



Enabling Positive Actions through Sustainable Resource Use

Summer Newsletter 2010

CWA News

Big Beach Clean

This year the beach clean and Marine Conservation Society survey will be on Sunday 19th September. But we need help with planning and organising the event and on the actual day of the beach clean. If you would like to get involved please let us know!

CWA Volunteer Training Bursary Scheme

We have now completed this scheme and a total of over a 100 have benefitted through being able to access training and development. The training courses that were undertaken included Leadership Skills, Personal Development, Health and Safety, Risk Assessments, First Aid, Fruit Growing and other horticultural skills and Photoshop. Several of our compost mentors also received bursaries for further training.

Visit to Eden Project

CWA organised a visit to the Eden Project for CWA staff, volunteers and compost mentors to reward everyone for their efforts on the project. The visit included the Alchemy Centre with its 30 cubic metre Neter food digester, this machine has diverted 100 tonnes of food waste from landfill since it started composting all left over food and kitchen waste in 2005. The resulting nitrogen-rich deep brown dust is mixed by the Eden gardeners with their own compost or used as mulch.



Compost Awareness Week



CWA ran a compost awareness stall at Truro Farmers Market as part of International Compost Awareness Week. Materials on the stall were used to promote the use of peat-free compost and to provide information and advice on home composting. To attract people to the stall we had samples of peat free compost which were given away along with vegetable seeds to grow in the compost.

There was also a "Go peat free" pledge for people to sign and in return they were entered into a prize draw with prizes of a compost bin, compost caddy and one of Nicky Scott's book 'How to Compost'.

CWA Project News

Compost Mentor Scheme

CWA are now in the second year of the Cornwall Community Food and Composting Project. In the first year we recruited and trained 60 volunteers from West Cornwall who have since been busy mentoring over 100 of their friends, family and neighbours. All the mentors and the households they mentor are provided with a compost bin and kitchen caddy plus ongoing support to enable them to all continue to be successful composters.



The project is now working in Mid Cornwall and is recruiting volunteers from within a very wide area including the towns of St Austell and Truro and beyond (at least 10 miles). We are currently training mentors at workshops for Wednesday 30th June and Saturday 10th July in Truro, Wednesday 7th July and Wednesday 21st July in St Austell. **There are still a number of places available on these compost mentors workshops - Contact CWA NOW for a compost mentors enrolment form!**

Changing Communities

CWA's Changing Communities programme is funded by the Capacity Builders to develop collaborative projects that promote environmental sustainability and involve grassroots community organisations. CWA's role is to provide co-ordination and management support to community groups working with partners on new projects that will aim to become sustainable in the long-term.

Since starting the programme a number of Changing Community partner organisations have been successful in obtaining funding for new projects due to CWA's involvement.

Partnership projects still working with CWA under the programme include:



BLAG and Transition Truro : Organisational support for BLAG and the development of horticultural projects that engage local people.

Tamar Grow Local and HAMAS CSA : Promotion of local sustainable produce and waste reduction in the Tamar valley through the development of project and enterprise.

St Merryn Allotment and St Merryn Climate Friendly Parish: Development of projects, supporting local environmental activities and community involvement.

Bugle Greenspace and Parish Council: Managing and developing green and community spaces within Bugle for the enjoyment of existing and future generations.

Sustainable Trust and Chyan: Supporting project collaboration between partners that support range of practical environmental activities for the community.

Cornwall ScrapStore and Family Services: Development of Cornwall ScrapStore as a sustainable Social Enterprise.

Penwith Environment Network and West Cornwall FOE: Facilitating new project activity in Penzance that supports waste minimisation and community engagement.

Plan-iT Earth (PiE) and RIO: Supporting PiE organisational development to enable capacity building and long term sustainability for on-gong environmental activities.

Changing Communities Case Study: Bugle Greenspace (BuGS)

Is a new dynamic and committed volunteer led group which works at community and strategic levels to maintain, manage and develop green and community spaces within Bugle and surrounding areas, for the enjoyment of existing and future generations. It provides opportunities for local people to improve their open spaces through regular events.

