

A Bulletin of Transition-minded Notices for July/August 2017

Including items on energy, music, eating better, crowdfunding, arts, trains, DIY, cycling, local plans and topical reports on architecture and electric/hybrid cars...

Compiled for Transition minded community groups in & around Hertfordshire
by John Webb of Transition Town Letchworth: jwebb2005@hotmail.co.uk

Please share with group members or let me know if you are not the appropriate contact.
Check the online notice boards or contact the organisers for changes and cancellations.

Transition Towns round-up

Abbots in Transition – community markets, eco schools, orchard group... [events](#)

Transition Town Berkhamsted – coffee cup survey, Green Drinks, ... [events](#)

Buntingford in Transition – link to Six Easy Ways to Reduce Food Waste ... [events](#)

Transition in Hemel – Grand Union Community Energy (Industrial Provident Society) [events](#)

Transition Hertford – monthly food swaps, Green Film Club, ... [events](#)

Transition Town Letchworth – Cycling Network Report; cycle maintenance course ... [events](#)

Transition in Kings – Community Farm, Local Produce Market, Food Group ... [events](#)

Transition St Albans – Film Festival until 9th July, Open Food Gardens,[events](#)

Tring in Transition – Duck Lane Community Garden: permaculture and ‘no dig’ ... [events](#)

DATED EVENTS, IN SEQUENCE

European Energy - call for evidence

By Monday, 10th July 2017. Co-ordinated by Dr Chris Foulds and Dr Rosie Robison at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge, UK

“Social Sciences and Humanities for Advancing Policy in European Energy (SHAPE-ENERGY) is a €2m investment through the EU Horizon 2020 programme.” The survey is really aimed at academics and researchers, but the project team is also keen to hear from non-governmental activists and engaged citizens. It is designed to be easy to do, with only four core questions, 5-10 mins. Responses will be anonymised.

Project: <https://shapeenergy.eu/index.php/about/>

Survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/AL0Zsm5c4fvhVlZg2>

Sounds Green 2017 in Cambridge

Wednesdays 12th, 19th & 26th July, each from 6:15pm to 7:15pm

in Cambridge University's Botanic Garden, 1 Brookside Cambridge CB2 1JE

"A weekly celebration of summer and music, Sounds Green is part of the Cambridge Summer Music programme of events. Set on the Garden's Main Lawn with the Bee Borders as a stunning backdrop, visitors can enjoy an array of live music with family and friends, on a (hopefully) warm and balmy evening. Every Wednesday evening in July."

Details: [http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/Botanic/Page.aspx?](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/Botanic/Page.aspx?p=27&ix=2717&pid=2&prcid=36&ppid=0)

[p=27&ix=2717&pid=2&prcid=36&ppid=0](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/Botanic/Page.aspx?p=27&ix=2717&pid=2&prcid=36&ppid=0)

Triangle Community Garden: James Wong on “How to Eat Better”

Friday 14th July - only 19 or fewer tickets were left!

Cost: Full £12 / Concessions £10 (£5 off for Friends of TCG)

at Woodside Hall, Walsworth Road, Hitchin SG4 9SP

<http://www.trianglegarden.org/events/james-wong-how-eat-better>

To book, contact Vicky Wyer via www.trianglegarden.org, mobile 07989 321663

The Dragonfly Challenge, 15th-23rd July

Pick one day during Dragonfly Week and count the dragonflies you see on your garden pond, local river or other wetland: www.british-dragonflies.org.uk

Vision10: Time for a Green and Clean Industrial Strategy – launch event

Monday 17th July 2017 from 12 noon to 2pm in the Attlee Suite, Portcullis House, 102 Bridge Street, Westminster, SW1A 2JH

"The launch of Vision10 is an opportunity to find out more about the initiative and how we can help deliver a low carbon industrial strategy, improve business relationships, showcase clean energy and demonstrate climate change leadership."

