

Main Identity

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Sent: 02 October 2011 11:30
Subject: Sustainable Crediton Newsletter Issue 18 October 2010

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EMAIL IS FORMATTED TO BE READ FULL SCREEN

Hello Everyone,

Sustainable Crediton had a very busy September and lots of press coverage which was excellent for raising our profile!

We are not sitting on our laurels however and have more events coming up in October. Another of the very popular seasonal suppers takes place on October 15th at the Boniface in Crediton. The menu (below) looks delicious. Make sure you book in the next few days to avoid disappointment. The Community Markets are also growing. The last one of the season takes place later this month so why not come along as a stallholder or shopper and find out what all the fuss is about. Everyone is also welcome at a workshop day in Exeter this month where we will share ideas with other local Transition Groups and find out how to make our organisation more effective. Come and express your views and help us make Sustainable Crediton a truly unstoppable force for positive change.

Enjoy the newsletter and all the autumn bounty currently on offer around us.

Paula Mossman

Editor

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1. Events Diary October/November 2011

- Mon 3 Oct 7.30pm** **Core Group Meeting, Mossman's Cheriton Fitzpaine** -details Gerald Conyngham gerald@eclipse.co.uk
- Sat 8 Oct 9.30am** **Force Charity Cycle Ride through Crediton** - details below - for entry form call 01392 402875.
- Sun 9 Oct 10am-4pm** **Apple Day at RHS Rosemoor** (details below)
- Fri 14 Oct 2pm- 4pm** **Spinning Circle - Arts Centre Crediton** - details below
- Fri 14 Oct** **WEN meeting** contact Kate Povey kate@littleemlett.co.uk, 01363 860208
- Sat 15 Oct 7.30pm** **Harvest Seasonal Supper Boniface Centre Crediton** - details from Carol 01363 82794
- Sat 15 Oct 10am-4pm** **Sharing Transition Workshop** Sidwell St Methodist Church, Exeter details -

J.Pollard@exeter.ac.uk/07952666073

Sat & Sun 15-16 Oct 11am-4pm Eggesford Apple and Cider Weekend, Eggesford Garden Centre
(details below)

Sat 22 Oct 10am-1pm Community Market Town Square, CREDITON - details below or contact EI on **01363 866543**

Tues 25 Oct 7:30 pm Energy/PV Group Meeting at Lamb Inn, Sandford details Linda 01363777624 or lindaandcolini@phonecoop

Sun 30 Oct 10.30-3pm South Molton Apple Fair and Produce Show at the Pannier Market South Molton
(details below)

Mon 31 Oct 10.30am Waste Action Group Meeting Jills, CREDITON - details Paula Mossman
paula.mossman@lineone.net

Wed 3 Nov 7.30pm Food & Farming Group Meeting, CREDITON details contact Linda Lever
lindaandcolini@phonecoop.coop

Wed 3 Nov 7.30pm Economics Group Meeting, Cheriton Fitzpaine contact Charles Mossman
c.mossman@tiscali.co.uk

Tues 4 Nov 4.30pm Building Sustainable Communities Talk, Exeter College, Queen St, Exeter -
details below - contact Pat Wilson 01626 772506

Sat 6 Nov WEN Samhain themed evening - details next month - contact Kate Povey
kate@littleemlett.co.uk, 01363 860208

Wed 9 Nov 7.30pm Core Group Meeting, Kate Poveys house, Black Dog - details Gerald Conyngham
gerald@eclipse.co.uk

Sat 19 Nov 11am-2pm Seed Sharing Day Town Hall, High St CREDITON - contact Dee Ross on
deeross@silversmith.eclipse.co.uk or 01363 775146.

Sat 10 Mar 2012 Clothes Swap Boniface Centre, CREDITON - details to follow

2. News From The Action Groups

2.1 Food & Farming Group

Harvest Seasonal Supper ~ Boniface Centre ~ Saturday October 15th 7.30

Menu

Roasted corn on the cob with herb butter and cougette muffin

Marrow stuffed with lamb and Harissa

or

marrow stuffed with hazelnuts and mushrooms

with roast potatoes

Autumn fruits cranachan

cost £7.50 per person or £5.00 for cooks - we need max of 7

Places must be booked and final numbers by the end of Sunday 9th October please. Please ring or email Carol or Ruth to book and confirm place and then take payment in advance to the Greenhouse in CREDITON

Carol 01363 82794 ~ carollee3@googlemail.com

Ruth 01363 860260 ~ ruth@ruthsrealfood.co.uk

Community Markets - what are they about?

Sustainable CREDITON held a third Community Market on 12th September. Despite the dreadful weather forecast 21 stallholders braved the weather which fortunately turned out to be better than the forecast.

