



# Warwickshire Climate Change Community Newsletter

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership)

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## Village community group win top award from Prince Charles charity

A range of projects aimed at helping reduce Snitterfield's carbon footprint has netted a top award from a charity whose president is the Prince of Wales.

Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change (SACC) has won the Low Carbon Communities Award in the annual Low Carbon Economy Awards, organised by Business in the Community, which works with businesses worldwide to build a sustainable future for the planet.

SACC, a group of residents supported by the parish council was set up in 2007. SACC joined the national Green Communities programme in conjunction with the impartial Energy Savings Trust West Midlands advice centre.

The prize was presented for SACC's commitment and innovative green projects including a recent EST funded campaign which offered 150 residents the chance to win an energy monitor and a visit from an energy doctor to help them reduce their bills by up to around £300 a year.

The campaign saw householders receive a Solar Energy Check questionnaire with the first 150 residents to return it receiving a free real time display monitor worth £24.95.

The results of the questionnaire assessed the property's suitability for installing solar energy which can potentially reduce hot water bills by between 50% and 70% a year.

The monitor shows how much energy each household appliance is using to help owners see where they can make savings.

SACC (chair) Duncan Parker and his wife Vikki, are dedicated advocates of green energy, with all their heating and hot water generated from renewable sources. They have installed a wind turbine, electricity generating

Solar pv panels, wood burning stoves and solar hot water tubes as well as built a well in the garden which will be used to recycle rain water for flushing toilets and watering the garden and are considering the installation of an air source heat pump. They would also like to buy an electric car which they will charge at home on 100% renewable energy.

" the issues of Climate Change, and the fact that oil is a finite resource, are really beginning to gain resonance in our village. Going forward, I hope we can encourage our group to grow to enable us to take on larger projects that will make Snitterfield a beacon and gain further recognition, said Duncan.

For more information on the Green Communities scheme, individual advice on saving money on fuel bills through insulation and how to obtain grants and subsidies call the Energy Savings Trust free on 0800 512 012

For information on Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change visit [www.snitterfieldacc.org](http://www.snitterfieldacc.org)

## Top 50 Green Leaders announced for West Midlands

Sustainability West Midlands (SWM) with partners the Lunar Society, Defra, Advantage West Midlands and Common Purpose ran a competition to find the Top 50 Green Leaders in the West Midlands to identify the individuals who are or will play a key role in leading us towards a more sustainable future.

In July, the Top 50 Green Leaders received their certificates from Jonathon Porritt at a celebration event held to celebrate their achievements and to exchange ideas and discuss what outcomes would be possible from being part of this group over the next year.

To see the list of winners and short biographies of the each, please go to

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



Coventry and Warwickshire's Green Leaders: (l-r) Jane Green (2020 Zero Waste Project), George Martin (Willmott Dixon), Peter Woodward (Coventry Partnership Environment Theme Group), Matthew Rhodes (Encraft), Tim Pollard (Wolseley UK), Jacky Lawrence (Warwickshire County Council) and Dr Susan Juned (Greenwatt Technology)

## Avon Dasset Nature Area

Our new nature area was developed from a small patch of land behind the village bus stop in the centre of the village which was unusable, overgrown with weeds and brambles and a place which seemed to attract rubbish and litter. Avon Dasset lacks a village green or an out door meeting place and the lack of public meeting places and communal spaces within the village was an issue raised in our recent Parish Plan survey which was completed by 92% of the village residents.

The first stage of the project was undertaken by the Warwickshire Probation Service `Community Pay – Back scheme. Eight workers cleared the area of weeds, dead wood and rubbish, created two compost bays, and planted the first batch of daffodils. Village volunteers then planted a variety of spring and wild flowers, erected bat and bird boxes and put the rustic furniture in place. Many villagers donated seeds, bulbs and plants to the project and all the wood work was made in the village. Woodchip, laid to keep weeds at bay was also donated by a local forester. The final piece of the project was put in place when we erected the sign on the 24th April during the village spring clean.

The nature area provides an accessible outdoor meeting place the whole village can benefit from, turning this unused and unattractive area into a peaceful and pleasant resting place. It is also used regularly as a picnic spot for the many ramblers who walk through the village.

The project would not have been possible without a grant from the Public Realm Grant Scheme, Warwickshire Probation Service and village Volunteers and craftsmen.

## NEWS

**Transition Stratford** has teamed up with Practical Action to raise awareness of the impact of climate change in the developing world, and to promote support for Practical Actions work with communities which are already facing the challenge of climate change. The group presented information on this and examples of practical actions work to help communities in developing countries with sustainable technologies at there street stall on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

If you are concerned about how climate change is affecting poorer countries abroad or if you want to know more on how you can help with local activities to support communities in the developing world through Practical Actions work contact Transition Stratford on 01789 298503

**Coventry Green Fayre**, Coventry War Memorial Park, Kenilworth Road, Coventry, Saturday August the 21<sup>st</sup> 2010. The Coventry Green Fayre aims to show how we can make the world a better place. It's a chance for anyone concerned about the environment to learn how to lead a greener, more sustainable and compassionate lifestyle. We can all make a real difference to the future of the planet by making simple changes to our daily lives.

**Leamington Spa is a Transition Town.** We have a number of projects we would like to do with which need inspired people to make them happen. If you have an idea you need support with, we would love to hear from you. We are committed to finding sustainable and enjoyable ways to adapt to the challenges of peak oil and climate change. Join our online community and get involved in the transition towards a low carbon, resilient lifestyles! Its easy to sign up, and then you will receive regular updates and occasional event alerts. Just email [info@transitionLeamington.org.uk](mailto:info@transitionLeamington.org.uk)

**Action 21** – One of the Action 21 volunteers has calculated that, over the past 4 years, action 21 at the Recycle Warehouse, together with the local community, had diverted enough goods from landfill to fill the main hall of the Royal Priors over 10 times! That's a whopping 540 tonnes of perfectly usable goods, ranging from cutlery to double beds, bicycle's and TVs. Well done to everyone involved

## Have your say

This is your newsletter and your opportunity to publicise any events you may be holding, and let other groups know what you are currently up to share your experiences. What do you want to see in future editions?

Please send all comments or enquiries about this newsletter and suggestions, for news items, case studies, details of events etc to

[emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Save Warwickshire A Tonne (SWAT)  
web pages going live soon

Find out more on the SWAT campaign  
which commences in September 2010

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/SWAT](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/SWAT)