

Bumper issue - Spring 2011

SustainabilityNow is the e-bulletin from **Sustainability South West (SSW)**, the region's independent Champion Body for sustainable development. SSW is a registered charity and its Mission is:

'To champion and assist action now to achieve a South West that is genuinely sustainable: resilient, healthy, productive, socially-just and living within environmental limits.'

A sustainability bungee cord!

Editorial by Sustainability South West Chair, Dr Julian Dennis

Listening to middle England railing about the absurdity and uselessness of wind turbines, it struck me how ill-informed the arguments are.

They insist that if we mandate business to be more resource efficient, we will be less competitive and loose out to international competition and there will be mass unemployment. They fear the prospect of an 80% reduction in CO2 because of what it might do to their comfortable lives. Their arguments mimic those of tobacco giants who rubbished the science that made the link between smoking and cancer. When they could no longer deny the evidence they turned the argument into one of economics and choice – does this sound familiar? They argued that Governments shouldn't legislate on health grounds. These same tobacco giants have recently paid out billions of dollars in law suits. Their second argument is reminiscent of the one bankers used before the recession. If we don't take risks and lend, our businesses will not be competitive and shareholders will suffer.

Most of the points they make are carefully selected to suit their argument. They simply deny unpalatable (to them) facts; climate change, nothing to do with us, it's all quite natural.

Their last argument is the worst. If they concede that climate change is happening, they argue that it's quite clear that scientists can't tell us for sure what the effect will be so why bother changing until we know what the outcome is. The lessons of history are constantly ignored.

In the face of this denial, getting the message across on caring for our planet and future generations is complex. We have to provide leadership in implementing a more sustainable approach to business and life. This is not about making businesses uncompetitive, it's about making them better. I heard leadership described as a bungee cord that we use to drag others along.

What's our bungee cord? Some years ago SSW started developing SustNav (www.SustNav.org.uk), a way of measuring and informing organisations on how



sustainable their business plans and processes are and what areas of improvement they might consider.

SustNav is a great tool, use it in your own businesses and help others to use it too. Let's make sure that society is not persuaded by the doubters to leave it so late that it becomes impossible to preserve our wonderful world for future generations.

This month's other *SustainabilityNow* headlines at a glance:

◆ *The Sust'ometer*

◆ *Business:*

- *SMEs struggling to adopt sustainability practices*

◆ *Water:*

- *Water – plan and prepare*
- *Get your bathers on!*

◆ *Climate Change:*

- *Fair Shares, Fair Choice (FSFC) Climate Change Campaign update*
- *2027 UK Emissions Target announced*
- *Only 1/4 of Town Halls have effective plan for cutting emissions this decade*
- *Emissions effect on extreme rainfall and flooding*

◆ *Energy:*

- *£10,000 Green Deal loans to improve energy efficiency in homes*

◆ *Food:*

- *A guide to modern eating*
- *Healthy eating improves school inspection results*

◆ *Education:*

- *SSW Member interviewed for Journal of Sustainability Education*
- *First Year students: Attitudes towards Sustainable Development*

◆ *Space for Greenspace:*

- *Planting Places award winners celebrate at community Greenspace event*
- *A breath of fresh air: social and economic benefits of green spaces*
- *Food Mapping goes digital*
- *Plots needed in Gloucestershire for 'Get up and Grow More!'*

Plus:

◆ *On your Radar? – South West*

◆ *On your Radar? – National*

◆ *Up & Coming – June events around the region*

◆ *Over to You*

Sussed!

👍 **Happy recyclers** The SW has the most enthusiastic recyclers in the country, according to Friends of the Earth regional recycling league table: www.sustainablehealthsw.org.uk/news/south-west-happiest-recycle-edienet.

👍 **UK's first hydrogen-powered ferry to start in Bristol** A hydrogen-powered ferry is to run in Bristol's harbour from June for six months, hoping to kick start enterprise in new technologies in the city: www.bristol.gov.uk/ccm/content/press-releases/2011/jan/hydrogen-powered-ferry-to-kick-start-environmental-enterprise-in-bristol.en.

👍 **Grassroots movement marks 1,000 Fair Trade Towns** On 4 June Bristol will be part of an event to celebrate 1,000 Fair Trade Towns worldwide and in all six major continents.

👍 **SW TUC's first award ceremony for union reps** Congratulations to all winners of the South West TUC Union Rep Awards, awarded for their work in representing colleagues and for achievements in promoting equality, health and safety and learning in the workplace. SSW Director Leslie Watson (left) presented the Environmental award to Sally Childs, NHS Dorset.



