

# green

The green energy magazine for you

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**In with the new**

Trust Chair shares her vision

**Top of the class**

Pupils champion green causes

**Break it down!**

Try your hand at composting

## GOLDEN BOY CHRIS HOY

Olympic hero praises new  
cycling sponsorship deal

### MATTER OF TRUST

UPDATE ON TRUST PROJECTS PAST AND PRESENT

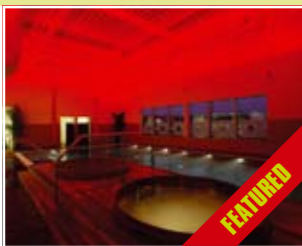


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## EDITORIAL

## On all things green...

Welcome to the winter edition of *green* and I hope you like our cover boy – three times Olympic gold medallist Chris Hoy. ScottishPower Renewables has just renewed its sponsorship of Scottish Cycling so we were all delighted to see the success of the British team in Beijing.

This year, ScottishPower Renewables' investment will provide additional coaching resources at a regional level through an academy structure aimed at gifted riders who are either too young for the Talent Team or who show strong potential for progression.



This has been a fantastic year for the Green Energy Trust (GET) as we have celebrated our tenth anniversary.

You can see a special in-depth report on how our celebrations went and those projects who were able to join us on the day.

We held the event at Castlemilk Stables near Glasgow, which was a recipient of a GET award. It was a great venue and everyone had a fantastic time.

We were very honoured that the Minister for the Environment Michael Russell MSP was able to join us and address the group.

This bumper edition also welcomes our new Chair of the trust, Christine Davis, who has taken over from Jim Skea who stepped down after many years at the helm.

Christine explains in the magazine what the new position means to her.

There is also a chance to while away the winter blues with a luxury spa weekend at the fabulous green spa at the Apex Hotel in Dundee, which is up for grabs in our fantastic competition.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *green* and, as always, we welcome your feedback on it.

With very best wishes,  
**Angela Martin,**  
Secretary, ScottishPower Green Energy Trust.

### The Green Energy Trust at a glance

#### What's the Green Energy Trust?

Established in 1998, the independent charitable trust supports the development of new renewable energy sources in the UK, helping to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change.

#### What does it do?

It can provide up to 50 per cent of the renewable element of the project cost up to a maximum of £25,000.

#### Which technologies does it support?

It supports projects that advance renewable energy and that support communities through education and public engagement. Renewable technologies supported so far include small-scale hydro, wind power, biomass, landfill gas, solar energy and ground source heat pumps.

#### How does it do this?

Every year the trust generates an income of

around £150,000 with between £50,000 and £60,000 available at each trustees meeting.

#### Who decides where the money goes?

The trustees are:

**Christine Davis**  
– Energy Action Scotland

**Dr Robin Wallace**  
– Energy Systems Research Institute

**Willie McGhee**  
– Borders Forest Trust

**Alison McKean**  
– Head of Environment for ScottishPower Energy Retail

**Martin Mathers**  
– Head of Community Relations for ScottishPower Renewables



The Green Energy Trust site

## Apply online for Green Energy Trust grant

People seeking funding from the Green Energy Trust can now do it online – making the process even more environmentally friendly.

The new application form has been designed to make the process much easier for people to follow.

Alison McKean, Head of Environment, Energy Retail, at ScottishPower, said: "We have been working on this for a long time to make it easier for people to be able to follow.

"Applications can be saved, edited and printed right up to the submission date and we've also added new help throughout to assist people as they complete their application."

### Where to find us

The forms and the guidelines are all available at

[www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk](http://www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk)

It's really straightforward, but if you need any more help please phone 0141 568 3492 or email [greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com](mailto:greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com)



**GREEN ENERGY**  
0800 027 7776  
0845 279 7070



**ENERGY EFFICIENCY LINE**  
0800 33 22 33  
0800 027 1002

## Trustees in the spotlight

Our regular look at the people making the decisions

**Willie McGhee,**  
Borders Forest Trust

#### Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED FOR THE GREEN ENERGY TRUST?

A. It's hard to remember exactly – a good couple of years, anyway! I work for the trust in a voluntary capacity and am also the Director of the Borders Forest Trust.

