

Main Identity

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Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the July edition of Sustainable Crediton's newsletter. This is my 50th edition as editor of what was originally the CCA and is now the Sustainable Crediton newsletter. It has grown enormously in content and distribution during that time. We now have close to 500 subscribers, which is a tremendous achievement in a community the size of ours, and I thank each and every one of you who reads this newsletter and importantly takes action on its contents.

What is happening this summer? Our second Community Market will take place in Town Square Crediton on 9th July, approx a week after this newsletter is sent out. Everyone is invited to have a stall (see details below) or to come along and chat with the stallholders and purchase their delicious home produced goodies, crafts etc. Other events to enjoy also include a bring and share supper in August on a fantastic smallholding at Woolfardisworthy (close to Crediton), a further community market, a Teddy Bears Picnic and Legwork Live. These last three events will all take place in Sept. Details of all this and more can be found throughout this newsletter. Can we emphasise that everyone is very welcome to come along and participate.

For now I wish you all a pleasant summer. Why not make Sustainable Crediton part of your summer schedule and enjoy the sunshine and the great outdoors in the company of like minded friends, old and new.

Paula Mossman Editor

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1. Events Diary July to Nov 2011

Wed 6 July 7.30pm Core Group Meeting at Anne Tucker's
Fri 8 July 10am Waste Action Group Meeting at Jills
Saturday 9 July 10am to 1pm Community Market Crediton Town Square (Details below)
Monday 11 July 8pm Food and Farming Group planning meeting Sandford. Details Linda 01363 777624 or lindanadcolini@phonecoop.coop
Mon 27 July 7.30pm Economics Group Meeting - details below contact Paula Mossman 01363 866106 paula.mossman@lineone.net

Sat 6 Aug Bring and Share Supper at Woolfardisworthy - details below

Tues 6 Sept 7:30 pm Energy Group Meeting at Lamb Inn, Sandford
Sat 10 Sept WEN Teddy Bears Picnic Newcombes Meadow - details below
Sat 10 Sept 10am to 1pm Community Market Crediton Town Square
Sat 24 Sept Legwork Live, walk, cycle, run through Crediton - details below contact Laura Conyngham (details below)

Sat 15 Oct Harvest Seasonal Supper Boniface Centre Crediton contact Linda Lever (details below)

Sat 19 Nov Seed Swap - contact Linda Lever, details to follow

2.0 News From the Action Groups

2.1 Energy Group

Sandford/Crediton Solar Energy Project - Update as at 28th June.

Take up for our project has been excellent. 80 people have joined the scheme for a survey. 58 homes have been surveyed and the remaining 22 people have been contacted, appointments made and surveys will be completed within the next 3 weeks. 27 orders have been placed with a further 4 orders awaiting deposits from customers. This puts us firmly into the 5% discount and 5% end of year rebate part of our discount table. Another 23 orders will be needed to get into the next rebate band of 15%. Installations have started and as of the 28th June two installations have been completed.

Due to the volume of work Solarsense have agreed that we will have a full-time dedicated surveyor, Ian Ford, for the time being. We also have an office point of contact, Jennifer Stanley-Smith, to help manage the pipeline of work through the Solarsense system. Contact details are on our website on the Solar Project page.

Solarsense have provided us with some additional priced options which can be found on the Solar Project website. These options have a payback at the current level of discount and rebate of less than 8 years. Now really is the time to invest in a PV system.

Once Solarsense have completed the outstanding surveys, our Project Team will be looking at further

ways to promote the scheme in the area.

<http://www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk/Solar%20Project.htm>

Sustainable Crediton invited to join Devon County Council in an energy partnership - SEACS

Sustainable Crediton along with Transition Town Totnes and Transition Exeter were invited to a meeting with Devon County Council about a new project known as SEACS. The SEACS project aims to build a cross channel network of energy ambassadors to jointly raise awareness of, and promote opportunities for, citizens to move through the 'energy hierarchy' (reducing energy demand; implementing energy efficiency; using clean/renewable technology). DCC is the lead partner, with the other participants Dorset CC, Wiltshire CC and two areas of France: Côtes d'Armor and Lannion Trégor Agglomération. The project will run until September 2014.

The project will be working with individual households, communities, schools and within the partner authorities themselves, to facilitate and test different methods of engagement and promotional activity, as well as undertaking feasibility studies for the installation of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Sustainable Crediton were invited because we already have a community scheme running and DCC would like to learn from us. Delivery will also be assisted by key delivery agencies such as the energy advice centres in each participating country. Learning from a wide range of stakeholders will be integral to the project, to identify case studies, good practice and experience, so that the project adds value to existing work on the ground rather than replicating it.

The methods and tools employed, and the resulting outputs and outcomes will be shared through exchange of experience and technical seminars, leaving a legacy of case studies and a toolkit for future use across the European community.

At the moment we are unsure how the project will evolve and what our involvement will be, but it is good that we were recognised by DCC for one of our projects and asked to participate.

