Transition Buxton

Towards a sustainable community

Welcome to our Bi-monthly E-Newsletter
March & April 2025

Dates for Your Diary

13 March, 7:00pm, Members Meeting, 2nd Thurs of the month, Face to Face, Buxton Methodist Church on the Market Place

17 March, 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn

18 March, 6-7pm Virtual meeting with Jon Pearce MP on the theme of Sustainable Energy

20 March, 4:30-6.30pm, Clothes Swap, Buxton Community School, Gothic Hall (details see below)

22 March, 9:30-1, **Repair Café**, 4th Saturday of the month, last item in 12:30pm, Methodist Church Halls

28 March, 8:45am-12:30pm, **Peak District Sustainability Summit**, a Business Peak District Event for local businesses, Devonshire Dome,
Peak District Sustainability Summit - East Midlands Chamber

10 April, 7pm, Members Meeting, 2nd Thurs of the month, Face to Face, Buxton Methodist Church

17 April, 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn

26 April, 9:30-1, **Repair Café**, 4th Saturday of the month, last item in 12:30pm, Methodist Church Halls

3 May, 10-4, Buxton Energy Show, Octagon

5 May Buxton Spring Fair, visit our stall

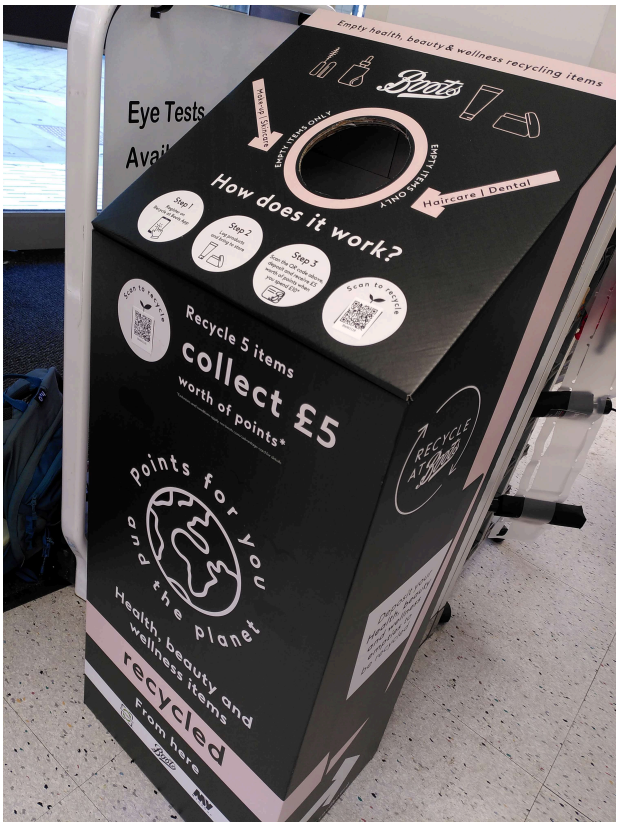
Plus Library of Things within Buxton Library on Kents Bank Rd, open Mondays 5-7 (4:30-6pm from 1st April), Saturdays 10-12 every week, and online 24/7. Not open on Bank Holidays.

Plant Swap

If you grow things from seed, please plant and save some extras to bring along to our annual Plant Swap on **Saturday 31 May** as part of the Rotary Bazaar at the Octagon. This is a great way to encourage novice gardeners and those watching the pennies to try something new. You can take home different plants or donate cash if you don't have plants to swap.
Please bring along your spare seedlings and plants in the morning or get in touch to arrange a pick up the evening before.

Robin Edwards, Transition Buxton





Hard to Recycle project update, March'25

The latest update is that the Terracycle scheme for recycling toothbrushes, interdental brushes and flossing sticks has closed. From now on please register and recycle these items at Boots in Spring Gardens instead if you are able to. The details for the Boots recycling scheme are available here: https://www.boots.com/shopping/boots-recycling-scheme
The scheme also accepts a wide range of other beauty, health and wellness product packaging.

We will continue to collect: biscuit wrappers, bread bags (including Warburtons wax), cheese wrappers (like Cathedral City), Pringles cans (with steel bases), tea bag & coffee bag packaging, disposable gloves (unless used for unhygienic substances) and laundry capsule packaging.
Please remember, however, that crisp packets and confectionery wrappers are no longer categorised as 'hard to recycle' and should go into the soft plastics bins at Morrisons or Waitrose.

Veronica Hawthorn, Plastics Group

Library of Things

Our Library of Things celebrated its first birthday at the beginning of February and is getting plenty of attention. We love hearing people's stories of the projects and activities that the items they have borrowed have been part of.
If you have not used this carbon and money saving service yet, why not?
Check out our inventory here

At the time of this newsletter going out we have 122 items in the inventory, have completed 150 loans, and welcomed 200 Library members.

