



Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire CRI Newsletter



Community
Renewables
Initiative

CRI — Newsletter : Number 8
September 2003

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The CRI

The CRI aims to encourage community involvement with renewable energy and maximise the local benefits from renewable energy projects. Severn Wye Energy Agency (SWEA) manages the CRI for Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and South Gloucestershire areas and provides help and support to community groups and local organisations interested in developing renewable energy projects.

CRI Update

Key Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, South Gloucestershire Local Support Team work over the last 2 months has included:

- The submission of 3 capital funding bids for renewable energy projects.
- The Wilderness Environmental Education Centre has been successful in securing a 50% grant for a PV system on the roof of their Eco-house.
- Further development of both the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Renewable Strategies; key work has been preparation for the development of Renewable Energy Action Plans.
- Identification of three new possible renewable energy projects.
- Initial work on development of a wood fuel supply co-op for the Forest of Dean.

Ben Sang

CRI Diary

Forthcoming events in the CRI diary are:

- 5th –7th September - Sustainable Futures Convention - Taurus Crafts, Lydney, Gloucestershire. (See *In Brief*)
- 15th September - CRI Local Support Team Advisory Group
- 2nd – 5th October - Renewable Energy Weekend on the Farm - Energy 21, Caste Combe, Wiltshire. (See *In Brief*)
- 3rd - 7th March 2004 - World Sustainability Energy Days 2004 - European Pellets conference, Wels, Austria. (See *In Brief*)

If you have an event you would like to feature in the CRI diary please let us know.

Project Focus : Wood Heat at Garnons

This months project focus is from Econergy Ltd, it features a wood heating system installed in an old property on the just over the boarder in Herefordshire (Marches Energy Agency LST area); it is an excellent example of self supply of wood fuel in a rural location.

In June 2003 Econergy installed a 120 kW fully automatic wood fuelled boiler to provide heat for Garnons in Herefordshire.



Garnons , Main house



The wood fuel hopper and boiler house

The system is a Veto 120KW wood chip boiler, this is fed wood chip by a 10m³ hopper (pictured above right) via an auger, the boiler is installed in a dedicated external boiler house with a piped hot water connection to the main heating system in the basement oil boiler room.

As with many new wood chip systems it is electronically controlled to maintain maximum operating efficiency whilst keeping emissions to a minimum; this means the boiler efficiency can exceed 86% and emissions are well within the requirements of the Clean Air Act. The system is fully responsive and able to switch from idle to full output when required.

The system will deliver an estimated 200,000 kWh / year of renewable heat, this will offset a substantial amount of heating oil and avoid some 73 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide emissions per year.



Veto 120 kW stoker-boiler

The system will use some 80 tonnes of seasoned (30% moisture content) woodfuel per year which will be sourced from the Garnons Estate on-site forestry operations such as thinning, small roundwood and general tree management. Woodfuel is chipped by Econergy's *Surefire Harvester* operated by local contractors, currently being trained on site at Garnons.

The installation was supported by a grant from MWEN / Heartwoods. Grants are now also available for wood heating systems through the Clear skies grants scheme www.clear-skies.org and direct from companies like Econergy which secured money from the earlier Bio-energy grants scheme for wood heating installations.

For more information on this project contact Econergy - Tel: 0870 054 5554
Email - heat@econergy.ltd.uk

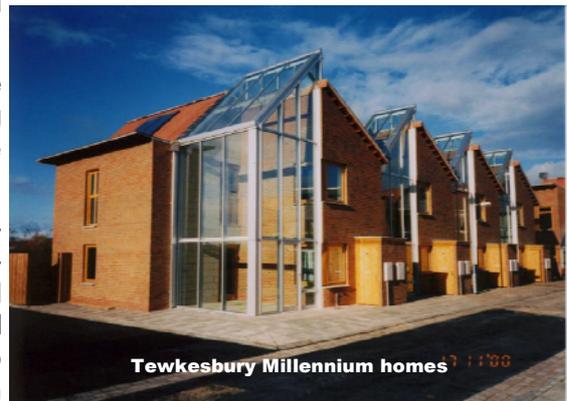
A Green Day In Gloucestershire

On Friday the 22nd of September BBC Radio Gloucestershire ran a day of broadcasts focussing on how to 'Green Up Gloucestershire', this was a joint promotion between Gloucestershire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (EEAC) and BBC Radio Gloucestershire.