👍 **South West hotels scoop national award** Congratulations to Bedruthan Steps and the Scarlet Hotel in Cornwall who have won the Sustainable Tourism category in the national Excellence Awards. Congratulations also to Combe House, Honiton, Devon, who won the Best Green Marketing Initiative Award at the Considerate Hoteliers Award for its newly restored Victorian Kitchen Gardens.

👍 **Gold for Bournemouth University** Congratulations to Bournemouth University who have achieved the Gold EcoCampus Award. Read about EcoCampus at: www.ecocampus.co.uk/index.html.

So Last Century...

👎 **Allotments sold off** A government study has found that town halls have sold or redeveloped over 50,000 allotments in 15 years despite huge waiting lists and demand for 'grow your own' food. However, Planning Minister Greg Clark has pledged to boost allotments by giving communities powers to identify new sites and protect existing plots under the Localism Bill. Read more:

www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1384483/Town-hall-bosses-sell-50-000-allotments-grow-demand-soars.html#ixzz1NYejbwQs.

👎 **Waste is theft?** Over 8 million tonnes of food and drink is thrown away by UK households each year, says government Waste and Resources Action Programme. Globally a UN study reports 1/3 of world's food is wasted - over 1 billion tonnes per year (see: www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-13364178).

Supermarkets are also criticised for the amount of waste they generate and some, 'freegans', have been taking full advantage by foraging in supermarket bins for their shopping! However, beware of this pragmatic approach to cutting down waste as 'theft by finding' carries a maximum jail sentence of seven years. Read more at:

www.lovefood.com/journal/opinions/11411/we-should-all-steal-from-supermarkets.

Sussed!

👍 Bristol City Council 'army' of green volunteers A Bristol City Council scheme to bring together 1,000 green volunteers has been awarded approx £28,000 by the EU, one of only three UK flagship projects to receive 2011 European Year of Volunteering funding: http://swnews.swcouncils.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=10279&tt=swra

👍 The red devil who became a green saint Ex-Manchester United footballer Gary Neville has won an 18-month struggle with planning authorities to build a 40m-high wind turbine alongside his proposed zero-carbon house in the countryside near Bolton. The turbine will generate enough electricity to serve 12 - 13 local farms. Neville also made a UK first at his parting match with United in May, his testimonial against Juventus being Britain's first wind-powered football match, and a launch pad for new initiative 'Sustainability in Sport'. Full story:

www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/football/teams/manchester-united/8525059/Manchester-Uniteds-Gary-Neville-promotes-Sustainability-in-Sport-making-football-fans-conscious-of-environment.html.

👍 Decking is dead The lawn is making a come back as people switch decking for grassy gardens, with numbers at an all-time high and 1/3 changing as a result of concern about wildlife. See: www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1385995/Is-end-decking-TV-inspired-garden-boom-way-lawns-make-return.html?ITO=1490.

So Last Century...

👎 Sarnies – think before you buy An RSPCA poll of 2,000 people found over 50% consider animal welfare when buying food like pork or steak, but when it comes to grabbing a sandwich at lunchtime just 10% take into account how animals were raised.

See: www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/earthnews/8514825/Ethical-shoppers-dont-care-whats-in-their-sandwiches-RSPCA.html.

👎 Sharp rise in Amazon Rainforest deforestation New data has revealed the destruction of the rainforest has increased almost sixfold. It has been argued that demand for soy and cattle is causing farmers to clear more of their land. The Forest Code regulations currently require that 80% of a landholding in the Amazon remain forest but a vote on the Code is due, with proponents of change saying the law impedes economic development:

www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-13449792.

Business:

SMEs struggling to adopt sustainability practices

According to Professor Ross King at the Centre for Sustainable Environmental Management the lack of finances limits SMEs investment in environmental analysis with working to keep their businesses afloat and unable to carry the "regulatory burden" of environmental legislation. Read full story at:

www.envirotech-online.com/news/environmental-analysis/7/breaking-news/smes-struggle-to-adopt-sustainable-environmental-analysis-practices/14879/.

Water:

Water - plan and prepare

Environment Minister Lord Henley has warned that the country needs to plan and prepare for both too much and too little rain.



People are advised to get set for a summer of hosepipe bans with drought warnings sparking fears that this summer could see the worst hosepipe ban in five years. The main impact will be felt by farmers and growers who could see a reduction in this year's crop yield, says the National Farmers' Union, read:

www.express.co.uk/posts/view/246386/Get-set-for-a-summer-of-hosepipe-bans.

