

## **Main Identity**

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**Sent:** 01 December 2011 15:04  
**Subject:** Fw: Sustainable Cridton Newsletter Issue 20 Dec 2011

**PLEASE NOTE THIS NEWSLETTER IS FORMATTED TO BE READ FULL SCREEN**

Hello everyone,

As the end of 2011 fast approaches our thoughts naturally turn to seasonal celebrations and the Core Group of Sustainable Cridton would like to wish everyone reading this a wonderful festive season. Look out for our Xmas Tree and also WEN's at the Xmas Tree Festival in Holy Cross Church over the next few days.

Our next newsletter will not be until mid January 2012 but we already have some excellent events lined up for next year including, in mid January, an important seminar with Cridton Town Council and leading members of the Cridton community on how to create a Sustainable Cridton for the future. January also sees another of our successful plastics collection days and a WEN clothes swap and then in February the event we have all been waiting for - our 5th birthday party - a chance to let your hair down and enjoy yourself in the company of many Sus Cred friends. Everyone reading this is invited, along with your relatives and friends.

After 60 editions of this newsletter I am hanging up my hat as editor in March and so we are looking for a new person to take on the role. It could be your chance to donate a few hours of your time each month to keeping our newsletter going and you can find out below more of what is involved. Please don't be shy. We really do need *you* and your help would be enormously appreciated.

See you in 2012

Paula Mossman, Newsletter Editor

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## 1. Events Calendar Dec 2011 onwards

**Thurs 1- Sun 4th Dec Sustainable Crediton Xmas Tree - Theme 'Power from Wind and Water'** Holy X Church Crediton  
**Fri 2nd, Fri 9th Dec Sustainability Seminars with MDDC** Phoenix House Tiverton contact Gerald Conyngham [gerald@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:gerald@eclipse.co.uk)  
**Mon 5 Dec 7:30 pm Energy/PV Group Meeting** at Lamb Inn, Sandford details Linda 01363777624 or [lindaandcolinl@phonecoop](mailto:lindaandcolinl@phonecoop)  
**Fri 9 Dec 2-4pm Spinning Circle: demo of spinning fine lace weight yarns** Arts Centre Crediton £2.50 inc refreshments All welcome  
**Wed 14 Dec 7.30pm Core Group Meeting** at John Downes house with mulled wine and nibbles details Gerald Conyngham [gerald@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:gerald@eclipse.co.uk)  
**Wed 21 Dec 7pm WEN Solstice Celebration** at Anitas 6 Queen Elizabeth Drive All women and children welcome details see below

### 2012

**Tues 10 Jan 2pm Waste Action Group Meeting** at Jill's for details contact [paula.mossman@lineone.net](mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net)  
**Thurs 12 Jan 10am Food Group meeting** details see below contact [lindaandcolinl@phonecoop.coop](mailto:lindaandcolinl@phonecoop.coop)  
**Fri 13 Jan 2-4pm Spinning Circle** £2.50 inc refreshments Arts Centre Crediton All Welcome contact Sue Reece [suereece@metronet.co.uk](mailto:suereece@metronet.co.uk)  
**Sat 14 Jan 7pm WEN Clothes Swap** 8 School Close Shobrooke Details see below  
**Tues 17 Jan 7- 9.30pm Joint Sustainability Seminar with Crediton Town Council.** Details below or contact Gerald Conyngham 01363 773000  
**Sat 21 Jan 10-1pm Waste Plastics Collection morning** Morrisons Car Park Crediton contact [paula.mossman@lineone.net](mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net) and see below  
**Sat 25 Feb 7-11.30pm Sustainable Crediton's 5th Birthday Party** Sandford Village Hall Details below  
**Sat 10 Mar 10-3pm 2nd Annual Sus Cred Clothes Swap** Boniface Centre, Crediton - details [paula.mossman@lineone.net](mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net) and below

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## 2. Workshop with the Town Council- 'Towards a Sustainable Crediton '

We shall be a running a workshop jointly with Crediton Town Council on **Tuesday Jan 17th from 7 to 9.30 pm at the Boniface Centre.**

The title is 'Towards a Sustainable Crediton'

Based on our succesful workshops with Mid Devon District Council there will be a powerful and up to date presentation about climate change and peak oil, followed by group work looking at how to move towards a more sustainable and resilient community locally.

