



## Welcome to our Newsletter for May & June 2024

We are trying a new format for our newsletter this time and would love to hear any feedback to help us keep improving how we communicate with you. email us on [inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk)

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### ***Transition Buxton: A Poem***

*In the heart of Buxton, where the hills meet the sky,*

*A group of eco-warriors, with purpose and a twinkle in their eye.*

*They're not chasing gold or fame, nor counting pounds and pence,*

*Their mission? To nurture well-being, to make common sense.*

*Repair Café, their magical den,*

*Where broken things find new life again.*

*Toasters, teapots, and wobbly chairs,*

*They tinker and mend with love and care.*

*The Library of Things, oh what a delight,*

*Borrow a drill, a fondue set, or a kite.*

*Why buy when you can share, lend, and explore?*

*In this treasure trove, everyday items galore!*

*Plastic Free Champions, they march with pride,*

*Tackling single-use plastics, side by side.*

*From reusable bags to bamboo toothbrushes,  
They're turning the tide, no more plastic rushes.*

*And don't forget the Energy Show, a dazzling affair,  
Where solar panels dance and wind turbines flair.  
Buxton's future powered by sun and breeze,  
A green revolution that puts minds at ease.*

*So raise your reusable cup, give a cheer,  
For Transition Buxton, our eco-pioneers!  
They're planting seeds of change, nurturing the land,  
In this resilient community, we all lend a hand.*

*Contributed by Transition Buxton Supporter Julie O'Reilly*

### **Dates for Your Diary**

**6 May, Spring Fair, come see us on the Market Place**  
**11 May, 10-12:30 , 'Get Involved' Volunteering Open Morning, Pump Room**  
**14 May 7:30pm Members Meeting, 2nd Tues of the month, Methodist Church lower hall**  
**17 May 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn**  
**25 May 9:30-1, Repair Café, 4th Saturday of the month, last item in 12:30pm, Methodist Church Halls**  
**1 June, Plant Swop Stall at Rotary Bazaar, Octagon**  
**4 June 7:30pm Plastic Clever Meeting via Zoom**  
**8-16 June Great Big Green Week see [here](#)**  
**11 June 7:30pm Members Meeting, Methodist Church Lower Hall**  
**17 June 8pm, Green Drinks Old Sun Inn**  
**22 June 9:30-1, Repair Café, 4th Saturday of the month, last item in 12:30pm, Methodist Church Halls**  
**24 June, 7:30pm 'Outgrow the System' Film & Discussion, Buxton Cinema, Pavilion Gardens**  
**29 June, Times TBC, Mass Unwrap, Morrisons**  
**Please Note: No Members Meeting or Repair Café in July.**  
**Plus Library of Things within Buxton Library on Kents Bank Rd, open Mondays 5-7, Saturdays 10-12, and online 24/7.**



£20,000 - April 2023 to March 2024



- Buxton Wild Weeks  
7 summer weeks, 10 schools, 1813 children,  
6 organisations, 11 paid individuals, 13 volunteers  
Autumn & Winter conservation and social media
- Moorlands Wild Weeks Moorlands Climate Action  
1 Week 3 schools 484 children
- Student Conference November  
168 students, 9 schools & the college,  
14 organisations & HPBC, 28 Volunteers (incl 15 TB)



## Buxton Wild Weeks

The graphic above gives a summary of the National Lottery Heritage Fund project that Transition Buxton has delivered this last year. Thank you to our fabulous school community, our Project Manager Lindsey Wakefield, to all the professionals, organisations and our wonderful Wild Weeks volunteers who dedicate so much time, enthusiasm and expertise to connect our local children with their local natural heritage. We are grateful to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and we also thank everyone who plays the lottery to make this project funding possible.

It was great to celebrate our NLHF grant in The Pump Room in March; please click on this link to watch the fabulous video of the occasion taken by Buxton Crescent Heritage Trust. [https://youtu.be/\\_O21uboDFU](https://youtu.be/_O21uboDFU)

In March our volunteers enjoyed Nature Connection training facilitated by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and Buxton Civic Association with Burbage Primary School Eco Council. The Wild Weeks team have also been doing their NSPCC Safeguarding training as we're currently planning this year's Wild Weeks for 20th May to 28th June.

If you would like to join Buxton Wild Weeks please get in touch with Frances and Lindsey on [info@buxtonwildweeks.org.uk](mailto:info@buxtonwildweeks.org.uk).

