



# Newsletter

June 2010

[www.transitionexeter.org.uk](http://www.transitionexeter.org.uk)  
[admin@transitionexeter.org.uk](mailto:admin@transitionexeter.org.uk)

## Transition Exeter events & news

### June Monthly Action Meeting

On Tuesday **8<sup>th</sup> June** at 7 for 7.30pm - 9pm at the Global Centre, Exeter Community Centre, St David's Hill. On the agenda are

- Update on TE activities and projects and ideas for Autumn Programme – what's next on the Transition agenda for Exeter?
- **Low Carbon Homes:** In tune with our project to popularize eco-homes, Geoff Stow will give a talk about transforming buildings to save or to generate energy. Geoff is a consultant on energy efficiency in the home and has experience of green building and energy saving detailing. He is a trustee of the AECB, The Sustainable Building Association [www.aecb.net](http://www.aecb.net).
- Sustainability movements and nuclear energy in Finland – report from Joni Vainiki

The meeting is open to all - a good opportunity for new and old supporters to chat and find out more. Joni is researching the Transition Movement in UK during this month and would also welcome the opportunity to chat to people at the meeting or in the pub afterwards. Any enquiries about the meeting, contact Gill on 0789 618 4434, also the number to ring if you are late and the doorbell brings no result!

This will be the last Monthly Action Meeting before the summer. Look out for our new programme in the autumn.

### Newsletter Editor

We're really grateful to Clare Bryden, who has edited the newsletter effectively and efficiently for seven months, but is now stepping down.

Editing the newsletter is one of our most essential jobs; it's strictly limited but lets you keep a finger on the pulse of what's happening in the various Transition groups and much else. It can be done at home. We urgently need a new newsletter editor – so if you feel this is something you could do to help Transition Exeter develop please get in touch with us via [admin@transitionexeter.org.uk](mailto:admin@transitionexeter.org.uk) or have a word with one of us at the monthly meeting.

### Eco-homes Project

We are still looking for more homes willing to receive visitors to demonstrate their energy-saving or energy-producing features. Here are some more details about the project. If you would be willing to be part of or help with an autumn demonstration tour or open house weekend, please do contact Gill Baker (see below)

We are proposing that this event takes place on 18th/19th September 2010. We are considering a number of different formats for the event which can be run exclusively or in combination. The choice of format will be directed by the owners of houses involved in the tour. House owners or tenants can choose any or all of the three options they would be happy to be involved in :

A "Tour" - this would involve a group of people, managed by Transition Exeter, visiting the property at a specific time to see energy saving installations and ask questions.

An “Open Studio” – this would involve us creating a brochure of homes around the city with a list of “opening times” times that individuals may visit your property . Owners would show people around as and when they arrived.

An “Exhibition and Symposium” - this would involve us organizing a public talk at a venue in central Exeter about energy efficiency. After the talk there would be an informal exhibition, probably with food, where each home owner has a stand/table to display photos or videos of their installation and answer questions informally to members of the public perusing the stands.

**If you would consider helping with this** please contact Gillian Baker: [gcbuk@hotmail.com](mailto:gcbuk@hotmail.com) or phone 01392 259192 (eves).

## Around the TE Groups

### Inner Transition

Our **Non-Violent Communication (NVC) Practice Group** continues to thrive and meets every third Thursday of the month, at the Global Centre, St David's Hill Exeter, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. This coming month it will take place on **Thursday June 17th**. Group members bring conflictual issues and disagreements from everyday life, both personal and political. The approach is non-judgmental and involves an empathic understanding and connection with the experience of self and other(s) within a group context of mutual respect and confidentiality.

If you are new to NVC and want to learn more, contact Gail on [su7027@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:su7027@eclipse.co.uk) as we hope to set up a second group in the near future. There is a fee of £2.00 per session per night for current members.

### Inner Transition

Following up the 5-step programme for sourcing intuition from Darren's workshop, a group has been meeting to use and practice the technique, to explore individual and common social and eco issues – or as participants decide at the time. We have agreed to meet every two months, and hope to add this intuitive process with its potential for new energy creativity, and paradigm change into the melting pot of Exeter city life and in particular to Exeter as a transition town.

We plan to meet again on **the morning of Saturday 17th of July upstairs at Friend's House Wynard's lane ,magdalen st.,Exeter EX2 4HU from 10.00am to 1.00pm (with teas etc offered from 9.30am**. Please contact Gail on [su7027@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:su7027@eclipse.co.uk) if you would like more info with a view to coming along

### Transport Group

The transport group is beginning a new phase of work after its submission for the Local Transport Plan. So if you've got some good ideas about how to move Exeter towards people-friendly, sustainable transport please come along to our next meeting: Tuesday **15<sup>th</sup> June**, 730 pm at the Picturehouse Cafe. For more information about the group and/or for details of the venue email Sue Kay, [s.kay@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:s.kay@blueyonder.co.uk). Among other things we'll be discussing what can be done about childrens' busfares that make family bus travel unaffordable.