#### Q. WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR JOB?

A. Seeing communities and groups who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford to realise their project ideas get hold of the money they need and do it.

#### Q. WHAT DOES BEING A GREEN ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEE MEAN TO YOU?

A. It means contributing in a small measure to society's move towards cleaner and greener energy.

#### Q. WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN AWARDED GREEN ENERGY TRUST GRANTS?

A. There's a whole sweep of things but my interest is community engagement and what benefits flow to as wide a group within the community as possible.

#### Q. IS RENEWABLE ENERGY THE ANSWER TO OUR FUTURE ENERGY NEEDS?

A. It is part of it. It would be rash to say it will answer all our needs but it definitely plays a part.

#### Q. WHICH GREEN ENERGY TRUST PROJECT STANDS OUT THE MOST TO YOU?

A. A Camphill project in Aberdeen at Newton Dee which does a lot of work with disabled people. It used funding from the trust for a wind turbine and it is nice to see how energy from this turbine is used in the community. It powers a bakery, a dairy and is one of the first projects I visited.

#### Q. DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE FOR GREEN READERS?

A. Keep buying and paying for the Green Tariff – your money is being well used. I would like to hear what these people think about the Green Tariff. Some feedback from the customers would be nice, so get on the website and write in!

#### Q. IF YOU COULD HAVE ONE GREEN WISH GRANTED, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A. Stop cutting down rainforests! I have more, but you said only one!

#### Q. WHAT'S THE ONE 'GREEN' THING THAT EVERYONE SHOULD DO?

A. Don't use plastic bags and don't throw away litter.

#### Q. DO YOU LIVE A 'GREEN' LIFE AT HOME?

A. I try. We do composting, recycling, turning lights out, etc.



# Anniversary

## celebrations

### Green Energy Trust has one million reasons to celebrate World Environment Day

ScottishPower celebrated the tenth anniversary of its Green Energy Trust by announcing the charity had given away £1 million of funding over the last decade.

Environment Minister Michael Russell MSP was guest of honour at the birthday event at Castlemilk Stables just outside Glasgow – happily coinciding with World Environment Day in June this year.

The stables, an impressive estate belonging to the Stuart family dating back to the mid 15th century, provided the backdrop to the celebrations.

The stable block was used for many years by Glasgow City Council until it fell into complete disrepair in 1999.

Glasgow Building and Preservation Trust restored the building at a total cost of £4 million.

The ScottishPower Green Energy Trust awarded the stables a grant of £10,000 towards the installation of ground source heat pumps.

The Environment Minister said: "In the last 10 years the Green Energy Trust has made a sizeable contribution to raising awareness of environment issues across the country, including the funding of projects to the tune of over £1 million.

"Today's anniversary is particularly fitting on World Environment Day and I look forward to hearing more about the work of the trust."

The trust, which aims to help reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change, can provide up to 50 per cent of the renewable element of the project cost, up to a maximum of £25,000.

So far, it has given grants to over 90 projects across the UK.

Alison McKean, Head of Environment for ScottishPower, said: "We are delighted to be celebrating ten years of the Green Energy Trust and we were really pleased that the Environment Minister was able to join us, especially on World Environment Day.



Charlie Millar, Director of Cassiltoun Housing Association, is pictured (left) with former ScottishPower Chief Executive Jose Luis del Valle; Anna Stuart, Chair of Cassiltoun Housing Association; Alison McKean, Head of Environment at ScottishPower Energy Retail and Anne McChery, Director of Glasgow Building Preservation Trust

"We have been amazed at the range and scale of the projects we have been able to help over the years with the Green Energy Trust and we have invited many of them to come and join in the party with us.

"We have seen everything from solar panels being installed in what is thought to be England's oldest church to the Green Giant educational project in Pembrokeshire to a renewable heating system for one of Scotland's last remaining outdoor swimming pools."

One group in particular which is indebted to the Green Energy Trust is the New Cumnock

Environmental Regeneration Volunteers (NERV) who run the village's outdoor swimming pool.

The village is proud to have one of the few remaining outdoor swimming pools in Scotland as its centerpiece.

The pool is heated by green, energy-efficient heat-store air pumps, which the organisers were able to buy thanks to a £20,000 grant from the Trust.

