

## Community Climate Action Email July 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.

### **STOP PRESS: Creative Energy Homes Project Tour a Success**

Yesterday 20 subscribers to this e-newsletter visited the Creative Energy Homes Project 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. When finished it will include seven houses. We visited a passive house and also two semi-detached homes – one of which meets Code for Sustainable Homes Level 6 and the other Level 4. We also saw from the outside a replica 1930's semi-detached home with cavity walls and heard about how it has subsequently been updated with insulation and the resulting change in energy use monitored.

Comments from those who attended included:

- *'I enjoyed meeting other people doing similar projects to mine, or improvements to their own homes.'*
- *'It was simply nice to see several examples on one site.'*
- *'It was useful seeing energy efficient devices in situ rather than just talking about them.'*

This tour was very popular and attracted a waiting list. **We are therefore considering organising a second tour to the project later this year. If you would be interested please let us know as we need to know if there is sufficient interest before making a booking: [ccan@mea.org.uk](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk).**

**Did you know that over 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](mailto: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.

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### **A. Local Events**

#### **CCAN Workshop: Domestic Energy Efficiency**

NEW DATE: Sat 13<sup>th</sup> August, 1pm-5pm  
Derbyshire Eco Centre, nr Wirksworth  
FREE. Pre-booking essential: 07748 508704 / [ccan@mea.org.uk](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk)  
A FEW PLACES LEFT

This workshop was due to take place in June but unfortunately was postponed due to staff sickness. It is now going to take place on 13<sup>th</sup> August giving you a chance to sign up if you haven't already (everyone who signed up for the original date still has a place).

This workshop will focus on the many options for making our homes more energy efficient and the best places to start. We will look at both physical measures and behavioural change. We will look at real examples of what others have done. We will also take a brief look at how to encourage others in your community to become more energy efficient.

#### **Low Carbon Planning Training Events**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, Matlock, Derbyshire (flier attached)  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, Newark, Nottinghamshire (flier attached)  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October, Corby, Northamptonshire  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October, Leicester  
All events: 9:30am-5:30pm  
All events: FREE, Places are limited and pre-booking is essential by contacting:  
[kirsty.mitchell@cse.org.uk](mailto:kirsty.mitchell@cse.org.uk).  
Organised by Marches Energy Agency and Centre for Sustainable Energy

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about community-owned renewables and meet planning officers from your area. The aims of these events is help you engage with local planning and low-carbon development, and understand how you can generate local energy. They will feature the **PlanLoCaL model**, a large-scale model of a town demonstrating how renewable energy technologies work, and the **PlanLoCaL films**, which include case studies and information on how to set up community-owned renewable

energy projects. There will be a **local keynote speaker** at each event to provide a local context and lots of **interactive activities**.

Sessions will focus on how communities can get involved in local plan making, different kinds of renewable energy technologies, climate change adaptation, community engagement, and funding issues. All community groups represented will receive a comprehensive handout pack, including DVDs.

### **Eco Houses Under Construction**

Sat 16th July, 12:3pm, West Bridgford

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 12:30pm, West Bridgford

Email [info@wbecohouses.co.uk](mailto:info@wbecohouses.co.uk) to book

This new community-led project offers a rare opportunity to see to see two homes in become more environmentally friendly in front of your eyes! Following the very successful Eco House Open Days previously advertised in this newsletter, Tina Holt and Julie Lygo, of Transition West Bridgford's Eco House Group, decided to organise a series of open house days with a difference. Julie's eco house is due to "arrive" on site, in the form of timber frame panels ready to assemble. Tina's 1950's brick house with no cavity walls or insulation of any sort is already firmly on site, but essential maintenance and extension work is due to start in July as well. In the next few months both houses will become well-insulated and highly energy efficient – the aim is to achieve at least Code for Sustainable Home Level 5 for the new build and to come close to EnerPHit (Passive House retrofit standard) for the refurbishment.

