

## Community Climate Action Email August 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.

**The next issue will be delivered to your inbox in the latter half of September.** To make up for it being a little later than normal I promise to include a short account of my adventures of travelling by train to Spain in early September – the first time I'll have travelled overland in Europe. If anyone else is attempting to 'green' their holiday this summer, **send us a short account (100 words max.) and we'll include the best in the September e-newsletter.**

**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.

### Contents:

#### A. Local Events

CCAN Workshop: Domestic Energy Efficiency, NEW DATE  
Transition Buxton Renewable Energy Event  
Low Carbon Planning Training Events

#### B. Local News

Hot Insulation Offers  
External Solid Wall Insulation Grants  
Hockerton: Community-Owned Wind Turbine Pays Out  
East Bridgford: Progress Towards Community-Owned Wind Turbine  
Local Groups Receive Funding for Projects  
Nottinghamshire Green Guardian Awards 2011  
The Derbyshire Eco Challenge  
Online Case Studies Go Live  
Eco Centre Autumn Courses

#### C. National News and Events

Renewable Heat Incentive Opens for Applications  
Energy Bill Delays  
DECC launch Renewable Energy Road Map  
Chris Huhne on Climate Change  
Large Solar Developments Go Online  
Household Energy Use up 18% in 40 Years  
New Guide to Climate Change

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

Fancy Being On the Telly?  
Happy Holidays

## 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 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.

### **Transition Buxton Renewable Energy Event**

17<sup>th</sup> September, 10am-4pm

United Reformed Church, Hardwick Square East, Buxton, SK17 6PT

Suggested Donation: £6 (members), £7.50 (non members)

If you can't wait for the Low Carbon Planning events (or you'd like to attend more than one event on this topic!), then this event will provide training in renewable energy technologies, with particular emphasis on those most suitable for domestic properties in and around Buxton. Transition Buxton, a local community group, have invited Nick Parsons, an independent consultant in sustainable building with more than two decades experience, to run the day.

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

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, Matlock, Derbyshire

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, Newark, Nottinghamshire

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

FLIER ATTACHED

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 renewable 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.

## B. Local News

## Hot Insulation Offers

The temperature isn't the only thing that's rising at the moment. Energy bills are also set to soar with three of the 'big six' utility companies recently announcing large price rises, and the other three expected to follow soon. The good news is that all borough, district and city councils in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire offer great deals on insulation for all private householders: [www.everybodys-talking.org/take-action-save-money/insulate-insulate-insulate/local-insulation-schemes](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/take-action-save-money/insulate-insulate-insulate/local-insulation-schemes).

**Wherever you live in Nottinghamshire or Derbyshire you can benefit.** In many areas prices start from just £49 for loft insulation. If you are aged over 70 (or 65 in some areas) or in receipt of certain benefits you won't have to pay anything for loft and cavity wall insulation. All private households – whether owned or rented – are eligible, although renters will need their landlord's permission. Some schemes can also help with solid wall insulation, replacement heating systems, renewables, free items and other measures that will make your home easier and cheaper to heat. Others have special summer offers to help get your home ready for winter.

The prices offered for loft and cavity wall insulation are subsidised for all and this is possible thanks to government subsidies. These won't be available after the end of 2012 and the government have yet to announce the details of the 'Green Deal' incentives that will replace them. It's highly unlikely that these new incentives will be anywhere near as good value as the current offers.

[www.everybodys-talking.org/take-action-save-money/insulate-insulate-insulate/local-insulation-schemes](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/take-action-save-money/insulate-insulate-insulate/local-insulation-schemes).

## External Solid Wall Insulation Grants

Warmstreets, one of the insulation schemes operating in parts of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, also offers subsidised external solid wall insulation for people in receipt of certain benefits. 1 in 4 homes in the UK has solid walls and in many communities in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire practically all properties have solid walls. So it's not surprising that subscribers to this newsletter often ask about how to insulate these properties and how to pay for it.

Insulating solid walls is much more expensive than insulating cavities and grants have often been scarce. Warm Streets can offer partial, or in some cases full, funding towards solid wall insulation if someone in your household receives one of the following:

Council Tax Benefit - Housing Benefit - Income Support - Income-based Job Seekers Allowance - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance - Attendance Allowance - Disability Living Allowance - War Disablement Pension (that includes either a mobility supplement or constant attendance allowance) - Disablement Pension (that includes constant attendance allowance) - State pension credit - Child Tax Credit (where the relevant income is £16,190 or less) – Working Tax Credit (where the relevant income is £16,190 or less)

**Warmstreets are keen to find out what level of demand there is for this kind of scheme.** If you live in a solid wall home (most homes built before 1930 have solid walls),

receive one of these benefits and are interested in this scheme ring Warmstreets on 0800 043 9569 (from a mobile: 0333 577 9569).