The group's Jimmy Carmichael said: "ScottishPower's involvement has been really significant.

"Our bills and running costs were very high

due to rises in energy costs but the grant from ScottishPower has meant that not only are we now able to run it much more effectively, we are also able to do our bit for the environment as there's less emissions.

"It means a great deal to us that a large company like ScottishPower would consider a community group as small as ourselves for grants like this.

"We do everything in our power each year to keep the momentum up, such as fundraising to keep the pool open, so the support from ScottishPower has made a real impact."

## Happy birthday to you...

Grant recipients help celebrate the Green Energy Trust's tenth birthday.

### Altnachriche

Barry Elder and Jim Mowat of the Scripture Union with Alison McKean, Head of Environment at ScottishPower Energy Retail.



### CatStrand

Rachel Thomson and Gill Khosla of the CatStrand.



### Chopsticks

David Stockport from Chopsticks.



### New Cumnock Pool

David Donaldson of NERV.



### Scottish Seabird Centre

Charlie Marshall from the Scottish Seabird Centre.



# In with the new

## Christine steps up to take the lead at the trust

Christine Davis was appointed as the new Chair of ScottishPower's Green Energy Trust in April this year to coincide with the trust's tenth anniversary. Here, Christine explains what the new position means to her and what exactly the trust aims to do.

I feel very excited in my new role as Chair of the trust. I have been working with energy matters since 1974 and am very conscious that energy matters to a lot of people.

People want to be warm, they want to be able to afford it, and they are conscious of the effect it has on the environment, so there needs to be ways to make the equation work. That's what the Green Energy Trust is working to do.

The request for me to become Chair came quite out of the blue – I wasn't really expecting it.

I had been a Trustee for about two-and-a-half years so I knew the trust and the projects quite well, and understood what the trust was working to achieve.

One of my main roles as Chair is to emphasise the point that everyone can do something to help – even the little things make a difference.

What I want people to realise is that they can help other people to make a difference by being involved with the Green Energy Trust and ScottishPower's green tariffs.

By joining Scottish Power's Green Tariff you contribute to funds the trust uses to help projects which promote alternative power generation in the community.

What the trust aims to do is give money to interesting and innovative projects for groups who want to make real, useful changes to their community and their use of energy.

The main thing we want these projects to know is that, no matter how big or small the project, the Green Energy Trust sees how valuable their work is and we will do what we can to help. Unfortunately, however, we can't give money to every project that applies!

At the recent funding meeting there was a great mixture of different projects, some big and some small, but the one amazing thing about all the projects was a great sense of enthusiasm and

energy for the work being done.

Over the last ten years the trust has made over £1 million worth of grants – a very significant amount. The money has made a huge difference to many projects, and is a sign of the success of the trust.

In the next ten years, I hope to see new, exciting and innovative projects being attracted to the trust.

We aim to be as publicly accessible as possible in order to attract these prospective projects. The trust has a good web presence and anyone who wants to know more about the work of the Trust should go to the website and have a look at what we do.

There is lots of good information, including case studies which give a feel for the trust's work.

My advice to projects thinking of applying for funding would be to check what work the trust has done already, and don't do exactly the same as what's already been done.

Think very hard about how your project helps people understand the issues of energy. If we can help you spread that message, we will!

Looking at the trust in my capacity as Chair, I don't see any immediate

changes which need to be made, but I am conscious that we must always be aware that the world changes.

With the credit crunch and energy prices constantly shifting, we have to be aware of the context in which the Green Energy Trust works.

A recent project which the trust worked with was a nursery in need of funding to make its building warmer for its mothers and children, without having a huge cost to the environment.

This is a good example of a small project making an effective change in the way it uses energy.

I find working with the trust very worthwhile. There is a real need for these projects in the community.

It is very important that these energy issues come to the forefront of people's thinking, and that is one of the main things the trust aims to do.

We want to be a stimulus to getting people really thinking about what they can do and, in turn, what the Green Energy Trust can do to help them. ☺



Christine Davis with outgoing Chair Jim Skea

## New Paisley eco-housing development is first for Scotland



The first eco-friendly housing development of its kind in Scotland has been launched in Paisley.