This spring's intense dry spell (which saw just 24% of the average rainfall for April) is likely to become a more frequent occurrence in the future due to the impacts of climate change. Water companies need long term planning to avoid water shortages. To help determine risk and how to reduce any impact see: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/116820.aspx; and the Royal Academy of Engineering report 'Climate Change Adaptation – ensuring services in an uncertain future':

<http://archive.defra.gov.uk/environment/climate/documents/infrastructure-rae-report.pdf>.

Get your bathers On!

Hose pipe ban or not, you can still enjoy the South West coastline - the official bathing season has now begun and the latest results see the SW achieve 44 awards (Blue Flags and Quality Coast), more than any other part of the country.



Flying the flag for England's seaside resorts in 2011 is Torbay with six Blue Flags, followed by Cornwall with five. Read more at: www.keepbritaintidy.org/News/Default.aspx?newsID=1014. If you're near an Award Winner don't forget to play your part in protecting them. For six steps to better seas, see:

www.mcsuk.org/support_mcs/Take%20action/Change%20the%20way%20you%20live/Change%20the%20way%20you%20live.



Sustainability South West represented the South West Tourism Alliance at the recent SW Bathing Waters Liaison Group and will be working with partners in light of future tightening of requirements. There is no room for complacency as within a few years a new set of tougher EU standards is being introduced and this will be accompanied by requirements for greater information at beaches. The South West needs to make sure it is performing well as the consequences on visitor perceptions will be that much greater.

Climate Change:

Fair Shares, Fair Choice (FSFC) Climate Change Campaign update:

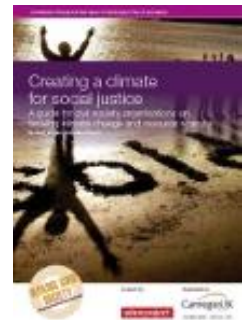
- **SSW's FSFC campaign surpasses 2,500 supporters!**

Individuals and organisations are encouraged to Sign Up to the FSFC campaign to support the principle of 'fair, safe carbon shares for everyone'. FSFC doesn't short change the less well-off or climate safety, the formula aims to keep global temperature rise to within a 2 degree increase. It is founded on internationally recognised model, the UN backed 'Contraction and Convergence' and calculates per capita carbon budgets which take account of the different needs of developed and developing nations. To add your name to the growing supporters list go to: www.fairsharesfairchoice.com.



- **FSFC features as case study in new Eden Project guide**

FSFC features as an 'Option and Action to Address Climate Change' case study in new guide - the Commission of Inquiry into the Future of Civil Society, by the Eden Project for Carnegie UK. See page 49 of the guide; 'Creating a Climate for Social Justice: A guide for civil society organisations on tackling climate change and resource scarcity': www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/getattachment/597b2492-a8c7-4769-8655-f03e9bb6696d/Creating-a-Climate-for-Social-Justice.aspx.



- **Free FSFC resources for your climate change event**

The campaign also offers free resources for events including carbon calculator sheets and challenges to reduce your carbon footprint. Packs are available by emailing freiny.miles@sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk with your event details.

2027 UK Emissions Target announced

Chris Huhne has announced the UK Government's commitment to a legally-binding target with plans to cut Greenhouse gas emissions by 50% from 1990 levels by 2027. The target is broadly in line with the Committee for Climate Change's recommendations. Huhne's target was agreed to following the addition of two caveats: the budget allows for the target to be partly reached by using emissions trading rather than relying on cuts entirely from the UK's own energy use and industrial activity; there is an opt-out clause, the target conditional on the rest of Europe following the UK's lead. If, in 2014, the EU hasn't also signed up to a 30% reduction - an intermediate target that the UK has for 2020 - then the 2027 emissions target can be revised. Full story: www.earthtimes.org/politics/uk-commits-halving-emissions-fourth-carbon-budget/859/.

