

Swindon Climate Action Network



May 2009

Age of Stupid

The UK launch of the Age of Stupid took place on 15th March. The Empire, Greenbridge was one of 64 cinemas participating in the largest simultaneous film launch ever, through satellite links. The film is about climate change, oil, war, politics, consumerism and human stupidity. For anyone who missed the showing, there is another chance to see it at the Literary Festival – see Events for details.

It stars Oscar nominated Pete Postlethwaite who officially launched the Not Stupid campaign and a countdown to the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December, at the end of the film. Copenhagen has been called “the most important meeting in human history” because the successor to the Kyoto Treaty will be finalized there.

The film was made by the McLibel team and more information about it can be found at <http://ageofstupid.net/>

Local Groups

SCAN met on 22nd April to discuss future activities. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th May at the Friends Meeting House, Eastcott Hill. It will start at 7.30, with refreshments from 7.00. All welcome. We will also be running a stall at the Mela in Town Gardens on 25th July. Do come and say hello if you are about. We are deliberately targeting the Mela, rather than the environmental events we normally attend, to try and reach a wider audience.

We are planning to produce a special edition of the e-digest for the Mela. Please send any contributions or pictures for this to e-digest@swindonclimate.org.uk

<http://www.purtoninfo.org.uk>

this is the new Purton website which includes details of local planning issues, climate change action, sustainability and much more.

Save the Train

Some of you may have attended Graham Ellis's talk last year on the withdrawal of the Trans Wilts Train Service in December 2006. This left only two trains running daily between Swindon and Westbury; greatly increasing travel times for those forced to use bus services, and adding to existing road congestion on the A350 and A36.

Graham and fellow train users have subsequently mounted a campaign calling for an increase to six trains to link Swindon and Chippenham in the north; with Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury, Dilton Marsh, Warminster and Salisbury to the south. Talks by First Great Western, Wiltshire County Council and the Department of Transport are continuing and Graham has asked for pledges of support, or repledges from those who have already signed the online petition. at <http://www.transwilts.org.uk/pledge/html>

Events

Tuesday 5th May

Age of Stupid – 8.45 p.m. at the Arts Centre. Tickets from the Arts Centre box office, 01793 614837, open 12 – 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. – 1 Saturdays. The film is 90 minutes long. £5, or £4 with concessions.

July 29th – August 2nd

Big Green Gathering 2009, near Cheddar, Somerset. The Gathering includes practical living activities such as building sustainable homes, permaculture, crafts, food and farming; as well as music, theatre, healing fields, children's facilities, green living debates and much more. See <http://www.big-green-gathering.com> for details.

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