

SWINDON CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK



Welcome to the October E-digest

Further information about SCAN can be found on www.swindonclimate.org.uk and feedback on any of the items below, sent to contact@swindonclimate.org.uk

Apple Press

SCAN has obtained a small grant from Swindon Borough Council to purchase an apple press. We will use it to enable people to turn their windfall and other apples, which might otherwise go to waste, into juice. Our first Apple Day will be at Lower Shaw Farm on Saturday 22nd October. All welcome.

All you need to bring is apples or pears, and sterilized containers to take the juice away. Containers can be sterilised in the same way as jam jars, and there's lots of advice of the web about this, and also about how to make your apple juice last longer. You can listen to and watch George Monbiot making apple juice at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/georgemonbiot/2010/oct/29/how-to-make-apple-juice>.

Lower Shaw Farm café will be open for the event with apple themed produce.

NB The high winds have brought many apples down already. Store them in a cool place, not touching, and they should be ok for 22nd. A little bruising won't hurt.

Food Leaflet

Some of you may have seen SCAN's food leaflet at local stalls and events. It sets out where you can buy sustainably produced vegetables, meat and other foodstuffs. Because it is now over five years old and getting quite out of date, we will be reviewing it this autumn, and would welcome your feedback on both content and style. We will be checking the details of all suppliers currently included but perhaps you know of others, or of markets and events, that should be included. All suggestions are welcome.

The current leaflet can be viewed at <http://www.swindonclimate.org.uk/LocalFood>

Cycleways

SBC has made a successful bid to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, to improve access to the town centre by low fuel and non fuel modes of transport. As a result the Council plans to upgrade the main cycle route from the West Swindon area to the town centre, and improve routes through and parking for cyclists in the town centre.

The bid will be delivered in conjunction

with the town's largest employers: Zurich, National Trust, SBC, Nationwide, the Research Council, Network Rail/First Great Western and Swindon College.

You can read full details of the Council's bid at

<http://www.swindon.gov.uk/ts/ts-sustainable/ts-sustainable-employer/Documents/swift-transportfundapplication.pdf>

MP Liaison

At our recent meeting with MPs, we asked how voluntary organizations would be able to access the Green Bank and how the work of the Bank would be measured. Following this Swindon South MP Robert Buckland asked a parliamentary question and also passed the matter onto the Minister for Business and Enterprise.

We hope to meet with Swindon MPs again on 28th October. Please let us know of any issues that you would like raised.

NB Robert Buckland has also supported in the Ad'ver the development of a railway station in West Swindon, incorporated into the Swindon to Kemble railway re-doubling project.

Other News

- No date has been announced yet for the Council to hear the latest proposals for a wind farm at

Honda, but it is expected to be mid October

- Marlborough Climate Pledge and Cricklade **CAN!** have both recently had meetings to discuss developing into transition towns.

Coming Up

Green Drinks: Tuesday 4th October, 7p.m. at The Savoy. A chance to socialise in an informal setting with green-minded people. Look for the Green Drinks flag on the table.

SCAN meeting: Wednesday 12th October, 7.30 pm at The Savoy. All welcome.

BUG Meeting: Wednesday 19th October, 4 - 7pm, Recycle Centre, Booth House, Princes Street. A public meeting to discuss how local groups can co-operate to improve cycling facilities. (www.cycleswindon.org.uk).

Putting Population at the Heart of Sustainability - a lecture by Jonathon Porrit: Thursday 20th October (7:30pm) at Boutflower Hall, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. Tickets £5 from Tourist Information Centre, Corinium Museum, Cirencester

Apple Day: Saturday 22nd October, 11am - 4 pm, Lower Shaw Farm, Old Shaw Lane, Swindon