Frances Sussex, Transition Buxton Education Lead

## Volunteering Opportunities with Transition Buxton:

Everything that we do is thanks to volunteers willingly giving their time and skills. There is a role for everyone, no matter how much or how little time you have to offer, and in some roles you can gain skills for use in other parts of your life. If one of the specific roles below doesn't suit you but you are willing to get involved drop us a line by email on [contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk)

**Plastic Free Schools Education Lead** to work with schools, the college, and young people's organisations on our plastic reduction projects. This involves delivering assemblies and workshops to promote the Plastic Free Buxton project, collecting bags of recycling from schools for our Terracycle schemes, working closely with our Plastics Group. If you would like to find out more please contact [plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk)

**Newsletter Layout Artist** to layout our bi-monthly e-newsletter using content gathered and provided by colleagues. The newsletters are then circulated by our Membership Secretary using Mailchimp to nearly 500 email addresses every two months, and a pdf version goes on our website. Contact [inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk)

**Library of Things Accounts Administrator** to reconcile the monthly transactions through the Library of Things via the report generated by the MyTurn software system that we are using with the statement that we get from the SumUp payment device and cash deposits. Probably a couple of hours a month. Contact [library@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:library@transitionbuxton.co.uk)

## Green Fingers

Plants provide nourishment for our bodies and our spirits in so many ways and there is both pleasure and practicality in sharing plants. Whether you have a single window box, or an awesome allotment the annual Transition Buxton Plant Swop is for you.

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June we will be outside the Octagon with our Plant Swop stall where the stock available to take away has come from the gardeners of Buxton. Bring along that houseplant you don't really have space for, or the excess leek seedling that grew in your propagator, any indoor or outdoor plant that you don't want. Take away different plants donated by others. We also accept cash donations in exchange for plants if you don't have plants to donate. Everybody wins!

This annual exchange is always a delight with lots of gardening tips being passed along as well as the plants. If you have plants to contribute, please bring them fairly early on 1<sup>st</sup> June, or we can arrange collection the evening before if you don't have transport. If you have any questions or could spare an hour or two on the day we'd be glad to hear from you via email on [inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk)



### Plastic Free Buxton

Are you a plastic free Champion? If so, we need you to take the next step and move up to Silver grade!

To do this, you need to log on to your "dashboard" <https://plasticfree.org.uk/wp-login.php>

You can reset your password if its been mislaid!

Pledge that you have removed at least 2 of the "top offenders" - see diagram

Pledge that you will publicise your involvement on your social media or do another activity to reduce plastic

That's it - you will be another of our Silver Champions

Lots of you have said you will but.....I know we are all busy - but we need you to do it!

Derek Bodey, Transition Buxton Plastic Clever Project Lead





### Save Buxton Museum & Art Gallery

Buxton Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG), which is run by Derbyshire County Council (DCC), was suddenly closed on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 with DCC citing the discovery of dry rot in the building's structural timbers as cause for 'temporary closure'.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/news-events/news-updates/news/temporary-closure-for-buxton-museum-and-art-gallery.aspx> Nearly 12 months on from the 'temporary closure' concerns are deepening for the future of BMAG.

With DCC's finances in a difficult situation and associated spending freeze, there is real concern that Peak Buildings, which houses BMAG will remain closed for the foreseeable future whilst the dry-rot is (or is not) addressed. The displays and contents have been packed away and in some cases removed for storage elsewhere. DCC have yet to announce any decision on BMAG's future.

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery belongs to the people of Buxton. For 130 years, it has been providing valuable community benefits to residents and visitors alike. BMAG is much more than the contents of the building, it is part of the cultural fabric of our town and makes a valuable difference through their children's creative activities and so much more. We can't let this treasure trove become a thing of the past!

Concerns amongst our community about the potential permanent loss of our precious BMAG are reflected in over 4000 signatures already on the petition and plans are afoot for an action of some kind to mark the anniversary of the closure. Let DCC know what Buxton Museum & Art Gallery means to you and show your support by signing this petition at <https://www.change.org/p/save-buxton-museum-art-gallery-from-permanent-closure> Read more about BMAG and its closure on the Vision Buxton website: [www.visionbuxton.co.uk](http://www.visionbuxton.co.uk)



### Chair's Editorial: The Irony of Norway's Energy System

Norway has been one of the largest producers of oil and gas since the 1970s. Recognising the volatility of oil and gas markets, in 1990 they started to amass what has become the world's largest Sovereign Wealth Fund (Government Pension Fund Global – often called the Oil Fund). It holds assets worth around US\$1.62 trillion – almost \$300,000 for every Norwegian citizen.

Norway's use of hydro power to produce electricity has an even longer history and today around 95% of Norwegian electricity comes from hydro generation. Norway now exports electricity, including (from 2021) to the UK, via the 450-mile North Sea Link.

Either directly or indirectly, this wealth has been used over recent decades to support the transition to electric vehicles for personal transport, although they are starting to consider whether they shouldn't have invested more heavily within their cities' public transport systems. Over 90% of new car sales are EVs, which are approaching half of all cars on Norway's roads.

