

Happy New Year to you all!

Yet another COP – how many will they need to get the job done? This one feels like the phrase damp squib was invented for it, and that’s putting it mildly. One thing is, however, becoming clear – in several markets, from personal transport to home energy, when the economics tilt/tip and renewable solutions become cheaper as well as better, market forces will simply take over and they will come to dominate – *if* the vested interests (which are considerable) allow. If governments are not “captured” by vested interests, and play an even hand in these markets, there’s a chance that renewable energy, heating and the like will take over. Previous tipping points in markets have seen the surprisingly rapid adoption of new technologies, such as the car over the horse, and mobile phone take up. We can’t assume such neutrality, so it’s worth keeping a careful eye on our own Government’s policy changes.

Just to give you all early notice for your diaries, our re-energised Energy Group are planning a Buxton Home Energy Show (working title – suggestions on a postcard) for Saturday 20th April 2024 at the Octagon Hall. We hope to involve several suppliers of sustainable products and services, voluntary organisations, and an opportunity for the public to hear from TB members who have taken steps towards personal sustainability by, for example, taking to electric personal transport (not just cars, but bikes), solar panels and the like. If that’s you, and you’re interested in being involved, or you’d like to help in any way, please contact us on chair@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Finally, we had an enlightening meeting with our MP, Robert Langan, at our November Members Meeting. For what it’s worth, my impression was that, because Mr Langan is now in effect part of the Government (for the past year or so he’s been Assistant Government Whip and not just a member of the governing party) his responses to questions and points was rather more rigidly “the government line”, with little willingness to deviate at all from the letter. He stressed his past readiness to vote against the Government, even to the point where Conservative MPs had been told that doing so would result in them losing the Whip (i.e. being thrown out of the Party). That idle threat from a weak administration did not transpire and he may have realised that, but he did rebel and on environmental issues. It’s now hard to gauge what might bring him to do so again.

Ian Bowns, Chair, Transition Buxton CIC

Lovely Gift Give your Valentine a gift that lasts for many years – Sponsor a tree in their name in our dispersed Buxton Community Orchard (already nearly 120 trees) for just £25.

You get an attractive certificate and a map reference to tell you where your tree has been planted. You will find the Tree Sponsorship form on our website here: [Community Orchard – Transition Buxton](#)



Transition Buxton

Towards a sustainable community

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contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk



<https://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk>



Planet Passion

Protecting planet, people, plants and penguins!!!!!!

Saturday 10th February, 10am to 3.30pm, Free In the conservatory and Art Cafe, Pavilion Gardens.

Plans are forging ahead for this new event celebrating and sharing our passion for life now and in the future. We are aiming for a free, fun, interactive day with a purpose. As well as getting creative, and enjoying the entertainment, we hope to learn more about your priorities and to gather your messages to our government to make sure that they know that.....

We care deeply for our planet, our home and all who inhabit it!

Transition Buxton believes that all elected governments need to be making sound plans, policies and legislation that will give us all a chance at a survivable future.

We are hopping aboard the Valentine's Day love♥theme.....

Concentrating on our children's voices we will enable them to write **messages of love and hope** for our planet, with adults most welcome to add their messages too. These messages, written on heart shapes will be delivered to Robert Lorgan MP in a big hand made 3D heart shaped willow container, hopefully at his Morrison's surgery. The content of these messages will also be sent to HPBC and DCC.

Musicians have been approached to provide some appropriately themed acoustic songs in the conservatory. And if the weather allows the Samba band will play outside the conservatory which will draw attention to the event. Upstairs in the Art Café we plan to have a storytelling corner with appropriately themed stories. Also a making area for some simple, crafty fun where children of all ages will be invited to make creatures and images inspired by our glorious planet using recycled materials. And more!

We are grateful to Parkwood Leisure for allowing us to use these spaces, and to our volunteers for making it possible to offer this activity **FREE OF CHARGE** (donations welcome). We apologise in advance for the limited disabled access to the upstairs Art Café and will make every effort to enable those with mobility limitations to join in without tackling the spiral staircase.

