

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth
Co-ordinator's Update March 2011
CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS OF INTEREST

Local	Details	Action/comments
Growing together	Thursday 10th March 7.30pm. Hobbs Room, Shrewsbury Library. Local community growing projects with Simon Howard and Glenys Evans.	http://www.madeleycommunityorchard.org.uk/ .
Our Recycling Campaign	Saturday 12th March 11 a.m. Photo shoot in Shrewsbury to raise awareness of the Government's plans to set new goals for waste policy in England. The coalition is committed to work towards a zero waste economy and the outcome of the Waste Review is in May. FoE is pushing to reduce the amount of waste we bury and burn. Waste policy comes under DEFRA but there is anti-recycling interference from Department for Communities and Local Government. FoE is aiming to elevate waste and recycling from the departmental, policy level issue to a Cabinet Office issue. So David Cameron is our target. The strategy emphasises that the most people want to throw away less rubbish and do more and better recycling. The goal for our campaign is to halve household 'black bag' waste by 2020. The first step is to raise awareness around the national day of action on 19 th March.	It is essential for the success of the campaign that local groups get as much coverage in their local media as possible. We will be asking local residents for their views about recycling and it would be good if anyone of our members could get letters in the press to highlight this issue. Sample letters available. Details of where we will pose for the photo will be available shortly Contact: judith@shrewsfoe.org.uk for further details. Postcards will also be available shortly to send to the Prime Minister.
Shropshire Council	Adopted in January, their revised Corporate Sustainability, Environment and Climate Change Strategy is now published The Local Sustainable Transport Fund is considering options to deliver projects. Two in the pipeline are: Eco Driver Training and Adult Cycle Training. Other ideas by 18th March	http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/sustainability/nsf/open/A15894E0F64610DF802574A500306C2D To Jan.Cook@Shropshire.gov.uk 01743 255438 or Martin.Withington@Shropshire.gov.uk 01743 255431
Forest Gardening	21st & 22nd March 10 - 5 at Berrington Hall, SY5 6HA £40 for the two-day introductory course with Steve Jones.	crabapplecom@hotmail.com
Climate Action Think-Tank	Saturday 26th March, 1 – 4.30pm at United Reformed Church, Coleham Head Shrewsbury. Aimed at people who want to create change by running road shows or workshops to will get our message across Shrewsbury and ask people to make one change to reduce their carbon footprint.	kvanderson@btconnect.com or Alison Thomas on 07972858313
Exhibition	Sunday 27th March 11- 4 p.m. Shrewsbury FoE will be have a table of information for people attending the Healing and Complementary Therapies event at Priory School, SY3 9EE	http://www.aamarhealing.co.uk/pages/exhibition-of-healing-complementary-therapies.php
AD	31st March, 10-12 Harper Adams University College, Newport A chance to see their new £3m anaerobic digester	http://www.bitc.org.uk/events/mayday_opening_1.html
Bean Pole Week	Sunday 1st May Bean Pole Week event at the Green Wood Centre, Ironbridge to promote the use of coppiced materials	Further details from Harriet Wood: 07837 529520
Compost Awareness	Tuesday 3rd May, 10 -4, Shrewsbury town square Compost Awareness Week exhibition event	James Thompson 01743 255989 www.recycleforshropshire.com
FoE stalls	7th May FoE stall in The Square, Shrewsbury 9th July Green Fair Shropshire Wildlife Trust Dates for the diary	Can any members spare an hour or so to help man these stalls?

West Midlands FoE	Details	Action/comments
<p>Notes on WM Gathering</p>	<p>For a summary of the discussions, possible next steps and links to further information from the recent West Midlands FoE Regional gathering click on the link  It includes a link to a video of the summing up session and which features the back of Judy's head!</p> <p>From factory farming to windfarms to localism, we've summarised your creative local campaigning ideas from the January Regional Gathering. If you're interested in sharing information and working together on any of these issues, please let Chris and Tim know.</p>	<p>http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/event_backgroud_documents/os_summary_wmids_jan_11.pdf</p>
Further afield	Details	Action/comments
<p>Yurt moving at Fordhall</p>	<p>12th/13th & 19th/20th March Two yurts need to be moved. Help is required on these weekends to dismantle & reassemble.</p>	<p>If you can lend a hand, please ring Hannah 01630 638696.</p>
<p>Transport</p>	<p>9th March Driving change in transport through the voluntary and community sector, Coventry, 10am - 3pm to enable closer working and commissioning with voluntary groups. Includes sustainable transport, quality of life, ageing population, social inclusion and carbon reduction.</p>	<p>For more information, go to: http://bit.ly/fGOrMk This event is aimed at members of VCS organisations with a role or interest in transport issues.</p>
<p>MetNet Conference</p>	<p>10th March Ludlow. 30 exhibitors, business briefings presentations by planners from our local Councils, the latest on FITs and RHIs, update on funding and support available.</p>	<p>contact: metnet@shropshire.gov.uk or call 01584 838248 or 838249.</p>
<p>Changing Rural Rides?</p>	<p>17th March 7.30 pm Clun Methodist Church. Informal talk and discussion considering more sustainable ways of living and working. Ruth Stafford (SC Travel Plan Officer), Andrew Capel, (Llanidloes Car Club) and others to consider these questions</p>	<p>Refreshments available. Please phone Bob Cunning for more information: 01588 640789</p>
<p>The Edible Garden Show</p>	<p>18-20th March For anyone passionate about grow your own, home produce or rearing livestock and poultry keeping. This is THE ultimate Grow Your Own event. Taking place at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire.</p>	<p>0844 338 8001 or http://www.theediblegardenshow.co.uk/</p>
<p>The future of public service delivery?</p>	<p>19th March Birmingham, 10.30am - 3.30pm Do councils need a better way of working with active citizens? Should frontline staff have more influence on service delivery? Do resources go further when used co-operatively? Discussions with an expert panel and hear examples of co-operative service delivery in the West Midlands.</p>	<p>To register for a free place, email Claire Spencer at: claire@chamberlainforum.org or call 07795 448462.</p>
<p>Climate Week 21-27 March</p>	<p>21st March The Climate Week Challenge all over the UK. It is a desk-based competition for teams of four to six. register here No preparation is needed and it is completely free.</p>	<p>For those who are pushed for time, there is a one-hour Mini Challenge or a one-minute version.</p>
<p>Forum on Eco-Innovation</p>	<p>22- 23rd March 10th European Forum on Eco-Innovation, Birmingham Theme is: "Towards a Resource-Efficient Economy: From Policy to Action" to encourage innovation through cross fertilisation and prioritise the key issues.</p>	<p>http://bit.ly/hofLiS</p>
<p>Earth Hour</p>	<p>26th March at 8.30pm The world will switch off its lights for one hour to highlight Climate Change.</p>	<p>http://earthhour.wwf.org.uk/</p>