The Library of Things is open Saturday morning (10-12) and Monday evening (5-7pm until 1 April, then 4:30-6pm). It's staffed by a wonderful team of volunteers. If you could do a 2 hour shift once a month, or even less frequently, please just drop us an email at library@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Library of Things Team



'We Are Buxton' Community Forum Update

Every couple of months we get together with representatives from seven of the other active groups in Buxton to discuss local issues, find areas that we can collaborate, and when appropriate speak up as a collective community voice.

At a meeting at the end of January we discussed the potential impact of the **English Devolution White Paper** English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK on local democracy. The White Paper proposes establishing unitary authorities, each covering populations over 1/2 Million, and eliminating district / borough councils by 2028. Whilst welcoming some of the efficiencies that unitary authorities bring and some of the proposed improvements to funding outlined in the paper, the group felt that the voice of local communities would get lost without a grass roots tier. The meeting expressed real concern about how local communities like ours could be heard and represented in such a large authority. We already feel that the voice of Buxton can get lost or drowned out in the Borough and County. A letter expressing these concerns and the value of local communities being able to influence our places has been sent to 5 politicians: Jim McMahon Minister for Local Government, Jon Pearce MP, Clare Ward East Midlands Combined Authority Mayor, Barry Lewis DCC Leader, and Anthony McKeown HPBC Leader. We will keep you posted on any responses we receive and the evolution of the proposals in the White Paper.

Jean Ball, Chair We Are Buxton Community Forum

Meeting with our MP



We had a meeting with Jon Pearce MP in the diary for January but he was obliged to cancel at fairly short notice - the demands of Westminster. We have now arranged to meet with Mr Pearce online, with him in London and the rest of us in our own homes. Transition Buxton Members are invited to join the conversation on **Tuesday 18 March, 6pm** for one hour. A Teams link to join the meeting will be circulated to TB Members by email a day or two before the meeting which will focus on Energy.
Not sure if you are a Member? check with members@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Buxton Museum & Art Gallery Update



As part of our participation in the 'We Are Buxton' Community Forum a Transition Buxton representative attended a meeting with Derbyshire County Council on 30 January about the future for Buxton Museum& Art Gallery (BMAG). We are pleased to report that DCC says it is "making positive progress on identifying a new permanent home for the museum" and hopes to be able to make announcements in April about both interim and long term locations.

In the spring a range of items from the Museum will be going into display cases in Buxton Library, and a programme of activities and temporary displays is being planned. Meanwhile, the Museum team are racing to complete the cataloguing, packing and removal to safe storage of the remaining contents of Peak Buildings.

As most local people are already aware, the former Peak Buildings was sold at auction for £435,000 on 30 January. DCC is "satisfied with the amount raised for the building" and says the capital raised will be reinvested in services. The new owners have not yet been announced.

Chair's Editorial: A new Transition Hub for England and Wales?



The Transition Towns movement is around 20 years old,started by the work of a small group of people and particularly the writings of Rob Hopkins. It has grown to become a widespread, international movement, mainly comprising a multitude of Transition Town groups like ours across the inhabited continents. Most of these local groups are part of their own national Transition Hub and these national groups collaborate via the International Transition Network (https://transitionnetwork.org/).

Not all Hubs are 'national' in the sense of a nation state recognised by the UN. Indeed, the UK has Hubs for Scotland and London, but not an England-wide Hub although England has had some support from the Transition Network.
A project, TransitionTogether https://transitiontogether.org.uk/ , was launched about 4 years ago to explore how to establish a Hub or Hubs across England and Wales (possibly NI as well). This work was funded by the National Lottery, but the funding formally ends at the end of March 2025, with no Hub yet in place.

I spent most of a weekend in February at a Transition Assembly in Cheshire, where many, though not all, possibly not most, English Transition Groups were represented in some way. The purpose was to consider a proposal to spend the next 6 months working with a small team (with a little remaining resource) to formulate more concrete ideas for a Hub. There was a universal perception, particularly from those who had observed the progress in other countries, that Hubs can support local groups in making faster and more secure change. I'll be one of maybe 25 people who'll be contributing and commenting on the proposals as they emerge. I'll write more about this over the next few months.

Ian Bowns, Chair, Transition Buxton CIC

Skills for the Future

Last year local 6th Former, Ludo Holliday, approached our Repair Café team asking if he could effectively become an informal apprentice. Whilst we are not able to offer any accredited qualification or formal training, our experienced volunteer repairers were delighted to welcome Ludo to the team at our monthly sessions. He has been coming along for a few months now so we asked him some questions about his experience.



Why did you want to get involved with Buxton Repair Café? I wanted to give back to the community, as well as picking up some useful life-skills along the way. The Repair Café was an excellent opportunity for me to do this.