Barnabas Court is a unique complex made up of 27 super-energy-efficient homes on Castle Street, in the heart of the university district of the town.

The apartments are built using PolySteel – a recyclable biodegradable material that contains no CFCs or HFCs.

The technology behind the houses means that they have less impact on the environment and will need less heating than traditional builds – which will help keep household costs down.

The development is the brainchild of local builder Globe Homes, which has invested considerable time and energy in bringing one of the latest construction methods to Paisley.

Leo Reilly, Managing Director of Globe Homes, said: "By combining the strength of steel and the enhanced insulation of expanding polystyrene, we can make greener, warmer and quieter houses."

"These eco-friendly apartments are an extremely energy-efficient building method and I am really proud that the first development of its kind like this in Scotland is in Paisley."

"We are having a lot of interest in our unique eco-friendly flats, and a number of reservations have been taken already."

Renfrewshire Council Leader Derek Mackay, Chair of Paisley Vision Board, said: "This is just another indication of the new work which is going on to rejuvenate the town centre of Paisley and the Vision Board is very excited about this development."

"Barnabas Court is an innovative idea and to have the first development of this kind in Scotland built here in Paisley is a real coup for the town."

For further information on the development at Barnabas Court, contact Countrywide's Paisley office on 0141 848 1155.

## Where eagles pair



Fledgling project: Golden eagle chicks prepare to take flight at ScottishPower Renewables' Beinn an Tuirc windfarm.

Two magnificent birds of prey have raised a family in the shadow of a ScottishPower Renewables windfarm.

The pair of golden eagles nested in a uniquely created habitat management area beside ScottishPower Renewables' Beinn an Tuirc windfarm in Argyll.

They successfully fledged two chicks in May – the first eaglets recorded from this nest in more than a decade.

The eaglets were closely monitored by researchers from Natural Research Projects Ltd, ornithological consultants to ScottishPower Renewables, who watched the youngsters take their maiden flights from the nest.

And both chicks have been fitted with satellite transmitters to track their movements over the next two to three years.

The 30MW Beinn an Tuirc windfarm site, which consists of 46 turbines, was commissioned in 2001.

During its construction, a major habitat restoration project enhanced the local environment in order to support the eagles, which had experienced a number of fallow years prior to the windfarm project.

At 1215 hectares, the site boasts the UK's largest conservation project of its kind for golden eagles.

The scheme is delivered by ScottishPower Renewables and managed in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage, the RSPB, the Local Authority and Forestry Commission Scotland.

David Macarthur, Senior Ecologist for ScottishPower Renewables, said: "The loss of open foraging areas in West Scotland has

had a devastating effect on the Golden Eagle population in recent times so we are delighted with the success of our habitat restoration project.

"We fund an experienced conservation ranger in the local community to deliver much of the habitat management work and have invested over £2 million restoring the habitat and hunting grounds for the nesting eagles beside our windfarm."

"Initially 450 hectares of conifer plantation was cleared allowing for the return of traditional heather moorland which encouraged the resurgence of red grouse – a key prey source for the eagles."

"Now we have heather, blaeberry and cotton grass all re-established in the conservation area and healthy populations of red and black grouse."

"The news of two healthy golden eagle chicks is proof that our habitat management programme is paying real dividends. We hope that this continues for generations to come."

Zoe Clelland, RSPB Scotland's Senior Conservation Officer for the region, said: "We have worked very closely with ScottishPower over a number of years to try to ensure that the risk to golden eagles from the windfarm would be minimised."

"We particularly welcome the substantial investment of time, effort and money that ScottishPower has put into the restoration and management of a large area of alternative eagle habitat."

"This appears to have been successful in encouraging the eagles to hunt over the area of restored habitat rather than the windfarm site."

# Cycling

## like the wind



## Windfarm on-track

### Golden boy Chris joins in the fun at Blacklaw

Chris Hoy took time out from the build-up to Beijing to boost an extra-special green-themed open day in Scotland.

Chris was joined by over 2,500 keen visitors who attended the family-themed day at Lanarkshire's Black Law Windfarm in June.

The free event was organised as part of the British Wind Energy Association's wind weekend, with more than 20 windfarms across the UK throwing open their doors.

