

Newsletter - October 2013

Local to Ludlow Produce Market



Apple Pressing on Thursday 24th October.

Bring your apples - they do need to be washed and free of bruises.
Also remember to bring suitable containers to take them home in.

Ludlow Fairtrade Town Group



Updates on Fairtrade and Trade Justice Campaigns

Traidcraft – Supermarkets in Europe

Traidcraft has won the campaign for a supermarket watchdog in the UK. The ombudsman has the power to fine supermarkets for unfair treatment of suppliers.

Supermarkets have been shown to abuse their huge buyer power by passing on 'excessive risks and unexpected costs' down their supply chains. Millions of workers, farmers and producers are left with little choice but to work long hours for low pay in unsafe conditions to meet the demands placed on them by supermarkets. This is due to stop now.

But three of the four biggest supermarket chains in the world have their headquarters in Europe. If supermarket bullying on a global scale is to be tackled, there is a need for tougher rules coming out of Brussels.

Traidcraft is working with partners across the continent on the next phase of its campaign for fairer supermarkets.

Fairtrade Foundation – next phase of Make Food Fair Campaign to be launched in October

Following the G8 Summit in June, Justine Greening, Secretary of State for International Development stated, *'the UK Government agrees that a focus on smallholder farmers is appropriate and correct and is already committing considerable present and future funding to this sector.'*

Justine Greening outlined the funds that are committed to programmes and initiatives DFID is taking to support smallholder farmers which include the recently expanded New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

However, the Fairtrade Foundation is concerned that smallholder farmers are supported in the right way, and that the UK Government needs a change in approach. The G8's New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition has many gaps when it comes to smallholder farmers and their voices will be drowned out by those of foreign investors and agribusiness.

The needs of smallholder farmers must be represented properly by the UK Government and the G8 group as a whole.

To find out more and join the 'Make Food Fair' Campaign go to the Fairtrade Foundation website at

http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get_involved/campaigns/make_food_fair/default.aspx

October Walk or Bike Ride - Saturday 19th to the Sun Inn, Leintwardine

This event is part of h.Energy week which runs from 12th – 20th October.

See <http://www.herefordshirenewleaf.org.uk/h-energy> for the full programme



EITHER join Les Lumsdon on a 5 mile walk with superb views to the historic parlour pub, the Sun Inn. Meet outside Assembly Rooms, Ludlow at 12:30 for the 12:45 740 bus. Walk moderate with one major climb early on. Bring a snack or have one at the pub. Stout footwear and waterproofs. Bus back for 17:45.



OR join Ray Hughes who will lead a Ludlow 21 cycle ride to the Sun Inn. Meet in Castle Square by 2.00pm - we have permission to ride through Downton Estate which should be interesting and avoids the long hill over Mortimer Forest.

If you don't fancy the walk then join us at the Sun Inn at 15:30 and meet landlord Gary Seymour and Hobsons Chief Brewer, Nick Davis to discuss how sustainable technologies have been adapted to a Grade II listed building and the pub's approach to sustainability.

Note: The Ludlow AD plant is also open on 19th Oct – see <http://www.herefordshirenewleaf.org.uk/ludlow-ad-plant>

Shropshire Skills Match – micro volunteering scheme

The Community Council of Shropshire has launched a new volunteering scheme which enables a match between organisations looking for particular short-term or occasional jobs and people with limited time to spare. It's been described as short term, bite-sized volunteering. To sign up see <http://shropshireskillsmatch.org.uk/> You can read more at <http://shropshirevcs.org.uk/blog/news-general/volunteer-centres-shropshire-launches-skills-match/>

Co-wheels Shropshire - Free driving this autumn



To celebrate its first six months Co-wheels Shropshire is offering £25 free use of its cars to new and existing members who sign up and use the cars this autumn.

There are two Co-wheels cars in Ludlow at the Galdeford Car Park.

Co-wheels is a "pay by the hour" car club which gives members access to new fuel-efficient vehicles. Bookings are made online or by phone, with as little as a minute's notice (as long as a car is available). It's a flexible, convenient and cost-effective scheme for

anyone who doesn't need a car all day, every day.

It's especially good news for younger or older drivers – anyone aged 18+ who has held a clean licence for a year pays the same, and there is no upper age limit. The insurance also covers business use.

If you're not already a member you will need to sign up in order to claim this offer.

Co-wheels members pay a one-off fee to join, and journeys are charged per hour and per mile – the charges cover fuel as well as insurance, breakdown cover and regular maintenance.

To find out more and to join, just visit www.co-wheels.org.uk/shropshire

Make a Difference Day - October 26th 2013

This year CSV are teaming up with Shropshire RCC to support Food Banks and involve young volunteers through Scouts, Guides and college students.

