

WHAT'S IN
THIS ISSUE

Heated debate at the
CCF Gathering

Pass it on day

Assisted places at
The Melting Pot

Low carbon
communities survey

New report on
electric cars

Active travel carbon
counting

CCF Gathering report:
Getting better at
bringing people on
board

Welcome to the May 2010 Climate Challenge Fund Community Bulletin bringing you information about and for communities working to cut carbon emissions in Scotland.

Heated debate at the CCF Gathering

It was hot, inspiring, friendly and, according to some of the feedback we've received, a great way to hear fantastic speakers. If you were there you will know that the recent Climate Challenge Fund Gathering in Callander's McLaren Leisure Centre attracted 150 people from right across Scotland

Despite facing super-heated conditions in a supposedly sustainable building (when did windows you can open become as rare as hen's teeth?) the delegates stuck with the event and kept their focus on delivering change. Invited speakers ranged from Dr Carol Craig, Director of the Centre for Confidence and Well-being in Glasgow, who argued passionately for links to be made between well-being and reducing consumerism to Roland Playle, newly recruited project officer for Transition Edinburgh South, who launched a plea for suggestions for increasing the exchange of ideas and links between projects.

Danish traffic planner Troels Andersen blew the cobwebs from the gathering's collective imagination by showing what little investment in infrastructure is needed to reap huge paybacks in terms of health, productivity and reductions in sickness absence. With real examples from the Danish city of Odense it was an opportunity to see what could be achieved in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

Oxfam's Judith Robertson championed an idea for raising awareness of the benefits of community-led activity on climate change which could lead to a more systematic programme of encouraging MSPs to see the work in action. The Sustainable Development Commission's Claire Monkhouse helped her workshop group explore and feedback on the 4 Es model for behaviour change and its relevance to community projects. Claire said:

'It was really inspiring to hear about some *real* community level actions on enabling people to live lower carbon lifestyles, whether this was around the way they get around, the food they eat, or the energy use in their homes. There are some excellent case studies that we can bring into our Enabling Sustainable Lives work, for example in the evidence base that we're creating, or by showing how these approaches map against the '4Es' model - enable, exemplify, encourage, engage - of behaviour change.'

For more information about what emerged from discussion groups, in which the delegates identified the top actions required for moving further and faster on engaging the mainstream Scottish public in adopting more sustainable lifestyles, turn to the back page.



Ideal conditions for pondering mass engagement? Stop Climate Chaos Scotland's Mike Robinson and group at the CCF Gathering.

If you would like to see your project or event featured in a future monthly bulletin please email us at:
caroline.stjohnston@sdscotland.org.uk

Pass it on day...

Got something you want to swap? [Pass It On Day](#) is on 5th June. Edinburgh's excellent shared office space and meeting venue The Melting Pot, 5 Rose Street, Edinburgh is going a bit early by hosting their day on the 4th June.

Pass it on Day is Scotland's first national celebration of all things re-useable. Take along something you don't need any more to The Melting Pot and swop it for something you'd like. It's easy. You can be sure that your fellow Pass it Onners will only bring clean, good quality items and you might just find yourself a vintage gem or a whole new summer wardrobe.

You heard it heard first – now pass it on!

...The Melting Pot Assisted Places Programme

Do you have a great idea for a better world? Could you use some help to develop it? Are you sick of working from your kitchen table? The Melting Pot's Assisted Places programme, which is supported by the Scottish Government's Third Sector Enterprise Fund, offers free membership of The Melting Pot for six months to start-up social innovators or enterprises.

Far more than an office, The Melting Pot is a centre for social innovation. The Assisted Places package includes: access to a shared, stimulating, professional workspace, everyday office resources, joining a diverse community of social innovators, skills-sharing and networking events, use of the private meeting room, support, advice – and encouragement.

The closing date for applications for the second round is **Monday 7 June 2010**. Application pack and more information available [here](#) or call 0131 243 2626

Development Trust Scotland: Annual Conference

The DTA's annual conference in Aviemore on 13th/14th June focuses on "Resilient Communities".

Many CCF groups are also DTA members but if you want to make links with an excellent organisation and explore what role development trusts are playing in contributing to creating more resilient communities you are welcome to book a place.

Places can be booked [online](#) but best be quick as some of the workshops are filling up fast.

If you have any questions about the conference please contact ailen@dtascot.org.uk

Help with a low carbon communities survey

The Low Carbon Communities Network links groups across the UK who are working locally to tackle climate change and promote low carbon living. They are currently running an on-line survey of members and other local organisations which are active on climate change and low carbon living.

They are aiming to get a good up-to-date picture of work at this level and to find out what groups are doing, how effective they feel they are being, and what kind of training and support they might like.