Town Councillors, members of the Chamber of Commerce and other members of the community are being invited, but it is also **open to any SC member who would like to attend.**

Please keep the date free in your 2012 diary and come along. It will be a key event for us and a chance to develop our vision along with others from our community who can help to implement it.

Gerald Conyngham

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## 3. Party!! Party!! Party!! With Us

**Sat 25th February, Sandford Parish Hall 7pm to 11.00 pm**

Sustainable Crediton (formerly Crediton Climate Action) is **5 years old in February 2012**. Come and celebrate five years working to make our community more sustainable and resilient to future challenges! **All ages welcome.** Bring your friends and relatives.

Programme features:

**7.00 to 7.45** children's entertainment

**7.45 to 8.15** bring and share supper - bring a dish to share plus your own plates and cutlery (so that no one is saddled with lots of washing up)

**8.15 to 10.00** entertainment [various good acts and an MC booked already]

**10.00 to 11.00** dancing to the Swamp Gods.

Bring your own drinks - soft and alcoholic [we hope to provide glasses]

There will also be a bring and swap household goods/toys/bric-a-brac corner [no clothes please]

Tickets £2.50 on sale in the Greenhouse Crediton Town Square from Monday 23 January (to help cover hall hire and entertainment expenses).

Tickets on the door [if there are any left] £3.50.

Reduced price for children under 12years.

***A not to be missed event - put the date in your diary NOW***

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#### **4. News From the Action Groups**

##### **4.1 Waste Action Group**

##### **You Tube Video of the Plastics Trials**

Many thanks to Mike Brett for filming and then producing this very professional film of our waste plastic collections in Morrison's car park in September. The video entitled **Sustainable Crediton Plastics** is on Youtube at [this link](#) and also on our website.

Please view it and pass the link on to your friends - [this link](#)

##### **Plastics Collection Days are back!!**

We will be holding another Plastics Collection Day at Morrisons recycling area on **Saturday 21st January from 10am to 1pm**. We are hoping that 1st Crediton Scouts will be with us to help.

Please save up all that waste food plastic packaging from Christmas and New Year to bring along, together with clear and coloured drinks bottles, household cleaning fluid bottles, shampoo & shower gel bottles, sauce and dressing bottles, margarine and ice cream tubs, cream, yoghurt & cottage cheese pots, salad pots, fruit and veg trays, sandwich boxes, preformed biscuit and chocolate box trays, cds and cases, plastic flower pots. Everything should be **clean** and lids should be loosened.

Sorry the following are still not recyclable and so we cannot accept them: polystyrene, bubble wrap, cling film, biodegradable plastic, paint tubs, plastic toys, pet food or soft drink pouches, crisp packets, and any plastic mixed with other materials.

Tell your friends and neighbours about this day and get them to start saving their plastic waste up too!! In September we saved 74 huge builders dumpy bags of plastic going to landfill. Lets see if we can save even more this time! And don't forget that you can take all the above types of recyclable plastic to Punchbowl Recycling Site outside Crediton (just off the Barnstaple Road on the way to Copplestone) at any time too.

##### **2012 Clothes Swap Day**

Back by popular demand is the Sustainable Crediton Clothes Swap Day which this year will be held on

**Sat 10th March at the Boniface Centre from 10am to 3pm.**

**Admission is just £2.50 .**

Bring along dresses, tops, trousers, skirts, jackets, coats and accessories you no longer use from 10am to 11am (preferably marked with size and on a hanger. No footwear or underwear, stained, dirty or damaged garments please). Ladies and mens clothes and larger sizes all welcome. You will be given a ticket for each item you bring which you can exchange for another item on offer when shopping begins at 12 noon at

no charge. If you run out of tickets additional items can be purchased for just £1

There will also be **free demonstrations and advice** on how to carry out simple clothing repairs such as sewing on buttons and taking up hems. Ann Turner, an experienced professional curtain maker, will be demonstrating how to update and renovate curtains and the local knitting and spinning groups are coming along too. If you have ever wanted to learn how to knit a simple garment or spin your own wool this is an ideal opportunity to find out and have a go under their guidance!

Refreshments and light lunches with home made soups and cakes available.

In fact a great day out and a chance to take home a whole new wardrobe of clothes!!