2.2 Waste Action Group

Have Your say about Devon County Council Waste Consultation Strategy

You have until July 21, 2011 to make comments on the report being put together on the County wide waste strategy envisaged by DCC for the next 20years. Much of what they are proposing is controversial such as using incineration as the main means of waste disposal county wide. Please respond by this date to ensure your comments are taken into consideration fully.

The Waste Action Group have developed a work in progress response which you can read at this link <http://www.sustainablecrediton.org.uk/Pages/Waste/Waste%20Consultation%20Comments.docm> . It would be valuable however for as many people as possible to state their views as well.

The full DCC strategy document can be found at this link:-

http://devoncc.limehouse.co.uk/portal/minerals_and_waste_development_framework/waste/io_consultation/waste_core_strategy_issues_and_options_consultation?pointId=1722642

Bin Cam - helps students recycle more!

This is a brilliant short video about a pilot project which is putting automatic cameras in the lids of household rubbish bins. The photos of what is put in the bins are then being published on Facebook. The guilt, and exposure of their 'naughty' ways, is changing people's habits! Have a watch!
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-13687481>

Water-Saving Ideas - get FREE helpful gadgets from SW Water

Reservoir levels in SW England are at a very low level this summer due to our dry winter and early spring. As a Sustainable Crediton supporter we realise that saving resources, such as water, is second-nature to you.

You probably already have a water butt, re-use washing-up or bath water on the garden, let the lawn look a little brown for a while, don't overfill the kettle, turn taps off when brushing teeth, put a bottle of water in the fridge to avoid drawing unnecessary water until a cool temperature is reached, have fixed any leaking taps, take showers rather than baths using a modern energy-efficient shower head etc. etc.

However, there are some cheap and cheerful gadgets available that enable you to make a few more savings, e.g. a Hippo bag or 'Save-a-Flush- bag in a cistern will reduce the amount used on each flush for cisterns that are more than 10 years old. A showersave device adds more air to reduce water consumption without reducing the experience (may not be suitable for electric showers), tap aerators add more air to the water flow and a timer is a handy device in the shower. If any of these sound useful then all of these are available for FREE from South West Water (yes something free from SWW)!!

Please see <http://www.southwestwater-savewatersavemoney.co.uk/products/free-water-saving-pack/from/SWSML>.

If you want to calculate how much water you use every month then try this water calculator http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/629/629/5086298.stm.

There are lots of useful ideas on this topic in numerous websites - just Google 'water saving tips'.

2.3 Food and Farming Group

Community Markets - We are planning to hold these markets every two months or so during the summer. The next two are on 9 July and 10 September from 10am to 1pm in the Town Square. Anyone can come and sell or swap local produce, however small the amount. We also welcome charities and small local producers who can't get on to the Farmer's Market, or for whom that isn't appropriate. No set charge, but we ask for donations towards our costs.

If you have no produce to bring, do please come and buy.

More information from info@creditonlocalproduce.co.uk or call EI on 01363 866543

Seasonal Supper. Saturday 6th August .

This will be a Bring and Share meal at Ann Pollards smallholding in Woolfardisworthy, near Black Dog. We are hoping the weather will be brilliant and we can eat, and cook, out in the garden. Please contact Ann before to tell her what you are bringing so that we end up with a good mix of food.

You are welcome to bring food to cook on a barbecue, open fire or in our dustbin oven. Look forward to seeing you
Tel. 01363 866434, ann.pollard@phonecoop.coop

Seed Swap - We hope to hold another Seed Swap on 19 November, so don't forget to start saving your seeds.

Harvest Seasonal Supper - this is booked for 15 October at the Boniface Centre, so put it in your diaries now.

Linda Lever
01363 777 624
lindaandcolini@phonecoop.coop

2.4 Economics Group

The New Economics group has now met 3 times. We have 10 members at the moment who vary from people who are complete new comers to understanding how

the economy and money work to people with some experience of the system.

We are continuing to watch Chris Martensen's **The Crash Course** which comes in 20 short sections and can be watched on the internet for FREE at the following link www.chrismartensen.com

At our meeting this week we all agreed that this material makes a complex subject much easier to understand for everyone and we urge all readers of this newsletter to look at the material and gain some understanding of how our economy works. Our current 'growth' economy which values growth in goods and services as the only way of measuring wealth and well being, is poised on a knife edge. It could well take a major tumble in the very near future and it is wise to be prepared, which is what our group is aiming to do. Additionally once we have gained sufficient understanding of the present system we propose to then look at how we can facilitate an 'alternative economy' at a local level and also how (and if) we can influence the UK economy on a larger scale.

We would like **you** to join us especially if you are not already a member of a Sustainable Crediton Action Group and would like to be more involved. We would welcome new people to come along. We are a friendly bunch and it is not too late to catch up with what we have already looked at and join in. Our next meeting is on Mon July 18th at 7.30pm near Cheriton Fitzpaine and lift shares from Crediton are being arranged.

Call Paula on 01363 866106 or paula.mossman@lineone.net for further information.

