

Community Climate Action Email December 11

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.

Did you know that around 300 people subscribe to this e-newsletter? If you know someone who would appreciate receiving it why not forward this edition to them and ask them to email ccan@mea.org.uk to subscribe to future editions (they should use the title 'subscribe' and include their name, email address and the name of any climate change community group they belong to). It helps us if each reader subscribes individually as we then know how many people are reading the newsletter.

From the Editor....

It's been three weeks since solar PV panels were installed on my home and I'm already addicted to checking the meter when it's sunny to see how much it generates! If you'd like to find out more about installing renewables on your own home and/or helping others in your community do the same then why not come to the free CCAN workshop in February in Derby: www.everybodys-talking.org/workshop-introduction-renewable-energy-your-home (or see article in Section A). It's open to anyone living in Derbyshire or Nottinghamshire (including the two cities).

Whilst looking for a Secret Santa present for a cyclist I recently came across a list of innovative presents: see Section D.

I hope you all enjoy the festive season and our next newsletter will be delivered to your inbox in January.

Contents:

A. Local Events

Chesterfield Potato Day 2012
Low Energy Homes on Show Exhibition
Workshop: Introduction to Renewable Energy for Your Home
Study Tour: Creative Home Energy Project
Tool Sharpening Course

B. Local News

Transition Chesterfield Need Your Plant Cuttings
Community Buying Scheme for Heating Oil in Nottinghamshire
Presentations from Engaging Communities in Low Carbon Planning Events
Biomass Power Station on site of Former M1 Cooling Towers

C. National News and Events

Funding Available for Community Buildings
Want a Car Share Scheme in Your Town?
Energy Share Awards Made
Risks of No Action on Climate Change
Help with Fuel Poverty

UK Provides £1 Billion to Tackle Climate Change in Developing Countries
Plans to Include Air Travel in Emissions Trading Scheme
Interactive Maps on Fuel Poverty, Renewables and Insulation

D. And Finally....

Find a Present for a Cyclist
If you've read this far....

A. Local Events

Chesterfield Potato Day 2012

28th January 2012

The Pavements Shopping Centre, Chesterfield, 10am-2pm

Organised by Transition Chesterfield.

Deadline for pre-orders: 10th December

For more information: food@transitionchesterfield.org.uk

A chance to buy your seed potatoes (and onions, garlic and shallots) and raise money for Transition Chesterfield at the same time. 44 varieties of potatoes will be available. It is advisable to pre-order using the form at the link below. This will mean that you get a reduced price and are more likely to get the varieties you want. Helpers are also need to pack orders.

www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk/sites/default/files/potato%20day%202012.pdf

'Low Energy Homes on Show' Exhibition

21st January 2012, Exhibition: 10am-1pm, Tours: afternoon

St Paul's Church, Bounday Road, West Bridgford

Organised by 'Eco Houses Under Construction' – a project of Transition West Bridgford

No need to book, but it will help with catering: info@wbecohouses.co.uk.

A free exhibition with information about a variety of eco houses including an internally insulated stone coach house, a typical solid wall brick house (super-insulated externally), a zero-carbon barn conversion and two local new builds.

From 10am until 1pm there will be displays and talks featuring each house. During the afternoon, there will be the chance to visit some of the houses featured and put questions to the home owners, architects, builders and product experts who worked on these projects.

www.wbecohouses.co.uk

XXXXXWorkshop: Introduction to Renewable Energy for Your Home

The Carriage Shop, Derby College

Thurs 2nd February, 6pm-9pm

Free to anyone living in Nottinghamshire or Derbyshire.

Book by emailing: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk

Organised by Marches Energy Agency. Funded by the Local Authorities Energy Partnership.

A chance to find out about more about:

- The different renewable technologies available for domestic buildings.
- How they work and which buildings they are suitable for.
- The costs and benefits (both environmental and financial) involved.
- The different funding options available.
- Community Bulk Purchase Schemes – how they work and how they could benefit you and your community.

www.everybodys-talking.org/workshop-introduction-renewable-energy-your-home

XXXXStudy Tour: Creative Energy Homes Project

University Of Nottingham

Wed 7th March 2012, 2pm-approx.3:30pm

Free to anyone living in Nottinghamshire or Derbyshire.

