
TRANSITION BUXTON LATEST NEWS



'Towards a sustainable community'

JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Winter edition of your quarterly Transition Newsletter. Transition Buxton was constituted primarily to encourage and enable our local community to work together in taking practical steps to reduce our carbon footprint and to reduce our reliance on oil and other fossil fuels. While that remains our core objective, our broader vision is for us, the folk of Buxton, to be part of the solution to the global environmental crisis.

We will shortly be launching our initiative to reduce and then eliminate single-use plastic in Buxton. This includes coming up with alternatives because single-use plastic film currently helps reduce the scourge of food waste. But some supermarkets are already moving in the direction of reducing plastic wrapping, so hopefully we are pushing at an opening door.

Do remember the recently opened shop, [Day Zero](#), at the top of Bath Road. Day Zero is High Peak's first zero-waste shop and supporting Day Zero is a big step in reducing your single-use plastic problem!

And, while we are on the subject, please do come to the talk on 13th March by Esther Morrison of High Peak Food Hub on supporting local producers. This is a

triple whammy: reducing 'food miles', reducing packaging and increasing local resilience. Let's work out the practical steps we can all take to become more green. And to cheer the cold dark nights, why not try the monthly 'Green Drinks' and Meeting for Members and intending Members!

A big attraction is our long-awaited seminar on a green energy supply for the UK with the well-known expert John McGrother on 23rd February. This is of special relevance to Buxton with our aim of self-sufficiency in electrical power production. Unfortunately, our plans for large solar-arrays have so far just failed to be financially viable, but with renewables becoming cheaper and 'conventional' nuclear becoming less attractive there is still everything to play for.

Read on: Transition Buxton needs you!

Transition Buxton is a Members organisation. Directors are simply ordinary members who 'take a turn' for 3 (or at most 6) years on the coordinating group. Several are nearing the end of their second term and must be replaced. You won't get rich but lots of job satisfaction. Interested? Contact us [here](#) for more information.

Lots of other ways to help!

Could you help with a market stall on 16th March? Why not give that very special person a very special tree in our dispersed orchard on 14th February? Remember as well that we need more people to train as tree wardens. Why not get a FREE energy assessment of your home by our friendly energy assessors - we have nothing to sell so we are totally impartial!

EVENTS

Saturday 2nd February Field Club Talk by Naturalist Steve Orridge on *Butterflies*
Church Hall, Methodist Church in the Market place, Chapel Street, off Buxton
Market Place. £3. 7.30pm - 9.30 pm.

Saturday 16th February Field Club Talk by PC Emerson Buckingham on *The work of a wildlife crime officer*. Church Hall, Methodist Church in the Market place, Chapel Street, off Buxton Market Place. £3. 7.30pm – 9.30 pm.

Saturday 23rd February, Seminar, 'A Sustainable and Green UK Energy Supply', presented by John McGrother. United Reformed Church, Hardwick Sq. East, 9.30am coffee for 10am start. 3pm finish. Everyone welcome. Break for bring and share lunch (we will provide soup) and networking. Registration not essential, but it will help planning. For details and to register ring 01298 22557.

Wednesday 13th March, 7.30 pm, Talk by Esther Morrison of High Peak Food Hub: 'Supporting Local Producers'. United Reformed Church, Hardwick Sq East. Everyone welcome. No need to book.

Saturday 16th March, Transition Buxton Market Stall with Connie Consumersaurus

We plan a Market Stall on Saturday 16th March. We hope that Connie will be in attendance as an added attraction if weather permits. If you would like to offer your time for at least an hour please get in touch with Ben Evens; we need two volunteers at a time. We'll also need 5 people to haul Connie from Janet's yard at 8.30am and 5 of us to trundle her home after 3pm. If you could volunteer please get in touch with Ben [here](#). Or leave a message on 01298 71303.

Saturday 23rd March, Community Climate Action Networking Event, Chesterfield

Free event. Bring something to share for lunch. An opportunity for Community groups in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire focused on tackling climate change and other environmental problems to meet to share ideas.