Only 1/4 of Town Halls have effective plan for cutting emissions this decade

Despite the Governments bold new emissions target, a survey has revealed only a quarter of town halls in England have put in place an effective plan for slashing carbon emissions this decade, raising concerns that climate change is falling off councils' agendas. Friends of the Earth found that only 89 (25%) of town halls have a medium-term target to cut emissions across their area by 2020. Of those that do have a 2020 target, only 22 councils have a target equivalent to a 40% cut in emissions by 2020 - the minimum recommended by the Committee on Climate Change - the average target being a 30% reduction. David Powell, climate campaigner at Friends of the Earth, said that with councils facing severe budget reductions, there was a real risk that climate change could disappear from the local authority agenda altogether. He said the government's move to scrap local area agreements had contributed to the decline of the issue, as about 100 of the 150 councils with LAAs had adopted climate change targets. Full story: www.lgcplus.com/briefings/corporate-core/environment/few-councils-have-carbon-policies-in-place/5027836.article.

Emissions effect on extreme rainfall and flooding

A BBC article highlights the link between Greenhouse gas emissions and extreme rainfall events in the Northern Hemisphere, proven by researchers from Canada and the UK. Another team, led by Oxford University, found that greenhouse warming made the UK floods of 2000 more likely. Read more at: www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-12484314.

Energy:

£10,000 Green Deal loans to improve energy efficiency in homes

As many as 14 million UK homes will qualify for £10,000 loans to help improve their energy efficiency as part of the Government Green Deal initiative, currently going through the House of Commons. There would be no upfront cost, the loan would be paid back as small charges on energy bills over a 25-year period. But this shouldn't be noticeable as energy bills should be lower as a result of the improved energy efficiency of the home. And should someone with a loan move home, they won't take that loan with them. Instead the new residents will take on the responsibility for repaying the money. Read more at: <http://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/Get-10-000-making-home-yahoofinanceuk-20590388.html>.



Food:

A guide to modern eating

The Guardian offer some tips on how to combat the 20 - 30% of global warming caused by mankind that is contributed by our food and agriculture systems. Tips include buying local and seasonal, cutting back on meat and dairy, growing your own fruit and veg and foraging. See: www.guardian.co.uk/cafedirect/future-food-drink-guide-to-modern-eating. You can also take a shopping Carbon Challenge to save emissions – see http://fairsharesfairchoice.com/carbon_challenges.asp.

Healthy-eating improves school inspection results

A Bristol study, from UWE, shows healthy-eating 'improves school inspection results' – primary schools involved in the Food for Life Partnership's healthy-eating project are reported to have improved their inspection results and pupils' behaviour. More than 3,600 schools are participating in the project which encourages pupils to grow, cook and eat good food. The proportion of children eating five portions of fruit and vegetables a day was found to have risen from 16% to 21% after their school joined the programme and 36% of schools in the FfLP studied by UWE were judged outstanding by Ofsted, compared with 17% before they joined. For more information, read: www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-13519938.

Education:

SSW Member interviewed for Journal of Sustainability Education

Read an interview with Professor Stephen Sterling, professor at the University of Plymouth and SSW Board Member; 'Sustainability Education Invites Learners to Anticipate and Shape the Future':

www.jsedimensions.org/wordpress/content/sustainability-education-invites-learners-to-anticipate-and-shape-the-future-terril-shorb-interviews-stephen-sterling_2011_03/.



Congratulations also to Professor Sterling for his book, 'Sustainability Education: Perspectives and Practice across Higher Education', edited By Paula Jones, David Selby and Stephen Sterling, which features as a University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership (CPSL) 'Top 40 books of 2010'. The list appeared in recent report 'A Journey of a Thousand Miles: The State of Sustainability Leadership, 2011', which highlights some of the most interesting practice and research in the sustainability field and can be downloaded at: www.cpsl.cam.ac.uk/Resources/State-of-Sustainability-Leadership.aspx.

First Year students: Attitudes towards Sustainable Development

Findings from a Higher Education Academy study of over 5,000 first-year university students show that students believe their university should be responsible for actively incorporating and promoting sustainable development to prepare their students for graduate employment. The report was undertaken by NUS Services with StudentForce for Sustainability and the University of Bath. Key findings include:

- over 80% of respondents believe sustainability skills are important to their future employers;
- 65% of respondents believe that sustainability skills should be delivered throughout the curriculum rather than through a separate module;
- sustainability concerns are significant in students' university choices;
- 63% of respondents are prepared to sacrifice £1,000 salary to work for a sustainably-aware company.

www.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/York/documents/ourwork/sustainability/FirstYearAttitudes_FinalReport.pdf.

Space for Greenspace!