How you can help: save cards (no glitter), cardboard, tubes from loo rolls or wrapping paper, bright papers, textile scraps, buttons, wool, or similar. You can bring them on the day (early on please) or we can arrange drop off / pick up in advance. Any thoughts, ideas, offers of help for prep beforehand or on the day to tell stories/ provide assistance at the making tables.....would be very welcome. Contact inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk Thank you! Ruby Moon



Student Climate & Environment Conference

On Thursday 16th November students participated in Buxton's 3rd Climate & Environment Conference in The Octagon, Pavilion Gardens. Hosted by Transition Buxton with a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, the event gave 168 children and young people an opportunity to meet local and national organisations doing inspiring projects to look after our planet. See for yourself in this video: [Climate and Environment Conference 2023 for Buxton Students on Vimeo](#)

Participants enjoyed a range of activities in the Octagon, the Bogtastic Van and the Wonderful Water Tour Digibus. Conservation themes included protecting local peatlands, conserving water around the world and valuing our own Buxton water, tracking Buxton's Swifts on their migration, discovering how freshwater habitats help amphibians and invertebrates, the importance of soil and worms and planting acorn pots using repurposed school banners. Climate action sessions had students visually sorting waste in a recycling depot by wearing a virtual reality headset, writing songs to promote walking buses to school, learning how different textiles influence fashion's contribution to climate change and the positive changes happening in farming to improve local biodiversity. TB teams were there with Repair Café volunteers fixing the broken items that students had brought, renewable energy enthusiasts sharing live data on our National Grid and the Plastic Free Buxton team promoting recycling projects. There was also fun and games with Climate Snakes & Ladders and Eco Bingo.

A key outcome of the conference is to build relationships between schools and organisations; Headteachers visiting the conference were pleased to network with organisations who will support their schools in exciting climate projects.

David Smith, Head of Communities and Climate Change at HPBC said *"We are lucky to have Transition Buxton and all these organisations that are willing to give up their time to engage our local young people in this important challenge."* David met students to discuss local issues and actions with Councillors and HPBC's Climate Change Officer on the Council's Climate Change Working Group.

Transition Buxton Chair, Ian Bowns, thanked students, their school staff, and all the volunteers who contributed their enthusiasm to a special day. He went on to thank all the fantastic organisations who had inspired the young people: Plastic Shed, Stitched Up, Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, Alliance Environmental Services, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Peak District National Park, Let's Go Zero 2030, Buxton Civic Association, Buxton Town Team, Serpentine Community Garden Society, Moors for the Future, Buxton Crescent Heritage Trust, Derbyshire Amphibian & Reptile Association, Moorlands Climate Action

For more information, email education@transitionbuxton.co.uk or visit www.transitionbuxton.co.uk



Alternative Catwalk

New Mills Fashion Activistas are coming to Buxton in March (**date and venue?**) with their 'Alternative Catwalk'. Modelling upcycled garments with craftivist slogans, this alternative fashion show provides an opportunity to explore the issues associated with fast fashion and the textile industries. Emissions from this sector contribute significantly to global pollution, waste, and climate change. From the production of the raw materials through to processing, manufacturing, distribution and retail, not to mention packaging. It's also an industry rife with the, often illegal, exploitation of workers. However, the Alternative Catwalk show is also a wonderful celebration of creativity and solutions! We are keen to share our enthusiasm for sustainable fashion with people of all ages and styles.

People coming along are invited to wear something they have bought in a charity shop, upcycled, is vintage or they have made themselves. In the second part of the show, they are invited to share their experiences of sustainable slow fashion. Don't have anything that fits that description, don't worry, you are still very welcome to join the fun.

Originally New Mills Fashion Week, the group was started during lockdown by a group of women in New Mills who love clothes but are concerned about the impact of fast fashion on the environment and on the lives of those involved in the industry. They are part of Transition New Mills and have organised talks, clothes swaps, upcycling and repair workshops as well as shop front displays over the past few years to encourage and support a different approach to fashion and clothes.

Susan Cooper, Transition New Mills



Borrow, don't buy. Buxton Library of Things is here!

Thanks to the hard work of our core team, the collaboration of the Derbyshire Library Service and the generosity of Transition Buxton members and supporters, our Library of Things is just about ready to go.

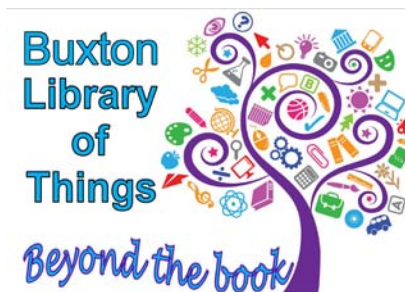
Buxton Library of Things will officially launch on 30th January.

In the meantime, the Library of Things (LoT) team are busy collecting donated items and adding them to our online inventory. If you can help with these tasks or if you would be available to help staff some of our LoT pick up and drop off sessions (Saturday 10-12 and Monday 5-7), please contact us at library@transitionbuxton.co.uk.

Curious about what sorts of things are in the LoT? You can now browse the inventory so far and if you wish, register to become a member of the Library of Things. Just go to <https://buxtonlibraryofthings.myturn.com/library/> To register click Create Account and enter your details. We will be charging a small membership fee - £5 (£2.50 concessions) to cover running costs. Borrowing fees are suggested but it's 'Pay As You Feel' to ensure equitable access regardless of income.