Visitors were keen to get a first-hand view of the UK's largest on-shore windfarm in operation.

The 54 turbines at Black Law are capable of delivering an output of 124MW – enough clean green energy to power over 70,000 homes.

Chris Hoy joined Scottish Cycling's 'Go-Ride' team to highlight bicycle safety.

And managers from ScottishPower Renewables were on-site to answer questions about the workings of the windfarm and renewable energy in general.

Other activities included guided tours of the site on Stagecoach bio-fuel buses, Glasgow Science Centre's 'It's a Gas' show, face painting and magic shows.

Keith Anderson, Director of ScottishPower Renewables, said: "The open day was a huge success and we are delighted that so many people chose to come along to Black Law to get a close-up view of the windfarm and to learn a bit more about renewable energy."

"ScottishPower Renewables has a committed approach to working closely with local communities and we believe that open days are a great way of breaking down barriers."

"Hopefully, as a result of this kind of direct interaction, more people will be aware of the important role that renewable resources have to play in meeting all our energy demands."

**For more information about the British Wind Energy Association's wind weekend log on to [www.embracewind.com](http://www.embracewind.com)**



The magnificent merlin – just one of the wildlife treats expected to greet visitors to Whitelee Windfarm.



Going for gold: Chris Hoy joins Keith Anderson, Director of ScottishPower Renewables, to launch the new sponsorship deal.

## Wind powers Scottish Cycling towards further success

Olympic hero Chris Hoy was happy to be a grateful spokesman as ScottishPower Renewables launched its sponsorship of Scottish Cycling.

The triple gold medal-winning cyclist said he was "extremely delighted" with the new deal, stressing: "I'm especially pleased that ScottishPower Renewables has found additional funding to help nurture new talent."

"The achievements in Beijing of Team GB's cyclists have already created a huge new interest in the sport and I hope that this funding can go some way to growing the number of talented cyclists we have in Scotland."

Chris joined John Scott, Chief Executive of

the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, to announce the sponsorship package, which is now entering its second year.

ScottishPower Renewables has invested £65,000 towards youth development, as well as supporting ongoing events and competitions across the cycling disciplines including the SuP6R Six, Youth Circuit and Criterium Series.


The money will support the foundations of Scottish Cycling and help identify and nurture Scottish talent with a view to developing the Talent Team structure to increase support for mountain biking as well as track.

The new investment will provide more coaching resources at a regional level through an academy

structure aimed at gifted riders who are either too young for the Talent Team or show strong potential for progression.

Keith Anderson, Director of ScottishPower Renewables, said: "It is fundamental that talent is identified and nurtured at both a grassroots and youth level."

"The programme of events, incorporating the Youth Circuit Series, provides both the platform and opportunities for emerging talent."

"It also helps young riders achieve their goals with the necessary coaching support and additional race experience. With the spotlight firmly on cycling, we hope youngsters will take the opportunity to develop their talent further." 

ScottishPower Renewables are on the right track for cyclists with an exciting feature planned for the new Whitelee Windfarm near Glasgow.

As the country continues to bask in the British Cycling team's Olympic glory, the sport has never been more popular.

ScottishPower Renewables, the UK's largest onshore windfarm developer, and Scottish Cycling first joined forces in 2007 through the sponsorship of one of the UK's toughest road races and an inaugural youth competition series.

Now, the association with the sport will be enhanced even further, as part of the construction of the new Whitelee Windfarm will have specially made tracks opened up to cyclists and ramblers.

More than 80 kilometres of roads and tracks

have been built, so outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy views stretching all the way to the west highlands and observe wildlife, such as merlin and black grouse, in the site's 25.5km<sup>2</sup> of habitat management areas.

The windfarm, which is due to open in 2009, will also include a visitor centre which will be the first of its kind in the UK and is part of ScottishPower Renewables' aim to make the windfarm accessible to the public.

It will include a detailed exhibition explaining the construction of the windfarm and a unique education hub where both children and adults will be able to learn about the operation of windfarms and renewable energy.

Whitelee Visitor Centre will also play a key role in a new Eaglesham Moor/Whitelee Forest access initiative.

## A big tick



Phil Duffield, Head of ScottishPower Learning (left), collects the Raising Achievement in Young People Award, joined by (from left): Julie Wilson, Education Advisor, ScottishPower Learning; John Swinney MSP and George C. Borthwick CBE, Chairman, Scottish Business in the Community.

Success in Scottish Business in the Community's annual awards has again demonstrated ScottishPower's leadership in corporate responsibility.

Held in Glasgow, the Awards for Excellence were aimed at rewarding companies with a coveted 'Big Tick' for the positive impact of their responsible business activities.

ScottishPower picked up two awards on the night: The Responsible Marketing Award, commending ScottishPower's work in promoting energy efficiency, green energy and educating young people, and the Raising Achievement in Young People Award in recognition of ScottishPower Learning's School to Work programme.

Ann Loughrey, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at ScottishPower, said: "Achieving Scottish Business in the Community's Large Company of the Year in 2007 was an important endorsement for our commitment to the community."

"Following our successful integration with Iberdrola, we are now the world leader in renewable energy, committed to corporate responsibility as a way of doing business."

ScotAsh – a joint venture between ScottishPower and Lafarge Cement UK – also picked up two Big Tick re-accreditations for Marketplace Innovation and Eco-efficiency.

ScottishPower also won the Cares Team of the Year Award at the regional award ceremony in Wales for the team that has worked together most effectively to support its local community.

Staff spent three days transforming the Dynamic Centre in Wrexham, which provides services for young people with disabilities and learning difficulties.

# Royal approval



ScotAsh Managing Director Peter Quinn accepts the Queen's Award from Mrs Margaret Dean, Lord-Lieutenant of Fife.

A Fife firm has cemented its green reputation by becoming the only Scottish recipient of a Queen's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development in 2008.

Green cement-maker ScotAsh is a joint venture between ScottishPower and Lafarge Cement UK.

It manufactures cements, grouts and environmental binders from power station ash at its factory in the grounds of Longannet Power Station, Kincardine-on-Forth.

The company has supplied various major infrastructure projects in recent months, including the new upper Forth crossing, the Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine rail link, Whitelee windfarm and Scottish and Southern Energy's Glendoe Hydro-electric project.

And its recent award was its second Queen's Award in three years.

Presenting the 2008 award, Mrs Margaret Dean, the Lord-Lieutenant of Fife, said: "When I presented you with a Queen's Award for Innovation in 2005, I said you were a company that ticked all the boxes in your striving towards a greener world."

Although ScotAsh operates mainly in Scotland, it also makes a specialist grout used in the linings of

oil wells, which is exported worldwide.

Its cenospheres – ultra-lightweight hollow spheres formed as a byproduct of coal combustion – are also used widely in aviation.

During the last five years, using power station ash from Longannet and Cockenzie power stations as raw material has allowed ScotAsh to sell more than 3.5 million tonnes of ash-based products.

This has conserved more than 3.5 million tonnes of primary aggregates, saved 180,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> and diverted more than three million tonnes of ash from landfill.

Over the same period, the company doubled its turnover, quadrupled profit, halved energy consumption per tonne of product and reduced waste from more than 300 tonnes per year to under nine tonnes in 2007.

Last year, ScotAsh sold 1.1 million tonnes of products, smashing all previous records.

The Queen's Award is the UK's most prestigious business award.

Recipients are given a scroll signed by Her Majesty the Queen and the Prime Minister, as well as a crystal bowl, and company representatives attend a reception hosted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace. ☺

## Loddiswell Project first phase open with help from the ScottishPower Green Energy Trust

The first phase of a versatile and environmentally friendly new community centre went on display during a special open day earlier this year.

At Loddiswell near Kingsbridge in Devon, the village playing fields' pavilion has been comprehensively refurbished and extended in a scheme costing more than £90,000.

Indebted to the tremendous level of support from the community and grant-making bodies, organisers of the Loddiswell Project wanted to give the public an opportunity to view the facilities.

So they held an open day, complete with guided tours, a barbecue and children's activities using the pavilion's

recently installed safe play area.

The building's eco-friendly nature was demonstrated, including solar PV panels on the roof which are supplying electricity for heating, lighting and hot water.

These panels were paid for by grants from ScottishPower's Green Energy Trust and the Government's Low Carbon Buildings Programme.

The building also boasts a digital display showing exactly how much green electricity is being generated.

Alison McKean, Head of Environment for ScottishPower Energy Retail, said: "This is exactly the kind of community initiative that we look for – something which will benefit the entire community."

## Seabird Centre sees energy bills take a dive after boost from new environmental grant

The Seabird Centre in North Berwick has boosted its environmental credentials thanks to a £12,500 grant from the ScottishPower Green Energy Trust.

The funding has meant the centre, which offers visitors the chance to observe birds in their natural habitat, has been able to add solar panels to the top of its building.

The new panels have been fitted to the roof of the Energy Zone, which is a renewable energy educational project within the Seabird Centre.

Alison McKean, Head of Environment at ScottishPower, said: "The ScottishPower Green Energy

Trust was delighted to be given the opportunity to assist the Seabird Centre again.

"In 2003 the trust supported the centre when it installed solar powered interactive cameras.

"These cameras enable birdwatchers to make virtual visits to the islands in the Firth of Forth to observe the wildlife in their own environment.

"Both rounds of funding have boosted the centre's green credentials and provided local residents and schools with a fun and practical way to learn about solar energy and ways to tackle climate change."

## Brighton schoolchildren are in hot water!

The Brian Foster Environment Centre, which is part of Brighton's Dorothy Stringer School, was able to install a new solar water heater thanks to help from the Green Energy Trust.

By creating a new renewable energy source through the installation of a solar hot water heater, the school aims to educate their 1600 pupils aged 11-16, other local schools and the wider community about energy conservation by improving

the energy efficiency of their environment centre.

Every student in the school will visit the centre at least once to learn about alternative energy, energy conservation and sustainable insulation.

Alison McKean, Head of Environment at ScottishPower Energy Retail said: "This is a fantastic project which will be really educational for the students as well as beneficial for the centre and the wider community."



# FUNDED PROJECTS

The latest round of projects to benefit from funding from the Green Energy Trust are, as always, a varied mixture. Here are some of the innovative schemes that we have given funding to this time around:

**Air source heat pump for Dunscore Pre-School Centre, Dumfries:** The centre plans to replace its outdated electrical storage heating system with a much more eco-friendly air source heat pump (ASHP). This will not only benefit the centre, but will also serve to inspire others to look into alternative energy sources.

**Solar Power Project for Marshgate School, Richmond, Surrey:** The school aims to install 39 solar panels. Marshgate has already worked hard to reduce its carbon footprint and wants to inspire children to become environmental ambassadors of the future.

**Air source heat pump for Parish Room, Shipley, Derbyshire:** This project will replace the Parish Room's expensive and inefficient coal-fired heating system and ceiling-mounted heaters with a much more eco-friendly air source heat pump.

**Solar School Project at St Michael's on Wyre Church of England School, Lancashire:** The school is keen to install an array of 24 solar panels. The project is part of the school's aim to become a model eco-building to inspire the whole community. The school has already earned three Eco Schools Green Flags.

**Solar panels at the Timespan museum, art gallery and community centre, Holmheadale, Sutherland:** Timespan aims to install a large solar array, cutting its overheads, spreading the word about sustainability and improving its services to the local community.

**Wind turbine for Thorpe St Andrew School, Norwich:** The school plans to install a wind turbine to supply up to 35 per cent of the energy needed by its new Technology Excellence Centre, a design and technology training facility for its pupils and the wider community. Thorpe St Andrew has already adopted an Eco Schools programme.

**Biomass and solar project for Windmill Christian Centre, Arbroath:** The centre wants to install an automated wood chip boiler and solar-powered hot water system to save energy and cut carbon emissions. It also intends to educate its many visitors about the benefits of renewable energy.

**Biomass heating project at Tullynessle and Forbes Public Hall, Aberdeenshire:** The Public Hall will benefit from a new wood pellet biomass system which will ease rising energy costs. The project is also designed to increase awareness of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources.

Keen to be

# green

## Top marks for green schoolkids

A crowd of green creatures lurking in the corridors of a Shropshire school are getting their teeth stuck into all things environmental. Thomas Telford School's Green Team – made up of eco-conscious pupils from years seven to ten – are determined to reduce the school's carbon footprint, with help from ScottishPower.