Food banks don't just need food: other items urgently needed are sleeping bags, vacuum flasks and toiletries.

Find out more or request an information pack from Steve Jones Steve.Jones@shropshire-rcc.org.uk

South Shropshire Walking for Health

Ian Pearmain will be running the next South Shropshire Walking for Health (WfH) leader training course in Ludlow on Tuesday 15th October.

Please let him have contact details for anyone you think should be or is interested in becoming a walk leader. Tel. 01547 529 491 07808 319 004 ian.walkingforhealth@gmail.com

2013 Green Festival

The 2013 Festival was undoubtedly a success. Once again we had a full house of stalls in Market Square and a range of activities and transport displays in Events Square.



LUDLOW
GREEN FESTIVAL
THE REGION'S BIG GREEN EVENT
www.greenfestival.co.uk

Our planning for this year's Festival was strongly influenced by the steer from the Board and some of last year's stall holders to develop a greener message for the Sunday Fair.



We did this in a variety of ways some more successful than others:

- All stalls at the Fair had to display in a uniform format their green credentials.
- There was a stricter assessment of stall holder's green policy before they were accepted.
- "Make one Change" was chosen as the theme for the Festival.
- An organic hub was created and food and drink providers were chosen for their green, organic if possible, credentials.
- Music was of the busking type with minimal use of acoustics
- Stall holders were encouraged to take their waste away with them.
- We offered a series of talks on green issues in the Make One Change tent.

The other positive aspects of the Festival were:

- The Mappa Viride
- The children's activities
- Good crowds at the allotments
- The Make One Change Pledge Tree
- The well supported *Moo Man* film at the Assembly Rooms
- The exciting Fashion Show at the Feathers
- The excellent and engaging volunteer support
- The support of local organisations and sponsors especially our main event sponsor, Acaster LLP



The activities which were unfortunately less well supported were:

- The Make One Change Tent programme of talks
- The bike rides and walks. However the 21k Moving Message Ride created a good spectacle and attracted significant interest on its journey around the area

The breakdown on the journey to Ludlow of Colin Richard's gas powered ambulance was a disappointment.

Ludlow 21 took over the organisation of the Green Fair 10 years ago, following 7 years of leadership by the Green Party. After one year we changed the name to the Green Festival, expanding the range of activities and even one year running it over a two week period. Surveys at our first Fair in 2004 indicated that over 75% of participants came from outside the south Shropshire area. We therefore set out to engage more with the local population, and our sample survey this year (ten years later) of 200 people indicated a 50% split between visitors from south Shropshire area and those from the rest of England.

The present committee feels that there is now a need for the festival to take a different direction and for new blood to take the event or events forward. Sarah Jones and Peter Westmacott have indicated they would like to stand down, Alan Latchford and Roger Furniss would like to bow out during the coming year.

However, Ashley Green (01584 872110) and Nina Walmsley (01584 318316) are enthusiastically prepared to progress the work of the Ludlow 21 Events Committee.

Please contact them if you would like to help plan next year's event.

A bigger committee is crucial to help run this important public event in Ludlow 21's calendar.

New future planned for Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre

You may have seen this news item from Shropshire council recently -

"The Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre (SHDC) Advisory Board has agreed in principle to hold discussions with South Shropshire Housing Association (SSHA) and their partner Grow Cook (L)Earn on the possible transfer of the Discovery Centre and neighbouring Onny Meadows to SSHA, subject to further detailed proposals being drawn up, and subject to the approval of Shropshire Council's Cabinet.

The agreement was reached at the Board's meeting on Thursday 5 September 2013.



Grow Cook (L)Earn is the successor to Grow Cook Share, a local food project working in the Ludlow and Craven Arms areas to support people to grow and cook their own food and to share their skills, knowledge and excess produce within the local community.

Grow Cook (L)Earn's vision for the Discovery Centre is to: 'create a training centre for food-related employment, a leisure resource for local people and a vibrant visitor attraction demonstrating the link between food production and the landscape of the Shropshire Hills'.

They plan to run the Centre as a 'hub' enhancing visitors' experience of the local area, providing training in the food-related industries, creating and supporting local jobs, supporting local businesses, and supporting spend in the local area."

There will be more news about this exciting development soon.

Pride of Place – Ludlow Food Festival: Visitors left happy

The visitors to Ludlow for last weekend's Food Festival seemed to enjoy themselves, if the amount of waste collected around the town centre on Monday morning was anything to go by! Shropshire Council and Ludlow "Pride of Place" held a voluntary litter pick and picked up a collection of recyclables and waste. Thanks to all those who helped us as we went round.

