



Yn Laare Ghlass

Green Centre Newsletter Launched

Welcome to the inaugural Green Centre Newsletter - we do hope you enjoy reading it.

The project has had a gestation period of several months but now the first issue has made it in to 'print' we hope to publish a copy every quarter.

It is intended to bring news and reports of the activities of the organizations involved in the Green Centre and also other articles that may be of interest to our readers.

We will be pleased to receive articles and letters from any source and will publish those we consider relevant.

When you have finished with your copy please either pop it into a paper recycling bank or pass it on to a friend, family member or work colleague.



*The Green Centre
Market Street
Douglas*

Inside this issue:

Manx Sea Matters 2

Dishwasher Dilemma 2

DTI Energy Consultation 2

Transition IOM 3

DLGE Energy Saving Initiatives 3

SITA Annual Report 3

The Green Centre

The Green Centre is a joint venture between IOM Friends of the Earth, Manx Energy Advice Centre and Zero Waste Mann. We are open every Saturday -officially from 10am until 4pm -but it's usually longer as we sit around drinking coffee and exchanging various bits of environmental news and views.

The idea behind the Green Centre is to have a focal point where people can come for help and find information about things like energy efficiency, alternative energy, insulation, recycling and composting. We have a library of books and leaflets on various environmental topics.

IOM Friends of the Earth has long tradition of campaigning and action on the island.

Zero Waste Mann is trying to make people aware of wasted resources and wants to see more recycling facilities including a kerbside collection.

Manx Energy Advice Centre started off at Silverdale Mill where they renovated the water wheel and made electricity. That was a great project but a bit too remote from the public.

Now we are in the heart of Douglas, near Shoprite in the Chester Street Complex and look forward to meeting anybody who would like to call in any Saturday.

Contacts:

MEAC:	George Fincher	Tel: 851482
IOMFOE:	Phil Corlett	Tel: 673484
ZWM:	Muriel Garland	Tel: 664796

Latest News:

- Real Nappy Week
19/26th April 2008
Strand Shopping
Centre

www.wen.org.uk/rnw

www.nappybusiness.co.im

- Compost Awareness
Week 4/10th May
2008

www.compostawarenessweek.org.uk

Manx Sea Matters



Coastal waters and shorelines threatened by off-shore development?

The announcement, in August 2007, by the DTI, that prospecting licenses were being issued for marine aggregate dredging, off the Island's north-east coast, prompted the formation of a new 'umbrella' organization for concerned marine interest groups.

Founder members include IOM Fish Producers Association, IOM Friends of the Earth, IOM Sub-Aqua Association, Manx Whale & Dolphin Watch, IOM Angling

Association and the Marine Committee of the Manx Wildlife Trust.

MSM intends to campaign to raise awareness about the possible adverse impacts of activities, such as dredging etc. and to press the government to properly consult with interest groups before making any decisions.

Currently, the normal planning procedures do not apply to off-shore developments, and it is left to

the Territorial Seas Committee to make any decisions.

Assurances have been given by the DTI that no extraction licenses will be issued without the public being able to comment; but as the aggregate is being viewed as a possible valuable asset, ripe for exploitation, how substantial the consultation will be is open to question.

MSM Contact: Michelle Haywood on 300090.

Dishwasher dilemma?

Modern dishwashers, fully loaded and with an energy-save programme may be greener than you think. That's according to Which? (March 2008)

Less water compared with hand washing and up to 30% less electricity compared to normal machines.

What about detergents they need?

Ecologically friendly products tested by which? compared favourably with many conventional detergents.

Ecover tablets and Tesco Naturally tablets scored well.

So there you are. When required replace your old machine with a modern 'A' rated appliance and banish washing-up woes !

Which? is dealing with more green issues these days. Pop into your local Library to catch up with the latest report.

When required replace your old machine with a modern 'A' rated appliance and banish washing-up woes !



*Pulrose Power Station
Is there a 'greener' way of meeting our energy needs?*

DTI Energy Policy Consultation

The DTI have published a consultation document asking the public for their views on a variety of issues.

Questions include would you support off-shore wind farms or tidal or barrage systems to generate 'green' electricity.

They are also asking if people have their houses insulated or

fitted with solar panels; and if not are they planning to invest in these items. They also want to know what would deter you from having these items installed

Other questions relate to what people see as the priority areas for government to concentrate financial support.

The Green Centre has made a response to the consultation and encourages everybody to get hold of a copy of the document; and if possible send their views to the DTI.

The document can be obtained from the DTI's office in Douglas or from their website www.gov.im/dti/Energy

Transition Isle of Man gets underway

Transition Isle of Man is a community initiative that's just getting going in the Island: part of the Transition Towns movement currently sweeping the UK.

This was set up to give communities of all sizes a framework for combating peak oil and climate change. The idea is that the whole community works together to become more self-reliant, from finding alternative energy sources to boosting local food production.

At the moment Transition Isle of Man is being driven forward by a group of people from all walks of life, who got together after learning about the challenges of imminent fossil fuel depletion and the implications for our everyday lives.

This is not an official group and its only purpose is to get more people involved. Over the next year a whole range of awareness-raising events will be taking place, including film screenings, talks in schools

and community meetings to get things going.

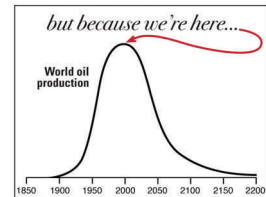
To get involved or find out more, call Janet on 823253 or Alice on 307842, or email transitioniom@mac.com.

There's a group email list you can join, and a Transition Isle of Man blog has just been set up at

<http://transitionisleofman.blogspot.com/>

For more information on peak oil and Transition Towns, visit

www.powerswitch.org.uk and www.transitiontowns.org



Peak oil means we all have to prepare for 'power down' and a transition to new ways of living our lives

£3m for Energy Initiatives Officer

The Treasury Minister has been kind, in his Budget, to the DLGE by agreeing to create an 'Energy Initiatives Fund'.

The fund is intended to provide government departments with 'new' money, to stimulate schemes that require up-front finance, for them to cut their energy use, without diverting money away from

frontline services.

Any savings in energy costs are then shared with the fund to help continue the work elsewhere in government.

Mr Bell described the initiative as a "win, win" scenario, in that it reduced costs and also created environmental benefits.

The Green Centre applauds the initiative, as government is a large consumer of energy, but we would also like to see more support for householders to reduce their energy use.

A relaxation in some of the requirements for planning approval for wind turbines etc and an increase in the grants available would be welcomed.

Mr Bell described the new 'Energy Initiatives Fund' as a "win, win scenario" for government and the environment.

SITA IOM annual report published

SITA is describing 2006 as a year of consolidation. In their third annual report, they claim to have processed just over 60,000 tonnes of waste and exported over 30,000 MWh of electricity to the MEA; approximately 8% of the Island's electricity supply for 2006.

The company has also baled

and shipped 1,400 tonnes of waste paper for recycling on behalf of the Government's waste management unit; and become an accredited business in the European Union's 'rigorous' Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

The year saw a large growth in the amount of tyres and

construction and animal waste being processed with the plant operating at 93% of capacity.

September saw a notable milestone for the operation of the plant as the primary incinerator operated at 100% utilisation with no unplanned stoppages.

The full report is available at www.sita.co.im



The incinerator in action - almost a rarity in early 2008.

The Green Centre
Chester Street Centre
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IM1 2PG

Campaigning for the Island's environment

www.zerowastemann.org

www.meac.iofm.net

www.foe.org.im

THE
GREEN
CENTRE

SHOPRITE
STORE

CHESTER STREET

THE STRAND SHOPPING
CENTRE

Zero Waste! That's a bit ambitious isn't it? How are you going to achieve that? It's impossible. At first glance the idea of Zero Waste seems like pie in the sky. But many places around the world are now taking up the challenge and going for just that- Zero Waste.

The concept of Zero Waste started in the 60s when public recycling first came on the scene. People started wondering what would happen if they applied all the known ideas about reducing waste and recycling materials such as paper, glass, aluminium and other metals. They decided they could reduce their waste by a vast amount. Well, why not aim for 100% reduction? Why not go for Zero Waste?

Canberra the capital city of Australia was the first place to adopt a policy of No Waste to Landfill by 2010. New Zealand has taken up the idea seriously and 51 out of 71 local authorities in New Zealand now have Zero Waste policies. The Zero Waste New Zealand Trust was set up in 1997 to encourage ideas and research. Zero Waste conferences happen all over the world.

Zero Waste is a goal to aim for and requires everybody to play their part in avoiding waste, recycling to the maximum and realising that the waste from one activity can be the resource for another. For example waste wood can be turned into charcoal.

Zero Waste is promoted on the island by a local charity Zero Waste Mann a founder member of the Green Centre.

To find out what's happening around the world look up:

www.zerowaste.co.nz www.zerowaste.org www.grrn.org

They are not for Burning

They are not for burning say
ZERO WASTE MANN & SITA

Items made from glass, aluminium or other metals - including bottles, jars, cans, foil, bottle tops and batteries - that you may currently place in litter or rubbish bins each week end up at the Island's Energy from Waste (EFW) plant.

These materials can be detrimental to the safe and efficient operation of the Energy from Waste plant. They are also manufactured from, or contain, valuable resources that should, and can be, recycled. Recycling saves energy and finite resources.

Please support our campaign by not putting glass, aluminium, other metals and batteries in the bin. You can take them to your nearest bring bank or civic amenity site. A list of these sites can be obtained from the Department of Local Government & the Environment, www.im-recycling.com; your local authority or the Green Centre in Douglas.

SITA **GREEN CENTRE**

SITA (IOM) and Zero Waste Mann combined forces in 2007 to kick start a campaign to keep unwanted material out of the energy from waste plant at Richmond Hill, Braddan.

Launched on ZWM's 'flag-day' in Douglas town centre, the campaign was well received by the public, and has since been taken to several schools, local authorities and government departments.

A poster and small A5 leaflet were produced to spread the message throughout the Island's community.

The campaign targets materials that will either not burn or could

be detrimental to the operation of the plant.

Essentially this means items made from glass, steel and aluminum, or items such as dry cell and car batteries.

It is hoped that these items will be separated at source and taken to either the government bring banks, to one of the four civic amenity sites, or to another appropriate collection point.

Dry cell batteries can be taken to the Co-Op or to the Green Centre for onward safe disposal.

Remember do not burn it - recycle it!