



Tring in Transition Newsletter

TRANSITION TOWNS NETWORK

APRIL 2014

We are pleased to bring you the second Tring in Transition update of 2014 – spring has officially sprung!

All volunteers welcome!



The areas for which we are particularly seeking volunteers at the moment is the Play Streets initiative. This is now active in Longfield Road – any other takers?

To get involved, e-mail us at: transition@tringintransition.org.uk

We are also looking into the idea of launching a similar scheme to the very successful 'Energy Streets' in St Albans, in Tring. The idea is that residents in a street get together and discuss how they can take positive measures to save energy and reduce their bills: (<http://transitionstalbans.org/transition-streets/what-is-transition-streets/>)



Tring School: Eco-warriors



We wanted to give a mention to the Eco Council at Tring School. This is a student body that meets under the guidance of Mr Rod Gibberd (Business Director). The school currently has Bronze Eco School status and is seeking to move to Silver (with the ultimate aim of Gold). Following encouragement from Tring in Transition in the past, and recent meetings with Cawley's, there has been a visit by Rod and Andrew Rennard (Tring School Facilities Manager) to Cawley's site in Luton and the school are moving their waste collection contract from the local council to Cawley's as of 1st May 2014. This is excellent news, as a very high percentage of the mixed waste from the school will now be recycled rather than ending up in landfill. The school already has contracts for paper recycling and it also has a collection point for used ink cartridges and a contractor who collects them. Plans are also underway for new recycling bins (plastic bottles; drink cans; drink cartons; food waste) in the eating areas. There are therefore great strides being made towards eliminating landfill waste altogether and the council are doing a good job. *Keep up the good work!*

Hazeldene Farm – fancy something rare ?



Hazeldene Rare Breed Farm is run by Liz and Steve Bateman, and is situated in an idyllic setting on the edge of Chesham in Asheridge Vale.

The farm is run on organic principles, all the animals are well cared for and visitors are invited to take a look around the farm and meet the animals. They sell the highest quality farm produce from their farm shop which is open Thurs-Sun, 10-4.

Every month they run a food and craft market at the farm with guided tours so come and join them.

see <http://www.hazeldenefarm.com/events.html> for up-to-date information.

New stall holders with local produce and hand-made crafts are always welcome.



Find out the true cost of smartphones

(From Friends of the Earth as reported in the Guardian:)



Did you know that one in every five people now owns a smartphone? That's an impressive statistic, when you think that a smartphone has more computing power than was used to send a man to the moon in 1969. It's clear these much-loved gadgets have changed our lives in many positive ways. But the hidden stories behind their production often tell a different tale. Just how sustainable is your smartphone?

[Take a look here, this is an interesting infographic on the FOE website](#)



Feeling a little daunted by the latest IPCC report? Want to respond but not sure how?

Join Campaign against Climate Change and Power Shift UK at UCL in May for an epic weekend of talks, strategy-building workshops and an opportunity to link up with groups and communities in a growing movement across the UK (and the world!) Speakers confirmed from Friends of The Earth, Occupy London and many more.

3rd-4th May: University College London
Power Shift UK: Breaking Down the Barriers and Diversifying the Climate Movement
FREE to attend: [Register here](#)

Dates for your diary

Spring Fair

26th April, town centre, 10:30-14:30

Film + TinT AGM

8th May, High Street Baptist Church
20:00 (film "A Convenient Truth") +
21:00 (AGM)

GUCE/TRICE + film meeting

3rd July, 19:45
High Street Baptist Church

TRICE : Harnessing Tring's energy in 2014

After a busy winter period of carrying out thermal imaging surveys, the Energy Action Group have moved on to their next challenge – a community energy project for Tring : TRICE (TRing Community Energy)

We are aiming to present our first project at the open meeting on 3rd July.

Spurred on by the success of our neighbours from Transition Kings Langley who set up Grand Union Canal Energy (or GUCE), and successfully completed a 50 kW solar PV project on a local school building, owned primarily by community investors, we have decided to look at the potential to do the same in our own town.

GUCE completed their project during 2013 and have kindly made the complete toolkit they prepared through this process available free of charge to other community groups.

We have just started the setup process and are currently searching for suitable roofs in Tring, where we can look to carry out a similar project.

The ultimate benefits will be to have at least one (perhaps more) renewable energy scheme owned and operated by the community, with the direct result of providing low-carbon electricity in Tring, and demonstrating what can be done with this simple technology.



What a load of rubbish....

Welcome to The Rubbish Diet!

Welcome to the UK's dedicated slimming club for bins. Ever get confused about what can be recycled? Not enough space to sort your waste? Fed up with the smell of rotting food in your bin? Just hate wasting things? The Rubbish Diet can help you sort out your rubbish once and for all. In just 5 weeks, you'll be staring past your flip-top lid towards a lighter bin, enjoying a life of less hassle and even counting the extra notes in your wallet from unexpected savings too – and you'll never have to panic about missing bin day again!



[Link here](#)

Log survey

As part of the 2014 activities of the TinT Energy Action Group, we are trying to find out where people get their wood from and whether they would like to club together to get better sustainable and local wood at lower prices....

If you use a woodburning stove or open fire in your home, we would love to get your feedback on your experiences to date, as well as where you would like to get your wood from in the future. To this end, we have prepared a very short survey, which should take no more than 5 minutes for you to complete – it would be great if you can fill it in for us !

You can find the survey here:

<https://onedrive.live.com/redir?page=survey&resid=E2C71246AC95CF54!6859&authkey=!AEnXxspalUXnayE&ithint=file%62c.xlsx>

