

BUXTON COMMUNITY WORKSHOP - An Exciting New Opportunity

For the past few years, a group of local people have been working to establish a Community Workshop for Buxton (BCW). Alan Thompson, Joe Dugdale and Trevor Gilman have been fully supported by local councillors, professionals, builders, individuals and organisations including Transition Buxton (TB). They have accumulated workshop machines and tools (pledged or in storage) for a wide variety of crafts including woodworking and turning and metalworking and machining. They have identified premises for appraisal.

Following a meeting last month, it was agreed that BCW would become a project within TB. Several of the Aims of BCW dovetail with TB's commitment to the environment. It is expected that BCW will become a significant element of TB's work in terms of activities and finance. An early step is to prepare a social and business case. Although BCW will be not-for-profit, it will still have to cover the costs of premises, insurance, etc. To get the Workshop off the ground, the first step will be to augment the existing project group – with the emphasis on diversity. (no The likely benefits are going to be well worth the effort. TB's aims will be advanced by BCW taking a "make or mend" approach to repair, restoration, recycling and even upcycling as artworks! BCW will offer a practical workshop to other voluntary organisations. Long term benefits will accrue from passing on practical skills to others and, significantly, providing a secure environment for people to meet informally, helping to improve mental wellbeing.

So, please let us know your interest and how you can help. You could: Join the project group, Undertake some administration.

Help to create the workshop environment, Offer to pass on skills and experience, Commit yourself to becoming a BCW member, in addition to TB membership.

Contact us on BCW@transitionbuxton.co.uk or phone Trevor Gilman on 07773 381824. Keep your eyes open for further publicity!

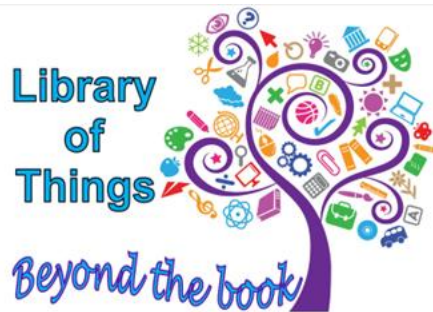


Transition Buxton

Towards a sustainable community

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LIBRARY OF THINGS

It's been a long process and often frustrating, but we've finally got the news that a draft agreement between Transition Buxton and Derbyshire County Council for the Library of Things to be hosted at Buxton Library will be released in early September.

With fingers crossed that there won't be any further delays, we're looking forward to a busy period getting more lockable cupboards (big thanks to Graham Winter and the Palace Hotel) who have patiently held on to some for us, identifying the items we can get by donation, and pricing those we know will be in high demand and will have to be bought – to name just a couple of the tasks ahead of us.

I'm hoping that the enthusiastic group of people who joined the group when we first got our Transition Together grant for this project will be ready to get to work and for those who haven't been involved yet but would like to help, please get in touch (jane.reynold@gmail.com Tel 07511 043124).



contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk



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

WILD WEEKS 2023

Between 15th May and 14th July over **1200 children** at 5 Buxton Primary Schools enjoyed a full week of nature activities; our National Lottery grant also enabled us to bring Wild Weeks to an additional 300 children as we involved nursery and reception years, 2 Infant Schools, 3 local Primary Schools and St Thomas More Secondary School.

Feedback from this summer's Wild Weeks has been very positive and we will be sharing details of the activities and our evaluation at the September Members Meeting.

We used part of our grant monies to carry out ethnographic research by engaging school members in direct observation of activities so that children's experiences could be captured. Resources acquired for Wild Weeks have also benefited other organisations; Buxton Field Club have carried out 2 biodiversity surveys with them, and Serpentine Community Garden use them weekly for their children's Nature Tots sessions. Our grant also allowed us to support Moorlands Climate Action to bring Wild Weeks to 5 Leek schools.

In the Autumn Wild Weeks activities will include pond restoration and tree planting and we're looking for volunteers to help. If you are able to contribute half a day of your time to join some practical conservation activities please get in touch. We're also setting up a Transition Buxton Volunteer Trip with Moors for the Future to plant sphagnum on the moors. Please let us know if you are interested.

