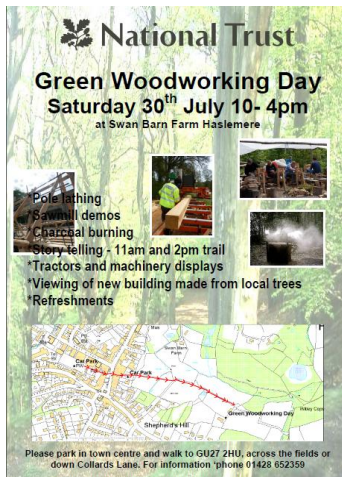




## Green Woodworking Day



The National Trust are holding a **“Green Woodworking Day”** at Swan Barn Farm (just walk down Collards Lane to get there) between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July**.



This will be a celebration of trees and the sustainable use of their wood. It is particularly relevant of course, because of the new Speckled Wood Project which is being built from locally-sourced sustainable wood. You will be able to see how far the building has progressed and learn a bit more about how it is being built. Should be a fascinating day and well worth a visit.

## Green Drinks



We will be back again at the bar of the Georgian Hotel on Thursday **August 4<sup>th</sup>** between 7.30 and 9.30 pm if you fancy a convivial chat and a drink. All are most welcome.

## Dates for Your Diary



There are a host of local events coming up in addition to our usual ones starting with the **Green Woodworking Day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July**.

Two of our biggest Farm supporters are having Open Days:

**Lower Roundhurst Farm** on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September** where they are having a “festival of food and farming” and

**Imbhams Farm** on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September** where there will be some special incentives for Transition Haslemere supporters.



Many of you will remember our very successful **Sustainable Harvest Picnic** in 2009, well we are delighted to say that we will be back **at Imbhams Farm** on **Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup>** for another one. Please put this date in your diary; space will be limited and admittance will be by ticket only.

More details of these three events will appear in next month's newsletter but we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Imbhams Farm on being awarded the prestigious “*Great Taste Awards 2011*” from the Guild of Fine Foods for their Gorgeous Grains Granola and Soda Bread Mix.

## **Green Shopping**



Shopping is part of life's routine. We are fortunate nowadays to be faced with choice in almost everything we buy. There are various criteria we can apply in making our choices, such as cost, convenience or quality. But there is also something else we can look at – what is the impact of our choice on the world in which we live?

Our buying decisions can have an effect on the natural environment, on our local economy, on the sustainability of production processes or on the amount of carbon in the atmosphere.

To help us make greener choices in what we buy, there are a number of questions we can ask when we look to purchase something. What is it made from? How was it

produced? Where was it produced? How did it get here? How are the profits from its sale distributed?

Here are some tips if you want to shop greener and promote sustainability.

- ☺ Read the label – ask yourself if the item is from a sustainable source.
- ☺ Shop locally – you will be supporting your local economy as well as saving on the carbon emissions of travel.
- ☺ Buy locally produced goods – support your local producers, for example by shopping at the farmers market held on the first Sunday of the month from 10 am to 1.30 pm in Haslemere High Street. The produce is fresh and you can talk to the producers themselves.
- ☺
- ☺ Take your own bags – the world doesn't need any more plastic shopping bags.
- ☺ Use charity shops – 'reduce, recycle, reuse' is the green mantra. Charity shops are the high street's great recyclers.
- ☺ Use auction sites like e-Bay, free goods sites like Freecycle and sale sites like Gumtree – you can often get good quality used items very cheaply. They are also great ways of getting rid of unwanted possessions – getting cash for them and saving on landfill.
- ☺ Get together with others and buy basic items in bulk – larger packs of many basic goods are cheaper and come with less packaging.
- ☺ Don't forget the library if you are looking for a book or DVD – read and return.

Finally, and most important of all – buy what you need. Avoid waste – it will only end up in landfill.

## Energy price rises - renewable heat incentive.



With big energy price increases in the news and July being unseasonably chilly it's not too early to be thinking about winter fuel costs and carbon footprint.

The **Renewable Heat Incentive** is here...**sort of**.

This is the government's incentive scheme for heating from renewable sources. Up to now there were only incentives for generating electricity, which misses out the biggest chunk of energy we use in our homes.

**Sort of?** Well, the scheme has been a long time in the making, to the frustration of many in the renewables supply chain and it has been introduced for non-domestic users only, with domestic users being included in 2012.