Notice: <http://sustainability-hub.org/events/>

Visitors' Guide to Portcullis House (draft): <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/foi/Visitor-Guide-portcullis-house-draft-F11-021.pdf>

Web seminar "How to run a successful crowdfunding campaign"

Tuesday, 18th July 2017 from 12 noon, by Harriet Gridley for Spacehive

"In this webinar you'll discover the funding on offer along with the skills you need to run a successful crowdfunding campaign. We have over £1million in funds available exclusively for community crowdfunding projects on Spacehive. So if you've got a great idea, we've got what you need to bring it to life! We're looking for projects that make local places better. Through crowdfunding you can raise the profile of your project, gather public support, and raise the money you need to make it happen."

Joining: <https://spacehive.clickmeeting.com/run-a-successful-crowdfunding-campaign/>

Arts Takeover in Letchworth

Saturday 22nd July 2017 from 10am to 6pm

"There will be various stages around the BID area and in the town centre. These will be themed (Theatre, Literacy, Comedy, Poetry, Fashion) and showcase local acts from around Letchworth and the county." c/o Patricia Saunders, Events & Project Co-ordinator, Letchworth Garden City Business Improvement District (BID)

Details: <https://gb.eventbu.com/lethworth/lethworth-arts-takeover/2515084>

Notice: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1621634834533239>

Train timetabling for 2018 onwards

This consultation will end on Thursday 27th July 2017. Train service providers are running a phase 2 consultation to fine-tune a new timetable for May 2018 onwards. Only direct services of Gatwick Express, Great Northern, Thameslink and Southern trains are shown. See the Check Your Journey tool: <https://www.transformingrail.com/>

You can contact the project team directly by email: tr.timetableconsultation@gtrailway.com

and also check the responses to date: <https://www.transformingrail.com/-/media/goahead/transforming-rail/files/lets-talk-text.pdf>

Royston Repair Cafe 'Fix-ture'

Sunday 30th July from 10am to 1pm: "If you have items that need mending – bikes, clothes, jewellery, toys, tools, electrical and IT equipment including printers, small pieces of furniture etc – what do you do with them? ... you bring them along to the Royston Repair Cafe – a free event where you can learn how to mend your broken items."

Details: <http://circularcambridge.org/events/royston-repair-cafe-fix-ture>

Further information and registration via the Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/225111947994371>

Cycle Maintenance course

Five Monday evening meetings of 1½ hrs. starting at 7:30pm, from 16th October to 13th November inclusive at St.Paul's Church Hall, Pixmore Way, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1QT

The course will cover fault finding, adjustments, basic maintenance, repairs and get-you-home needs. To enable individual needs to be addressed the course is limited to 8 participants so early booking is recommended. The cost will be £15-£20 depending on the numbers. There will be no charge for paid-up members of the Forty plus cycling club. Participants must bring their bicycles with them as there is a great deal of practical work involved. To enroll, or for further details, please contact Frank Turner by email on ftsg62eu@talktalk.net.

Even though this is some time ahead, if you're interested please let us know.

LOCAL PLANNING

Waste & Recycling Consultation

To be launched in mid July via North Herts. District Council's web site:

<https://north-herts.gov.uk/>

Local Plan Examination

The Inspector, Simon Berkeley BA MA MRTPI is appraising the Local Plan.

photo: <http://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/>

10403360.Public_inquiry_into_South_Lakeland_land_allocations_plan_to_resume_in_June/

The public contact is Programme Officer,* Louise St John Howe, louise@poservices.co.uk.

photo: <http://www.sudburymercury.co.uk/news/runners-urged-to-take-part-in-success-after-stroke-fundraiser-1-4130541>

She expects to publish information on the examination process and key dates, a couple of months hence.

'News and Updates' page: <https://north-herts.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-examination/examination-library>

Note: Usually it is the case that "Only members of the public who have made representations are entitled to participate in the hearing sessions of the examination. However, the public gallery will be open for people who wish to come and listen to the hearing taking place."

Air quality

[North Herts. District Council](#)

Closing date Friday 1st September 2017.

Joint Air Quality Action Plan Consultation (Draft for Consultation) by North Hertfordshire District Council.

“... We are very interested in hearing people’s views about the draft Joint Action Plan, so please use this on-line questionnaire to give us your opinions.”

About: <https://north-herts.gov.uk/home/environmental-health/pollution/air-quality/air-quality-action-plan-consultation>

Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/airqualityNHDC>

East Herts. District Council

East Herts Council launched its Air Quality Action Plan on National Clean Air Day (June 15th).