Tina and Julie are organising a series of open days when the eco features of these houses can be seen and discussed before they disappear beneath cladding and plaster. Experts will be brought in to explain the products installed and the methods used as the work progresses. Julie and Tina will be on hand to give a 'homeowner's view'.

On **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July** an architect will provide their perspective on designing an ultra-low energy refurbishment for a 1950's brick house of solid wall construction.

On **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** architect Mike Siebert of *Ecologic Homes Ltd.* will talk about designing a low cost, high code new build using a timber frame construction. The frame should be up by the date of the event. An expert from the building company, *EcoFrames Ltd.*, will be on hand to demonstrate how this timber frame construction will provide insulation, air tightness and thermal mass while minimising cold bridging. The windows should also be in place and a representative of *Benlowe Windows* will talk about the properties of triple glazed windows suitable for use in Code 5+ homes. If the roof is on as well, there will be the chance to learn about wood fibre sarking boards and Sandtoft 20/20 sustainable tiles.

Anyone wishing to reserve a place on either of these events should email [info@wbecohouses.co.uk](mailto:info@wbecohouses.co.uk). You will be added to the Eco House Group email list and to be first to receive details of the events as they are organised. To find out more about this project visit: [www.wbecohouses.co.uk](http://www.wbecohouses.co.uk).

### **Funding Surgery in Rushcliffe**

26th July 10.00am – 4.00pm (appointment only)

Rushcliffe CVS, Level 3a Bridgford House, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford, NG2 5GJ

To book an appointment, contact Focus on Funding on 0115 934 8405 or email [focusonfunding@nottinghamcvs.co.uk](mailto:focusonfunding@nottinghamcvs.co.uk).

Focus on Funding is coming to Rushcliffe with its popular Funding Surgeries. The surgeries are open to any voluntary and community group who need help securing funding. This is one-to-one, hands on practical support for your group. Focus on Funding can help you with completing application forms, finding new sources of funding and using Funding Central - the free online funding search website.

Further details: [www.focusonfunding.org.uk/funding/funding-surgeries](http://www.focusonfunding.org.uk/funding/funding-surgeries).

If you live in Rushcliffe and have any other questions about funding, contact Carolyn Perry: [cperry@rushcliffecvs.org.uk](mailto:cperry@rushcliffecvs.org.uk) / 0115 9699060 Ext 126 or Lindsay Knott: [lknott@rushcliffecvs.org.uk](mailto:lknott@rushcliffecvs.org.uk) / 0115 9699060 Ext 127.

If you don't live in Rushcliffe, but want help with funding, you can find details of your local CVS here: [www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-support/general-community-group-support](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-support/general-community-group-support).

### **THIS WEEKEND: Zero Carbon Britain 2030 and Strategies for Combating Climate Change**

9<sup>th</sup> July, 11am-4:30pm

Derby Roundhouse

Places are limited so please book early: [info@climatealliance.co.uk](mailto:info@climatealliance.co.uk) or 0787 6595993.

Regional workshop for activists in and on the edge of the climate movement. Speakers include Peter Harper from Centre for Alternative Technology, Peter Robinson from Climate Alliance and Phil Thornhill from CCC.

More info and events at [www.campaigncc.org/zcbdaypage](http://www.campaigncc.org/zcbdaypage).

### **NEXT WEEK: The Practicalities of Delivering Zero Carbon Homes**

14<sup>th</sup> July

Hockerton Housing Project

£60-200 (depending on income and organisation)

Learn design lessons from the people who have developed zero carbon, autonomous homes since 1995 and see zero carbon housing in action. Answer questions such as: When does triple glazing become critical? Should I consider whole house ventilation? What's lasted 10 years and what hasn't? **Anyone booking for this course will be eligible for a half price place on 'Harvesting Wind' (see below).**

Book here: [www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/SEFS/ID.2231/SEFE/ViewItem.asp](http://www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/SEFS/ID.2231/SEFE/ViewItem.asp).