How has your experience of working with the volunteer repairers been so far? It has been amazing, everyone has been exceptionally kind and helpful.

What are one or two of the key things that you have learned? How to fix things, mainly everyday household items to give them a new lease of life. It's amazing to have the ability to do so.

Do you think that the experience you are gaining through Repair Café will be useful in the future? It most certainly will be, as I aspire to become an engineer. While it may be on a small scale, the skills I pick up will help me down the line.

Would you recommend volunteering with Transition Buxton to others who want to build their skills? I definitely would, it's an amazing environment to learn new skills for life.

Ludo will be with us until the end of this academic year, then likely to head off to university. We hope that he might come back and visit or even join us as a volunteer repairer in future. It's great to see these valuable skills getting passed onto the next generation.

Repair Cafes take place on the 4th Saturday of the month (next ones 22 March, 26 April) in the halls of Buxton Methodist Church on the Market Place, 9:30am-1pm (last item in 12:30). No fees, just donate what you can afford and feel is fair.

Email:repaircafe@transitionbuxton.co.uk

We are now on Bluesky

We left Twitter when it became X and now, in the wake of the removal of fact checking from Facebook as part of the new Trump administration in the US, we have joined Bluesky. We only have a handful of followers so far, and we will remain active on **Facebook** for the foreseeable future, but with an eye to the big picture we wanted to start building a presence on this alternative social media platform. Do please join us there if your feel inclined:

@transitionbuxton.bsky.social



Buxton Community School Hosts Clothes Swap to Combat Fast Fashion

Fast fashion, which sees clothing produced at a rapid pace and often discarded after minimal use, has a significant impact on the environment. The global fashion industry is responsible for an estimated **8% of global greenhouse gas emissions**, with millions of garments ending up in landfills each year. The production process alone is energy, water and toxin-intensive, with the transportation of clothing worldwide, and packaging adding further emissions. By swapping clothes or buying second hand instead of buying new, people can directly combat this cycle of waste.

To encourage sustainable fashion and reduce the environmental impact of fast fashion Buxton Community School (BCS) is set to host a **Clothes Swap event on Thursday, 20th March 2025**. Organised by the BCS Climate Action Group with support from Transition Buxton, the event will take place **in the Gothic Hall** at the school, Buxton, SK17 9EA.

The event will be open to BCS students and staff at lunchtime 12:30-1:15pm, then re-open at 3:30pm for students and parents, and finally opening up to the general public **from 4:30 to 6:30pm**. The

event will offer participants the chance to swap unwanted clothing for tokens, which can then be exchanged for other garments. Anyone wishing to take part is invited to bring up to 5 (or more!) clean, good-quality items suitable for anyone over the age of 5 including; clothing, shoes, or accessories to swap for tokens. These tokens can then be used to pick out “new-to-you” items during the event.

The Clothes Swap initiative is part of BCS Climate Action Group’s on-going commitment to raising awareness of environmental issues within the school and wider community. Transition Buxton CIC, which aims to build resilience and promote sustainable living in Buxton is also on hand to support the event. If all goes well the students would like to see something similar take place at the school two or three times a year.

Events like this promote sustainability, reduce waste, and bring people together in a fun and meaningful way and offer participants an eco-friendly way to refresh their wardrobe. Choose your items to bring and come along – you might be surprised what treasures you take home.

Haydn Smith, Buxton Community School Climate Action Group



Buxton Energy Show
3 May 2025 10am - 4pm

We will be holding our second annual Energy show at The Octagon once again.

As well as electric vehicles on show there will be experts from local companies and organisations available to answer any questions people have about energy efficiency, renewable energy for the home, including heat pumps, solar panels and electric vehicles.

As we have the whole of the Octagon at our disposal, we are still looking for additional exhibitors. We also thought it would be a great opportunity to showcase the many activities that Transition Buxton gets involved with, so we are asking for volunteers to help set up and look after stalls for each of our groups.

Further information from Matthew Eglin,
Ian Bowns or Graham Winter
energy@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Supporting Ethical Shopping

Some of our volunteers also help out as volunteers at Day Zero, Buxton's refill shop on the High Street opposite The Old Sun Inn. One of them, Helen says: *"I have been volunteering at Day Zero on Tuesday mornings since December 2022 because I feel it is important to support a local family who are providing sustainable and ethical shopping in our community. It is a real pleasure to spend a couple of hours in the shop chatting to customers (quite a number of whom are Transition Buxton members) while weighing out items, and packing the orders into just the right size box ready to be delivered on the electric bike alongside the organic veg boxes* 🙂*"*
They are looking for a few more people to help in the shop, if you are interested drop in or email Mark Day on dayzeroshop@gmail.com.





Transition Buxton Email Contacts:

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