

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING DECEMBER 8TH

Next meeting Wed. 3rd Nov
Talk by Dr. Chris Endacott

STOP PRESS NEWS

Smart Energy Monitors shortly to be available for loan from the Information Centre in Church Street.

Special points of interest:

- We met Prince Charles
- A.G.M. details
- Cookbook
- News in Brief
- Have your say
- Fund raising news
- Book Review

We met Prince Charles!!



On 9th September we were one of a very small number of community carbon reduction groups invited to take part in an exhibition at Millennium Point in Birmingham, organised by Sustainable West Midlands. It was part of a national project called START initiated by His Royal Highness Prince Charles. Yes that was the week when HRH was going round the country in the royal train pulled by a diesel locomotive fuelled by recycled cooking oil. Julie Mellors our project worker, Alison Wren one of our home energy volunteers and Chair Jon Cooke set out early so our stand at the exhibition was ready by 09.00 and the excitement in this very high tech building (the escalators could go both ways depending if someone was standing at the top or the bottom and if no one was, then they stopped to save energy) was palpable.

Prince Charles was coming to support the day and yes we got to shake his hand and have a brief conversation. We've got over the excitement now but it was an honour to be there - we were one of just five groups invited - a recognition of the standing Stretton Climate Care has in the world of Energy Saving and Carbon Reduction.

Feet firmly back on earth we are moving into two new phases of operation - street by street canvassing - encouraging households to have a "free" household energy survey and a mobile outreach "drop in" service which we are taking to the smaller communities in our patch, starting with Cardington, Rushbury and Hope Bowdler.

Funding

Not an exciting subject but one that is exercising our minds a great deal recently. Though we have enough money to keep us going at present levels of expenditure until the end of March it is evident that grant support is drying up. It will be very difficult to maintain existing levels of activity unless we can find alternative sources of income. More detail on this will be given at our A.G.M.

A.G.M. Wednesday 3rd November

Our guest speaker on Wednesday 3rd November, 7.30pm at the Parish Centre, Church Stretton will be Dr. Chris Endacott of Gflet Services. His talk is entitled "Can't Pay. Won't Pay."...unless we radically improve the efficiency of transport or change its energy source will we be able to afford to travel in the future, assuming oil prices will continue to rise, ? After his talk and questions from the floor we shall hold our short A.G.M. before refreshments and a chance to meet the "team" who over the past year have given over 2500 hours of their volunteer time to help the Strettons become a shining example of a low carbon community. **Do come and support them.**

What would you like to see in our news letters?

We would really like to know what you would find most interesting to read about. Climate Change and energy saving is such a fast moving subject and there is so much we could put down. But what would you find interesting? Please let us know.

We're working with new installers

We have since our early days established a good working relationship with **L & C Insulation** and **Shropshire Insulation**. We have now added **Greenearth Energy** (Hereford) who install Solar Hot Water, Photovoltaics, Wind Turbines, Hydro and Biomass Technology, **Salop Energy** who install Photovoltaics and Solar Hot Water systems and **Llani Solar** who install Wood Fuel heating systems, Solar Hot water and Heat Pumps. Please talk to us before contacting any of the above firms as we have a commission arrangement with them—this small commission is essential to us, especially now grants have dried up. Please tell neighbours of these contacts—they are reliable local firms of good standing and their prices are very competitive.

High Speed Rail Link to Birmingham



Always trying to stay ahead of the game, two of our Trustees were recently seen examining the latest proposals for a new high speed rail link between Church Stretton and Birmingham! 50% of the County Carbon Emissions come from travel and Stretton Climate Care are always looking out for anything which may reduce this. More seriously, we do examine and respond where appropriate to many consultation documents, both local and national on travel, transport and carbon reduction proposals. Much of this work is unseen by our members but always reported back to the Trustees.

News in Brief

- Low Carbon Homes trail was a great success. Some 70 folk explored the various homes that were open and we are very grateful to the seven households who opened their doors.
- Our electric bikes are back on the road and available for hire from **Plush Hill Cycles, 8 The Square, Church Stretton**. The ultimate In low carbon travel.



A visitor has the working of the wood chip boiler explained at Acton Scott Hall



Lots of innovation and energy saving at the home of Isabel and Mike Carter

Stretton Climate Care Cook Book

Our special cook book is well on the way BUT we could do with more contributions:

- **Recipes:** Send us your favourite recipes - soups, starters, vegetarian, fish, meat, puddings, leftovers, cakes and biscuits, drinks, whatever. It would be good to include examples of wholefoods, home-grown seasonal foods and cookery using energy-saving methods such as the Remoska.
- **Brief articles:** We need short articles to intersperse among the recipes on topics such as climate change, home energy visits, renewable technologies, food sourcing, comparative costs of different cookery methods, allotments and home-grown food...Or write a brief review of a relevant book or film.
- **Practical advice:** Do you have top tips for energy saving which we could scatter throughout the book? A list of the best websites would also be useful.
- **Fun:** Jokes and cartoons will be very useful. Quizzes could include monitoring the countries where food comes from in supermarkets...