If you don't meet these criteria yourself, but know of people in your community who might, please let them know about the scheme.

To find out more about external solid wall insulation visit the Energy Saving Trust's website: [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Home-improvements-and-products/Home-insulation-glazing/Solid-wall-insulation](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Home-improvements-and-products/Home-insulation-glazing/Solid-wall-insulation).

### **Hockerton: Community-Owned Wind Turbine Pays Out**

Just 18 months after a community-owned wind turbine was installed in the village of Hockerton in Nottinghamshire, it has paid out its first interest payment of 5% to shareholders. Money has also been made available to the village to spend on the development of a sustainable future.

The project is now involved in a new research project being carried out by the University of Leicester which is exploring how communities might adapt to the challenges of climate change.

### **East Bridgford: Progress Towards Community-Owned Wind Turbine**

Also in Nottinghamshire, residents in East Bridgford are making steady progress to install a 330kW community wind turbine. Their planning application is currently with the local council for pre-submission advice. Details of their project can be found on their website: [www.eastbridgfordwindturbine.org.uk](http://www.eastbridgfordwindturbine.org.uk) and here: [www.eastbridgford.org](http://www.eastbridgford.org).

### **Local Groups Receive Funding for Projects**

A number of groups in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire recently received funding from the Climate Skills Fund. Of nine grants awarded in the East Midlands, seven went to groups in the two counties. Projects have a range of aims including encourage cycling in Chesterfield, helping to develop a hydro project in Bakewell and surveying potential sites for renewables in Beeston.

Details of all the projects awarded funding can be viewed here: [www.eastmidlands.groundwork.org.uk/what-we-do/major-initiatives/climate-skills-fund/climate-skills-fund/project-2---communities.aspx](http://www.eastmidlands.groundwork.org.uk/what-we-do/major-initiatives/climate-skills-fund/climate-skills-fund/project-2---communities.aspx).

### **Nottinghamshire Green Guardians Awards 2011**

Cash is on offer to community groups, schools and individuals in Nottinghamshire that are undertaking environmental projects. Run by the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, the award offers £1000 prize money, a prestigious title and a tailor-made package of support to become even more 'green'.

The awards are backed by a range of well known figures from the world of broadcasting and the environment including Bill Oddie and John Craven, and the winning entries will be judged by world renowned botanist Prof. David Bellamy. The award scheme has a well-established reputation and is designed to recognise, reward and encourage positive environmental action in all sectors of the community.

The simple application process only takes a few minutes and you have plenty of time: application close at 5pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> October: [www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/green-guardians](http://www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/green-guardians).

### **The Derbyshire Eco Challenge**

Sign up to the Derbyshire Eco Challenge and you'll receive ten eco tips by email each month between August 2011 and March 2012. Each month's tips will have a different theme and you'll be able to choose which tips you try. You can even suggest your own top tips for people right across Derbyshire to try and we're offering small prizes for the best tips we receive. We'll give you feedback so you can see your progress and find out what other actions people are taking too.

To sign up or for more information contact [derbyshire@globalactionplan.org.uk](mailto:derbyshire@globalactionplan.org.uk).

Derbyshire Eco Challenge is run by Global Action Plan and supported by Derbyshire County Council.

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

Need inspiration? Community Groups across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire are involved in a variety of exciting projects designed to tackle climate change and energy security. We now have a number of case studies of these projects on the Everybody's Talking About Climate Change website ([www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-projects-case-studies](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-projects-case-studies)).

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: [ccan@mea.org.uk](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk) / 07748 508704.

To make it easier for you to contribute a case study we've created a Proforma (attached). All you have to do is fill in it in and return it to us with some photos and we will create an online case study of your project similar to this one: [www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-projects-case-studies/ecohouse-group](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/communities-area/community-projects-case-studies/ecohouse-group).

## **C. National News**

### **Renewable Heat Incentive Opens for Applications**

The government has opened its new grants schemes for renewables which produce heat. As of 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011 householders can apply for up to £1250 from the Renewable Heat Premium Payment Scheme (RHPP) towards the cost of measures such as solar thermal panels, wood burning boilers, ground source heat pumps and air source heat pumps.

