

NEWS UPDATE February 2010

STOP PRESS:

WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Interactive work shop for all community groups & organisations to explore the carbon impact of their activities and how it might be reduced—we all need to make a difference. 7.30pm at the Parish Centre.

Special points of interest:

- News of 10:10 campaign
- Business Energy audits
- Grant funding
- Boiler Scrappage Scheme
- Photo Voltaics
- Co-op promotion day
- News in brief

THE 10:10 CAMPAIGN

10:10 is a national campaign to encourage folk to reduce their emissions by 10% by the end of 2010. There is an easily recognised logo or tag and these are available at £2.00 each from Stretton Shoes in Sandford Avenue. They are made from some very special aluminium – pick up a leaflet to discover more. Why not wear a tag as a lapel badge, a bangle or a pair of earrings to show that you are taking carbon reduction seriously and are proud to be one of the growing number willing to stand out. The Town Council having signed up to the scheme are beginning to explore how they will reduce their carbon emissions. Over 60,000 individuals, schools, Government departments and businesses have already signed up. We have a small number of 10:10 jewellery items for sale. Contact us for details.



BUSINESS ENERGY AUDITS

We are proud to have teamed up with The Marches Energy Agency, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership and the Southern Area Partnership and are now offering a sophisticated energy audit for businesses. Until the end of March this service is free and in these times of economic hardship it makes sense to really be in control of rising energy costs.

GRANT FUNDING

Funding is still an issue for us and we have had to introduce some cost cutting measures whilst we actively look for new funding. In times of economic hardship, charities are often the first to suffer but **our service to the community will continue**. We have for a while stopped our advice stall at the Thursday market and will rely even more on recommendations from the hundreds of households we have already assisted. Please help us all you can by suggesting neighbours consider having a Home Energy Audit—it could help them save money as well as energy and reduce their carbon emissions.

BOILER SCRAPPAGE SCHEME

We managed to get good publicity for this in the local press so you should know all about it—there are grants of £400 to replace old gas and oil boilers that are “G” rated for efficiency—generally if your boiler has a continuous pilot light it could be “G” rated and eligible for grant assistance to replace it for a modern and highly efficient one. The best modern condensing boiler is “A” rated. But hurry, the money will run out soon. Give us a call for more information.

MORE PHOTO VOLTAIC PANELS INSTALLED

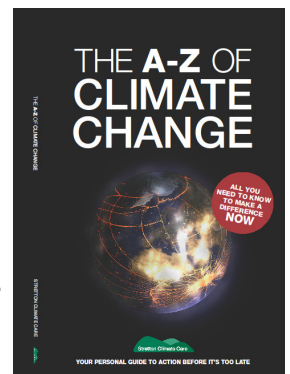
On a snowy day in January Green Earth Energy installed twelve photovoltaic panels on the roof of Watling House, All Stretton. David and Valerie Morris report the system is working well and we look forward to hearing news of the output in the weeks to come. Fitting P.V.



is increasingly a viable option and making economic sense, especially as when the Feed In Tariff scheme begins in April you will receive money for every Kw generated as well as for every unit exported. Locally generated renewable electricity and heat will play an increasing part in the mix of energy generation over the coming years. We know of five such systems in the area, but there may be more. Please tell us of any you know of. The pay back period will also improve as energy prices increase.

CO-OP PROMOTION DAY

This Saturday 6th February we can be found in the entrance to the Co-op, 10.00 - 4.00pm to give advice and take bookings for an energy audit, Pop in to say hello if you're in the area. We will also have some 10:10 jewellery for sale as well as copies of our book "A-Z of Climate Change"-(all you need to know to make a difference,) which our Chairman Jon slaved away at last year. It's an excellent publication to give to friends and neighbours to encourage them to take up the challenge.



News in Brief:

- **Conflicting and questionable science** from the United Nations IPPC and East Anglia University has given the climate sceptics new ammunition BUT the overwhelming majority of the world's scientists are still totally convinced increasing levels of CO₂ from human activity are responsible for global temperature rises and climate change.
- **Leaf Logs:** The Co-op have started selling 9" logs made from fallen leaves. They burn for up to 3 hours with great heat. Grown & made in the W. Midlands! - what a fantastic renewable fuel. Easy to light but rather expensive. Leaf fire lighters also available.
- **From the Department of Environment and Climate Change:** Commenting on the publication of pledges by 55 countries to cut and limit greenhouse gas emissions, Ed. Miliband said on Wed. 3rd Feb. "Just one month after Copenhagen, countries accounting for nearly 80% of global emissions have shown they're pushing ahead with domestic action on climate change. With countries including the USA, China and India setting out what they will do, this is a significant change compared with just twelve months ago. There is now a world-wide recognition that cutting emissions and moving to a low carbon economy is the right thing to do. The change is irreversible.
- **Energy Audits re-visits:** We have begun to re-assess some of our early clients to measure the carbon reduction progress they have made. It is a small sample so far but the results are encouraging. When we have a statistically significant sample we will publish the results in full. Travel is our community's Achilles heel though. Being a rural area with the car as the only option for many to get into town to shop etc. we have made less progress here. The real carbon guzzler however is flying. One return trip to Australia could double your emissions for the year.
- **Electric Bikes:** Sadly these have been mothballed for a while as last year's income was less than the extraordinary high cost of insurance. We are working to get them back on the road as soon as possible.
- **RHI (Renewable Heat Initiative):** The government are proposing a system of paying those who install renewable heating systems, to include solar hot water - similar to the Feed in tariff scheme for P.V.

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