Kaye Welfare from the Gloucestershire EEAC said 'We have wanted to devise a 'Green up Gloucestershire' day for some time and BBC radio Gloucestershire have helped to make this a truly countywide event. The key aim of the day was to look at sustainability as whole and that people in Gloucestershire can make a difference'.

The broadcasters linked features from all over Gloucestershire including;

- Kerb side collection - looking at recycling and household waste that can be recycled.
- A visit to the millennium homes in Tewkesbury - these Housing Association houses have been designed using passive solar design and solar water heating to save energy and money in day to day living.
- Energy efficiency make over - BCC Radio Gloucestershire and Kaye Welfare from Gloucestershire EEAC visited a house in Tuffley where loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, a tank jacket, thermostatic radiator valves and low energy light bulbs were being installed. Kaye also advised the occupants on how they could save energy in each of the rooms in the house.



As a public focus there was an exhibition of green organisations in Kings Walk Arcade in Gloucester, with live broadcasts throughout the day. Organisations that were exhibiting were: -

- Gloucestershire EEAC
- Vision 21
- 'Get It Sorted' Recycling Campaign
- Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Local Support Team for the CRI.
- The Gloucestershire Resource Centre

In Brief:

Renewable Energy Strategy for Gloucestershire and Wiltshire

There has been further development of the Renewable Energy Strategies for both Wiltshire and Gloucestershire following on from the REvision 2010 work. Currently the strategies are being developed by focussed Local Authority fora, which are both working to develop Renewable Energy Action Plans for the counties.

It is expected that there will be a key stakeholder consultation later in the development of the of the action plans for the counties.

Events:

Sustainable Futures Convention

The 1st Sustainable Futures Convention is being held on the 5th, 6th and 7th of September at Taurus Crafts, Lydney, Gloucestershire. The convention will host a selection of live music, lectures and trade and information stands (exhibiting renewable energy, energy efficiency and water saving systems). Entrance is £5 per person per day

For full up-to-date details on the convention visit www.tauruscrafts.co.uk.

Renewable Energy Weekend on the Farm

Join Energy 21 for three days that will be informative, practical and fun. Can farms become the powerhouses of the future, collecting, growing and converting renewable energy and selling it as fuel for heat, electricity and transport fuel? What are the links to organic food and a real sustainable future?

There are several parallel events for different target audiences:

- Inspirational Gathering for members (and potential new members) of the Energy 21 Network.
- Practical Training Camp for anyone who wishes to get to grips with some of the practical aspects of renewable energy.
- Community consultation about possible renewable energy projects around Castle Combe.
- Family Fun Day aimed at people who live close to Castle Combe and visitors to the area.

The event will run from the 2nd –5th of October and be based on the Castle Combe Estate, near Chippenham (west of Swindon), Wiltshire, with camping available. Those who do not wish to stay overnight on the camp site can find local bed and breakfast or hotel accommodation.

Jackie Carpenter E -mail: info@energy21.org.uk

World Sustainable Energy Days

We would like to invite you most cordially to the World Sustainable Energy Days 2004 on 3-5 March in Wels/Austria!

This largest annual conference in the field of sustainable energy use in Europe will once more offer a unique combination of events:

- European Pellets-Conference
- Conference "Tomorrow's Buildings - Technology Trends put into Action"
- European Green Electricity Forum
- Evening event "Megatrends of sustainable energy"
- Poster Presentation & special exhibitions
- The "Energiesparmesse", Europe's leading exhibition and trade show for energy efficiency and renewable energy sources

Mark the conference date - 3-5 March 2004 - in your diary if you are interested in discussing the most recent trends in energy strategies, in gaining an insight in technological and economic innovation and if you want to obtain a profound outlook on the future of energy supply!

For more information visit the conference-website www.esv.or.at/wsed04 will continuously be up-dated.

Christiane Egger

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