Buxton Community School joined the Climate Action Group in Matlock at Derbyshire County Council's Journey to Net Zero day where they presented their plastic-free actions. At BCS Environment Day we spent the day with Year 9 classes focusing on issues and actions related to banking, mobile phones and fast fashion.

Our 3rd Student Climate & Environment Conference will take place on Thursday 16th November in The Octagon, Pavilion Gardens. Students will meet organisations who are addressing climate change and protecting our natural heritage. They will discuss their ideas and take part in debates with local decision makers.

So that we can promote all these activities we're looking for an Education Lead who will provide written updates for this newsletter and provide written monthly reports to Directors and updates at Members Meetings. Our Education Lead will also help write grant applications so that Transition Buxton can continue our activities with children and young people and they will liaise closely with our Directors and Treasurer on these projects.

Frances Sussex

education@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Made possible with **Heritage Fund** Buxton Wild Weeks this year is supported by our National Lottery Heritage Fund Grant

Buxton Wild Weeks brings nature focussed activities to hundreds of young people in school settings and in the community. Hands on activities promote enjoyment and understanding of local wildlife and habitats, and empower young people to look after nature.

Our Natural Heritage explored through Buxton Wild Weeks

- Woodlands: Grin Low Corbar
- Palmerston: Bees, moths & Butterflies
- Birds: Curlew, Lapwing, Swift
- Soils & water
- Derwent Catchment: Pond dipping
- Mammals & field signs
- Limestone dales: Ferneydale, Cuningdale
- Wildflowers in school grounds & green spaces



THE SUSTAINABLE BUXTON SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN

Over the spring and summer, in collaboration with colleagues at BCA, Buxton Town Team, Vision Buxton, and HPBC we have been asking local residents to complete the 2023 Sustainable Buxton Survey. The aim is to find out what local people's concerns and priorities are, what they are already doing about sustainability, and what support they'd welcome. The survey closed on 20 August and we are very pleased to see a real cross section of local people and opinions shared. Some respondents are really putting their backs into reducing and managing their emissions, supporting local businesses, and seek support to go further. Others see no reason to change their lifestyle and actively resist environmentally motivated change. Most of us are probably somewhere in-between.

A summary of the results has been shared with the participants who requested it and you can view it via a link on the home page of on our website <https://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk/> We shared some interim data with you in our last newsletter, but some headlines from the full results are:

Your top 3 concerns are: **Pollution of our rivers & oceans**
Rate & scale of government actions (or lack of)
Mass animal extinctions & loss of biodiversity

- ♥ 93.5% would use a Library of Things instead of buying things for occasional use
- ♥ 89.1% are supportive or very supportive of revising the HPBC Local Plan to reduce the number of houses to be built based on evidenced need, and increase the proportion of 'affordable'.
- ♥ 91.5% would appreciate retrofit grants
- ♥ 84.7% don't yet have, but are interested in, installing solar panel on their home
- ♥ Nearly 70% would be interested in a solar panel bulk buying scheme to cut costs
- ♥ 42% would welcome a wind turbine on their property
- ♥ 83% would consider switching to a local coop renewable energy supplier
- ♥ 75% have stopped or greatly reduced flying, particularly short haul
- ♥ 77% have stopped or mostly stopped using the tumble drier
- ♥ Over 89% would support / use walking or cycling buses for school runs.
- ♥ 57.4% have reduced the amount of meat they eat, and 24.3% have stopped entirely



Quite a few people indicated they'd be willing to volunteer locally including joining litter picking walks (Buxton Town Team), helping out with the Library of Things (Transition Buxton), being part of the Buxton Neighbourhood Plan group, getting a renewable energy project up and running, and more. Individuals will be contacted by the relevant project lead to take the next steps. **If we all do a bit, it adds up to a lot.**

We know our survey was imperfect, and 70 questions is definitely too long, but the information gathered is of real value, so thanks for your time and attention.