Planting Places award winners celebrate at community Greenspace event

The winners of Sustainability South West's fourth annual Planting



Places awards celebrated at a greenspace event in Taunton. The awards celebrate top examples of greenspace from across the South West. They recognise the many benefits that these spaces – and the hard-working people who look after them – have in supporting healthy, sustainable communities. The ten winners are: South Milton Sands,



Guys & Hylton Allotments, Yeo Valley Community Woodland (pictured with award presenter Naomi Wright, Natural England) and Forches Community Garden in Devon; Ashton Gate Triangle, Greens Community Garden and Brunswick Cemetery Gardens in Bristol; BTCV Tree Life Centre in South Gloucestershire; Springfield Park in Cheltenham and King George V Memorial Walk in Cornwall. All the winners show how much can be achieved when local people get involved in their green spaces. The greenspace event 'From the Roots...and Up' event was held in partnership with Natural England and GreenSpace SW to celebrate and promote local greenspaces. As well as hearing from the award winners, local greenspace volunteers from across the South West were able to meet each other, share best practice and chat to support organisations. For more information about all of the winners and the Planting Places project see: www.plantingplaces.org.uk.

A breath of fresh air: social and economic benefits of green spaces

Why should parks and green spaces survive and even thrive amidst this economic disaster? Dave Tibbatts from charity GreenSpace investigates the social and economic benefits of green spaces – see:

www.governmentbusiness.co.uk/content/view/3358/1/.



Food Mapping goes digital – and highlights need for land

In many parts of the country demand for land on which to grow food currently exceeds supply. In response to this, Somerset has used FoodMapper to locate existing community growing space and to map waiting lists resulting in a unique database of allotment provision in the county and a register of 'hotspots' of need for land. Somerset Community Food and partner organisations are now calling on all kinds of landowners to pledge ground for community growing. If you live in Somerset and are a landowner who's willing to consider offering some land for community use you can register it at: www.foodmapper.org.uk.

People living anywhere in the South West are also invited to help the FoodMapper project, which launched in Somerset and is being rolled out across the South West, grow. FoodMapper is an instant online local food map, mapping of all kinds of local food initiatives from producers to food co-ops, school growing projects, farm shops, markets, growing and cooking courses and other events, community gardens and orchards and Community Supported Agriculture schemes. People are invited to share their local knowledge of local sources of produce, information and inspiration. If you live in Somerset and can help to map your area, email linda.hull@somersetcommunityfood.org.uk or call 01749 678770. If you are

elsewhere in the South West, contact Geofutures at foodmapper@geofutures.com or call 01225 320050.

Plots needed in Gloucestershire for food project 'Get up and Grow More!'

Vision21, Gloucestershire climate change charity, has funding to set up three community vegetable growing spaces in different locations throughout Gloucestershire. Each space would need to be available for three years and around 800 square metres per site is required. As well as providing a supported growing space for those without gardens/allotments the project will also co-ordinate free 'Grow your own' training sessions each year and a food swap forum. If you know of land that may be available email: office@vision21.org.uk or call 01242 224321.



On Your Radar? - South West

Devon Community of the Year Award – nominate now

This new award from the Community Council of Devon is open to any Devon group, town, village, or society that acts like a community and has worked to improve their physical or social environment. The winner will be awarded £500. Two special categories winners will also be awarded £250: Healthy community of the year and Green community of the year. For entry details and to nominate visit: www.devonrcc.org.uk – the deadline is 30 June.

Energy Saving Trust Route map to 2020 conference presentations – online

The event helped local authorities to understand what the national carbon reduction 2020 targets mean for the South West and to identify actions they can take to cut carbon emissions and simultaneously stimulate local economic growth. All 13 Powerpoint presentations are available to download at:

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/business/Business/Local-Authorities/Support-services/NI-186-Network-South-West/Events.

Impact case studies from the Sustainable Urban Environment – online

Now available to download, the ISSUES impact success stories include a SOLUTIONS case study on the impact of Freiburg, Germany study tours which helped to create a shared vision and network of senior leadership for sustainable living in the



South West. See: www.urbansustainabilityexchange.org.uk/ISSUESueIMPACT.html.

Local Climate Impacts Profile final project report – available now

Climate SouthWest's final report of SW Improvement and Efficiency Programme (SWIEP) funded Local Climate Impacts Profile Project is now available. The project helped nine local authorities to build an understanding of the impacts and consequences of current extreme weather events on their service delivery. Download the report via: www.oursouthwest.com/climate/sr-localgov.htm#lclip-news-link.

