



# Transition Dorking Newsletter

**Issue 60, September 2014**

**Dear Friends of Transition Dorking (TD),**

## **Updates**

How did you get on with the Zero Waste week at the start of the month? Several of us have now the habit of taking plastic bags with us shopping and take our tetra packs to behind the Dorking Sports Centre for recycling. We still are continuing on reducing our waste.

The Dorking Community Orchard and Ranmore Allotment open day was a lovely sunny day. It was fun to look around the trees and appreciate there are more variety of apples than just Cox and Braeburns. There was also a Medlar tree, which was the first time some had seen the fruit. The apples are looking like they will be ready for the month of juicing in October - see below for dates. There is a new apple press ready for the first juicing.

One of the Mole Valley Heritage events was a free visit with a warden around Inholms Clay Pit, North Holmwood. It was a revelation to see how an industrial area could be taken back by nature in less than 40 years. It was very quiet there - like a secret reserve others do not know about - worth a visit <http://www.surreywildlifetrust.org/reserves/inholms-claypit>.

Preparations are underway for the Dorking Eco Energy Day on November 8th. They would like to borrow 2 to 3 gazebos in case the weather is inclement. Please contact Steve [onsmcdonald88@hotmail.com](mailto:onsmcdonald88@hotmail.com), if you can help. If you would like to help on the day, come along to the energy meeting on the 8th October.

New - Transition Dorking, along with other community groups is exploring a project to keep Pippbrook House in Community use and ideally ownership. A preliminary meeting that took place on September 29th will be followed up with a further meeting on Monday 27th October at 7.30 in Burgundy & Black the café at the bottom of St Martin's Walk. Anyone who feels strongly that they would like to get involved and offer their experience, expertise, energy and enthusiasm for such a project please get in touch with Jacqui Hamlin on 07982 143014 or Sally Elias on 07787 566 212. They need project planners and folks who know about getting grants especially.

Feedback from TD Facebook this month:

- Comments about what shops would be good for central Dorking, given another restaurant is taking more shop space.
- Discussions about what Pippbrook House could be used for now it is for sale
- Lots of other items - check out Facebook to see!

From the Transition Dorking Team

### **Dates for your diary this month/next...**

#### **Monday 6th October**

##### **Monthly meet up, Red Bar & Lounge, from 8:00 p.m.**

Monthly open group drinks and discussion. Possible topics include ways to promote Dorking to have more shops people want to shop at; proposals for community use of Pippbrook House; feedback on the use of Meadowbank and other topics you may want to bring to the table. We are usually sat on the right hand side as you go in. Look for the TD cockerel sign.

#### **Wednesday 8th October**

##### **Energy Group meeting, Lincoln Arms' meeting room, 6.30 p.m.**

Come along to the Energy Group meeting and help with the various project underway..

#### **Friday 10th October**

##### **CPRB supper-seminar on fracking, Dorking Christian Centre, 6:30 p.m. onwards**

This seminar has been organised by the Mole Valley branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural Britain (CPRB). It offers an evening of a debate about fracking, via a range of speakers including

Richard Selley, Emeritus Professor of Petroleum Geology, Imperial College, Jenny Huggett BSc, PhD (Geol) ex-BP and Green Party activist and Graham Warren, MsC (Eng), FGS, Environment Agency Water Resource Manager (ret'd). It should be an interesting meeting with a buffet supper included. Doors open at 6.30pm and the seminar starts at 7.45pm. Tickets are £12.50. To purchase please send a cheque to I Seifert, Beachmead, Yarm Way, Leatherhead KT22 8RQ – contact: 01372 200067 (member of the CPRD)

### **Saturday 11th October**

#### **Apple juicing, beside the Food Float, on the High Street, 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

Come along to the annual apple juicing event in Dorking. Bring your own apples for juicing or help juice the apples provided for delicious fresh apple juice.

### **Saturday 11th October**

#### **Potager work day, from 9:30 a.m.**

Come along to the Potager to help us with our work day. There will be a few new volunteers, and we would welcome more, but you don't have to make a regular commitment – just come along and share in the work and fun! We're planning to have lunch together in a local pub and there will be refreshments available in the morning and afternoon. There will be a variety of tasks to do on the day, from light and easy to a little more demanding and requiring some muscle power. For information about the venue and anything else you need to know please contact Jenny, [ja.whiting@ntlworld.com](mailto:ja.whiting@ntlworld.com).

