grants Available to Derby City SMEs**

Free advice and grants of up to £5000 to help pay for measures that cut costs, save energy and reduce CO2 emissions are available to businesses in Derby until the end of December 2014. The project is keen to hear from businesses engaged in manufacturing, engineering and business-to-business services. Whilst retail businesses are not eligible for this grant, the BESPOKE project can still provide free advice on how to save on energy costs.

[www.derby.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-change-and-energy-management/bespoke/](http://www.derby.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-change-and-energy-management/bespoke/)

## C. National News

### **FUNDING: £10 Million Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF) Launches**

The Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF) is a £10m fund to kick-start renewable energy generation projects in urban communities across England. Grants of up to £20,000 are available for the early stages of a project's development, such as public consultation and preliminary viability studies. UCEF will also provide loans of up to £130,000 to develop planning applications and a robust business case to attract further investment.

The fund is being administered by a partnership between CSE and Pure Leapfrog – a charity that has supported over 100 community projects with either finance or investment readiness support. UCEF is a counterpart to the [Rural Community Energy Fund \(RCEF\)](#) launched in summer 2013. Between the two, a project anywhere in England could be eligible for finance.

[www.gov.uk/urban-community-energy-fund](http://www.gov.uk/urban-community-energy-fund)

### **EVENT: Urban Community Energy Fund**

Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am-4pm

Directory For Social Change, London, NW1 2DP

CSE and Pure Leapfrog are running a free one-day surgery for community groups, which aims to get them ready to make an application to the Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF) (see above item). The event will offer access to a range of experts as well as more general information sessions on the fund and support available.

To register: [www.cse.org.uk/projects/view/1249](http://www.cse.org.uk/projects/view/1249)

### **PROJECT: Join the Big Energy Race**

Community groups are invited to join the Big Energy Race starting in January 2015. Register as teams and undertake energy-saving challenges. The more challenges completed, the more points you'll earn and the better chance you'll have of winning the race – and there's great prizes for the best teams and team members! To register your interest visit [www.bigenergyrace.org](http://www.bigenergyrace.org).

[www.facebook.com/bigenergyrace](http://www.facebook.com/bigenergyrace) / Twitter [@bigenergyrace](https://twitter.com/bigenergyrace)

## **FUNDING: The 10 Minute Fund**

Fund My Venture will be providing £100 grants via a 10 minute application process on an annual basis, distributing some of its profits to social organisations across England. We want to make it easier and quicker for organisations to apply for small grants; hence we set up the 10MinuteFund! This first fund has a total value of £2,000. Deadline: 14<sup>th</sup> December.

[www.fundmyventure.co.uk/10minutefund](http://www.fundmyventure.co.uk/10minutefund)

## **RESEARCH: Case Studies sought for ‘Community Organisations and Household Energy’ Project**

Are you involved in or aware of any projects run by community groups or voluntary sector organisations that use home visits to support householders to carry out energy efficiency measures? This could mean “Green Doctor” schemes, volunteer-run energy audits, home visits for the elderly that incorporate energy saving advice, householders helping or advising each other, or much more.

Researchers at De Montfort University are working with the Chesshire-Lehmann fund to map what activity is taking place across the country, and to explore the impacts of these projects (on energy efficiency or otherwise), how these projects are set up and resourced, and how local and national government can best support this work. They are looking for 12 projects to explore in more detail and are interested in hearing about as many projects as possible (big or small, urban or rural, on-going or no longer running).

Contact Dr Andrew Reeves at De Montfort University on [areeves@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:areeves@dmu.ac.uk) or 0116 250 6569 with some details about the project and contact details. More information about the research: [www.dmu.ac.uk/cohe](http://www.dmu.ac.uk/cohe).

## **News in Brief**

- [Derbyshire Residents Left out of Pocket by Energy Firms](#)
- [Petition to allow the Creation of Renewable Energy Co-ops](#)
- [The hottest year ever in pictures](#)
- [Highlights from the Lima Climate Change talks](#)
- [73% want a global deal on climate change](#)

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