This grant is part of the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), which is designed to provide financial support to encourage individuals, communities and businesses to switch from using fossil fuel for heating to renewables. The RHI follows on from the Feed-In-Tariff scheme for renewable electricity generation and is the first financial support scheme for renewable heat of its kind in the world.

Applications can be made online: [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy/Sell-your-own-energy/Renewable-Heat-Incentive](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy/Sell-your-own-energy/Renewable-Heat-Incentive).

Renewable Heat Incentive tariff payments will be introduced in Autumn 2012, but the government are yet to decide if the domestic sector will be eligible for these payments.

### **Energy Bill Delays**

The government's new Energy Bill did not make it through Parliament before the summer recess and so will not be heard now until September/October. This provides more time to lobby your MP for improvements to the bill to make sure it effectively tackles climate change, energy security and fuel poverty: [www.demandabetterbill.org.uk](http://www.demandabetterbill.org.uk).

### **DECC Launch Renewable Energy Road Map**

This new document shows how the UK can meet its target to deliver 15% of the UK's energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020. It suggests that '8 technologies are capable of delivering more than 90% of the renewable energy we need for 2020' and can deliver a total of 29 GW of operational capacity by that date. It also looks at heat and road transport: [www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/meeting-energy-demand/renewable-energy/2167-uk-renewable-energy-roadmap.pdf](http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/meeting-energy-demand/renewable-energy/2167-uk-renewable-energy-roadmap.pdf)

### **Chris Huhne on Climate Change**

Chris Huhne, Minister for Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, has recently delivered a series of three speeches on climate change, which are available to read online:

[www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/chsp\\_geopol/chsp\\_geopol.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/chsp_geopol/chsp_geopol.aspx)

[www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/ec\\_cc\\_ch/ec\\_cc\\_ch.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/ec_cc_ch/ec_cc_ch.aspx)

[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/chsp\\_artsci\\_cc/chsp\\_artsci\\_cc.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/chsp_artsci_cc/chsp_artsci_cc.aspx)

### **Large Solar Developments Go Online**

The UK's largest rooftop solar development, with a capacity of 1.65 MW and the ability to power 480 homes, has been unveiled on the rooftop of plastic company Promens in Suffolk. The £4 million cost of the 7000 panels was met by hundreds of small investors who contributed sums starting at £3000. Most of the energy produced will be used on site with a small amount being sold to the grid.

Meanwhile, a 5MW Solar Park at Westmill Farm in Oxfordshire went online on 19<sup>th</sup> July less than four months after receiving planning permission. Westmill Solar Co-operative has a rare opportunity to own a significant proportion of this development and expects to issue a share offer in the autumn. Anyone wishing to register their interest in shares should visit their website: [www.westmillsolar.coop/home.asp](http://www.westmillsolar.coop/home.asp).

Recent changes to the size of schemes eligible for FIT payments mean that future developments on this scale are less likely.

### **Household Energy Use up 18% in 40 Years**

An increase in heating and appliances in the UK has driven up our household consumption of electricity and gas by 18% between 1970 and 2009 according to a new report from the

Office of National Statistics. While population growth and demographics – such as more one person households – partially explain the increase, our increased use of heating and appetite for ever-more appliances is another part of the story.

[www.guardian.co.uk/environment/datablog/2011/jul/21/uk-household-energy-use](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/datablog/2011/jul/21/uk-household-energy-use)

### **New Guide to Climate Science**

The Green Alliance has produced a guide to the science of climate change and communicating these issues.

[www.green-alliance.org.uk/uploadedFiles/Publications/reports/ClimateScienceBriefing\\_July11\\_sgl.pdf](http://www.green-alliance.org.uk/uploadedFiles/Publications/reports/ClimateScienceBriefing_July11_sgl.pdf)

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

#### **Fancy Being On the Telly?**

Channel 4 are looking for people to feature in a Cutting Edge Documentary about super savers, frugalistas and people who try their best to spend little or no money. According to the film makers, the documentary will celebrate the increasing number of Brits finding new and innovative ways to save money, share resources and squeeze the value out of every last penny.

If you're interested contact: 020 7017 1649 or [gayl.paterson@rawtelevision.co.uk](mailto:gayl.paterson@rawtelevision.co.uk).

#### **Happy Holidays**

Remember to send your accounts of your attempts to 'green' your holiday this year to [ccan@mea.org.uk](mailto:ccan@mea.org.uk). Send them no later than Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September and we'll include the best in the September e-newsletter.

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).

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](mailto: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](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).