Pictured are Viv Parry, Alan Stewart, Heidi Steele, Rosanna Taylor-Smith around a Shropshire Council van



Contact Alan Stewart (Alan-Stewart@hotmail.co.uk or 07929 062 691) Project Manager if you would like to be involved with Ludlow Pride of Place

Ludlow Household Recycling Manual

Ten years ago – Concorde made its last flight, the M6 toll road opened and at that time, the household recycling rate in what was then the Shropshire County Council area was just 14%. Veolia ES won the contract to collect and manage the household waste generated throughout Shropshire for the next 25 years. Now the recycling / composting rate in Shropshire Council is just over 50%.

The new Ludlow Household Recycling Manual which will be available on the Ludlow 21 website includes the Coder Road recycling centre, other recycling sites around Ludlow, the A to Z of how and where recycling goes, charity shops, other organisations recycling around Ludlow and advertising recycling.

As opportunities for recycling are continually changing this will only be a web resource. It will be available at <http://www.ludlow21.org.uk/recycling/household-recycling-manual/> and be updated every month.

Eco-Schools

Acton Scott Farm recently hosted an Eco-Schools day for 13 Shropshire Primary Schools. There were show-and-tell presentations in topics such as energy, water, biodiversity, school grounds, healthy living, transport, waste & litter and global citizenship. Rachel Strivens and Ruth Hudson of the Sustainability Team at Shropshire Council organised the event which the schools found useful and educational.

Shropshire Council information on Coder Road recycling centre

A proposal to close the Coder Road amenity skip and recycling centre in Ludlow and look at options for the site's future use is the result of a detailed review of Shropshire's recycling centres which sought to identify ways to increase the county's recycling rate and save money.

The proposal will be considered by Steve Charmley, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member responsible for waste management, at his Cabinet member decision-making session due to be held in the week commencing 4 November. Shropshire Council – with its waste contractor Veolia – operates five modern household recycling centres (HRCs) across the county, plus the Coder Road amenity skip site. South Shropshire is the only former Shropshire district to currently have two recycling centres (including the HRC at Craven Arms Business Park). Shropshire Council has been reviewing the operation of these recycling centres to identify ways to increase recycling, reduce the amount of the waste that goes to landfill, and make financial savings. The review found that the recycling rate at Coder Road in the year 2012/13 was less than 30% – compared to an average of 60% at the county's other recycling centres. The Coder Road site is visited just 25,000 times per year, compared to a total of 750,000 visits per year for the five HRCs. It would cost Shropshire Council £600,000 to bring the Coder Road site up to the standard of the other HRCs, but only result in a 0.2% increase in Shropshire's recycling rate. Closure of the site would save the Council £100,000 a year. For these reasons the review has recommended that the Coder Road amenity skip site should close and that alternatives for its future use should be considered.

Three possible options have been proposed

1. Clear the site and sell the land.
2. Convert the site to an unmanned recycling bring bank site.
3. Clear the site and integrate the land into the redevelopment of the neighbouring anaerobic digestion site.

You can have your say about these options by following this link to the [online survey](#). Ludlow 21 will be also be responding to the council as an official “interested party”. The deadline for comments is 21st October so please do this NOW!

Larry Wolfe, Shropshire Council’s head of waste management, said: *“Our review has found that closing the Coder Road amenity skip site would lead to significant financial savings for the council, but would also increase the amount of waste that is recycled by encouraging people to make use of the state-of-the-art recycling centre at Craven Arms where many more materials can be recycled, or through greater use of the bring banks provided across the south Shropshire area. Three possible future uses for the site have been put forward and we are keen to hear the views of local people and local councillors before a final decision is made in November.”*

Shropshire Community Recycling Ltd

Jenna Blair recently took up the position as the link between SCRL (now voted to become SCRN – Network) and Green Shropshire Xchange. James Thompson of Shropshire Council’s Waste Management Dept gave a presentation on their new website, how the council was thinking, the online surveys and the timescales involved in making decisions. The next meeting in Craven Arms will be in late November / early December . Please contact Alan-Stewart@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested in the work of SCRL.

“Rubbish Diet” starting in October



Five years ago, Karen Cannard started the Rubbish Diet Blog when she was challenged to Zero Waste her bin. She got hooked on trying to understand why we waste so much money and stuff by sending it to landfill. Just before Christmas 2012 Transition Town Shrewsbury launched the Rubbish Diet in Shropshire with the first 20 families and now we we’re keen to hear from anyone who’d like to try it here. It’s like weight-watchers for your bin, shrinking what you send to landfill as well as saving you money

The Diet is really easy to do. You set your own targets and track your progress. It can make a real difference whether you’ve got a full wheelie bin or just a few little bags in the bottom. All you have to do is weigh your bin bags - find out what your Top 5

wastes are and then find ways of making that waste disappear - by recycling it, finding other uses for it or just avoiding it all together.