For more details and to **donate hangers** please contact Paula Mossman 01363 866106 or [paula.mossman@lineone.net](mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net)

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#### **4.2 Crediton Women's Environmental Network**

We wish everyone a happy Winter Solstice, Christmas and New Year!

We will have decorated the WEN tree at the Crediton Christmas Tree Festival – I hope many of you came to look at all the wonderfully decorated trees from so many organisations and groups in the area. Our theme was 're-use and recycle' – something we are hoping to carry forward throughout the festive season. Cutting back on the amount of rubbish which accumulates over December doesn't have to be difficult. Scrunched up wrapping paper is useful for lighting stoves, left over veg from Christmas dinner can be souped or bubble and squeaked, and try and choose children's presents that aren't encased and wrapped in layers of plastic.

**Wednesday 21 December** - We are celebrating Winter Solstice at Anita's house (6, Queen Elizabeths Drive). All women and children welcome. Starts at 7pm. Please bring snacks and drinks. We will also have a Basket of Abundance again. This means everyone brings a gift (which can be a jar of something homemade, some local fresh eggs, a winter posy, a book that you enjoyed and want to pass on ... ..) and then at some point in the evening everyone chooses something out of the basket.

**Saturday 14 January** – WEN clothes swap, now in its third year will be held at Charlotte's, in Shobrooke (8, School Close) from 7pm. Bring along unwanted clothes, (and books, dvds, cds) and get a chance to update your wardrobe for nothing! Please bring snacks and drinks. What we've done before is arrive quite promptly, set out clothes and browse through them all, selecting a few items, then have a break with snacks and then return for one last look for those hidden gems lurking under the piles of clothes!

**Saturday 25 February** – Sustainable Crediton's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party – WEN are providing the children's corner, complete with entertainment – more details in the next newsletter. Please come.

If you've never made it to a WEN meeting before then please do come to one of these events. We are a small, friendly group of women – quite a few with small children, many of us juggling a number of jobs and commitments – and it would be nice to see some new faces.

For any RSVPs, or questions please contact me, Kate Povey, 01363 860208, [kate@littlemlett.co.uk](mailto:kate@littlemlett.co.uk).

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#### **4.3 Energy Group News**

##### **Solar PV Project Update as at 25th November 2011**

Solarsense are pulling out all the stops to install as many members as possible before the deadline of 12th December. As of the 25th November, 57 systems have been installed with another 6 planned before the end of the month. If you are only just being or just about to be installed, please do not delay in contacting your energy supplier to find out their process for FIT applications and submitting your paperwork before the 12th December deadline.

Three of us met with our MP, Mel Stride, on the 19th November and put many arguments to him to pass onto Chris Huhne. Mel gave the Party line on reducing the FIT, but he was interested to hear 7 people had cancelled their orders in our scheme [some in order to get installed elsewhere within deadline]. He agrees with us that the 12th December deadline is unfair and that people who have made financial commitments before this consultation was announced should be allowed to complete under the existing scheme and get the higher FIT. He will be urging Chris Huhne to relent on that deadline for such people. He would like to hear in writing (use email to save time) from people who have been affected. **You must also email if your electricity company is being slow about adding you to the FIT scheme although you've had your installation or if you are still waiting hopefully for installation before 12 December.** Mel has undertaken to personally chase the energy companies to see if he can speed things up. [mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk)

A copy of our letter to Mel Stride is [here](#).

It should be noted that some orders have been placed in our Sustainable Crediton scheme since the announcement on the basis of the 21p FIT. We believe it is still worthwhile at this level of tariff and it may possibly be more difficult to get the FIT if stringent energy efficiency measures are required from April 2012. The rate of return whilst we are at the 5% discount and 15% rebate is around 8% tax free and index linked.

Finally, the Government's consultation on the level of the FIT is open for comments until the 23rd December. It can be found [here](#). Please make your feelings known by completing the consultation.

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#### **4.4 Food Group**

After a busy year, taking part in 11 successful events, we're having a rest over Christmas.

Our next meeting, to plan for 2012, will be a day time one on the 12 Jan [though we're already booked for 5 Community Markets in the summer and a couple of catering sessions] We try to alternate day and evening meetings to accommodate everyone. Details from Linda 01363 777 624 [lindaandcolin@phonecoop.coop](mailto:lindaandcolin@phonecoop.coop)

#### **Seed Swap**

Our annual Seed Swap took place in November. Another great event for Sustainable Crediton! It took place at the new venue of the Town Hall which was very successful. There was a large and varied selection of seeds brought and at the end of the day almost all of them were taken. People who came also kindly donated garden related items other than seeds to raise funds for the day.