This increased wealth means that they have well insulated homes which, together with subsidies, has resulted in about 60% of homes having air source heat pumps. Cheaper, air to air systems, which are not used as often in the UK, predominate in Norway. One further incentive is that the availability of comparatively cheap, renewable electricity means that Norwegians who install heat pumps see their heating costs fall very significantly.

So, based on money from oil and gas, Norway has made a significant transition towards reducing its own carbon footprint massively – the irony of their energy system. Why didn't the UK do the same when we had the chance?

Ian Bowns, Transition Buxton Chair



**Moving Together & Travelling Light**

You may want to save money, or you might be frustrated by traffic congestion and pollution spoiling our beautiful area. Or maybe you, or someone you know, have no access to a car and may struggle to get to services and opportunities.

Whatever your issue, in a rural area like ours with limited public transport, sharing lifts, vehicles or electric vehicle chargers with others in your community can really help.

Buxton Town Team and Hope Valley Climate Action are supporting the Derbyshire County Council and Midlands Connect's 'Moving Together' shared transport project. A new website, <https://buxtonmovingtogether.co.uk>, can help you understand the different sharing options and identify which one may work best for you. There are also some handy apps which make it easy to set up and administer your preferred solution.

Would you like to be able to share transport with others in the area? If so, get in touch with the HVCA Travelling Light team, because we're offering practical support now to help establish and promote projects that help residents share their transport easily and safely.

There are options for business owners too; if you operate tourist accommodation you may want to be able to offer car-free visitors the option of using a car occasionally. Or if you have a car park, you may want to earn a bit of extra revenue by making it available out-of-hours for residents without off-street parking to charge their electric vehicles.

The project will only succeed with the help of supporters, and there are a few other easy things you can do which would really help:

- **complete our short shared transport survey [here](#).**
- **spread the word: mention it to your friends and colleagues, or engage with any Travelling Light or Buxton Town Team social media posts and share them with your local communities**
- **let [julianashworth@hopevalleyclimateaction.org.uk](mailto:julianashworth@hopevalleyclimateaction.org.uk) know if you, or someone you know, either might want to use shared transport or know of a good existing case study**

Julian Ashworth, Hope Valley Climate Action

### Hard to Recycle Update May 2024

It is now 5 years since we started participating in the Terracycle hard to recycle schemes. There have been quite a few changes in what is accepted in the schemes over this time and we can expect this to continue.

The table shows amounts we have recycled for current schemes. Please remember that our bins are only for items from the categories listed. Other items for recycling go in your brown bin at home, Superdrug for medicine blister packs or the soft plastic bins at Morrisons, Waitrose or Aldi. Click on the links to see more details of what is included in each category.

Item type	In last year (kg)	To date (kg)
<a href="#">Crisp packets etc.</a>	100	550
<a href="#">Writing instruments</a>	20	120
<a href="#">Biscuit wrappers</a>	10	65
<a href="#">Pringles cans</a>	10	43
<a href="#">Cheese Wrappers</a>	15	37
<a href="#">Bakery packaging</a>	7	19
<a href="#">Coffee pouches</a>	5	13

The following schemes we have started collecting more recently: [Philips dental](#), [Disposable gloves](#) (with Peak Osteopathic), [Bakery wax packaging](#), [Home Hygiene & Home Laundry](#).





### **Buxton's Community Orchard**

Our 2023/24 season wrapped up in a flurry of activity with us planting a further 12 trees into the dispersed orchard over two locations.

February saw us busily pruning some of the trees in the Orchard, with a focus on Cote Heath and Gadley Lane, improving the structure of the pruned trees.

At Buxton Community School we planted eight trees with the aid of Mrs Booth and the School's Eco club. We were lucky to have a break in the bad weather that has been so common this year. A report from Mrs. Booth in the last few days confirmed the trees are doing well and all have leaves starting to appear.

With Buxton Trefoil Guild we planted four trees at our Cote Heath site. We were contacted by members of the Guild to see if we could move trees that were planted in a site in the Hope Valley that was now being sold by the Girl Guides. In an operation that spanned two days we removed the trees from the Glenbrook site on the first day and planted them in Cote Heath the following day. Again, all trees are busily producing leaves now and expand the site from just Apple trees to include four other varieties of fruit.

Finally, during the summer of 2023 Transition Buxton ran a survey of Buxton residents, within that was a question asking for contact details of people who might be interested in helping with the orchard. We will be sending a single email to each of the people who stated they were interested so we can introduce you to the orchard before the 2024/25 season starts. If you did not put your name on the list we'd still be pleased to hear from you at [orchard@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:orchard@transitionbuxton.co.uk).