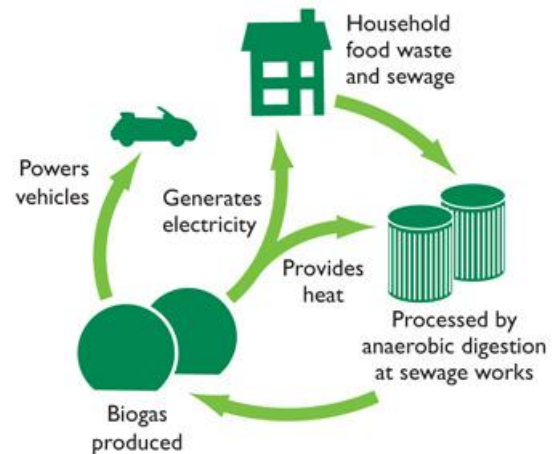


the gas grid.

HOWEVER, there are payments available\* to offset the cost of a new renewable heat installation under an interim 'Renewable Heat Incentive Premium Payment' (see for instance <http://www.rhincenive.co.uk/>). This *could*\* offer up to £950 off a new biomass boiler for instance. The funds for this interim scheme are limited and there may be a preference to those who are off

The good news is that the scheme is in force for local businesses, charities and public sector organisations.

The incentive applies to biomass, energy from municipal waste, ground-source and water-source heat pumps, solar-thermal heating, biogas combustion and biomethane injection to the gas grid.

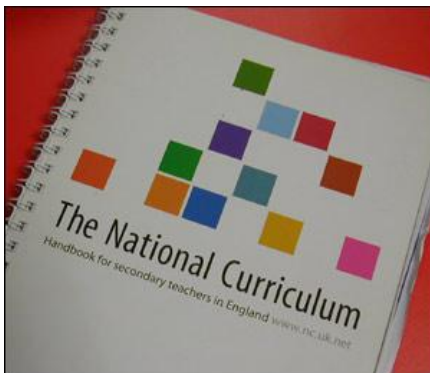


In the Haslemere area we know we are surrounded by wood (aka biomass) but all if these technologies are worth a look if your energy bill is a significant cost for your business.

If you were thinking of generating renewable electricity you can qualify for both feed-in tariffs and the RHI if you use combined heat and power (CHP) using a renewable source. The DECC website has the details ([http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting\\_energy/Renewable\\_ener/incentive/incentive.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/Renewable_ener/incentive/incentive.aspx))

\*The scheme has been delayed a couple of times and we are still waiting to see the exact details.

## Climate change and the National Schools Curriculum



You may have seen the furore around the National Curriculum currently being reviewed and Climate Change being not considered as core knowledge for science but an optional 'cause' that teachers can use if they want.

Although a smaller national curriculum is to be applauded if it really is to allow schools more autonomy and professionalism, the question is without the key issues of the day at least being mentioned the government is in danger of designing a very backward looking curriculum.

If you would like to send a comment to the government about this you can adapt the People and Planet letter on the SEEd homepage ( [www.se-ed.org.uk](http://www.se-ed.org.uk)) and also send a copy to Jeremy Hunt. Let them know if you're a parent, educator, community member of Transition Haslemere etc. Over 500 people have already done this and they do count these numbers. No final decision has been made so there is still a chance to influence.

## **Dates for your diary**

- July 25<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting (Town Hall 7.30 pm)
- July 30<sup>th</sup> Green Woodworking Day at Swan Barn (10.00 am – 4.00 pm)
- Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Green Drinks at the Georgian Hotel (from 7.30 pm)
- Aug 7<sup>th</sup> Farmers' Market (10.00 am – 1.30 pm)
- Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Roundhurst Farm Open Day
- Sept 24<sup>th</sup> Imbhams Farm Open day
- Oct 7<sup>th</sup> Surrey Hills Wood Fuel Challenge Conference
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> Surrey Hills Wood Fair
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Harvest Picnic

For more details on any of these dates please see the website [www.transitionhaslemere.org](http://www.transitionhaslemere.org) or email [transitiontown@haslemere.com](mailto:transitiontown@haslemere.com)

For comments on this newsletter please email [newsletter@transitionhaslemere.org](mailto:newsletter@transitionhaslemere.org)