



E-News August 2003

News:

Website Launch

We are delighted to announce the launch of our comprehensive website. The address is www.sustainablewallingford.org and we would encourage you to visit it to keep up to date with our activities.

The site will be our preferred communication channel and will also be used to promote our activities. It will be kept regularly up to date and you can find information on what each of our action groups is doing, as well as listings of all our events and talks and lots of useful links to other related organizations (local, national and global!). The site also has information on our aims and vision as a group and archives of past newsletters, press releases etc.

Please make use of the site and provide us feedback on how we can make it better.

Insulation Prize Draw

Now is a great time to have your property insulated with the government forcing suppliers to subsidise fitting loft and cavity wall insulation (as well as other energy savings measures).



Sustainable Wallingford is running a prize draw for all homeowners who have (or have recently had) their properties insulated. The prize will be a *magnum of champagne* and will be drawn in Easter 2004. To enter the competition simply contact Ben on 01491 837131 or by email on sustainablewallingford@hotmail.com.

There has never been a better time to insulate your home and it can cost as little as £50 and this will pay back in under a year as well as helping the environment by reducing CO₂ emissions.

Events Schedule:

30/31 August - Bunkfest Market Stall

Sustainable Wallingford will be at Bunkfest for the whole of the weekend – providing advice and encouraging recycling, energy efficiency and local sourcing initiatives. Please come along and visit us. If you could we would also appreciate any help (1-2 hours) to run the stall. For more details on this please contact James on 01491-833018.

2 September – Bedzed Visit

Sustainable Wallingford will be going with SODC members and TV Energy to visit the state of the art eco development in South London. We will report back in the next newsletter on the visit!

15 September – Renewables Energy Talk

Ian Bacon from TV Energy will be giving a talk on renewable energy and how it can be applied at the community level. The talk is **free** and will take place at the Friends Meeting House, 13 Castle St. Starting at 7.30pm.

20 September – NCT Nearly New Sale

The NCT is organising its Nearly New Sale where you can buy (or sell if you contact them) 'nearly new' baby clothes/equipment. For anybody with a young child/baby this is an event not to be missed. The event will run from 10.30pm – 12.00pm at the Regal Centre. For more information please contact Rachael on 01491-824372

1 October – Energy Saving thru Planning Process

A study into the feasibility of low energy housing (including zero emissions housing) at the Great Western Park Development, Didcot. This is an event not to be missed for anyone interested in Eco-homes. The event will run from 10am – 3.30pm at the SODC and is free.

8 October – WEG AGM/Recycling Talk

Wallingford Environment Group have Tom Southall speaking on *Waste Minimisation and Recycling* at their annual meeting starting at 7.30pm at Wallingford Town Hall. For more details contact Emma Broad on 839493.

18 October – Swap Day

Kind of like a jumble sale but no money changes hands! First in a series of days we will be running to swap old things for something new(ish)! You can bring or 'get' everything from clothes, books to garden tools! The event will run from 10am – 1pm at the Regal Centre.

4 December – Victorian Evening Market Stall

Our next market stall to promote all things sustainable, possibly in costume....watch this space!

13th December – From Rubbish to Rubens

We will be hosting RECREATE from Oxford to come and decorate innovative Christmas presents and make decorations with children. They will also teach us about what to do with all that left over wrapping paper and our Christmas Trees! *All day from 10am at the Regal Centre!*

Action Group Updates

Waste (CAG)

The Waste Group has really got off to a good start with 11-12 regular members. The group is working closely with the SODC waste team and Community Action Group Co-ordinator – Kate Aydin.



We have a grant approved from CAG of £2,500 to help fund our ongoing waste initiatives. A number of the projects that are currently planned include:

- **Swap day** - 18th October in the Regal Centre - see above for more details
- **From Rubbish To Rubens** – 13th December in the Regal Centre see above for more details
- **Green Bin Give Away** – February 2004 – watch this space for more details in the next newsletter

Real Nappies - we have set up a free 7 day trial of washable nappies for new mums to see how easy they are. From **Here to Maternity** the shop in Wallingford have been supportive and have donated 2 nappy systems and we have 10 in total. If you know anybody who is interested in trialing real nappies please contact Sarah on 01491-838618

Aluminium Recycling - the group is producing a simple guide for how local groups (e.g. schools, church groups) can get involved in the Alupro scheme to recycle cans & foil to make money for local causes. For more details contact Justin on 01491-836350.

The next waste meeting is taking place at 7.30pm on 23rd September at 6 Kinecroft – all are free to come along and listen or participate. For more details on this meeting or any aspect of the waste group please contact Lynn on 07799-882062.

Schools Network

Sustainable Wallingford has set up a network of contacts at all the local schools in Wallingford and also primaries in Crowmarsh and Chalgrove.



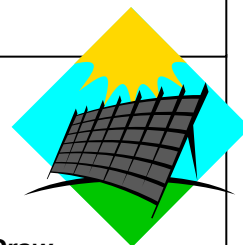
Several of the schools, St Johns and Fir Tree, are enrolling in the Eco-Schools programme which is a nationally recognised award scheme for schools striving for environmental excellence. We will support these schools in what ever way we can to gain Green Flag status.

We will also work with the other schools encouraging children to come up with their own initiatives or promoting our initiatives where they can get involved.

For more information about the Schools group please contact Louise on 01491-835420

Energy

The energy group is now up and running with a few projects in the pipeline, we are:



- Running an **Insulation Prize Draw** for a magnum of champagne – see page 1 for details
- Promoting the new **Solarsavers** scheme – an SODC supported scheme for solar hot water on our homes, for more information visit our website of www.solarsavers.co.uk
- **Speakers** – we will have ongoing talks on energy efficiency and renewables – next one is on 15 Sep – see above for more details
- **Energy Efficient Light Bulbs** – we are contacting utility companies to get supplies of free energy efficient light bulbs – they save electricity and the environment so watch this space!

The next energy group meeting will take place at **8.00pm on Tuesday 2nd September, 14 Castle St.** Please feel free to come along and find out what we are doing and how you can get involved.

Local Sourcing

The local sourcing group is also now running. The group is looking at ways to help individuals and organisations **meet more of their day to day** needs by buying locally.



The group keep directories of local products and services as well as list of useful contacts.

Examples of the projects they are pursuing include:

- Locally sourced school meals
- Promoting local organic boxes/produce
- Promoting the Wallingford Farmers Market

For more details about the local sourcing group and their next meeting please contact Dorothy on 01865 891197.

Other Information

Can't Make a Meeting - we have ongoing meetings for all the action groups - if you can not make a specific meeting but are keen to be involved or stay in touch then please contact one of us and we can help get you involved or add you to our email list.

Questions/Queries:

If you have any questions at all or comments on this newsletter please email us on sustainablewallingford@hotmail.com or telephone Justin 01491-836350 or Lynn 07799-882062.