



'Towards a sustainable community'

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

*Welcome to the Metrological Spring edition
of your quarterly Transition Newsletter.*

Well, thank goodness that long wet Winter is over and we can Spring into another year of building a sustainable Buxton! So much is going on that it can be difficult to keep up, so check-out the details below. For many years we have been doggedly pressing our message of hope: if we all do a lot we can together beat climate change, overcome oil dependency and live in harmony with the natural world (and each other). Suddenly, we are pushing at an open door! And we are cooperating with many colleagues across High Peak and Derbyshire.

Transition Buxton was set up to encourage and enable our community to work together in taking practical steps to reduce our carbon footprint and to reduce our energy consumption. It's now official: there IS a climate emergency and a bio-diversity crisis. Somehow WE have to get to net zero carbon emissions within ten years as our fair share of keeping the Earth within 1.5°C warming: onward and upward with protecting biodiversity and down with CO₂ emissions!

There's lots of good news. The Dispersed Orchard is growing fast, the Repair Cafe is a run-away success and 'Plastic Clever Buxton' – our initiative to reduce and then eliminate single-use plastic in Buxton – is catching on in a big way. More people are applying for home energy checks. High Peak Borough Council has declared a climate emergency and is looking to work with groups like ours. Supermarkets are starting to replace plastic bags and wrapping with paper or compostable bags. Let's take every opportunity to encourage and support them. Just maybe we will look back from 2030 and see this as the year when our town turned the corner . . .

Do remember the eco-friendly shops and eating places locally: Day Zero, Herb Garden, Dubbing Good Food and others that are working to make a change. Day Zero is High Peak's first zero-waste shop and can help us in becoming more sustainable and in reducing our single-use plastic.

Read on: *Transition Buxton needs you!*

Transition Buxton is a Members organisation. We are always looking out for new recruits for the Awareness Raising Group and for new Directors. Directors are

simply 'ordinary' members who 'take a turn' for 3 (or at most 6) years on the coordinating group. You won't get rich but lots of job satisfaction.

To find out more, email awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk about the Awareness Raising Group and contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk regarding Directors.

Lots of other ways to help!

Could you help with a stall at the Spring Fair on Friday May 8th or Rotary Fair on Sunday May 31st? Please contact Ben on awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Many thanks to people who have sponsored a fruit tree in the community orchard. Tree-planting time will last a little longer Does someone special have a birthday soon? Why not give them a very special tree in our dispersed orchard! The order form is on our web-site: www.transitionbuxton.co.uk

Get a FREE energy assessment of your home by our friendly energy assessors – we have nothing to sell so we are totally impartial! See our web-site for details: www.transitionbuxton.co.uk

In addition to the Members' Meeting and Green Drinks, our on-going work is carried out by Action Groups that are always delighted to hear from keen people who would like to find out more and to join in:

There is the Awareness Raising Group, that produces this mailing and arranges talks, films, stalls and other events. Contact us by emailing: awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

The orchards group needs volunteers to assist Ben and Derek with some of the admin, following up new sites, raising funds for new trees and acting as Tree Wardens – you can take your pick of the jobs! Just tell us how you would like to help. Contact: awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

To contact the Plastic Clever Buxton group email: contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk

If you have the experience to help as a repairer or maybe a PAT tester at the Repair Cafe we would be pleased to hear from you. Please email: contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Or if you have an idea for a new group that you would like to set up! Please email: contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk

EVENTS

Tuesday March 17th, 1.30 for 2.00 pm. Cote Heath Park Orchard Site

Join us for the unveiling of our Cote Heath community orchard sign by the councillors for Cote Heath Ward: Linda Grooby and Keith Savage. Five signs explaining the idea behind the community orchard and inviting people to help themselves to fruit have been provided with the help of a generous grant from our friends: Buxton Civic Association.

?? Wednesday April 8th 7.00 for 7.30 pm URC, Hardwick Square East

A really practical evening led by the Manchester-based Carbon Co-op. The Carbon Co-op is an energy services and advocacy cooperative – dedicated to making radical reductions in home carbon emissions to avoid runaway climate change. We are particularly interested in their work on retro-fitting in Manchester and testing the impact of low-cost measures on bills, comfort and health in Salford. As we know, many Buxton properties present major challenges for retro-fitting.