The last Market for this year will be held on 22nd October before closing down for the winter, reopening in the Spring 2012. A full programme for 2012 will be shortly be available. If you would be interested in knowing the dates for next year contact EI on **01363 866543** or e-mail info@creditonlocalproduce.co.uk.

In September local gardeners and smallholders brought a diverse range of food to the market including eggs, fruit, vegetables, cheese, cakes, home made preserves, apple cordial and ready cooked meals. Plants and flowers were also on sale. The Queens Badminton Club sold cakes to raise funds and the junior members of the club provided demonstrations in badminton and training techniques to attract new members.

The craft side was well represented with hand knits, beaded and silver jewellery, handmade cards, recycled vinyl bowls made from old records, patchwork quilts and other fabric creations, baby gift sets, baskets, pottery (Georgina Ford donated a percentage of profits from her pottery to the Devon Air Ambulance) and Sarah Alsbury brought items for sale to raise funds for the RSPB in addition to the vegetables and crafts she brought.

Herbal remedies and herbal products contributed towards healthy living, along with the Crediton Wellbeing Centre advertising their wide range of therapies at their centre in the town.

Catspaw Entertainments came to advertise their music, storytelling, drumming tuition and belly dancing classes by giving demonstrations throughout the morning.

The Community Market is about encouraging sustainability by providing a space for local householders, smallholders and local craftspeople to sell the items they have grown or made locally. Local groups or charities are welcome to fundraise or advertise themselves. We hope this will stimulate shopping in the town and help keep Crediton from losing its uniqueness, especially in having so many independent retailers.

For those wishing to attend the market as a stall holder, all that is asked is a donation towards the costs of the day and to bring your own table and wet weather protection. Potential stallholders should come approximately from the area covered by local Crediton newspapers and the Sustainable Crediton local produce website www.creditonlocalproduce.co.uk.

The growing success of the market was evident in numbers attending the market and the enquiries coming in asking for information on the market.

Come along in October and see what local people have to offer for sale and buy a truly unique craft for yourself or as a gift or enjoy fresh local food.

Crediton Seed Share

Crediton Seed Share is on the 19th November 2011 from 11am – 2pm at the Town Hall, High Street, Crediton.

Saving seed from one year to plant the next is a traditional skill, practiced since man began deliberately growing food to feed himself.

Today, seed swapping can:

- Help protect biodiversity and keeps the diversity of locally adapted varieties going
- Maintain growing skills
- Get round the National List, which makes it illegal to sell varieties not on the list.
- Seed swaps keep seed making in the garden and out of the laboratory and resists the privatisation of plant genetic material.
- Saving seed and seed swaps introduce you to other local gardeners and help develop a sense of community.
- Very helpfully, saving seed can also can also save you money

A seed share works by people bringing seeds they have saved or packets they have not used and taking away other people's seeds to use. It doesn't matter if you haven't any seeds to bring though, it is hoped that by next year you will save some seeds and bring them to the next seed swap, so please do come along. No charge, voluntary donations only.

You can bring both vegetable and flower seeds. It would be helpful if you label packets with the type, variety and date collected e.g. Tomato Moneymaker 2011. Surplus commercial seed packets are also acceptable.

Refreshments will be available. There will be garden related stalls on the day together with displays with information about composting and seed saving.

New to seed saving? Seed saving information will be available from the Sustainable Crediton stall at the Community Market on 22nd October. Meanwhile don't clear away plants that have begun to set seed, let them grown on. If seed pods turn brown or start to split, pick them and dry off in trays or paper bags, for most plants it is that simple!

If anyone is able to help on the day please contact Dee Ross on deeross@silversmith.eclipse.co.uk or on 01363 775146.

2.2 Transport Group News

Crediton's Legs It

Cakes had been baked and routes marked out as our MP Mel Stride and Mayor Frank Letch launched Crediton Legs It, our part of an international day to Move Beyond Fossil Fuels.

Following speeches of passion, praise and humour, 50+ people from children to senior citizens rode cycles or scooters, ran, walked or did yoga in the park. Crediton's event was one of over two thousand across 175 countries. See www.moving-planet.org for reports

The weather was fine and the atmosphere relaxed as each group returned to free refreshments, networking and play. "Does this happen every Saturday?" asked one parent, "She'd love a cycling club for children."

Here are some of the promises, made by those there:-

Walk more, Learn to ride my bike, Use scooters more, Continue cycling to work each day

And some of the recommendations:-

20 mph speed limit in Peoples Park Road, 20mph in Crediton High Street, 20mph in Dean Street, 20 mph speed limit throughout Crediton

Bill McKibben of 350.org who organised the day worldwide says:

"The day was an enormous success, far more than we could have imagined. Countless new people were brought into this movement, we broke through in media all over the world, and we are stronger than we've ever been before. You all were the reason, and for that, we're extremely grateful.

There are times when we all think the world will never change -- but then there are weekends like this one, when we realize that because of people like you it really will!