### **Harvesting Wind for Community Groups and Farmers – a “how to do it” workshop**

29th September

Hockerton Housing Project

£60-200 (depending on income and organisation)

Learn how Hockerton's wind turbine reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and earns an income from the Feed-in-Tariff (FITS). This event will be of particular interest to community groups and

farmers wishing to install a wind turbine or a Photovoltaic (PV) Array to reduce carbon emissions and benefit from FITS.

Book here: [www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/SEFS/ID.3015/SEFE/ViewItem.asp](http://www.hockertonhousingproject.org.uk/SEFS/ID.3015/SEFE/ViewItem.asp)

### **Free Tour of Torrs Hydro Project**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1pm-3pm

New Mills, Derbyshire

FREE

Free tours of the first community-owned hydro project in Derbyshire will be available and staff will be on hand to answer questions.

### **Women's Cycling Open Day**

16<sup>th</sup> July & 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am-5pm both days

Sherwood Pines Forest Park – based around the visitor centre

Free. No need to book. Organised by CTC

More women are being urged to saddle up in Sherwood Pines Forest Park. Only a minority of riders using the network of trails in the beauty spot near Clipstone are female. To change that the Forestry Commission has linked up with CTC, the UK's national cyclists' organisation, to stage a Women's Cycling Open day.

On the Saturday people of all abilities or none can get basic coaching and expert advice from female tutors. The Sunday is a more advanced skill session aimed at those who already have some experience.

For more information contact Ian Jordan: 07917 177151 / [ian.jordan@ctc.org.uk](mailto:ian.jordan@ctc.org.uk) Bike hire is available for Sherwood Pines Bikes, or bring along your own.

## **B. Local News**

### **Melbourne Area Transition Launch Solar Buying Group**

Melbourne Area Transition has teamed up with local company Mainline Energy to set up a solar buying group which enables local residents to receive a rebate on the cost of their solar pv (electricity) installation if a number of local residents sign up to the scheme. Swadlincote-based Mainline Energy is also the chosen installer for the 10kW system for Melbourne Parish Church.

For full details of the scheme and how to participate visit:

<http://www.melbourntransition.org/what-can-i-do/solar-buying-group/>.

### **Online Case Studies Go Live**

Need inspiration? Look no further than the new case studies section on the Everybody's Talking About Climate Change website ([www.everybodys-talking.org](http://www.everybodys-talking.org)). There are now a number of case studies of climate change mitigation projects organised by community groups including Transition West Bridgford's Eco Home Group, Ollerton Eco Shop and work by Collingham 2020.

This section of the site was set up as a result of requests from those who subscribe to this e-newsletter. **The more community groups who offer case studies for the site, the more people will be able to benefit from the inspiration they provide.** If your group has run a project and you'd like us to feature it on the site, please contact us: [cgan@mea.org.uk](mailto:cgan@mea.org.uk) / 07748 508704. You don't have to write the case study yourself – we will take details and photos from you and create a case study.

### **New National Forest Cycling Centre**

The new £1.5 million Hicks Lodge National Forest Cycle Centre, near Ashby de la Zouch in Leicestershire, is now open. The centre, at the heart of The National Forest, features an eco-friendly visitor centre with café, bike hire, repair shop, showers, a wood-burning stove for chilly days, and eight miles of graded off-road trails.

[www.nationalforest.org/visit/index.php?control=main&action=location&LocationId=3297&BackToResults=1](http://www.nationalforest.org/visit/index.php?control=main&action=location&LocationId=3297&BackToResults=1)

### **The Future Factory: Eco Support for SMEs**

The Future Factory project at the Nottingham Trent University provides support to East Midlands' Businesses (from sole traders to businesses with up to 250 staff) with 12 hours free support to help make products, processes and marketing more environmentally friendly. This is normally achieved by providing workshops on a range of topics plus 1:1 consultancy and research direct to businesses, often using the University's own academics and students. The project can help with research and advise on areas such as product design, manufacturing processes, branding and marketing.