The event benefitted greatly from the delicious soup and cakes generously made and contributed by Food Group members. There were many comments made on the wonderful food. Many people stayed to lunch and to enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere in the hall, chatting to friends and new acquaintances alike. One couple I spoke to who had popped in while visiting the area from Chard in Somerset, said they thought it a wonderful idea and hoped a similar event happened closer to their home, more converts to seed sharing!

Also contributing to the day was Kate Povey on behalf of Orchards Alive with an interesting display about the group including apple processing equipment and apple juice for sale. The Devon Wild life Trust also came with their display and they were pleased to have signed up some new members.

A good day was had by all and there will be another Seed Share next year, so please plan to save your seeds during this year so we can make the event bigger and better than ever. Contact Dee on [deeross@silversmith.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:deeross@silversmith.eclipse.co.uk) for information about how to save seed and we will also put some information links up on the web site shortly.

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#### **5. Thanks to Paula.**

Paula Mossman has decided to withdraw from the Core Group on which she has served for 4 and a half years. She also plans to handover the monthly newsletter which she edits once we have found a replacement editor. She will remain active on the Waste Group and will be involved in 3 forthcoming workshops, so we are not losing her completely.

Paula has contributed an enormous amount to SC and has been involved in many of our key activities. Hard working, an excellent organiser and highly committed to our vision, she has played a key role in our growth as

a Transition Town and I am sure you would join me in expressing thanks and appreciation for the role she has played and all she has achieved.

Gerald Conyngham  
Chair of SC

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## **6. Job Vacancies**

### **6.1. Sustainable Crediton Newsletter Editor**

This is a voluntary post that requires a few hours of time each month on a regular basis putting together and sending out the Sus Cred newsletter from contributions sent in by Sus Cred supporters and Action Groups.

A home computer and the ability to co-ordinate and manage material sent by email are necessary but hours and times can suit you and lots of help can be given by the current editor to get you started. The job could even be shared by two people.

Please contact Paula Mossman [paula.mossman@lineone.net](mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net) for details and to find out more. The March 2012 newsletter will be my last edition so a new editor is being sought for early in 2012.

### **6.2. Site and Facilities Manager at Embercombe**

Details of salaried job opportunity for a Site and Facilities Manager at Embercombe can be found at <http://www.embercombe.co.uk/> listed under current vacancies in the left hand menu. Applications are due in by 14th December.

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## **7. Campaigns of the Month**

As well as the government's FIT consultation outlined in the Energy Group section, we have three varied current campaigns featured below. If you've never taken part in an email campaign before why not try one of these?

### **7.1. Save our Marine Conservation Zones**

After years of pressure from The Wildlife Trusts and other groups such as the RSPB and a huge amount of public support, the Marine and Coastal Access Act of 2009 promised us an ecologically coherent network of 127 Marine Protected Areas around the coast by 2012. So are we any closer to achieving this? It is our understanding that perhaps only 30 - 40 sites will be designated next year. 2012 provides this Government with the opportunity to make real progress with protecting our seas and restoring them to health. And we have to remember that healthy seas are good for wildlife, good for fisherman and good for those of us who visit the seaside and essential if we are going to tackle climate change. We need to ensure that the government gets a clear message that this is what Society wants. We need to demonstrate the importance and urgency of the network to the Parliament Under-Secretary for Natural Environment and Fisheries, Richard Benyon MP, and ensure that Defra does not reduce the number of Marine Conservation Zones going forward for consultation in 2012. We would be very grateful if you could email or write to the Minister highlighting your concerns using the suggested letter at the following link <http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/saveourmczs>

### **7.2. Why burn food, when animals can eat it?**

In Britain we burn and send to landfill millions of tonnes of bread, fruit and vegetables that could be eaten by farm animals. It's a massive waste of resources and also increases our reliance on destructive soy for animal feed, contributing to deforestation and people in South America being thrown off their land. [\*\*Please ask the Government to feed farm animals, not incinerators.\*\*](#)

### **7.3. No to subsidies for destructive biomass and biofuel electricity**

Please take part in two simultaneous email actions and tell your MP and the government that renewable energy support should go to clean, sustainable real renewables, such as sustainably sited wind, solar and tidal

energy, and not to destructive biomass and bioliquid electricity (eg palm oil sourced from cleared rain forest plantations) . The background to this campaign and the email actions can be found [here](#)

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## **8. An Electric Bike - Could It Be the Answer to Your Transport Needs?**

If you glimpse a silver streak flashing past, wearing a high visibility jacket, it'll be me on my new Cyclamatic electric bike! The battery is one of the newer, lighter (Lithium) ones, and the manufacturer's claim it'll do about 30kms on one charge. I've been making regular trips into Crediton and it really helps with the hills.