"The 38 point plan includes support for national Clean Air Day, with an awareness campaign asking drivers to turn off their engines whilst stationary, especially near schools. Promoting the use of electric vehicles is also a high priority, with extra car charging points and an electric car share scheme planned."

Article: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/35866/East-Herts-launches-Air-Quality-Action-Plan>

REPORTS

Affordable Housing

Town & Country Planning Association (TCPA) has published a special issue of the TCPA Journal, June 2017, with 11 articles on the topic. Index available on request, or you can see a copy in the public Library.

Report: <https://www.tcpa.org.uk/news/councils-warning-of-severe-need-for-affordable-homes>

Launch of 'green infrastructure' knowledge base: <https://www.tcpa.org.uk/news/uks-biggest-green-infrastructure-knowledge-base-launched>

Brompton's 'Cycling By Train' scheme and PlusBike

"You can hire two bikes at a time per membership. Register for £20 per year, then travel where you like for £3.80 for 24 hours, and you can keep the bike(s) for up to 72 hours": bikeandgo.co.uk

Whether you hire a bike or use your own, route planning information is available from the PlusBike service: national rail.co.uk/plusbike

Cycling Network Report

Transition Town Letchworth has been part of a group who has developed a proposal for a safe cycle network of routes across Letchworth. The first edition of our report can be found here:

<http://www.transitionletchworth.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/LetchworthCyclePlanEdition1.pdf>

We are interested to hear the views of cyclists (and potential cyclists) on whether our proposal will help people to cycle between their home and key destinations such as workplaces, schools, leisure activities, shops and stations. This is not a public consultation, just an informal request for feedback to TTL. Please consider local routes from a cycling point of view, rather than particular features, since the latter would be designed by transport professionals.

Designing New Communities

Book by Dr Hugh Ellis *et al.*, June 2017: 'The Art of Building a Garden City: Designing New Communities for the 21st Century', RIBA Publishing @ £40 (£35 for Town & Country Planning Association members)

Diminishing demand for fossil fuels

"A new study published by London-based organisation Carbon Tracker Initiative contends that advances in technology, slower economic growth and lower than expected population rise could all dampen fossil fuel demand significantly by 2040."

Download: http://www.bettersociety.net/link.php?url=%20/images/Lost-in-transition_Full_Final1.pdf

Electric engined cars

New Volvo cars will have electric motors by 2019 (i.e. either hybrid or all-electric): "... By 2019, no new Volvo cars will be manufactured without an electric motor, and the company will be gradually phasing out internal combustion engines. In a further commitment to environmental sustainability, the carmaker also aims to have completely 'climate-neutral' manufacturing operations by 2025. ..." "... Approximately 265,000 fully electric vehicles were sold in China in 2016, far outpacing the 110,000 models sold in Europe over the same period. ..." "... Volvo's announcement comes hot on the heels of Tesla's confirmed release date for its low-cost Model 3* electric car. ..."

Article: <https://www.theneweconomy.com/business/volvo-to-go-fully-electric-from-2019>

Facilitating Zero Waste Design in Architecture

Last month the environmental consultancy Eunomia celebrated the opening of its New York office by hosting a conference on 'Design Guidelines for Zero Waste'. For Construction and Development (C&D) this focussed on the future of recycling and transitioning to a Zero Waste industry. For instance a speaker Naomi Cooper "finished by calling on developers and architects to specify construction site recycling rates, and also stressed the need for more local end markets – her clients are the businesses with an appetite for secondary material."

Article: <http://www.eunomia.co.uk/us-office-co-hosts-zero-waste-event/>

A new British Standard for the Circular Economy

"Standards body BSI has launched a new standard for the circular economy, BS 8001: 2017: Framework for implementing the principles of the circular economy in organisation's guide. ..."

Article by Mark Evans, 27th June 2017, c/o Better Society Network: <http://bettersociety.net/BSI-circular-economy.php>

A final smile, *but please don't try this!* (15-second video with sound)

<http://road.cc/content/news/225564-video-too-cute-words-dog-helps-owner-pedal-bike>