Book by emailing: caroline.harmon@mea.org.uk

Organised by Marches Energy Agency. Funded by the Local Authorities Energy Partnership.

A chance to visit four innovative energy efficient homes built for research purposes at the University of Nottingham. The project aims to stimulate sustainable design ideas and promote new ways of providing affordable, environmentally sustainable housing that are innovative in their design.

One home is a replica 1930's house, subsequently updated to show how retrofit measures can improve a home's energy efficiency. Another aims to be as eco friendly as possible, but also affordable. A third reflects an aim to build an energy efficient masonry home that can be mass produced. We will be able to go inside some of the houses and observe others from the outside.

www.everybodys-talking.org/study-tour-creative-energy-homes-project-0

Tool Sharpening Course

10th March 2012

Staunton Harold, Nr Ashby de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire

£70. Organised by Greenwood Days

A new course. Take your own tools along or use tools provided by the course organisers. Spend the day grinding, filing, sanding and sharpening all types of tools. Learn how to get the right bevel, sharpen and hone your tools to razor sharpness. A sharp tool is safer to use, uses less effort and gives a better finish.

www.greenwood-days.co.uk

B. Local News

Transition Chesterfield Need Your Plant Cuttings

Do you have healthy gooseberry or currant bushes or a healthy apple tree? Transition Chesterfield are looking for people living in the Chesterfield area who are willing to allow them to take cuttings from their gooseberries, black currants, red currants and white currants and, from mid-December, apple trees.

The group will plant the cuttings and look after them before finding places for them to be planted out in a year or two when they're bigger. The group are currently working with the local council and other local organisations to find land to plant food in. They need the plants to help them get going.

Instructions on taking cuttings can be found here:

www.gardenorganic.org.uk/todo_now/archive/nov/fruit_gard_now.php or email the group: and they'll see if they can help: food@transitionchesterfield.org.uk.

Community Buying Scheme for Heating Oil in Nottinghamshire

Householders in Nottinghamshire who heat their home using oil can benefit from a new bulk purchase scheme set up by Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN).

The scheme involves households, community buildings and businesses clubbing together to purchase their oil on the same day once a month, thus allowing them to access cheaper rates. A similar scheme in Oxfordshire scheme has saved members an average of 4p per litre on their fuel over the last year. Members can save also save on Red Diesel (1-2p per litre saving).

Orders are placed on the last Thursday of each month with deliveries being made approximately 5-7 days later. There is no need to order every month, and orders can be for as little as 500 litres.

Members placing an order in November paid 55.5p per litre compared with an average price that day of 61.5p per litre. The scheme has an annual membership fee of £20 for individuals (more for businesses and community buildings) to cover administration costs. Households should be able to save at least this much on their first order. A member can volunteer to act as a co-ordinator, collecting orders from others in their village and passing them on to RCAN. Anyone volunteering to do this will receive free membership.

Anyone wanting to take part in the scheme should contact: oil@rcan.org.uk / 01623 727600 or visit: www.rcan.org.uk/projectlist.php?id=35.

Presentations from Engaging Communities in Low Carbon Planning Events

Presentations from two community events delivered in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire in October are now available online. These events aimed to help communities understand and influence local planning decisions on renewable and low carbon developments in their areas. Guest speakers included Patrick Allcorn from DECC and representatives from local community renewable projects.

www.planningforclimatechange.org.uk/engaging-communities-in-low-carbon-planning-%e2%80%93-four-events-across-the-region/

Biomass Power Station on Site of Former M1 Cooling Towers

A biomass power station is to be built on the site of the famous former cooling towers close to the M21 flyover near Sheffield. Formerly used to generate power from coal, the site will now have a biomass power station which will use waste wood to provide energy to homes and businesses. The £120m renewable energy plant will be set near the site of the

old Tinsley Towers, adjacent to Meadowhall, and when operational will generate up to 30MW, enough to power 40,000 homes, by converting recycled waste wood into electricity.

<http://sheffieldsmyplanet.co.uk/news/2011/11/biomass-power-station-on-cooling-towers-site>.

IF YOU'VE READ THIS FAR.... HIT 'REPLY' AND LET US NOW. IT HELPS US TO FIND FUNDING TO KEEP PROVIDING THIS E-NEWSLETTER IF WE KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE READING IT. MANY THANKS.

C. National News

Funding Available for Community Buildings

The Community Sustainable Energy Programme (CSEP) has opened a new round of funding. It will accept applications for capital grants for heat generating technologies and energy efficiency measures on community buildings until 29th February 2012.

www.communitysustainable.org.uk

Want a Car Share Scheme in Your Town?

The National Energy Foundation is running an E-Car Club Pilot project on behalf of Sustainable Ventures. The aim of the project is to test the feasibility of implementing an electric car share scheme within selected communities across the UK. Initially six to eight communities will be selected to be surveyed. These will then be narrowed down to three to take part in the trial in the first half of 2012.

Anyone interested in taking part in the study, and potentially in the trial itself, should complete NEF's online survey www.nef.org.uk/e-carclub/survey.php.

www.nef.org.uk/e-carclub

Energy Share Awards Made

Four community groups have been awarded funding in the first round of the Energy Share scheme. Two hydro projects in Hexham and Shrewsbury, plus a photovoltaic project in Barnstaple and a wind project in Edinburgh, will receive funding to make their projects a reality. Almost 1000 groups applied in the first round with future rounds set to distribute millions of pounds.

www.energyshare.com

Risks of No Action on Climate Change

The results of a new scientific assessment on the physical impacts of climate change for more than 20 countries show that if greenhouse gas emissions are left unchecked global temperatures will rise between 3-5°C this century. This could be accompanied by significant changes in rainfall patterns, leading in many cases to increased pressure on crop production, water stress and flood risks.

It is generally accepted that to give ourselves the best chance of avoiding the worst impacts of climate change the rise in global temperature needs to be kept at below 2°C. The study shows that some of the most significant impacts of climate change could be reduced significantly if we do take action.

www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate-change/policy-relevant/obs-projections-impacts.

Help with Fuel Poverty

A new website can help you to work out if you are in fuel poverty and find assistance to get out of it. Turn to Us have developed a website which allows you to calculate if you are spending more than 10% of your income on fuel bills (the government's definition of fuel poverty), check you are receiving all benefits you are entitled to and search for grants toward energy efficiency improvements for your home.

<http://fuelpoverty.turn2us.org.uk>

UK Provides £1 Billion to Tackle Climate Change in Developing Countries

The UK has allocated more than two thirds of its Fast Start Finance, which is helping the poorest and most vulnerable to adapt to climate change, putting it well on track to meet its £1.5bn commitment by the end of 2012. Developed countries pledged to provide approaching \$30 billion of Fast Start Finance between 2010-12 at the Copenhagen climate talks in 2009, with the UK contributing £1.5bn.

Fast Start finance for 2011 and 2012 is funded from the UK government's £2.9bn International Climate Fund (ICF). The ICF aims to help developing countries tackle climate change and adapt to the effects of global warming. Projects include £150 million to fund the Clean Technology Fund which will support project such as low carbon public transport systems and promote energy efficiency in Nigeria. It is expected these projects will save 47 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn11_106/pn11_106.aspx

Plans to Include Air Travel in Emissions Trading Scheme

An advisor to the EU Court has said that plans to include any airline landing or take off on EU territory in an emissions trading scheme are legal. Juliane Kokott, Advocate General made the statement in response to a challenge from North American airlines initially made at a London court and then referred to the European Court of Justice. Whilst an official ruling will not be made until next year, the Advocate General's opinion will be followed in most cases until then. Aviation is estimated to account for 3% of total carbon dioxide emissions and yet airlines do not pay any tax on fuel.

UK Energy and Climate Change Minister, Greg Barker welcomed the opinion of the Court advisor: 'The aviation industry, in the same way as other industries, needs to play its part in reducing emissions.'

Interactive Maps on Fuel Poverty, Renewables and Insulation

The government has created interactive maps which show installations of domestic renewables and insulation, as well as incidence of fuel poverty and consumption of gas and electricity, by local authority level from 2006-2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/local_auth/interactive/interactive.aspx

D. And Finally...

Find a Present for a Cyclist:

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/gallery/2011/dec/05/1?intcmp=122#/?picture=382580841&index=0.

IF YOU'VE READ THIS FAR.... HIT 'REPLY' AND LET US NOW. IT HELPS US TO FIND FUNDING TO KEEP PROVIDING THIS E-NEWSLETTER IF WE KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE READING IT. MANY THANKS.

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.