Many thanks to everyone who took part and also to all those who helped make the day such a success.

2.3 Energy Group

Solar PV Project Update as at 20th September 2011

Take up for our project continues to be excellent. 140 households have joined the scheme for a survey. 126 homes have been surveyed with 14 people still awaiting surveys. 54 orders have been placed. This means we have entered the 15% rebate part of our discount table. 18 installations have been completed. A further 20

installations are scheduled for October with installations continuing into November and December.

We had another public meeting, this time in Cheriton Fitzpaine, on the 21st September. It was well attended and three more households joined the scheme after the meeting.

A Message to people considering installing Solar PV: Time is running out to benefit from current generous FIT rates

The Government are currently undertaking a comprehensive review of all aspects of the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) scheme including tariff levels and future degression rates (how the FIT reduces in future years for new installations). The review will be completed by around the end of 2011, with tariffs remaining unchanged until April 2012 (unless the review indicates the need for greater urgency). Rumour within the PV industry indicates that the Government may increase the existing degression rate from 1st April 2012, meaning that the original FIT rate from April 2012 at 37.8p/KWH may actually be reduced to a lower level. The reason put forward for the Government possibly reducing the tariff further is that originally the Government believed a return of 6 to 8% on an investment in PV would be reasonable. The returns to date have been greater than 10% due to reduction in the prices of panels and competition in the installation industry. Hence the rumour that the FIT rates will be reduced to a level that gives people a return of just 6 to 8% .

Our Sustainable Crediton Solar Project is currently offering returns of above 12% due to our discount and rebate scheme and the generous 43.3p/KWH FIT currently available until 31st March 2012. However, the lead in time for installations under our scheme is running at 10 to 12 weeks and it takes upto a month to register a new installation with your electricity supplier to be eligible for the FIT scheme. Thus in order to benefit from the existing generous return, orders would need to be placed with Solarsense by the end of October 2011 also bearing in mind Christmas and potential bad weather during the winter.

Are 4KW solar PV installations a thing of the past as network operators (Western Power Distribution) tighten the rules?

As more and more people install solar panels, the district network operators (DNOs) are having to work harder to balance the grid. This means that they have started to strictly enforce rules, where previously there was some leeway. Up until now most installers have just been notifying DNOs of installations of up to 4kW within 30 days of commissioning. Now they make what's called a stage 2 application to the appropriate DNO for permission to connect all systems of 3.7kW or above, before going ahead and connecting it to the grid. They should also apply if they are installing more than one system of less than 3.7kW within the same postcode. Clearly if Solarsense are installing 2 or 3 PV systems in the same road, then this problem is happening.

Read more about this at this link <http://tinyurl.com/DNOWPD>

Some Sustainable Crediton PV buying group members are falling foul of this problem and Solarsense will work with them and Western Power to reach a solution.

2.4 Waste Action Group

Plastic Waste Collection Trial

The Waste Group held 2 events on 3rd & 17th Sep at the recycling point at Morrisons in Crediton to enable people to bring their waste plastic to be recycled.

There was an overwhelming response when people came in their hundreds to support this event.

In all we collected over 1 ton of plastic - thats around 75 large dumpy bags.

The event was held to encourage people to recycle more and to see what sort of support there was for plastic recycling. We also gave out information about the recycling centres and advertised that they will collect plastics. People demonstrated there is a strong will to recycle although it was rather horrifying to see how much could be collected in such a short space of time.

The waste group are now looking in what direction we should take this. With the statistics collected we will use these as evidence when talking to the local authorities to see what can be done on a more permanent basis.

2.5 Crediton Women's Environmental Network (WEN)

Thank you to everyone who came to the Teddy Bears Picnic. Despite the weather, everyone who came really enjoyed themselves with the great music, fancy face painting and tasty homemade food. Thanks to Adams, Eakers, and Treloars for their generous donations for the raffle.

Next meeting is Friday 14 October – venue to be confirmed.

We will also be having a Samhain-themed evening on Saturday 6 November (week after half term) – venue to be confirmed.

For further details check out our page on the Sustainable Crediton website or email or phone me, kate@littlemlett.co.uk, 01363 860208 to join our emailing list.

3.0 Orchards Live

Apple Days are here again. There has been a bumper crop of apples in the south west and visitors to any of the apple days will have a wide range of apples to look at and taste. Orchards Live will be at:

Sunday 9 October, 10am-4pm Apple Day at RHS Rosemoor. If you want to find an apple variety your best chance is to find it here. There are also walks and talks around the Rosemoor Orchard.

Saturday and Sunday 15-16 October, 11am-4pm Eggesford Apple and Cider Weekend. Orchards Live will have its press if you want to bring a bag or two of your own apples (don't forget containers for your juice).