Vulnerability to Heatwaves and Drought in the SW: Adaptation to climate change report – out now

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has published research on two case studies of climate change adaptation in the South West looking at heatwave planning and 'differential water charging'. The research shows that certain groups of society are more likely to be vulnerable to high temperatures and differential water charging than others. The key message from this study is that adaptation initiatives must build resilience among those most vulnerable to climate change in order to contribute to the goals of achieving social justice and sustainable development. The full report can be found at: www.jrf.org.uk/publications/vulnerability-heatwaves-and-drought-adaptation-climate-change.



Ecos Trust Spring / Summer newsletter – out now

The latest issue offers South West case studies on 'a nearly new house gets cosy' and 'cold extensions' plus upcoming events. See: http://ukimages.gmimage3.com/uk_members/8652/ftp/renews19.pdf

What is the impact of the cuts on the SW's capacity to protect the environment? – New study

The RSPB SW office will be gauging the impact cuts will have on the region's capacity to deliver activity which protects and conserves the environment. Jointly with this research, they will also compile a 'survey of surveys' to build up a picture of how the public have valued the environment and its protection over the last decade. Their aim is to contact a wide range of organisations across all sectors that have direct involvement with Landscape Management, Nature Conservation, Resource Management, and Climate Change. Anyone interested should email Clare, Claire.brewster@rspb.org.uk or Ralph, Ralph.Mackridge@rspb.org.uk for further information.

'Whatever the Weather' photo competition winners

In conjunction with Climate Week, Climate SouthWest ran a photo competition on the theme of 'extreme weather'. First prize (a National Trust annual family pass) was awarded to Derek Carter for his photo of ice crystals framing a wire fence near Lambert's Castle in Dorset (pictured). All winning photos can also be viewed online at:

www.flickr.com/photos/climatesw/sets/72157626482398796/detail/.



The Practical Sustainability Course 2011 – 2012, Bristol – apply now

A one year, part time course covering practical sustainable practice. Applications are now open for start in September. Fee: £1,950. For more information visit: www.shiftbristol.org.uk.

On Your Radar? - National

Vision for Worlds first dedicated Green Investment Bank published

Business Secretary Vince Cable has set out his vision for the Green Investment Bank (GIB) as a new and enduring institution to complement existing green policies. Cable has published a progress report, available at:

www.bis.gov.uk/greeninvestmentbank, on the GIB setting out more detail on its governance and business model. The GIB's mission will be to accelerate private sector investment in the UK's transition to a green economy.

Common Concerns about Wind Power – CSE research paper

A research paper from the Centre for Sustainable Energy addresses some of the misconceptions and misunderstandings surrounding wind energy. These include efficiency levels, energy payback times, subsidies, shadow flicker and epilepsy, noise, bat and bird mortality, effects on property prices and nuclear power. It was written in response to requests from community groups for factual information about the subject. Download the paper at:

www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/common_concerns_about_wind_power.pdf.



Greening the Economy: A strategy for growth, jobs and success – new report

A new report from the Aldersgate Group sets out a green growth strategy to reduce the budget deficit and drive a dynamic economic recovery by increasing output and creating jobs. The report warns that the UK economy risks being left behind other countries unless the Government implements urgently a green growth strategy. Download the report at:

www.aldersgategroup.org.uk/public_reports/view_document/17.



6 – 12 June, Green Tourism Week

Green Tourism Week, organised by the Green Tourism Business Scheme, highlights the bottom-line benefits of going green. Check out the list of 50 things a business could do for the Week, covering: Saving resources; Developing your Green team; Creating new markets and Building success with the community. See:

www.greentourismweek.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=49&Itemid=57.



The Converging World travel carbon calculator

A brand new Carbon Calculator is available now from TCW to work out the carbon footprint of a journey. See: <http://goo.gl/sRsPI>.

Science for Environment Policy – news service

The Directorate-General Environment of the European Commission offers a free news service 'Science for Environment Policy'. The service is designed to help keep people up to date with the latest environmental research findings that are relevant to policy. More details about the service are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/research_alert_en.htm

The Good Jobs Plan: A new approach to industrial strategy – new report

This new report from the New Economics Foundation considers job quality. It argues that the government must adopt a long-term industrial strategy designed to produce not just jobs but good jobs, which means jobs that reach three overarching goals: well-being, environmental sustainability and social justice. See:



www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/The_Good_Jobs_Plan_0.pdf

The Urban Rambler video

In celebration of May's Walk to Work week Do The Green Thing have produced a one minute video about walking in the city. View it at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDNy4T8gwyE.