## Other Transition events and discussions

### Transitioning cities – a problem or what?

Is it sensible to write an EDAP in cities? Should we be doing more project planning and less visioning? Do cities need more emphasis on working with local authorities and other groups? Interesting discussion here: <http://transitionculture.org/2010/05/19/energy-descent-action-plans-for-cities-some-thoughts/>

## Transition Network UK conference

Bookings are still open for the 2010 Transition Network UK conference, to be held from **11-14<sup>th</sup> June** at Seale Hayne, just outside Newton Abbot (convenient!). A great chance to see what's happening in the Transition Movement, use Open Space to find out what you need, or to convene an interest group, be inspired and enjoy great socials, music etc. Tickets cost £130 (some concessions), accom extra – to suit all budgets from single room to crash space or camping. More info at [www.transitionnetwork.org/conference-2010-uk](http://www.transitionnetwork.org/conference-2010-uk)

## Other news, events and stuff

### Sustainable Seaton Green Transport Gathering

Following on from the success of previous years, Sustainable Seaton are hosting their annual 'Green Transport Gathering' on Sunday 6th June. This free event is being held at the Underfleet in Seaton from 11am till 3pm, and promises a day of fun whatever the weather! The day will showcase an interesting range of alternative forms of transport. Entries include a recumbent trike, tandems, electric cycles and motorcycles, electric vehicles and the latest folding Brompton (exhibited by A to B Magazine). There will be a range of stalls including the creation of pedal powered smoothies by the Scouts. Claire Wise from Sustainable Seaton said ' It has been very enjoyable in previous years, and we are delighted to be holding it on the same day as Seaton Tramway celebrates its 40th birthday. Even St Johns are entering into the spirit of it and bringing some of their kit on bicycles! We hope that even more people will be able to attend this year!' Contact Claire Wise [the5wiseguys@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:the5wiseguys@tiscali.co.uk)

### POGOE AgroForestry trip

A visit to the inspiring AgroForestry Research Trust at Dartington is being organized by POGOE (Permaculture and Organic Growing in Exeter) for 22<sup>nd</sup> June. You can get in touch with them via the Facebook Group, or they are building a website at [www.pogoe.org.uk](http://www.pogoe.org.uk) which should go live any time now: a vibrant new group on the Exeter scene!

### Advance warning: The Big Lunch

On Sunday 18th July we're inviting you to have lunch with your neighbours – in streets, parks, gardens, car parks... The best part of a million people did it last year and loved it. Join us for the second annual event and help put a smile back on Britain's face. To set up in your road/community see [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com). There may already be an event near you, or organise your own.

### Wellbeing and Transition Show

Wednesdays 12-2pm on [Phonic fm](http://Phonic.fm) 106.8 fm. Ideas, discussion, chat, music, interviews, positive news, good vibes and enlightenment. Aimed at enthusing you into considering the environment as a companion in the pursuit of personal and social well-being and happiness; and making the transition to sustainable living. More info at: [www.tinyurl.com/wellbeingandtransition](http://www.tinyurl.com/wellbeingandtransition) or contact [wellbeingandtransition@phonic.fm](mailto:wellbeingandtransition@phonic.fm).

### Green Drinks

"Green Drinks is a non-political event where anyone is welcome. It is organised by the Green Party but with the aim of getting any like minded people together to share ideas and concerns and also to have a little relaxing fun." Second Thursday of the month – next on **10<sup>th</sup> June** from 9pm at the Tavern, Well Street.

### Crediton Sustainable Living Weekend

Crediton Climate Action is holding another open house for renewable energy and open kitchen garden weekend on **26/27<sup>th</sup> June**. More info at: [www.creditonclimateaction.org.uk/events.htm](http://www.creditonclimateaction.org.uk/events.htm).

### Small Green Steps

Competition with prizes for groups promoting green living run by Devon Community Foundation. Does your group: Save energy? Travel wisely? Save resources? Recycle regularly? Have a green project in mind? Perhaps it's worth entering and reporting your activities over the last 24 months. Details and leaflet from [laura@devoncf.com](mailto:laura@devoncf.com)

### Building for a better future...

The Ecos Trust is based in the South West, with the principal objective of promoting design and build techniques that give a better quality of life and reduced environmental impact. Their next event is "The Road to Zero Carbon, a Conference on Low and Zero Carbon Buildings", Reading Town Hall, on **15th June**. More info at: [www.ecostrust.org.uk/](http://www.ecostrust.org.uk/)

### GM Crops in the UK?

In case you missed it last time, you might want to sign this:

The European Commission has just approved growing genetically modified crops in the European Union for the first time in 12 years! Caving to the GM lobby, the commission has ignored 60% of Europeans who feel we have to get the facts first before growing foods that could pose a threat to our health and environment.

But: A new initiative allows 1 million EU citizens to make official legal requests of the European Commission. Let's build a million voices for a ban on GM foods until the research is done; they will be delivered to the President Barroso of the European Commission. Sign the petition and forward this email to friends and family: [www.avaz.org/en/eu\\_health\\_and\\_biodiversity/?v1](http://www.avaz.org/en/eu_health_and_biodiversity/?v1).

### Open Farm Sunday

At West Town Farm, Ide, Exeter, on Sunday 13th June from 11am - 4pm. Farm walks, tractor-trailer rides, cookery workshops, make your own burger, farming demonstrations, local food groups, bread making, local farmers, quizzes, straw bale den and outdoor games. Farm produce BBQ, organic vegetarian cafe and crepes and FARM SHOP. FREE ENTRY. [www.westtownfarm.co.uk](http://www.westtownfarm.co.uk)