Sunday 30 October, 10.30am-3pm, South Molton Apple Fair and Produce Show at the Pannier Market. Lots of stalls, people selling their own fruit, pies, jams. Entertainment, competitions, experts on-hand and entry is free! To enter the produce show or book a stall for selling apples please contact smapplefair@yahoo.co.uk, 01769 573415.

Orchards Live is celebrating its 20th birthday this year. It was originally called Save Our Orchards, and campaigned to halt the seemingly irreversible decline in apple and fruit production. There have been real achievements since 1991: growing public awareness, practical help and affordable courses, putting on over 100 events, and the recent acquisition of the Devon Apples website (www.devon-apples.co.uk) with information on many Devon apple varieties.

To celebrate its birthday, a colourful, 40-page, anniversary edition of the Orchards Live newsletter (guest editor Kate Povey) was published this summer with contributors including North Devon residents Michael and Clare Morpurgo, local cider maker, Barny Butterfield, and illustrated by local artists including Sandra Chalton, Hermione Skrine and pupils from Lampard School in Barnstaple. Copies are available at £4 from the Book Shop in Crediton, at Sandford Orchard's stall at the Farmers Market (ISBN 97809524160, Black Dog Press) or free to new members of Orchards Live. Membership forms will be available on the Orchards Live stall at the Apple Fairs. Please contact Kate Povey for more info (01363 860208, kate@littlemlett.co.uk).

Membership of Orchards Live is for anyone with an orchard, or is thinking of planting an orchard and costs only £5 which includes three newsletters a year, priority booking and discounts off an extensive range of practical courses, good rates for hiring of apple pressing equipment: presses, mills and pasteurisers; a new pedestrian apple harvester; and invitations to orchards walks, wassails and evening talks. For more information please see www.orchardslive.org.uk or contact the Secretary: Jane Schofield on 01884 861181, jane@blackdog.ukf.net.

4.0 Help Wanted With Rotovating

I need a small patch of my garden rotovated so I can start to grow veggies but I don't own a rotovator.

If there is any one in the "network" who can assist in the spirit of sustainability that would be great!

Many Thanks - Adrian
adriantiley@btinternet.com
 31 Winswood, Crediton.

5.0 Spinning Circle

Friday 14th October 2- 4 pm,

Arts Centre, East Street, Crediton. £2.50 includes cup of tea.

All skill levels welcome.

This is a regular event:- Every second Friday of the month – next one 14 October.

6.0 Sharing Transition Workshop, Saturday October 15th

With Nick Osborne

A Chance to share experiences and learn how to build effective groups

Sidwell St Methodist Church, Exeter 10am – 4pm

Free to all Transition members & supporters

Details: J.Pollard@exeter.ac.uk/[07952666073](tel:07952666073)

Over the last 15 years Nick has worked in a variety of management, leadership, training, consultancy or activist roles with a range of organisations including Changemakers, Shell, Amnesty International, the Ecovillage Network and Transition Network. He now works as a Transition Trainer and freelance as a Trainer & Consultant, as a founder of Response-Ability.

Nick has been a member of Transition Glastonbury, UK since mid 2007, helped develop a network of Transition groups in Somerset and delivered and developed several courses for Transition Training & Consulting nationally to communities and organisations since late 2008.

This day is designed for Transition Groups to help them become more effective, healthy, enjoyable to be in and ultimately sustainable - that means be able to sustain themselves ongoingly!

7.0 Cycle for Force Cancer Charity on Sat October 8th

The Autumn Breeze Charity Cycle Ride in aid of Force will start and finish at Fingle Glen Hotel Tedburn St Mary.

There is a 60 mile route from Tedburn to Fingle Glen, Exeter, Woodbury, Silverton, Crediton, Tedburn.

Hot drinks available at start and refreshments at two stops along route including Bike Shed Crediton.

A Road Bike is Essential

9.30 am start . Entry £10.00 No sponsorship necessary. For entry form call 01392 402875.

Sponsored by the Bike Shed Crediton

8.0 Building Sustainable Communities in an age of climate change and peak oil

by Dr Stewart Barr

Tue 1st Nov at 4.30pm in Exeter College , Queen Street (opp Central Station)

The Royal Geographic Society are organising this talk which may be of interest to some of our supporters.

For further details contact Pat Wilson 01626 772506

9.0 Campaign of the Month

This month's campaign is from Greenpeace and concerns drilling for oil in the Arctic. Right now, Cairn Energy is drilling for oil in Arctic waters. Yet Cairn's own spill response plan shows that an oil spill there would be catastrophic and near impossible to clean up. Please sign the petition below to ask Greenland's Prime Minister, Kuupik Kleist, to protect the Arctic and his country's economy by cancelling Cairn's drilling programme and refusing future licences.

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/campaigns/climate-change/arctic-impacts/Protect-the-Arctic>

9.0 Thought for the Month

"Action springs not from thought, but from readiness to take responsibility."

- *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*