The last year has been a busy year for BuGs, organising six events and helping to regenerate three greenspaces within Treverbyn Parish with the assistance of over 50 volunteers. A grant from O2 Its Your Community and support from Restormel Borough Council, Serco and The Eden Project enabled the group to create a picnic area in the centre of Bugle. This was then the location of the group's successful Picnic in the Park celebration which offered a morning of fun and games for all the family.

BuGs volunteers, with the support of Fiskars and the local police, also helped clear land in Penwithick for allotment space. These efforts inspired another grass roots volunteer group into action. They are now taking forward the allotment project, demonstrating that enthusiasm and empowerment are contagious.



Earlier in the year, BuGs helped Treverbyn Children's Centre clear their garden, so that children could start new gardening projects. The garden had not been used for many months and had become overgrown and choked with weeds. BuGs volunteers went into action weeding beds, clearing paths and planting sunflowers and vegetables for the children to nurture. A bird box and bird table were also made and installed.

With the help of CWA, BuGs has focussed on its governance, as well as fundraising strategy and application to develop new projects and build capacity to help deliver them. **For more info:** www.buglegreenspace.org

Cornwall Celebrates Volunteering Awards

Volunteer Cornwall and partners have launched the search for nominations for the 2010 Cornwall Celebrates Volunteering awards. Volunteer Cornwall is keen for nominations to be submitted in the thirteen categories promoted in 2009 plus an additional one of Volunteer Host Organisation. This category has been established to award organisations that recruit and support their volunteers in an inclusive and positive way. The celebration of Cornwall's army of volunteers will take place on November 18th. You can download a nomination form or fill it in online

<http://www.volunteercornwall.org.uk/ccv/>

Timber Re-Use Feasibility Study

CWA in partnership with ReZolve and Cornwall ScrapStore, with additional help from the National Community Wood Recycling Project have recently produced a study, commissioned by Cornwall Council, looking at the feasibility of establishing community based timber re-use projects in Cornwall.

Cornwall College Waste Audit

CWA has recently successfully completed a waste audit at the Camborne College campus, the largest site within the Cornwall College Group which is the biggest college of further and higher education in the Country. The College is keen to improve its environmental performance and become a greener college; it will be undertaking other audits at its other sites throughout Cornwall.

Penzance Wormery Project



The Penzance Wormery Project is a partnership between Cornwall Waste Action (CWA) and Penwith Environmental Network (PEN), funded by the Cornwall Community Foundation. The project is targeting people who don't have gardens or only have small backyards, who would like to compost their kitchen waste using a wormery as an alternative to sending compostable food waste to landfill.

Two workshops held in Penzance in June were oversubscribed, however 30 lucky participants were provided with the skills and knowledge to compost effectively using a wormery. Additional support will be given to for a further 6 months and everyone received a free wormery and guide-

book. The project is being used as a case study by DEFRA to illustrate how community based projects can contribute to solving the countries waste crisis.

The countries waste

Cornwall Waste Art Project

Is a CWA development project in collaboration with Cornwall ScrapStore. re-using waste through art workshops for children in primary schools across West Cornwall. The project will also provide varied creative experiences, teach and revive old crafts, as well as informing children the need to reduce waste. The pilot study was delivered by a CWA volunteer at Alverton C P School in Penzance, with year 4 children (aged 8 & 9) . There were 7 workshops plus a celebration event to which parents were invited, the final piece of art was displayed at the Easter Green Fair in Penzance.



CWA is now able to offer a **Compost Doctors** consultancy service to public and private sector organisations including catering establishments (pubs, hotels, visitor attractions etc) who want to minimise waste through compost based solutions on-site. The Compost Doctors will investigate waste streams and advise which composting system is appropriate as well as provide guidance on everything from legislation to using your own compost. Please contact Guy Doncaster guy@wasteaction.org.uk or phone CWA 01209 210883. For more information www.compostdoctors.org.uk

Summer Compost Competition

We are looking for your top composting tips—the best tip will be published on our website and win Nicky Scott's new composting book "How to make an Use Compost—The Ultimate Guide". **Closing date 31 July.**



We need your help to distribute this poster around Cornwall. If you would like some good quality A4 prints of this poster please contact us. Thankyou.

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