UKWIN 2011 AGM	Saturday 2nd April Theme is Zero waste to burn, zero time to waste at Voluntary Action Leicestershire http://www.valonline.org.uk/where-find-us for directions). http://ukwin.org.uk/2011/01/30/ukwin-making-people-think/	N.B. Shrewsbury FoE is a member of UKWIN UKWIN provides information, advice and guidance to local campaign groups (http://ukwin.org.uk/)
Taking Control West Midlands Gathering	May 14th -15th looking at environmentalism from a number of angles with workshops and practical sessions aimed at creating a more unified WM community of people and groups interested in actively pursuing democratic, liberating social change and environmental justice. Open to all	http://takingcontrolwestmidlands.wordpress.com/ or: westmidsgathering@activix.org 07582734713
Household Recycling	The Nuneaton group recently halted plans by the local Council to move to a comingled collection of all household recycling. Keeping the current system of separate collections would be more environmentally effective and save local jobs.	
Wind Farm	The Telford group has been getting lots of media coverage on the proposed King's Street wind farm.	
	The Herefordshire group helped ensure an event on the Council's Local Development Framework was a real success.	
National	Details	Action/comments
Battery egg imports	The European Commission has been urged to issue a guarantee that farmers who miss the January 2012 battery cages ban deadline cannot trade their eggs across the EU.	
Groups teleconference	12 April (1pm) and 28 April (7pm) Craig Bennett , Director of Campaigns and Policy, is holding 2 special teleconferences for group members to give you a chance to hear more about the plans for campaigns in late 2011.	Spaces are limited so express an interest now by emailing neil.kingsnorth@foe.co.uk . Look out for more information in the next issue of Change your world too
Campaign Connection newsletter	For local group members. This is now up and running, featuring updates on all major national campaigns.	If you're in a local group and would like to receive this, please contact jenny.thatcher@foe.co.uk
Diary dates	Sat 26 March, London - anti-cuts rally in London. Mon 28 March, 6.30, Birmingham - Birmingham Friends of the Earth present High Speed Rail : Creating Sustainable Transport and Jobs? debate at Council House. Fri 8 April, 7.30, Leamington Spa , Big Climate Connection public meeting with Chris White MP plus speakers from FoE and World Development Movement. Conference 2011 - 9-11 September in Nottingham. Join us at Friends of the Earth's annual conference	March for the Alternative Please book in advance . At Dormer Conference Centre Leamington Spa Find out more here
Food training	Co-operatives UK is offering Good Food, Good Governance Simply Legal and Simply Governance workshops from March 2011 to March 2012. The events will take place regionally	http://www.makinglocalfoodwork.co.uk/about/gs/Training.cfm?frmAlias=/training/ .
	Snippets and press cuttings	
Recycling schemes	An article on how the uptake of rewards-based recycling schemes such as Recycle Bank appears to have stalled due to concerns over the cost of implementing them.	http://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/councils/recyclebank-uptake-stalls-over-cost-fears

<p>Green Economy</p>	<p>West Mids companies to take advantage of £112bn green economy West Midlands businesses “need to wake up to the opportunities of the UK’s £112bn green economy” which is set to grow by 25 per cent over the next four years according to Harry Morrison at the Carbon Trust, at the launch of the Green Growth campaign in Birmingham.</p>	<p>http://bit.ly/ecs4bP</p>
<p>Green Economy Council</p>	<p>Recently held its first meeting to discuss the Green Economy Roadmap - how government and industry can work together to support the transition to a green, low carbon economy. It will advise government on green and green growth policies and will set out the Government’s long term strategy on climate change and the environment.</p>	<p>...for more on this story from DECC</p>
<p>Community Right to Challenge</p>	<p>Department for Communities and Local Government is seeking views on the Community Right to Challenge, which allows communities to bid for ownership of local government services. The consultation asks how the right might operate, and which services to include, one of which is likely to be waste collections.</p>	<p>...for more on this story from MRW (Materials Recycling Week)</p>
<p>Manchester cuts credits</p>	<p>£56.50/tonne textile credits, which are paid to community organisations to reduce the level of waste, will be reduced to £25/tonne in April 2011, and then to 0.01p/tonne from 1 October – effectively rendering them worthless. Recycling credits for paper and card will similarly be reduced.</p>	<p>...for more on this story from MRW (Materials Recycling Week)</p>
<p>Recycling banks</p>	<p>Cornwall council has expressed disappointment at Sainsbury’s after recycling banks were removed from car parks in the region when the council cut its funding for them.</p>	<p>http://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/councils/sainsbury2019s-under-fire-for-removing-cornish-recycling-banks</p>