[www.ntu.ac.uk/futurefactory](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/futurefactory). Contact Adrian on [adrian.williams@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:adrian.williams@ntu.ac.uk).

## **C. National News**

### **Government Played Down Risks of Peak Oil**

The government has recently published a report – written in 2009 - on the risks and impacts of a potential future decline in oil production. It warned that there could be 'significant negative economic consequences' to the UK posed by near-term 'peak oil' energy shortages. It goes on to say that 'if peak oil happened before 2015, this would have significant negative economic consequences for some of the main importers of UK goods and services resulting in a negative impact on the UK.'

The Department for Environment and Climate Change (DECC) published the report after it was repeatedly threatened with forced disclosure by Freedom of Information requests, although DECC representatives claim they always intended to publish the document.

Read it here:

[www.decc.gov.uk/publications/basket.aspx?filetype=4&filepath=What+we+do%2fGlobal+climate+change+and+energy%2fInternational+energy%2fenergy+security%2f1790-decc-report-2009-oil-decline.pptx&minwidth=true#basket](http://www.decc.gov.uk/publications/basket.aspx?filetype=4&filepath=What+we+do%2fGlobal+climate+change+and+energy%2fInternational+energy%2fenergy+security%2f1790-decc-report-2009-oil-decline.pptx&minwidth=true#basket)

Article here: [www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jun/15/peak-oil-warning](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jun/15/peak-oil-warning).

## **Zero Carbon Britain Day**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Community groups are being invited to organise events as part of Zero Carbon Britain Day. Zero Carbon Britain is a publication by the Centre for Alternative Technology which presents one scenario for how the UK could thrive whilst having a zero-carbon economy by 2030. Suggested ideas for action include organising a publicity photo stunt and lobbying your MP.

[www.campaigncc.org/zcbday](http://www.campaigncc.org/zcbday)

## **Common Concerns About Wind Power**

The Centre for Sustainable Energy has produced a document addressing common concerns about wind power such as the effect on the landscape and issue with intermittency. Most of the issues are covered in two sides of A4 in a simple yet informative format.

[www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/common\\_concerns\\_about\\_wind\\_power.pdf](http://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/common_concerns_about_wind_power.pdf)

## **Future of England's Forests – It's Not Over Yet!**

Following public outrage at the Government's plans to sell off the Public Forest Estate earlier this year and the subsequent u-turn, the debate about what to do with our forests and ancient woodland continues. The Independent Panel For Forestry is calling for people's views and is asking everyone who values the future of the UK's native woodland heritage to contribute before the **deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July**.

<http://wtcampaigns.wordpress.com/2011/06/23/woods-are-worth-repeating-yourself-for>  
and [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/panel](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/panel)

## **Anerobic Digestion review**

As part of a broader review of waste DERFA has published a comprehensive AD strategy and action plan. This includes a case study from local group Sustainable Youlgreave.

[www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/business/anaerobic-digestion/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/business/anaerobic-digestion/)

## **Demand a Better Energy Bill**

The Stop Climate Chaos Coalition are demanding a better energy bill from the government which keep the government's promises on warmer, healthier homes; the climate change act; green jobs and international leadership. They are asking people to write to their MP via their website.

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

## **D. And Finally...**

## **Petals, Polar Bears and Petroleum**

A beautiful and poignant well dressing at this year's event in Youlgreave:  
<http://welldressing.com/photo.php?year=2011&id=132&uid=3264#>

## Pass the Parcel Carbon Cuts

*'Officially, the UK's greenhouse gas emissions have fallen from 788 million tonnes in 1990 to 566mt in 2009. Unofficially, another 253mt should be added to our account. That's the difference between the greenhouse gases released when manufacturing the goods we export and those released when manufacturing the goods we import.'* - George Monbiot writing on his website . <http://www.monbiot.com/2011/05/23/pass-the-parcel/>

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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk).

The Everybody's Talking Website is the climate change portal for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire:  
[www.everybodys-talking.org](http://www.everybodys-talking.org).