We are very hopeful that the Library of Things will extend the reach of Transition Buxton by providing a useful service to people in our community in the same way that the Repair Café has. So spread the word to all your friends and neighbours. There's no need to buy things you only use occasionally, borrow them from us instead.

Jane Reynolds LoT Project Lead



Plastic Free Buxton

We continue to welcome new “champions” - the latest business is High Street Osteopathic and the latest community ally is Plastic Shed. We need more!

We still have yet to sign up a uniformed group! Any business you use can sign up - details are all on the website. Please don't leave it to a few of us - less plastic means less pollution and, in most cases, less emissions - it really is a “win-win”

Also on the website is a handy guide for reducing your single use plastic - a lot of them save you money and reduce emissions!

There is a step for each week of 2024 - make it a New Year Resolution that you keep!

The link to the website is https://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/52ways_to_reduce_your_plastic.pdf

Derek Bodey, Chair, Transition Buxton Plastic Clever Group

Hard to Recycle Update – Changes from January 2024

The Terracycle confectionery scheme has recently closed ‘due to the packaging undergoing changes’. We are asked to refer to the packaging itself for recycling instructions in the future. In most cases this will mean taking it to the soft plastic bins at Morrisons or Waitrose. Biscuit wrappers will still be able to be recycled in our sets of bins.

Fortunately, we were able to get 3 boxes of confectionery wrappers sent off before the deadline, resulting in the receipt of £22 worth of points. To be honest we won't miss stuffing fiddly sweet wrappers into boxes, please take these to Morrisons or Waitrose from now on!

We have recently joined the ‘[Warburtons Wax Wrap](#)’ scheme. This, unlike the bakery (bread bag) scheme which we already participate in, is only for Warburtons brand items. We were already receiving these items however and so decided to give in and join up to be able to get them recycled.

Another new scheme for us is the ‘[Air, Home and Laundry care](#)’ scheme. Through this we are able to recycle all brands of flexible packaging for laundry washing capsules and wipes, plastic air freshener packaging and Lenor tumble dryer sheets.

We have also been invited to recycle our disposable gloves through the ‘[Spontex Disposable Gloves](#)’ scheme for which John Tourle, of High Peak Osteopathic, is signed up. This scheme takes all brands of disposable gloves made from latex, vinyl, polyethylene and nitrile. Please place these in our sets of bins, but do not dispose of gloves used with harsh chemicals or unhygienic substances.

STOP PRESS: We have just heard that the Colgate dental scheme is closing. We have been able to join the ‘[Philips Dental Care](#)’ scheme instead which also recycles toothbrushes but not toothpaste tubes. We are looking into alternatives, but for now **please do not deposit any toothpaste tubes into our bins after the end of January!**

Veronica Hawthorn, Transition Buxton Plastic Team



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

10 January 7:30pm Plastic Clever Meeting via Zoom, contact: plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk

17 January, from 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn www.greendrinks.org

18 January 5:00-6:00pm, Inform & Inspire Group Meeting via Zoom, contact inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk

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

27 January Potato order collection from Repair Cafe

30 January, 11am, Library of Things Launch event, Buxton Library, Kents Bank Road

10 February, 10am – 3:30pm, Planet Passion, Pavilion Gardens Art Café & Conservatory

13 February 7:30pm Members Meeting, 2nd Tues of the month, Methodist Church Lower Hall

17 February, from 8pm, Green Drinks Old Sun Inn www.greendrinks.org

24 February 9:30-1, Repair Café, last item in 12:30pm, Methodist Church Halls

Coming Up:

TBC in March, Alternative Catwalk celebrating vintage / 2nd hand / upcycled clothes

20 April, Buxton Home Energy Show, Octagon

About Potatoes

With the online ordering of seed potatoes now closed we are looking forward to picking up our orders. We have about 25% more orders than last year, which is great news.

For those that ordered and marked for Buxton pickup we will be making the orders available for collection from the January Repair Cafe on **27th January** between 10:00 and 12:00 at Buxton Methodist Church. If you have any additional questions please email potatos@transitionbuxton.co.uk (before 20th January) or see

<https://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk/potato-day-2024/>

Robin Edwards



Education Support

Would you be willing to support our work with schools and youth groups like scouts and guides? We are looking for a good communicator to support TB activities with children and young people. This could include; promoting TB activities through assemblies, projects and collecting recycling from schools, providing updates to Members and Directors at TB meetings and on our website, writing Education updates for the bimonthly TB newsletters, draft press releases, and share on TB Social Media. You might also support colleagues on TB stalls at Buxton Fairs and projects involving youngsters including the now annual Youth Climate Conference in the Octagon in November. The role can be tailored to your skills and availability, and some training support may be available if required. If you'd be interested in getting involved with the inspiring next generation please email:

education@transitionbuxton.co.uk

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