BUXTON REPAIR CAFÉ RETURNS WITH NEW HOURS

After a break in July our popular Buxton Repair Cafe returned on Saturday 26 August, **9:30am – 1pm (Last item in 12:30pm)** in the halls of Buxton Methodist Church on the Market Place. Please note that the operating times have changed slightly to reflect what people seem to prefer: now starting at 9:30am instead of 10, and finishing 1pm instead of 2pm.

Don't Replace it, Let's Repair it

Repair Cafes aim to extend the life of our stuff to reduce waste and unnecessary replacements, helping to save you money, share skills, and CO2 along the way.

When things stop working properly buying a replacement may seem the easiest option. Before spending money to replacing them, instead of throwing things away, bring them along to Buxton Repair Cafe for some skilled attention. The Repair Café, run by Transition Buxton volunteers, does not charge fees, just donate what you can afford and feel is fair.

The Repair Café volunteers will have a go at most things including; small electrical appliances, toys, clothes and soft furnishings, wooden things, mechanical items, clocks, some electronics, jewellery and ceramics. Not sure if it is mendable? Bring along your item for a free assessment. Our volunteers are proud to have already saved tonnes of CO2 as a result of repairs in Buxton.

Buxton Repair Café supports the campaign for Right to Repair Legislation.

<https://tinyurl.com/2ur85duk>

It really is amazing the skills and resources we have within our community when people are willing to share. We are always open to more volunteers, not just those with repair skills, there is lots to do to build our community resilience. The monthly repair sessions take place on the **4th Saturday of the month**, but not in July or December. Dates for the next few: 23 Sept, 28 Oct, 25 Nov, 27 Jan. Pop along to the Repair Café for a chat with the team or drop them a line at repaircafe@transitionbuxton.co.uk



HARD TO RECYCLE SCHEME UPDATE

Our collection and sorting of hard to recycle items continues, with sorted items being sent to Terracycle via UPS van. We try to organise a pick up when we have collected several boxes full of waste in order to minimise van miles. Our most recent batch consisted of 8 boxes containing:

33 kg of crisp packets

35 kg used pens

11 kg biscuit wrappers

6 kg Pringles cans

A reminder that, as we need to sort materials into the various categories accepted, we really do not appreciate items stuffed hard inside other items. The picture below shows a recent unwelcome deposit. In this instance the plastic bottles should have been placed into a household brown bin and much of the contents placed in the soft plastic waste cage/bin located at Morrisons or Waitrose.





OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

SHAREFIRST

Net Zero Industrial Cluster in the Peak District

Lime & Cement Industries

Tuesday 26th September 7.30pm

Buxton Methodist Church

Transition Buxton & Sharefirst for High Peak Green Network

Transition Buxton and Sharefirst extend a warm welcome and open invitation to hear from the **Peak Cluster** about their plans to decarbonise the lime and cement industries in the area. These industries are currently the largest emitters of carbon dioxide in Derbyshire and Staffordshire. They have come together as Peak Cluster to help collectively tackle emissions by developing plans to use carbon capture and storage. The intention is to help support reducing the environmental impact of these significant industries.

The speakers will be John Egan, Project Director, Progressive Energy and Andrew Jackson, Energy Strategy and Transition Director, Lhoist, on behalf of the Peak Cluster, followed by a brief response by Ian Bowns, Chair of Transition Buxton, leaving plenty of time for a lengthy question and answer session. The meeting will close by 9.30pm. Light refreshments will be available.

The meeting is a hybrid meeting – you can attend in person or online. To obtain the details to participate online please email chair@transitionbuxton.co.uk. You can read more about the proposals on the Peak Cluster web site <https://www.peakcluster.co.uk/> Peak Cluster will be pleased to respond to queries by completing a web form <https://forms.gle/jsob8P2tpmomugrU6> Alternatively, send questions to raise at the meeting in advance, by emailing the question to either Transition Buxton (chair@transitionbuxton.co.uk) or Sharefirst (admin@sharefirst.co.uk).



PLASTIC FREE BUXTON – THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

Well we did it! Thanks to all those who helped us achieve SAS “Plastic Free Status” for Buxton. We celebrated the achievement on midsummers day, but of course, it’s not over. There is still a lot of single use plastic out there.....