Their survey takes only a few minutes to complete and will help develop a more rounded picture of community level action UK wide. Results will be summarised and shared with all participants. You can find the survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9GSZGGY>



Watt car? New WWF report on electric cars

A new report published by WWF Scotland on 25 May states that at least one in ten vehicles on Scotland's roads must be electric by 2020 if Scotland is to achieve its climate change targets. Key findings from *Watt Car?: the role of electric vehicles in Scotland's low carbon future* include:

- If the transport sector is to make a proportionate contribution to our 2020 target of a 42 per cent reduction in greenhouse gases we will need to see at least 290,000 electric cars on the roads by this date. To meet this goal electric vehicles (EVs) must achieve 20 per cent of the new car sales market by 2020
- In order that EVs make the greatest impact towards the 2020 targets they must be seen as part of an overall package to stabilise road traffic levels and decarbonise the power sector by 2030
- The increased electricity demand resulting from a new fleet of EVs is relatively modest

WWF Scotland also argues that the increased electricity demand arising from EVs must be fully integrated into a smart energy system, in order to minimise the need for additional electricity generation and ensure EVs support the growth in renewables.

For more information on the whole report go to the [WWF Scotland website](#). Click [here](#) for information on the Scottish Government's Low Carbon Vehicle Action Plan.

Walking back to happiness: Plea for help

Climate Challenge Fund project STRIDE (Sustainable Travel in Dundee East), aims to encourage people to get out of their cars and walk, or cycle, or use the bus, or get a lift from someone else. The team needs to be able to track its progress in terms of CO2 emissions reductions. The calculations will be based on reductions in car mileage.

The team has scoured the web and rummaged through the resources the CCF supporting alliance has to offer but has not yet found a simple way of enabling people to record the changes to their travel patterns while at the same time calculating what this



means in terms of calories burned and money & CO2 saved. Their genius plan is to motivate participants by showing them more than the CO2 reduction. The team figures that most of us are more motivated by getting and keeping fit and by saving money than we are by angst about climate change.

They've looked at great resources such as [walkit.com](#) and [shapelink.com](#) as well as exploring what Sustrans and Paths for All have to offer but nothing hits the spot. Any suggestions? Contact STRIDE at andyllanwarne@hotmail.com and consider sharing your ideas on our [CCF forum](#).

Outcomes and Behaviour change workshops

There are still places on our forthcoming Learning About Behaviour Change and What are my Outcomes? Workshops in June and July.

Previous CCF attendees have declared them "invaluable" in helping them deliver their projects. Please contact [Caroline](#) now if you would like to book a place. Full details can be found on the Networking and Learning page of the [CCF alliance website](#).

CCF Gathering report

Getting better at bringing people on board

How do we encourage more people to live more sustainable lives in Scotland? This theme dominated the opening afternoon of our second CCF Gathering. Working in small groups, delegates deliberated this question. They were asked to explore what is working well and what is not working so well right now. Issues on the positive side included more awareness in schools and amongst young people, good responses from some retailers and other businesses and acceptance of recycling as the norm. On the “could do better side” groups mentioned lack of facilities—for example poor cycling provision, lack of allotment land and the ease with which big business lobbies seem to be able to influence in ways which undermine sustainability.

When they focused on what needs to be done to improve on the current situation their recommendations were broad and exciting. It would be difficult to capture the breadth of delegate responses in one newsletter but if one key theme emerged from the discussion groups it is this: Capture the learning from CCF projects and support ongoing engagement with communities to make change happen.

Among many ideas raised and actions called for were:

- More listening to communities and their desires
- More incentives to change—for example, rewards for energy saving
- More participatory approaches to planning policy and interventions
- More leadership and positive direction from government
- Help on simplifying carbon counting
- Clarity on what are the best actions in carbon terms
- Emphasise quality of life over dangers of climate change
- Make public transport serve the public and become more affordable
- Provide more access to land for community food growing
- Help people feel part of something
- Work in partnership more effectively (e.g. with local authorities)
- Keep leading by example at every level
- Less talk more action
- Carbon rationing to ensure change is equitable
- Increase information into and engagement with schools
- Keep working to support bottom-up movements for change
- Keep improving understanding of behaviour change drivers

Interestingly there were very few calls for a coercive approach. Although taxation and legislation were mentioned as levers for change the dominant view was that engaging with the wider public in as positive a number of ways as possible was the key to changing behaviour. Perhaps this indicates an inherent respect for others, the benefit of experience or an excellent appreciation of the ongoing research behind behaviour change. It certainly provides policymakers with nutritional food for thought.



One of many groups participating in the CCF Gathering.