It's not like a motor bike where you don't have to pedal at all. Big hills demand quite an effort, but the 'pedal assist' kicks in and makes them 'do-able' without having to get off and push. So I'm saving petrol, reducing my carbon footprint and, hopefully, staying fit.

If you're interested in knowing more about electric bikes, I recommend the Pedelects website: [www.pedelects.co.uk](http://www.pedelects.co.uk). It's got a busy user forum with e-bike enthusiasts ready to answer any questions. (I've got an older Powabyke model for sale with a heavier lead/acid battery. Email me on [pjkvcs@gmail.com](mailto:pjkvcs@gmail.com) if you'd like to test ride it)

Paula Kovacs

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## **9. Limited options for meeting 2°C warming target, warn climate change experts**

We will only achieve the target of limiting global warming to safe levels if carbon dioxide emissions begin to fall within the next two decades and eventually decrease to zero. That is the stark message from research by an international team of scientists, led by the University of Exeter, published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*.

The research focuses on the scale of carbon emission reduction needed to keep future global warming at no more than two degrees Celsius over average temperatures prior to the Industrial Revolution. This target is now almost universally accepted as a safe limit.

The team examined the extent to which carbon emissions should be reduced, how steep this reduction needs to be and how soon we should begin. They used mathematical modelling techniques to construct a number of possible future scenarios, based on different assumptions on emissions reduction. They accounted for a likely range of climate sensitivities: the amount of warming for a given increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide.

The research shows how quickly emissions need to drop in the next few decades. It also highlights how remaining emissions could cause the two-degrees target to be exceeded in the long term, over the next few hundred years.

The researchers found that zero or negative emissions are compatible with this target if we reduce our global carbon emissions by at least three per cent per year within the next two decades.

In a worst-case scenario of high climate sensitivity, we need to work towards negative emissions if we are to have a chance of keeping temperatures within the two-degrees target. This would mean using carbon-capture-and-storage technology combined with aggressive mitigation rates starting in the coming decade. The best-case scenario of low climate sensitivity allows longer delays and more conservative mitigation rates, but still requires emissions to be eventually cut by at least 90%.

The results clearly show that if we delay reducing global emissions by just ten or twenty years we will then need to make much steeper reductions in order to meet a two-degrees warming target.

Lead author Professor Pierre Friedlingstein, University of Exeter Chair in Mathematical Modelling of [Climate Systems](#), said: "When I analysed these results, I was surprised to see so few options available to us. We know we need to tackle global warming, but our research really emphasises the urgency of the situation. The only way for us to achieve a safe future climate will be to reduce emissions by at least three per cent, starting as soon as possible. The longer we leave it, the harder it will be."

Countries currently have different targets for carbon emission reductions. For example, the US proposes a 17 per cent reduction by 2020, the EU has set a target of a 20 to 30 per cent reduction by 2020 and Australia has an objective of a five to 25 per cent reduction by 2020, depending on other countries commitment.

"The good news is that it's not too late," said co-author Professor Susan Solomon of the University of Colorado. "The interesting news is that we really need to think in the very long-term as well as the near-term. Even a small amount of remaining emissions would eventually mean exceeding the target so we need to ensure that technologies are available to make our world carbon-free in the long run."

The research was carried out by the University of Exeter (UK), University of Colorado (USA), University of Bern (Switzerland), ETH (Switzerland), CEA-CNRS (France) and CSIRO (Australia).

The University of Exeter is investing £230 million in science, medicine and engineering across five themes, one of which is Climate Change and Sustainable Futures.

Denise Ross

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*"Come to the edge, he said. They said: We are afraid. Come to the edge, he said. They came. He pushed them...and they flew."*  
- Guillaume Apollinaire

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