Wednesday April 22nd 7.00 for 7.30 pm URC, Hardwick Square East

A 'Pop-up Tomorrow' event to mark the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Getting to zero net carbon emissions by 2030 is going to be quite demanding, to say the least. So let's take an evening out to look beyond 2030 to the healthier, less stressed, more communal lives that we could all be enjoying. As they say: 'If you do not know where you are going, the chances are that you will not get there.' So join us for an evening to envision the future Buxton (which is already one of the best places on the Planet to live!). For more details email: awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Friday 8th May, Spring Fair Stall, all day.

This is a great opportunity to show-case some of our work. We need people to help organise the stall as well as to be there to chat with visitors. If you would like to offer your time for at least an hour please get in touch with Ben; we need at least two volunteers at a time. Please contact Ben on awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

Sunday 31st May, Rotary Bazaar, all day.

This is a different sort of stall, which will feature the Repair Cafe and Plastic Clever Buxton. The stall is still being planned but we will need lots of volunteers to chat with visitors through the day. Please contact Ben on awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

OTHER MEETINGS, GATHERINGS AND NEWS

MEMBERS' MEETINGS:

Tuesday 10th March 7.30 – 9.00 pm at 'The Tradesman's Entrance', 13 Scarsdale Place, Higher Buxton.

Tuesday 14th April 7.30 – 9.00 pm at 'The Tradesman's Entrance', 13 Scarsdale Place, Higher Buxton.

Tuesday 12th May 7.30 – 9.00 pm at Poole's Cavern School Room

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 (next: Tuesday 17th March and Friday 17th April). Blue skies Green thinking! A sociable get together to chat about all things sustainable and environmental!

REPAIR CAFE:

The Repair Cafe runs from 10 am to 2 pm on the 4th Saturday every month in the Lower Hall at the Methodist Church in the Market Place.

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!

The next Repair Cafe will be on Saturday March 28th then Saturday April 25th. Any queries to contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk

SERPENTINE COMMUNITY GARDEN SOCIETY:

This is the new name for the Serpentine Community Farm now that it is registered as a charity. The site itself is the Serpentine Community Garden.

The Society has 25 year lease on land plus a licence to access buildings for surveys and a trigger point for further lease incorporating the whole site has been agreed, subject to review by solicitors for both parties.

For the latest news on SCF go to. <https://www.serpentinecommunityfarm.org/>

UPDATE ON PROJECTS:

Home Energy Survey Scheme:



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 will hold our first much anticipated Buxton Repair Café on Saturday 28th September in the Lower Hall of the Methodist Church in the Market Place! The Repair Cafe will be open from 10

am to 2 pm. 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! There are many successful Repair Cafes across Europe and this is a key way to promote the R's: refuse, reuse, repair, recycle. The cafe will be open monthly on the 4th Saturday in each month, so the next sessions will be on March 28th and April 25th .

Plastic Clever Buxton:

This new group has made rapid progress in working to free Buxton from single use plastic and to work for the plastic free coast-lines 'award'. Look out for our recycling collection bins for 'hard to recycle' items in Sainsbury's on the Market Place and in Iceland. For tips on reducing your plastic use and for more details of the 'award' visit our website: . If you could help with the work of the group we would be very pleased to hear from you. Email: contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk.

Reusing your unwanted items:

Remember that Freegle is a very good way of passing on unwanted usable items.
www.ilovefreegle.org/explore/buxton-freegle

Remember that we're in this together!

Until the May Newsletter, Happy Transitioning! Remember: this is all 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, Tracey Wright, Nat Johns, Mel Rogerson, Charles Jolly. To contact us email: awareness@transitionbuxton.co.uk

www.transitionbuxton.co.uk

DATA PROTECTION LAW

If you no longer wish to receive this Newsletter for any reason, please reply to this email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Similarly, if you no longer wish to be a member (perhaps you have moved away from the area), we need you to inform us in writing or by email to the Membership Secretary: members@transitionbuxton.co.uk