PlanLoCaL resource pack to help communities deliver energy projects – free



PlanLoCaL is a three-year CSE project which aims to help communities engage positively with their local planning system and contribute to a low-carbon future. This free pack for campaigners and local volunteers who want to set up a renewable energy project

within their communities is available to order from:

www.planlocal.org.uk/pages/contact.

My Green School

MyGreenSchool

My Green School is an initiative developed by Open-City to give children aged 7 to 11 across the UK the opportunity to learn about, and be inspired by, sustainable architecture through first hand investigations of their own school building. Free interactive lessons are available to download at:

<http://open-city.org.uk/education/schools/MyGreenSchool.html>.

Up & Coming...Events around the region

1 June, 1 – 2pm, 'Grow' picnic, College Green, Bristol

Oxfam are launching worldwide campaign 'Grow' on 1 June. The campaign calls for 'food justice' - to grow more fairly and sustainability - and Oxfam is keen to link up individuals and partners to work together. Bring your lunch to the launch picnic and join in these conversations about food justice. To see a preview of Grow or to join the movement go to: www.oxfam.org.uk/system.



2 June, The Carrot that Started a Revolution: An Insider's View of Incredible Edible, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham

Professor Paul Clarke, founder of 'Incredible Edible' community food project that grew out of Todmorden in West Yorkshire, will talk about the project in this World Environment Presentation. For more info and to book, visit: <http://insight.glos.ac.uk/SUSTAINABILITY/NEWS/Pages/default.aspx>.

7 June, Horizontal Innovation & Leadership Summit: Building Working Communities, Cheltenham

An interactive summit exploring innovation and leadership that could help social enterprise grow and thrive in today's society. Fee: £50. Book your place by email to schoemaker@het-imo.net or phone the Social Enterprise Centre on 07952153453.

8 June, Grassroots Social Enterprise (Somerset) Network, Silver St, Taunton

A new initiative and valuable networking opportunity to help develop a stronger voice for social enterprise in Somerset. Email: lindy@cascadetrainingplus.co.uk.

9 June, DEBI 2011 Awards Launch, Cricklepit Mill, Exeter

The 2011 DEBI Environmental Awards launch on 9 June at a networking event. This year the categories, celebrating Devon organisations, are: Environmental Goods and Services; Low Carbon Business; Food, Farming and Leisure; Environmental Champion. To attend the launch, email: info@debi-online.org.uk. For more info on the Awards, see: www.debi-online.org.uk/awards.



10 – 19 June, Bristol Good Living Week, around Bristol



Full details at: www.goodlivingweek.com. The weeks' events, celebrating Sustainable City living, include:

10 June, Bristol-Hannover Sustainable Energy Summit, Bristol Hotel

Seminars led by Bristol City Council on the challenges of solar deployment, planning and development of district heating and biomass, and emerging wind energy technologies. Register at:

www.investinbristol.com/online_form/green-summit-main-form.html.

11 June, Get Growing Trail, around Bristol

Vegetable growers are opening their gardens and plots for a day of free tours, advice and fun including chilli tasting and seed planting. Hosted by the Bristol Food Network, for more info and an interactive trail map go to: www.bristollocalfood.co.uk.

11 June, Bristol Green Doors' Solar Saturday, around Bristol

Homes showcasing solar PV and solar thermal systems will be open to visitors, with free sessions to learn about costs, requirements and money you can earn. Book: www.bristolgreendoors.org/events/solar.



11 June, Live Local, Create Centre, Bristol

A free day of activities including food tasting, children's art and craft, free bike checks and the launch of Green Volunteering. See: www.createbristol.org.

12 June, Bristol's Biggest Bike Ride, Millenium Square, Bristol

The UK's biggest free cycling event, with routes ranging from 9 to 38 miles, followed by food, entertainment and a bike market. Register at www.betterbybike.info/bikeride.



13 June, Leadership for a Zero Carbon World, Hamilton House, Bristol

A series of six minute presentations covering subjects from tree cover to economic strategy. Tickets £20. See: www.zerocarbonbristol.net.



14 June, 6.30pm, Green Talk, Arnolfini, Bristol

Short talks on responses and solutions to climate change, energy and food security and the protection of the natural world. Speakers include Arthur Potts Dawson from The People's Supermarket. Tickets £6.95 / £4.95. See: www.green-talk.info.

15 June, 7pm, Carfree Living Workshop, Hamilton House, Bristol

Two free talks and stalls offering information about carfree living. Contact: steve.melia@talktalk.net.