OTHER MEETINGS, GATHERINGS AND NEWS

TRANSITION BUXTON MEMBERS' MEETINGS:

Second Tuesday each month:

Tuesday 12th February (Focus on Plastic Free Town Initiative)

Tuesday 12th March

Poole's Cavern School Room, 7.30 - 9 pm. For Members and intending Members. If you are not already a Member come along and 'sign up'. It costs £1 for life!

GREEN DRINKS:

At the Old Sun Inn. 8 pm on the 17th of each month (Sunday 17th February and Sunday 17th March). Blue skies Green thinking! And don't worry - the drinks are the normal colours. And no pressure to become a Member.

COMMUNITY ORCHARD:

We hope to identify some new sites this Winter and to plant more trees. However, this depends upon funds! The trees make a wonderful Valentine's present at £25 each. Your recipient will get a nice certificate giving the location of "their" tree. So, when you are thinking about a gift for someone special, here is a great idea. See [web-site](#) for details.

We need volunteers to assist Ben and Derek with some of the admin, following up new sites or raising funds for new trees - you can take your pick of the jobs! Just tell us

how you would like to help. Contact Ben [here](#) or tel 01298 71303.

SERPENTINE COMMUNITY FARM:

A successful 'Seed Swap' was held in the hall at Buxton Methodist Church on Saturday 26th January 2019, with Transition Buxton also having a stall at the event:

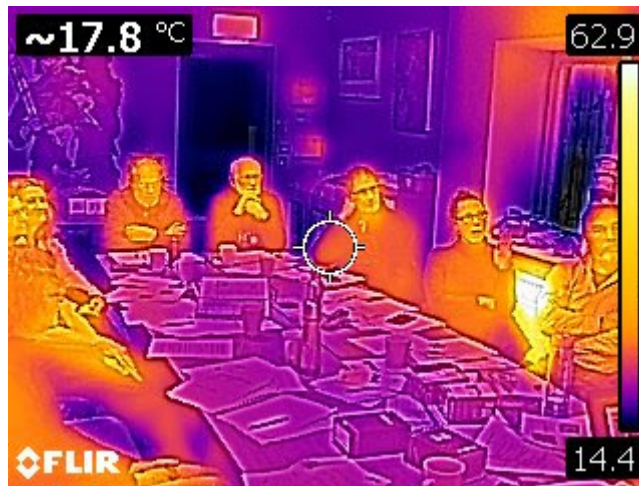


The farm is still operating under the licence, while negotiations concerning the long-term future are ongoing. A further council officers report is being prepared to inform potential valuation of the site. For the latest news on SCF see their [web-site](#) or [Facebook page](#).

UPDATE ON PROJECTS:

Home Energy Survey Scheme:

On Saturday 19th January 2019 we held a lively and useful training session for new and existing energy assessors (see photo of heat generated by those present at the training!):



A reminder that anyone can ask for a free Domestic Energy Check. How efficient is your house? Our trained volunteer energy inspectors are ready to arrange to visit you so that they can check what insulation you already have (if any), look at your energy utility bills, suggest what could be improved and draw your attention to any grants that might be available. The whole visit will take about an hour. There is no obligation to follow up any suggested actions. For details of how to apply go to: 'Home Energy Survey Scheme' on our [web-site](#) (an explanatory leaflet is available). Please make this free service widely known to friends, neighbours, colleagues

Repair & Reuse Cafe:

We hope to hold our first Buxton Repair Café in March! We are continuing to work with the other local Transition and Sustainability groups. Are you a qualified PAT tester? Are you a dab hand at repairing things? Then do get in touch by [emailing us](#). Have you been holding on to something that could be repaired and renovated rather than having to throw it away and buy a new item? This could be your opportunity! Watch out for announcements! There are many successful examples of Repair Cafes across Europe and this is a key way to promote the R's: refuse, reuse, repair, recycle.

Reusing your unwanted items:

We are planning a 'Bring and Swap' Day in the Spring. Remember that [Freegle](#) is a good way of passing on unwanted usable items.

Remember that we're in this together!

Until the March Newsletter, Happy Transitioning! Remember: it's about working together to ensure that our lovely town thrives despite climate change and soaring prices - to be a resilient, relaxed, low-impact community where people care for the environment and for each other and have time to enjoy and protect this wonderful planet.

Transition Buxton Awareness Raising Group: Jean Todd, Jane Reynolds, Ben Evens, Charles Jolly