

Members Newsletter

Dear Member,

It's been a whirlwind of activity for the committees over the past few months so it seemed like a good idea to bring you up to date for much goes on behind the scenes.

British Gas solid wall insulation project.

Last August we were invited work with British Gas to promote some generous subsidies they were offering to home owners with solid walls. Out of 19 homes who eventually expressed interest only two ran full term and the work has just been completed. Vastly warmer homes and lower energy bills so two satisfied customers BUT we found it very difficult working with British Gas and they have a lot to learn about working with small charities. Broken appointments / surveyors who knew nothing about internal insulation / contractors who just turned up in unmarked vehicles with no I.D. etc. etc. We could write a book!! It has also taken quite a lot of time to maintain our reputation.

Marches Area Partnership Task & Finish Group

Chairman Jon has been on this group since last September. Hereford and Shropshire + Telford and Wrekin Councils have been looking in detail at how the Green Deal might best work for our communities and who might be the best provider to carry out recommended work after a householder has had a Green Deal Assessment. Very important is trying to get trusted local installers on board and make sure money stays in the local economy. The work is on-going.

Climate Week

We had a two day promotion stand in the Co-op Food Store earlier in March. Interesting to note we had a much warmer reception than two years ago. —a greater recognition that the climate is changing and homes need to be made more energy efficient.

Hydro Power in Cardingmill Valley

We are supporting this proposal which was set up by Energy for All and launched at our AGM last November. These projects take time to develop and get agreements but progress is being made.

6th Annual Duck Race

Just a reminder this will be held on Saturday 18th May in Cardingmill Valley. Races every half hour from 11.00am. A definite date for your diary. We could always do with help at this event so please offer to lend a hand. It really is great fun.

Charity Day Stand Saturday 20th April

We shall have a promotion stand in the Market Square at this event, including examples of the materials used for solid wall insulation and information about the Green Deal—see our website for further details.

Battlefield Energy Challenge

Over the past two years we have been working with residents in the three roads on this estate and have just arranged for a number of thermal images to be taken so home owners can see just how much heat is lost through un insulated walls and dormer windows. There have been some very friendly coffee mornings and useful exchanges of ideas.

Lectures

Dr. Tina Holt gave us a fascinating illustrated talk on 20th March on "Homes Behaving Badly" You missed a treat if you were not able to come and we are already working on arranging speakers for the autumn and spring 2014. Good speakers need to be booked up many months in advance.

Stretton Farm Road Campaign

Over the next few weeks we shall be making house to house visits to the residents in Stretton Farm Road to encourage them to have our FREE home energy survey.

Leaflet for Newcomers to the Strettons

Increasingly we are being asked to give energy efficiency advice to newcomers to our community so have produced a leaflet which we hope estate agents will make available.

Help Needed.

Since Stretton Climate Care was formed a few of our active volunteers have moved on and we really do need more help manning stalls, delivering leaflets etc. and a few folk to learn how to carry out our ever popular FREE home energy survey. It's important we don't work the team into the ground. Please consider offering to lend a hand. Give Jon a ring on 01694 723205 for more information