16 June, The Business Case for Sustainability, Future Inn Hotel, Bristol

An IMS Sustainable Business Conference with speakers and discussions on embedding sustainability into business models and improving the bottom line. Tickets £125 / £80. See: www.sustainableconference.org.

18 – 19 June, Festival of Nature, led by Bristol Natural History Consortium, Bristol Harbourside



Free festival to finish Good Living Week. Explore, enjoy and get close to the natural world in the biggest event of its kind in the UK. In addition, for the first time outside London, UK Aware will be hosting a Contemporary Sustainable Living Show at the festival. Full details are at: www.festivalofnature.org.

10 – 17 June, Natural Change for Facilitators course, Lombard Farm (near Lostwithiel), Cornwall

WWF's Natural Change programme is an outdoor-based experiential programme designed to engage and support leaders in pro-environmental behaviour. This course is a professional development programme for those interested in facilitating groups using approaches pioneered in the Project. More info at: www.ecoself.net/courses/natural-change-for-facilitators/. Cost: £765, fully residential.

14 (Taunton), 21 (Plymouth), 23 (Truro) & 24 June (Poole), Save Money, Be Green

One day TheEcoBusiness course looking at demystifying green issues, ways to reduce energy usage and waste, financial and environmental benefits, implementing a long-term plan and developing a green plan. £99 +VAT. See: www.theecobusiness.co.uk/news-events/news/new-save-money-be-green-courses/.

15 June, 6 - 8pm, Self interest vs Self preservation - What are the rights of future generations?, St Nicholas House, High Street, Bristol

Part of the CONVERGE Rethinking Globalisation Seminar Series 2011 combining speakers and world café styled dialogue sessions. See: www.convergeproject.org/node/107.

CONVERGE
Rethinking Globalisation
Seminar Series



16 June, Generation of Energy from Wood: Opportunity or Hot Air?, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester

The aim of the day is to investigate opportunities to generate income from wood fuel, be it new markets for low value timber, wood fuel production and supply or the installation of a wood fuel heating system. Fee: £45.00 / Non- members £90.00. See:

<http://rac.ac.uk/business-services/south-west-rural-update/networking-events/south-west-rural-update-events/generation-of-energy-from-wood-opportunity-or-hot-air>.

19 June, The Sustainability Show, Queen's College, Taunton



To be opened by Hugh Fearnley Whittingstall, this free event includes stands, music and activities such as learning how to keep bees and make honey

in your garden. Come and visit Sustainability South West's stand for a DIY sustainability kit. Full show details are available at: www.sustainabilityshow.org.uk.



21 June, Whose Carbon is it Anyway?, Park Campus, University of Gloucestershire

A short course from University of Gloucestershire and the Commercial Group to learn how carbon management can be achieved in a practical way. Fee: £175 +VAT. More details at: www.glos.ac.uk/shortcourses.



30 June, Farming in Transition, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester

Due to increasing energy costs, decreasing energy supplies, climate change, the need to feed more people and protect natural resources, the day will identify ways to move forward. Fee: £45.00 / Non- members £90.00. More info at:

<http://rac.ac.uk/business-services/south-west-rural-update/networking-events/south-west-rural-update-events/farming-in-transition>.

6 July, Cutting Carbon Costs: Energising the Whole School Community, Create Centre, Bristol

A free half-day conference for teachers, school site managers and governors to support the school's journey towards sustainability. For more information contact: graham.starmer@bristol.gov.uk.



Over to YOU

Remember, we're your independent sustainability champs, and as an independent charity we're here to act as a critical friend for the common good. If you're involved in action for sustainability, let us know and we can champion it! Equally if you're experiencing barriers to adopting a more sustainable approach, get in touch so we can feedback messages on your behalf. And let us know about local and regional events coming up over the next month for inclusion in the next edition. **Contact Freiny Miles at Freiny.Miles@sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk. Deadline for submissions: 24 June 2011.**

Other news from SSW available at: www.sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk
Follow @SustSouthWest on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/sustsouthwest>

Regular updates on **SSW coordinated projects** available:

- **SustNav** – Sustainability Principles to navigate your way to lasting solutions – www.sustnav.org.uk
- **Fair Shares, Fair Choice** – campaign for fair, safe carbon shares for all – www.fairsharesfairchoice.com
- **Sustainable Health SW** – supporting the region's NHS trusts – www.sustainablehealthsw.org.uk
- **Planting Places** – linking greenspace and sustainability in the South West – www.plantingplaces.org.uk



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