You won’t be on your own. You’ll find solutions that work for you with the help of other Dieters in your group and the Ludlow Bin Doctor, Alan Stewart, who will run a blog to share your highs and lows, the solutions you come up with and get the team to come up with answers for problems you can’t crack.

Every week you’ll be set challenges: Getting a household waste recycling guide for Ludlow. Shopping with waste in mind. Reducing food waste. Composting. Ditching the disposables. Declutter week. All building up to an attempt at a Zero Waste Week.

If you are interested of have any questions do get in touch with Alan - Alan-Stewart@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesday Bike Rides



The Ludlow Easy Riders meet every Tuesday in the Castle Square 9.20 for a 9.30 start. These are gentle rides and ideal for a autumn days. Do come along and join this friendly group – for more information contact David Currant on 01584 875501.

The Big Green Shropshire Gathering

hosted by

Green Shropshire Xchange

This FREE all day event will take place on Saturday 9th November at the Shropshire Wildlife Trust Centre opposite the Abbey in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury and builds on the feedback from last year's GSX Conference. To book your place email the coordinator at info@greenshropshirexchange.co.uk

GSX members will showcase successful projects or the services they provide within an interactive setting so that others can share and contribute.

This event will be a shop window and a celebration of the many successful initiatives and projects pioneered by the environmental community in Shropshire.

There will be two interconnected components to the day:

- Members' Displays and stalls grouped into themes so that both owners and viewers interested in a particular topic can interact informally and share their experience.
- Presentations and discussions on topical subjects led by local experts to include:

Renewable energy

*Growing our own
food*

*Waste not want
not*

*Sustainable
transport*

*Economising our
energy use*

Dates for your Diary

Below are events we are aware of at the time of producing the newsletter but check the *News and Forthcoming Events* section of the Ludlow21 website regularly for an up-to-date list.

October

Thursday 10 th	9:00am – 2:00pm	<u>Local to Ludlow Market</u>	Market Square
Thursday 17 th	Meet Ludlow station 6:10pm	<u>Folk Down the Track</u>	Castle Hotel, Knucklas
Saturday 12 th – Sunday 20 th		<u>h.Energy week</u> See http://www.herefordshirenewleaf.org.uk/h-energy	Various venues
Monday 21 st	from 7:30pm	<u>Green Drinks</u>	Rose and Crown
Thursday 24 th	9:00am – 2:00pm	<u>Local to Ludlow Market</u> Apple Pressing day – bring washed fruit and bottles to take it home in.	Market Square
Saturday 26 th	Meet 10:20	<u>Pride of Place</u> Monthly town centre tidy up – more volunteers always needed – all equipment provided. <u>Make a difference Day</u> See article above	Buttercross

November

Thursday 14 th	9:00am – 2:00pm	<u>Local to Ludlow Market</u>	Market Square
Thursday 21 st	from 7:30pm	<u>Green Drinks</u>	Rose and Crown
Saturday 23 rd	10am – 4pm	<u>Traidcraft Christmas Fair</u>	Ludlow Mascal Centre
Thursday 28 th	9:00am – 2:00pm	<u>Local to Ludlow Market</u>	Market Square
Saturday 30 th	Meet 10:20	<u>Pride of Place</u> Monthly town centre tidy up – more volunteers always needed – all equipment provided.	Buttercross

Contacts

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Ludlow21 Company Secretary	Peta Sams	01584 876818	Peta.Sams@btinternet.com
Ludlow 21 Membership Secretary	Juergen Bridstrup	01584 876922	membership@ludlow21.org.uk
Fairtrade and Human Rights & Board:	Liz Taylor	01584 831149	fairtrade@ludlow21.org.uk
Food and Farming Group & Board	Kate Norman	01584 878398	foodandfarming@ludlow21.org.uk
Events Group& Board	Roger Furniss	01584 874205	events@ludlow21.org.uk
Other Board members	Tish Dockerty Denise Thomspen Nina Walmsley Alan Stewart Kim Holroyd	01584 872043 01584 875017 07824 508 536 07929 062 691	tish.dockerty@tdky.co.uk denisethompso40@hotmail.com nina.m.walmsley@googlemail.com alan-stewart@hotmail.co.uk kimholroyd@hotmail.com
Ludlow 21 Website			www.ludlow21.org.uk
Green Festival Website			www.greenfestival.co.uk
Local to Ludlow Website			www.localtoludlow.co.uk
Ludlow Open Days			http://www.ludlowopendays.org.uk