



# moving from global dependence to local community

[www.transitionberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.transitionberkhamsted.org.uk)

## Spring 2013 Newsletter

### GREEN DRINKS EVENING

is a social evening on the third Thursday of each month, when we chat about TTB's projects and progress. All interested Berkhamsteders warmly welcomed!

Check <[www.transitionberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.transitionberkhamsted.org.uk)> or phone 01442 875964 for the venue.

### BUILDING COMMUNITY.

Many town groups like the Hospice of St Francis, the Rotary Club, the Town Council, Schools and Churches were involved in the second Building Community event in November 2012, at Ashlyns School. Active projects brought forward from the first gathering included:

Establishing a Berkhamsted Community Centre

My Compassionate Street - nurturing neighbourhood

An Energy Fact sheet for Berkhamsted residents.

Berkhamsted Community Group ( BCG), is steadily developing. Like to be involved? Great! Then Paul Crosland's your guy. 01442 873813 or [peejaycee@yahoo.com](mailto:peejaycee@yahoo.com)

### LECTURE

Prof Ian Roberts, author of *The Energy Glut*, is speaking in October at Ashlyns School. Join us to hear this acclaimed author. If you're not familiar with his work look at:

<[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjPA\\_dlXoVM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjPA_dlXoVM)>

<<http://zedbooks.co.uk/paperback/the-energy-glut>>

The exact date will be published online and around town centre as soon as it's confirmed.

### POSITIVE NEWS

To keep cheerful and well informed, read Positive News. Latest issue includes: revolutionising journalism, community-owned wind turbines, green energy co-ops, and food sovereignty.

Contact <http://positivenews.org.uk> or ring 01588 640 022.

### INNER TRANSITION.

The next Mid Chilterns Inner Transition meeting will be on Monday 11th February, 8pm, at Tring Community Centre, Silk Mill, Tring. We'll be discussing "Heart and Soul, Inner and

Outer" by Hilary Prentice. Download it:

<http://www.transitionnetwork.org/resources/overview-inner-transition>)

Contact "johnsallan@yahoo.com" 01442 824494

## **LOCAL FOOD**

### **A Community Orchard**

January witnessed the transformation of a small plot of waste land into a 14 tree orchard. TTB negotiated assistance from the Town Council and Chiltern Conservation.

If you know of any local land that could become a community orchard and would like help to make it happen, contact <[info@transitionberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:info@transitionberkhamsted.org.uk)> or ring Marion on 01442 874732.

*Interested in local farm shop trips?* Contact Trevor at [trevorallandavies@ymail.com](mailto:trevorallandavies@ymail.com)

*How about bulk food orders?* Contact Claire [cpaszkiwicz@yahoo.com](mailto:cpaszkiwicz@yahoo.com)

### **Dacorum Food Coordinator**

TTB Food Group, Sunnyside Rural Trust and the Dacorum Local Food Initiative have recently appointed a full time food coordinator to encourage a vibrant local food culture in and around Dacorum. A warm welcome to Nicole Jackson who began work in January. To find out more about the work of the Dacorum Local Food Initiative see <[www.dacorumlocalfood.org.uk](http://www.dacorumlocalfood.org.uk) or email [info@dacorumlocalfood.org.uk](mailto:info@dacorumlocalfood.org.uk)>

**TTB's Community Growing Project** now comprises five active members who will soon start cultivating vegetables, soft fruit and flowers on a large outdoor plot. This is in addition to the full sized polytunnel already in use, which is yielding delicious salad leaves, beetroot and oriental brassicas. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and to work together to produce our own food. New members welcome!

Contact Bettina at <[bettina\\_strickler@lycosmail.com](mailto:bettina_strickler@lycosmail.com) >

## **TRANSPORT & ENVIRONMENT**

### **How clean is our air?**

Berkhamsted does not have the pollution of Beijing, but we're not without problems. The air in the town is increasingly contaminated by exhaust fumes - often at or above safety thresholds. We are launching a comprehensive study of air pollution in Berkhamsted, using improved methods of measurement.\* In other communities schools and local businesses are already involved and we want the same for Berkhamsted.. We're very concerned about dangerous levels of pollution nearest the ground, where our children do all their breathing!

\*Fortunately groups such as Mapping for Change (<http://www.communitymaps.org.uk>) have developed easy and inexpensive ways of monitoring air pollution levels

Contact Seb Beloe at [seb@whebam.com](mailto:seb@whebam.com) or ring (0)7950 346 590

**Council Meeting**

On 4 Feb we made a presentation to Berkhamsted Town Council for a coordinated transport policy. TTB are seeking and developing suggestions (like improving town bus service and starting car share schemes) to improve the air in the town. Contact Danny 01442 824494 or Wendy <wsja6@tiscali.co.uk> <http://transitionberkhamsted.org.uk/> and on Facebook.

**TTB Energy Group:**

We use energy in everything we do. Together, let's make the transition from causing terrible climate change to using clean energy wisely and safeguard our environment for everyone. If you would like to join this group and meet soon contact Robin Williams at [robinpaulwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:robinpaulwilliams@gmail.com) or phone 07466.122.768