



# Transition Belper News



Transition Belper News – Early October 2011 - Issue no 1

## We're getting busy...

There's so much going on so lets put things in chronological order...

### **Bulb planting**

- **Sunday 16th October** – Friends of Belper River Gardens would appreciate some help with bulb planting in the River Gardens on Sunday morning from 10.00am. If you can spare a couple of hours please [email](#) Richard Keighley so he can give our friends some idea of numbers.

### **Green Drinks**

- **Wednesday 19th October** – 'Green Drinks' at the Tavern, Derby Road, opposite Babington Hospital. We'll be gathering from 7.30pm so why not come along and join the informal discussion over a jar of locally brewed real ale. We'll have some data around energy use and carbon emissions in Belper to look at and mull over but expect topics to be wide-ranging and possibly quite random.

### **Discovery Days**

- **Saturday 22 October**, 10.00am – 2.00pm – Milford Hydro – how it works. Learn how hydro power is currently being produced in Milford next to the Mill House pub restaurant
- **Sunday 23 October**, 10.00am – 4.00pm – Belper Hydro – how it works. Learn about hydro power in Belper at the East Mill car park.
- In addition, on Sunday we will have the International Polar Foundation Antarctic and Arctic models, demonstrating the impact of Climate Change since the 1<sup>st</sup> expedition to the South Pole 100 years ago. The exhibition will be in the 'Power House' in the East Mill.
- **Getting involved...** In addition to the How it Works and Hydro Heritage displays we will be running a competition with a personal Heat Survey of your house as a prize on each day.

Please come along to meet the team and help support our stands and the whole discovery days event. For more details please [email](#) Ian Jackson.

## Transition meeting

- **Thursday 3rd November** – Transition Belper meeting from 7.30pm at Strutts, Derby Road, opposite Babington Hospital. The newly elected trustees will be settling into their roles and will no doubt be planning an interesting meeting. We'll update you with any agenda news before then though.

## Energy Group meeting

- **Thursday 10th November** – The first meeting of the Transition Belper Energy Group where we'll have a look at energy use and carbon emissions in Belper and start to look at how we can have a significant impact in the coming years. The venue will be determined by the number of people interested in coming along so please [email](#) Richard Keighley to let him know you're interested.

## AGM Report and trustees

The first Transition Belper AGM was held on Thursday 6th October. Six trustees were elected to take Transition Belper forward for the coming year. They are Ian Jackson, Mick Hepworth, Craig Scott, Alan Foord, Richard Keighley and David George.

Outgoing Chair, Maggie Braley, gave her annual report highlighting the achievement of Transition Belper. The report in full is available on the Transition Belper [Facebook Page](#).

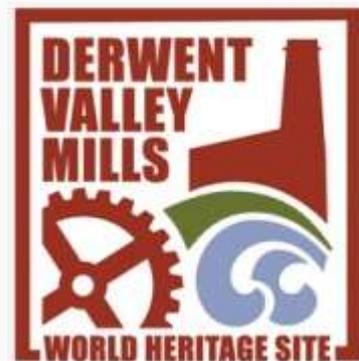
## Amazing courses at Wirksworth Eco Centre!

The Derbyshire Eco Centre in Wirksworth can help you learn skills for 21st century life in a way that is both inspiring and fun. Their courses develop technical ability, creativity and decision making skills in a variety of subjects that link community, environment and economy.

There are 23 courses starting in November and December ranging from a one day Introduction to Solar Energy (20th November) to Christmas Crafts with Natural Materials (2 hours per week for 5 weeks from 15th November). The full list is far too long to reproduce but the full details can be found [here](#). Course prices range from £8 for 2.5 hours of Family Mosaic Making to £101 for 24 hours (over 2 weeks) for Furniture Restoration. There are discounts available for early booking, multiple booking and travelling to Wirksworth 'sustainably'. You can contact the ECO Centre by [email](#) or phone: 01629 533038

## Weir survey in progress

In preparation for a report by Climate Change East Midlands and the Environment Agency around the potential for hydro electricity in the region and the Derwent catchment area in



## Transition Belper Trustees

[Ian Jackson](#)

[Richard Keighley](#)

Alan Foord

Craig Scott

[David George](#)

particular Transition Belper's Ian Jackson took on the role of volunteer co-ordinator for Amber Valley. CCEM were seeking volunteers to carry out surveys of all weirs, dams and other obstructions to rivers in the area. There are 69 of them in Amber Valley and a small group of members have managed most of them. There's a whole section on fish so we are keen to hear from local anglers and angling clubs. So if you have local knowledge of fish stocks and fish movement on the rivers in Amber Valley or if you are a landowner with a weir on your land (and a good digital photo) can you please [email](#) Ian Jackson or come along to our stall at the Discovery Days, Milford 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Belper 23<sup>rd</sup> October, see above for more details.

### **Insulate now – before subsidies end**

When the Green Deal starts in 2013 subsidised loft and cavity wall insulation for all will become a thing of the past. After next year you'll need to either pay the full cost upfront or take out a Green Deal and have the cost added to your energy bills. You'll save money on energy and use the savings to pay for the insulation. The new Energy Company Obligation will see the energy suppliers subsidising higher cost solutions such as solid wall insulation and renewable energy but, initially at least, this may be restricted to those in fuel poverty and without any access to mains gas.

#### **So, what is available right now?**

Amber Valley Borough Council and their insulation partners, **Apex Carbon Solutions**, are offering low cost loft and cavity wall insulation as part of the Warm Streets Campaign. For less than £100 everyone can get their cavity walls or lofts fully insulated (under £200 for both) but householders over 70 and those claiming a range of benefits may qualify for free insulation. The link below gives more details

Apex can also offer solutions to the more complex options of solid wall insulation and renewable energy such as solar pv, thermal and ground source heat pumps. For these solutions it is always advisable to obtain more than one quote.

**SIG Energy Management** are another company who, like Apex, have access to energy company subsidies – especially for 'vulnerable' households and those with no access to mains gas. Their internal solid wall insulation system uses thinner insulation that gives a thermal insulation performance comparable to other thicker solutions. They can also advise on floor insulation and renewable energy.

Mick Hepworth



*Micro hydro power generation snapped as part of the weir survey - see left*



Keep warm this winter - get insulated

**Links:**

[Amber Valley Warm Streets](#)

[SIG Energy Management](#)

**Contacts:**

Amber Valley Warm Streets: 0800 043 9569 or 0333 577 9569

when ringing from a mobile

SIG Energy Management: 0845 873 8612

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