Ben Evens & Robin Edwards for Transition Buxton Orchard Team

*Refreshingly*  
**BUXTON**

### **Revitalising Buxton Project**

Transition Buxton is one of 4 local groups who, along with representatives from the college and Councillors, have been asked to be part of the 'Stakeholder Panel' to help guide the plans for the revitalising of the Spring Gardens area. This project, due for completion in spring 2027, aims to *"Transform and diversify the town centre by creating a dynamic, diverse and vibrant place for local*



*residents and visitors to experience and enjoy.”*

What that will look like and the detail will be influenced by our local community and businesses through a series of surveys, conversations, workshops, and consultation activities starting in June. The project funding is specifically for the lower Buxton Spring Gardens area including The Springs centre and its car parks and Station Approach, but not the wider town centre.

In the early autumn developers will be appointed and, armed with the opinions and preferences expressed by you over the summer, will propose a plan and programme for us all to consider. After another round of suggestions and amends from the public and others, the plan will enter the planning permission process before final approval.

A real effort is being made to ensure that what we get is what Buxton needs and chooses for this important part of our town for the future. Please take every opportunity to respond to opportunities to learn about and contribute your thoughts to this project. We will post information about dates and links etc on our Facebook page and via these newsletters to help you participate in the shaping of the changes to this part of our town centre.

Jean Ball, Transition Buxton representative on the Revitalising Buxton Stakeholder Panel



### **Outgrow the System Film**

This one-hour documentary to be shown thanks to Buxton Film in the Cinema in Pavilion Gardens on **24<sup>th</sup> June** concerns our human future; it could hardly be more important a subject. The film starts by observing that our present economic system is unfit for a sustainable future. Moreover, our system that relies on constant growth and over using the earth's resources is a big part of the environmental problems we now unequivocally face.

The pressing question is, therefore, what might feasibly replace that system? The 21<sup>st</sup> Century economist, Kate Raworth, has used the metaphor of a ring doughnut to conceptualise the challenge. Beyond the outer ring of the doughnut, we would be living beyond the means of the earth; within the empty centre people would be living in poverty. The aim, therefore, is to develop a system that allows us to keep within the sweet flesh of the doughnut.

Following Kate's introduction, the film introduces us to a series of ideas, proposals and experimental implementations. These include wellbeing economy, participatory democracy, not-for-profit businesses, equality and an introduction to degrowth. Most of the presenters are relatively young, they are very well qualified and enthusiastic about their shared future. This lifts the film out of what might otherwise be a pessimistic presentation of our woes into an engaging and inspiring work.

Following the film, Transition Buxton will host a discussion with contributions invited from the audience and Dr Terry Newholm contributing an academic take on the discussion as it develops.

Much of this Swedish film is in English but there are subtitles where this is not the case. There are screenings of this film all over the world from Sweden to New Zealand, America to Trinidad & Tobago.

Please join the new democracy and come along.

Dr Terry Newholm, Transition Buxton Member and retired Reader in Consumer Economics at Manchester University

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**Buxton International Festival (4-21 July 2024)** has some important events and environmental discussions lined up for discussion this summer.

**Caroline Lucas**, MP for Brighton Pavilion and the UK's first and only Green Party MP talks about her book, 'Another England: How to Reclaim Our National Story' (13 July) which sketches out an alternative Englishness: one that we can all embrace to build a greener, fairer future.

**Helen Rebanks's** talks about her soulful book, *The Farmer's Wife* (5 July), which weaves past, present and future, providing an ups and downs portrait of family life in a busy Lake District farmhouse. This book is also about how and what we choose to eat, offering the chance to think about where our food comes from, and who puts it on the table,

The walking correspondent of *The Times*, **Christopher Somerville**, discusses his bestselling book, '*Walking the Bones of Britain: A 3 Billion Year Journey from the Outer Hebrides to the Thames Estuary*' (10 July), which sets out to interrogate the land beneath our feet and how it has affected every aspect of human history from farming to house construction, the Industrial Revolution to the current climate crisis. Buxton International Festival Box Office: 01298 72190

**This year's theme:** Olympics & Paralympics

**this summer, help fill Buxton with Flowerpots**  
people - animals - sculptures with FUNNY WONDERS

**Join the Buxton Flowerpot Trail 2024**

**Display them for July & August**

**they're free!**

**Decorations & instructions available**

**register the location by Sunday 23 June by emailing [hello@funnywonders.org.uk](mailto:hello@funnywonders.org.uk)**

**Trail maps will be on sale at The Pump Room, The Green Man Gallery and Poole's Cavern and available online throughout July and August 2024.**

**For more information, email [hello@funnywonders.org.uk](mailto:hello@funnywonders.org.uk) or visit [www.funnywonders.org.uk](http://www.funnywonders.org.uk)**

**THANKS TO**

**SUPPORTED BY**

High Peak Mayoral Charity Committee (Buxton District)  
[#BuxtonFlowerpotTrail](https://www.facebook.com/BuxtonFlowerpotTrail)

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