We need to sign up more businesses and organisations as Plastic Free Champions and we need your help to do it! The process is fairly simple, but if you are not sure, it is all on our website or please email plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk and help will be there to guide you step by step through what a business has to do, and what they gain by doing so. We need you to talk with and sign up the businesses that you use and where you work.... we can’t do it without you!

Then there are still many community groups in Buxton that have not yet started the journey to reduce their single use plastic.... for example, we don’t yet have any uniformed group officially signed up even though many of them, including Scouts & Guides, have done a lot of work on the issue. Are you involved with one of them and could encourage them to commit? Are you a member of a choir, walking group, or any other type of community group - would you encourage them to commit? - they may feel they do not use much but it’s also about encouraging members to think about their personal use. An approach by a member is much more likely to be successful than by a stranger.... again it is laid out on the website or email plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk for support...

So please help us with the next steps as together we reduce single use plastic in Buxton, reducing waste and pollution one step at a time....

WALKS FROM THE STATION

Our friends in Buxton Town Team have launched a series of walking routes from the station to encourage visitors and locals alike to explore the area on foot. The routes leaflet can be downloaded from our website here: [Buxton-A4-Walks-v5.3-small.pdf](http://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk/Buxton-A4-Walks-v5.3-small.pdf) ([transitionbuxton.co.uk](http://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk))



CELEBRATING SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES

In an era of discerning customers seeking quality and sustainability amidst greenwashing claims, businesses can give their customers confidence by attaining the Environmental Quality Mark (EQM). It is a mark of distinction, giving official recognition of what an organisation is doing for the environment and their local area. This October, the Environmental Quality Mark (EQM) is holding a special awards dinner at Chatsworth (who are proud to have held the EQM Award since 2016) to mark 20 years of supporting businesses to be more sustainable. It's not too late to apply in time to receive your Award at that glittering occasion. Find out more about the EQM and apply for your business at <https://www.eqm.org.uk> For more information about the awards dinner and sponsorship opportunities please email info@eqm.org.uk



Transition Buxton is a Community Interest Company (CIC) with Directors (currently 5 of a possible 9), Members (currently 164) and working groups including; Orchard, Plastic, Youth Outreach, Inform & Inspire, Repair Café, Library of Things, and Energy. As a CIC we only need to hold a General Meeting (like an AGM) every two years, but, in the interest of transparency and inclusiveness, we try to do so once a year. The Members meeting on **12 September** is a General Meeting where you will hear reports on recent and planned activities, and have the opportunity to ask questions and get involved. Non-Members are always welcome at our meetings – you can then join if you want to become involved.

IN CONVERSATION WITH OUR MP

Our MP Robert Largan, has been invited to join us again at our members meeting on 14 November to continue our discussions about environmental imperatives and the need for bold far-sighted action from government at all levels. Like his predecessors, Mr Largan has virtually attended two Transition Buxton meetings a year and we are optimistic that he will accept our invitation to return in November.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 12 September, 7:30-9pm, Members General Meeting (like an AGM), Lower Hall in the Methodist Church on the Market Place

Sunday 17 September, from 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn, High Street
<http://www.greendrinks.org/>

Tuesday 19 September, 5:30-6:30pm Inspire & Inform Group Meeting contact: inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Wednesday 20 September, 7:30pm, Plastic Clever Group Meeting, via Zoom contact: plastic@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Saturday 23 September, **Repair Café**, 9:30am-1pm (last item in 12:30), in the halls of the Methodist Church on the Market Place

Tuesday 26 September, 7:30pm, Peak Cluster Public Meeting, Methodist Church lower hall

Tuesday 10 October, 7:30-9pm, Members Meeting, Lower Hall in the Methodist Church on the Market Place. New and non-members welcome

Tuesday 17 October, from 8pm, Green Drinks, Old Sun Inn, High Street
<http://www.greendrinks.org/>

Thursday 19 October, 5:30-6:30pm, Inform & Inspire Group meeting, contact: inspire@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Saturday 28 October, **Repair Café**, 9:30am-1pm (last item in 12:30), in the halls of the Methodist Church on the Market Place