2.5 Transport Group - Legwork Live

Remember the last 350 day ? It was organised to publicise the urgent need to reduce our carbon dioxide emissions so that CO2 levels in the atmosphere come down to less than 350 parts per million, a safe limit for the environment. The day took place in October 2009 and Sustainable Crediton took part with a big event in Town Square.

The next 350 event is on Sat 24 Sept 2011. We are registered through www.moving-planet.org

This event is about encouraging sustainable means of travel. The Sus Cred Transport Group are organising an event around Crediton on the day. We have 3 routes to encourage people of almost all ages in the Crediton area to use carbon-free methods of moving around ie LEGS :- scooters, bicycles, walking, running....

Registration will be at Hayward's School at 10am and the main route for most people will be to Landscore School then back to Town Square, completing 2.5 miles.

Added extras will be: a route to Sandford making 7 miles
or: almost to Punchbowl Recycling Centre, making 10 miles.

Lots of publicity is coming. Local schools and youth groups have been invited. Please put Sat 24 Sept in your diary and plan to join us.

Laura Conyngham For more information contact Laura on laurac@eclipse.co.uk

2.6 Womens Enviromental Network

The Crediton Women's Environmental Network is running its Teddy Bears Picnic again! Date is now confirmed as Saturday 10th September, at Newcombes Meadow by the bandstand, so there's something to look forward to when school starts again. Heading our musical line up will be Rosa Rebecka – back by popular demand! We will also have face painting, balloon modelling, circus skills and lots more.

All we ask is that you bring a plate of food to share (clearly labelled) and ideally something that is local or fair-trade or organic or homemade. This is a celebration about food and community with teddy bears and music as extra! Please put the date in your diary and contact me if you would like to be involved (help with distributing leaflets, offers of storytelling, helping to tidy up at the end, offering loan of a gazebo, tables, chairs, anything you think might enhance the picnic).

WEN have regular meetings / social evenings, please contact me, Kate Povey, for the next date and venue.

Tel: 01363 860208 Mob: 07775 712237 Email: kate@littlemlett.co.uk

3.0 Mid Devon Consultation on new Developments in the District

Mid Devon have recently carried out a consultation about how they would manage new developments in the District. Since this is so relevant to our work in Sustainable Crediton, we put in a joint submission with Bradninch Climate Action. In the final part we stressed the need for emphasis to be placed on resilience (the ability of local systems to withstand outside shocks), self-reliance (providing for our own needs) and re-localisation (ensuring that goods and services are provided at the most local level possible).

If you would like to see the full submission (not very long!), contact Gerald gerald@eclipse.co.uk

4.0 A New Town Councillor

Congratulations to Laura Conyngham on being co-opted onto Crediton Town Council. Laura is wife of our Chair Gerald, a Green party member, and an active member of Sustainable Crediton, especially in the Transport group.

5.0 Campaigns of the Month

1.Greenpeace - Volkswagen Campaign

It's not every day you're called to step up in defence of you planet – but today is one of those days. Greenpeace have just launched a new global campaign to change Volkswagen by turning them away from the Dark Side, and they need your help. Despite the green image it likes to portray, Volkswagen is at the heart of a group of companies lobbying against new laws which we need to cut CO₂ emissions, reduce our oil use and protect places like the Arctic from climate change.

Volkswagen have also just launched a TV advertising campaign using Star Wars characterisation and Greenpeace are using Star Wars characters in their campaign against VW. You can become a trainee Jedi and petition Volkswagen by using this link <http://tinyurl.com/GreenpeaceVW>

2. Friends of the Earth - Halve your black bin waste

The Government has published its new waste policy. FOE think the policy is embarrassingly vague and unambitious. And unfortunately, the household waste recycling target is still only 50%. This is the EU legal minimum that the last Government was considering raising. Wales, Scotland and most recently Northern Ireland have pledged to go further. More ambitious recycling could create jobs, provide valuable raw materials, and save money. Send David Cameron an email via this link <http://tinyurl.com/Petitionfoe>

6.0 A New Equipment Sharing Scheme - Neighbour Goods

We can save money and resources by sharing things with our friends and neighbours.

Have a look at the Neighbour Goods site below. It shows how we can organise to do this. If you would be interested and would like to help set up a Sustainable Crediton Group as part of this site please get in touch with Paula, the newsletter editor, by just pressing reply on your computer. We can then talk about getting something up and running.

It's a great idea for sharing things you only use occasionally: power washers, ladders, garden equipment, jam making equipment, apple presses etc. being just a few examples. One idea would be that we could create a group just for Sus Cred members so you could be assured that if you lend your stuff it will be well looked after and returned when you need it back.

<http://neighborgoods.net/> All good sustainable stuff

7.0 Satish Kumar

Ottery St Mary Saturday September 24th 2011. Satish Kumar will open the Recycling and Environment exhibition in Ottery Parish Church. This is a rare opportunity to hear one of the world's leading environmental thinkers and speakers who lives in N. Devon.

He is a guest of Sustainable Ottery and will be one of the speakers during the day of the exhibition. For further details contact admin@sustainableottery.org.uk