Contributions should be sent to Michael Bourke, The Maltings, Little Stretton, Church Stretton SY6 6AP (Tel 01694 722910; email: steamtrainhouse@yahoo.co.uk)

To contact us by phone: 07528 493181
email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk

The Green Deal

Extract of a press release from the Department of Energy and Climate Change

“The Green Deal will be a new and radical way of making energy efficiency affordable for all, whether people own or rent their property. The upfront financemeans people can pay back over time from the savings on energy bills, meaning many benefit from day one.” It will help save carbon, energy and money off fuel bills”. It is also suggested this could mean many new jobs.

We will keep you posted as more information is available.

No more surprise energy bill hikes on my watch!

Press Release 21 September 2010

Chris Huhne, Minister for Energy and Climate Change has warned energy companies not to block changes which would give energy consumers advance warning of hikes in bills.

Energy companies currently can wait up to 65 working days before having to tell their customers that bills have increased – meaning that some consumers are unaware that they are paying more for their energy, and giving them no chance to budget or give an updated meter reading.

Cheese and Wine Evening

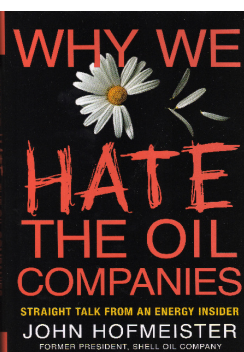
With kind support from the National Trust we shall be holding a Cheese & Wine evening at the Chalet Pavilion, Carding Mill Valley on Wednesday 8th December. There will be a short topical film and the chance to enjoy local cheese and wine. Tickets £10.00 available from Burway Books from beginning of November.

Designer Shopping Bags

Did you read that old curtains from Clarence House, the London home of Prince Charles have been turned into shopping bags. Thanks to the kind donation by Lynn Harvey in All Stretton of some fabulous fabric and the skilful fingers of member Ann Ashworth, we will shortly have our own designer bags for sale. Colours and patterns will vary. This is the must have gift this Christmas. Bags will be available for sale at all our events. It's thoughtful ideas like this that will help to keep us afloat. Well done to Ann and Lynn. Our Chairman has a sample bag if anyone wishes to see it. Prices, under a fiver to be finalised.



Book Review



“Why We Hate The Oil Companies” by John Hofmeister, former President of Shell Oil Company U.S. ISBN 978-0-10208-8

This is a fascinating insight into the partisan politics of America and the struggle the nation has to develop a cohesive energy policy that will meet its energy needs in the future and at the same time play a leading role in carbon reduction. Mr. Hofmeister has set up www.citizensforaffordableenergy.org to “encourage the collective will of the American people – and around the world—to become informed and take appropriate actions”. Their aim is to “To educate citizens and government officials about pragmatic, non-partisan affordable energy solutions, environmental protection, energy alternatives, efficiency, infrastructure, public policy, competitiveness, social cohesion, and quality of life. “

Isn't this something Stretton Climate Care has been trying to do for the past three years?

Membership renewals

Annual membership of Stretton Climate Care is just £5.00 per person, £7.50 per household or £10.00 for Corporate membership. Under 18's are free. These minimum fees are due on 1st October (unless you joined recently.) Attached is a membership renewal form and a standing order form. Your Trustees have decided not to increase membership fees this year and we encourage you all to renew your support. To date we have 87 members. Please encourage others to join us.



Charity No. 1123211

Annual Subscription

Minimum individual membership* £5.00

Minimum household membership* £7.50

Minimum Corporate and

Voluntary Group membership* £10.00

Associate Membership* (under 18) free

I apply for *Individual / Household / Corporate /*

Associate * Membership of Stretton Climate Care

and enclose my remittance* / donation* of

£ _____

*delete where not applicable

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

Payment Method Cheque / Cash / Standing Order

Please return to:

Chris George (Treasurer) Stretton Climate Care

Mayfair Community Centre, Easthope Road,

Church Stretton, SY6 6BL

I wish to gift aid my subscription / donation and
certify that I am a U.K. tax payer.

Signed _____

Date _____

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

My Bank :
Sort Code:

Postal Address :

Please pay by banker's standing order, cancelling any previous instructions concerning this payee :-

Pay to - HSBC , 2 High Street , Church Stratton , SY6 6BT
Sort Code: 40-17-23
Account Number: 21249053
Account Name : Stretton Climate Care
Amount: £
Date of first payment :
Frequency: Annually

Until Further Notice or annually please debit my account accordingly.

Name of my account :
Account number :

I hereby authorise you to set - up this standing order payment on my/our account.

Signed

Name (s) : (Block capitals).....

Address: