



Transition Belper News - New Year 2012 - Issue no 6

**The Transition Belper Core Group would like to wish all our readers a very happy and exciting
2012**

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Transition Meeting

Thursday 5th January, Strutts, Derby Road at 7.30. Adrian Farmer from Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site will be at the meeting and we are likely to be joined by members of Belper Civic Forum. The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site is about to review its 5 year Management Plan. We have an opportunity to understand a little more about the World Heritage Site we live in and also discuss the potential opportunities and issues we face as a result of the challenges of Climate Change and Peak Oil.

Note that from February the monthly meeting will be moving to the first Tuesday of the month. This follows consultation with regular attendees and the results of the supporter survey.

Raffle prizes – if you have any unwanted Christmas presents you wish to put to good use please bring them along to the meeting and recycle them via the raffle.

Energy Group Meeting

Monday 9th January at 7.30– at the Cottage Project, Chapel Street, Belper. We'll be running through the 'Off Gas' help scheme for all our volunteers and, if there's time, discussing the next steps for the Energy Expert Neighbour scheme.

Green Drinks

Our Green Drinks social evenings will be rotated around different venues and different weekday evenings this year. Dates so far are:

- **Tuesday 17th January** at the King William IV, Milford from 7.30
- **Wednesday 22nd February** – venue tbc
- **Thursday 21st March** – venue tbc

Recycling questions answered

A number of questions arising from the discussion around recycling at the December meeting have been answered by Louise Hatfield from Derbyshire County Council:

Is the glass mixed at the recycling sites or separated into different colours?

Glass is collected both colour separated and also mixed at the recycling sites. If there is only one bank then it tends to be mixed glass. If there is more than one bank then it tends to be colour separated – particularly at the sites where we collect a high tonnage of material. Please note that some of the glass reprocessor have now invested in colour sorting technology at their plant. Therefore even if the glass is collected mixed it can be separated. However this involves a time delay and also requires energy. All of our glass (kerbside and bring sites) goes to Berrymans as a result of a nationwide contract that they have with Veolia. See also:

<http://www.berrymanglassrecycling.com/services/sorting-and-treatment-plants/>

Why is paper and card collected together at recycling centres and not at the kerbside?

How it is collected depends on the end use. At the sites where cardboard and paper are mixed at some recycling centres this goes to be made into cardboard by Smurfit Kappa and they need some paper in the mix. It is collected separately at the kerbside as it goes to Aylesford to be made into paper.

What is the official line on plastics accepted at the Recresco banks?

Official line on plastics that can be taken at our banks has been added as a document to our Facebook page – also please don't forget that they can also recycle tetra paks in these banks as well as plastic bottles. Facebook link: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/119516118070116/doc/319717144716678/>

Can the windows from envelopes be recycled?

Please see website below. I would suggest that as they open the envelope the rip out the window at the same time. Probably takes another second and this way the envelope can be placed in the blue bag for recycling and the window can be placed into the bin. Best not to let the envelopes pile up and create another job ! Please

see: <http://onepost.co.uk/window-envelopes-to-recycle-or-not/>

Oil Buying Scheme

Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) have recently set up the Derbyshire Oil Buying Scheme. The Oil Buying scheme is aimed at people who use kerosene to heat their homes. There are communities cross the whole of Derbyshire which are off the gas grid and the majority will use Kerosene to heat their homes. The cost of Kerosene is very volatile and has been rising steeply over the past few years and contributing to rising fuel poverty particularly (but not exclusively) in rural areas. The oil buying scheme uses the power of collective purchasing to achieve lower prices for everyone. Membership to the scheme is open to all oil users in Derby and Derbyshire. The membership fee for a household is £20 per year. For more information visit the RAD website www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/oil RAD have just been awarded funding to enable them to offer **free membership** to the scheme to vulnerable people for a limited period of time. Under the Warm Homes Healthy People fund we can give 400 people free membership for one year. The definition of vulnerable people is quite wide – please contact Ian Jackson or David George for a detailed definition. The scheme is open to people in Derby and Derbyshire.

The only catch is that RAD need to identify and sign up these people before the end of March 2012. So they need our help. If you know of anyone who may qualify please get in touch and we'll check the criteria and get the relevant forms to them.

Transition Belper Facebook Group

Keep up-to-date with the latest developments and join any discussions on Facebook. [Join us here](#)

Belper's fruit and veg grower's forum

There is the Facebook Group locally for exchanging tips and ideas for your garden and anything to do with growing fruit and veg. [Join the Forum here](#)

Community garden?

As a group we have discussed the idea of setting up a community garden in Belper several times. Roz at Belper town council is looking for potential locations that we may be able to adopt or bring to life, such as the train station. What do you think? Join the discussion at the Fruit & Veg Forum.

Contact

The trustees of Transition Belper are:

Chair – [Ian Jackson](#)

Secretary – [Richard Keighley](#)

Treasurer - Alan Foord

Core Group - Craig Scott

Core Group - [David George](#)

Trustee - Mick Hepworth

Or you can contact us via the Transition Belper email address: info@transitionbelper.org