### **Sunday 12 October**

#### **"Protect the Green Belt" walk, starts at Pippbrook Council offices, 10:00 a.m.**

Come along if you would like to see and learn more about some of sites proposed to meet the government's housing targets. The tour includes talks on the history and wildlife of the sites, and a performance of Linden Lea by the fields which inspired local composer Vaughan Williams. Meet at the Pippbrook Council offices for a 10 mile walk, or come for one section only. This event is organized by Mole Valley Green Party but open to all.

Visit [www.facebook.com/MoleValleyGreenParty](https://www.facebook.com/MoleValleyGreenParty) for the schedule.

**Saturday 18th October**

**Apple juicing, outside the Dorking Museum, 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

Come along to the annual apple juicing event in Dorking. Bring your own apples for juicing or help juice the apples provided for delicious fresh apple juice.

**Saturday 18th October**

**Pumpkin and Squash Show, Dorking Christian Centre, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. m.**

The Dorking Allotment Holder's Association are holding their annual event on the theme of Frankensquash. Come and have a look and taste different varieties, see the pumpkin carvings, put your produce in for the "best in show". Children activities also welcome like face painting..

**Saturday 25th October**

**Apple juicing, Holmwood Market Place, 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

Come along to the annual apple juicing event in Dorking. Bring your own apples for juicing or help juice the apples provided for delicious fresh apple juice.

**Monday 27th October**

**Pippbrook house future, Burgundy & Black the café at the bottom of St Martin's Walk, 7:30 p.m.**

Continued discussions on exploring a project to keep Pippbrook House in Community use and ideally ownership.

**Monday 3rd November**

**Monthly meet up, Red Bar & Lounge, from 8:00 p.m.**

Monthly open group drinks and discussion. Feedback on the events held in October and progress on other projects.

**Saturday 8th November**

**Dorking Energy Day, St. Martin's Walk, times tbc**

Dorking Eco Energy Day is returning to St Martin's walk on November 8th. Reserve the date now and come along to find out about solar panels, ground source heat pumps, top insulation tips and more.

**Monday 8th December**

### **Christmas drinks, Red Bar & Lounge, from 8:00 p.m.**

This is the last meeting before Christmas. Come along for a festive drink

### **Saturday 10th January**

#### **Wassailing at the Dorking Community Orchard, late afternoon to late evening**

This fun wassailing event is back again due to popular demand. Expect hot drinks, a bonfire for marshmallows and a community get together at the start of the new year.

### **Every Friday and Saturday - Food Float**

#### **Food Float - Dorking High Street in front of Barclay's from 8:30 am-4:00pm.**

Beautiful, tasty local produce and eggs, and bread, and lots of other things at Food Float every week. New this week is organic beef - place order by 5th September. Order forms available from the Stall outside Barclays Bank or from Tim on [tmcentire@gmail.com](mailto:tmcentire@gmail.com).

### **Alternate Monday - Dorking Community Orchard**

Dorking Orchard is running work evenings on alternate Mondays throughout the summer. We start around 6 and finish by 7:30. Come and help us trim, weed, and mulch in the beautiful surroundings of Dorking Community Orchard. Bring work gloves if you have them. For more information visit our website at: <http://dorkingcommunityorchard.wordpress.com/> or call Jane at 07546-217-793 to say you can come.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **Pixham Potager Community Kitchen Garden**

Pixham Potager is Dorking's first and only community kitchen garden project. We're a small group of local residents bringing back to life a Victorian walled garden in Pixham. 'Potager' is a French term for ornamental kitchen gardening where edible and non-edible flowers are mixed with vegetables and herbs. Our aim is simply to grow food locally for local people that is affordable, healthy and great tasting. We want to be as organic as realistically possible so we don't use chemicals for growing and try to use companion planting to control pests and diseases. Membership is free and the garden is run on a co-operative basis. Everyone has a say in what we grow and members get a discount on produce based on the hours they put in. We need more volunteers, not just growers and sowers but people with experience of DIY, marketing, book-keeping etc. We can't publicise where we are because we work in the grounds of a private house. But if you'd like to see and talk about what we do contact Jenny Whiting on

01306 882535 or email [ja.whiting@ntlworld.com](mailto:ja.whiting@ntlworld.com) or take a look at our blog:  
<http://pixhampotager.wordpress.com>

### **Garden Share**

Dorking Garden Share matches gardeners who want to grow food but don't have a garden, with people who have gardens but don't have the time or inclination to cultivate them. Please contact Jenny via 07714 271377 [orja.whiting@ntlworld.com](mailto:orja.whiting@ntlworld.com).

### **School Contacts**

We are interested in having contacts in the schools around Dorking, to put up relevant flyers, attend their fairs, discuss what would help schools and parents. We have contacts for St. Paul's, Surrey Hills, Powell Corderoy, St. Michael's and St. Martins Schools and would like to include other schools. If you are willing, please contact Belinda Hard on [belinda.hard@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:belinda.hard@yahoo.co.uk).

### **Food Float**

Food Float needs volunteers to work at the stall. The usual commitment is three hours a month on a Saturday. Contact Tim at [tmcentire@gmail.com](mailto:tmcentire@gmail.com) or drop by the Food Float stall and chat with Tim and Phil. They are now offering wonderful Fresh Local Organic Beef delivered to your door on selected dates in June and July.

### **Sites/books/events We Like**

#### **The Carbon Campaign competition**

Reminder to sign up to the Transition Dorking's new carbon campaign to help Dorking reduce its impact on the planet. TD has teamed up with The Carbon Account, a free-to-use website which helps people monitor and reduce their energy use. As well as being good for the planet, the initiative will help people save money. The household which makes the most significant reductions in energy use will win a prize! Join the group in three easy steps:

Step 1: email Transition Dorking at [transitiondorking@gmail.com](mailto:transitiondorking@gmail.com) to let them know that you are taking part

Step 2: sign up at [www.thecarbonaccount.com](http://www.thecarbonaccount.com)

Step 3: befriend your friends and neighbours and share your results. Befriend Harry Knibb from the Transition Dorking so they can see how well everyone is doing and work out the winner of the competition

Harry Knibb, from Transition Dorking's Energy Group, who set up the initiative said "the typical UK resident uses more than their fair share of the earth's resources. If everyone on the planet used as much electricity, gas, petrol, diesel and raw materials as the average person in Britain, we would need three planets to sustain us. Transition Dorking's campaign will help lots of people reduce their carbon footprint." Energy saving ideas can be found on Transition Dorking's website at [www.transitiondorking.org.uk](http://www.transitiondorking.org.uk), or call them for advice on 07724 432441.

Links to supporters of the Eco Energy group: <http://first4solar.co.uk> and <http://www.electeceletrical.co.uk/>.

<http://www.actionsurrey.org/> is a site that helps homeowners, schools and businesses to reduce energy consumption, water consumption and fuel bills.

### **Dorking & Leatherhead Advertiser**

<http://www.dorkingandleatherheadadvertiser.co.uk/>, has a monthly column hosted by TD called "In Transition". If you would like to write an article for this section, please e mail TD. An advice document is available on the TD Facebook page or on request.

### **Waste Plan Residents Survey**

Dealing with the huge amount of waste generated in Surrey homes is the challenging and costly job undertaken by the Surrey Waste Partnership, which is made up of Surrey County Council and the 11 district and borough councils in the county. Surrey's Plan for Waste Management outlines how they do it and on a regular basis they take a fresh look at the plan and update it. This ensures they are continuing to manage Surrey's waste in the best, most cost effective way. They are running a poll for resident feedback: <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/ei-waste-development-team/waste-plan-residents-survey>. **The poll closes 12th October.**

## **The Imagination Foundation**

This foundation started when a film maker visited a random car parts shop and bumped into a boy who had made his own arcade out of boxes. The ingenuity of the boy caught his imagination and spurred a film. <http://imagination.is/about-us/our-story/>. The momentum continued inspiring children to use boxes for a variety of fun things. Saturday 11th October is the Global Cardboard Challenge. TD would encourage you to spend some time that day with your children and see what you can do with the boxes.

## **Contact Details**

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