

NEWS UPDATE March 2010

It's all happening so fast—
thank goodness for electronic
communication.

Special points of interest:

- Climate Change Act—talk by Edward Leddy-Owen
- Earth Hour—the great switch off
- A day at the races
- Important Press Release
- News in brief

CLIMATE CHANGE ACT TALK

Don't forget this Friday 19th March we have Edward Leddy-Owen from the Energy Saving Trust coming to the Methodist Church, Watling Street South (just opposite the B.P. Garage on the A 49) to explain the detail behind the Government Climate Change Act. Learn more about the emission targets set and how the act will affect us all in the coming years.

**EARTH HOUR,
SATURDAY MARCH 27TH 8.30PM**

Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia when 2.2 million homes and businesses turned their lights off for one hour to make their stand against climate change. Only a year later and Earth Hour had become a global sustainability movement with more than 50 million people across 35 countries participating. Global landmarks such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, The CN Tower in Toronto, The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, and Rome's Colosseum, all stood in darkness, as symbols of hope for a cause that grows more urgent by the hour.

Please consider joining this global call to action to every individual, every business and every community throughout the world. It is a call to stand up, to take responsibility, to get involved and lead the way towards a sustainable future.

If you are able to log on to <http://www.earthhour.org> you can register your willingness to take part and by hovering over Shropshire on the map you can see how many in our county have agreed to SWITCH off on 27th.

More details on our own website.

ADVANCE NOTICE FOR DUCK LOVERS

Please make a note in your diary. SATURDAY 29TH MAY. Our third annual Duck Race Day in Carding Mill Valley, by kind permission of The National Trust. Races approx every half hour, starting at 11.00am. 50p per duck entry fee. It's a day of high drama, full of thrills and spills. NEW THIS YEAR Buy your own racing duck to take home.

There will also be a hands on exhibition of sustainable transport provided by the AONB. Why not have a day out at the races. Excellent local food in the Tea Rooms. Fun for all the family.

STRETTON CLIMATE CARE JOINS FORCES WITH WEST MIDLANDS ENERGY SAVING TRUST

PRESS RELEASE

Stretton residents get smart...

During March, residents in the Strettons will be receiving an invitation from the Energy Saving Trust to complete and return an energy audit form and the first 200 residents to complete and return a home energy questionnaire will automatically receive one of 200 Smart Energy Monitors.

This is a joint venture between the Trust and Stretton Climate Care as part of a drive to raise awareness of the virtues of using free energy from the sun to provide hot water and electricity.

Jon Cooke, chair of Stretton Climate Care said "we are delighted for this opportunity to work with Energy Saving Trust. The free monitors which will be delivered and installed by our own team of local volunteers show real time electricity consumption and cost and are a great way to monitor consumption. The monitors remind you when unnecessary electrical equipment has been left on and some households have reported consumption reductions by as much as 40% through using them.." Along with the energy audit form will be information about Solar Hot Water and Photovoltaic installations.

Lynn Melling, area manager of West Midlands Energy Saving Trust has shown great support for the work this small Stretton based charity has been doing over the past two years to help the community improve energy efficiency. Stretton Climate Care have now visited approaching 300 homes and many of them have acted on the advice given and begun to make substantial savings on heating and electricity bills.

Further energy efficiencies can be made by installing solar powered systems. With the Government Feed in Tariff scheme beginning in April, those with photovoltaic panels will be paid 41.6 pence for every unit of electricity generated. A similar scheme for solar hot water is planned for 2011.

As a conclusion to the project there will be a renewable energy bazaar and display held at Church Stretton Parish Centre on Saturday 10th April 11.00 – 4.00pm when specialist advisors and technicians will be available to give advice on all aspects of renewable energy generation, including ground source heat pumps, wind and water turbines as well as solar hot water and photovoltaics. There will also be a chance to book your free detailed home energy audit with the team of local carbon cutters from Stretton Climate Care.

CAN YOU HELP US BY OFFERING TO DELIVER SOME OF THE MAIL SHOT IN THE THREE STRETTONS? We have over 3000 envelopes to deliver! Give Jon a call on 01694 723205 if you can.

News in Brief:

- **Energy Audits re-visits:** To date overall carbon emissions down 15% - fantastic news, more details on our website
- **Electric Bikes:** We still await details of the re launch. Watch our website for the latest news.

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