ScottishPower, which supplies the Telford school with electricity, also provides the Green Team with bi-monthly electricity consumption figures, detailing what the school is using and when, so pupils can suggest where to cut back.

Billy McQueen, ScottishPower's account manager for Telford School, said: "I was really pleased when I found out about the Green Team. It's not often that pupils are so passionate about doing their bit for the environment.

"My involvement is simply to provide electricity readings every other month to the pupils but they also now have the facilities to log on and check usage whenever they feel it necessary.

"Thomas Telford School is a great example of how to cut back costs by being a bit sensible about the environment and we're really proud of its achievements so far.

"As a school, its electricity consumption has reduced since the Green Team was formed."

Georgina Wheeler, year nine pupil and part of the Green Team at Thomas Telford School, said: "There's a lot in the news just now about the environment and we know that it's important to try to be energy-efficient to make the world a better place to live in the future so we're really happy to be doing our bit. It's good fun but worthwhile too."

Meanwhile, ScottishPower has gone to the top of the class after providing significant savings on an Edinburgh school's electricity bill.

Pupils at leading independent school George Heriot's, which was founded in 1628, have also been doing their bit to help keep costs down and look after the environment.

Headmaster Alistair Hector said: "Last year George Heriot's School was the proud recipient of the EcoSchools Green Flag.

"One of our initiatives was our own Energy Team made up of senior pupils dedicated to tracking electricity meter readings and thinking of ways in which the school can cut energy usage.

"We have, for example, recently replaced all of the light fittings in the school hall with low-energy ones, which will no doubt make a difference to our bills as well as the helping the environment."

ScottishPower is on hand to give businesses top tips and advice on energy efficiency and how it can bring big benefits to companies financially.

Billy McQueen, who is also the account manager for George Heriot's School, said: "At ScottishPower, we are always on the look-out for ways to help our customers save money by ensuring they are on the right rate.

"However, by cutting back on energy usage like George Heriot's is doing, you can really make a difference to bill costs."

To find out more about what ScottishPower can do for your business and for further information on offers and services, log on to [www.scottishpower.co.uk/sme\\_advice](http://www.scottishpower.co.uk/sme_advice)

Eco-warriors:  
Thomas Telford School's Green Team.

## Recycling efforts 'sofa', so good for furniture store



Claire McNeil, Business Development Manager of EWS Ltd (left) with Jo Swinson MP for East Dunbartonshire at DFS.

National furniture retailer DFS is saving £400,000 a year and achieving recycling rates of up to 53% in some stores since introducing new waste management systems.

The company hired Hamilton-based Environmental Waste Systems Ltd (EWS) to manage the waste at 76 of its stores across the country in 2005.

EWS replaced skips with compactors, enabling waste to be crushed on site and uplifted less frequently, and installed machines for baling polythene for recycling.

As a result DFS's stores now recycle an average of 30% of their waste – with its Glasgow store achieving an impressive 53% and saving £8,500 annually on its waste bill. Fewer uplifts have resulted in lower transport costs and reduced vehicle emissions while recycling has seen less waste sent to landfill sites – a major source of greenhouse gases – and generates a landfill tax rebate which EWS refunds to its clients.

Mike Benson, Head of Health & Safety and Compliance for DFS, said: "While the financial savings were a major factor in choosing to hire EWS and adopt its waste management system, we are acutely aware of our environmental responsibilities too and the benefits of recycling and efficiency are clear."

James McNulty, Managing Director, EWS, said: "DFS has been very forward thinking in its approach to waste, realising that there are significant savings to be made through our waste management processes and that there is considerable value in the recyclable polythene waste it generates which can be reclaimed in addition to a landfill tax rebate which we refund to the company.

"Many businesses may not realise it, but there are savings to be made when it comes to waste."

Visiting the DFS store in Glasgow's Tollcross, Jo Swinson, Lib Dem MP for East Dunbartonshire and member of the Parliament's Environmental Audit Select Committee, said: "I welcome this kind of link-up between environmental and retail companies to achieve substantial waste reductions.

"Clearly, waste management is a growth industry and EWS is in a position to help a whole range of companies take a greener approach to waste disposal."

## St. Enoch Centre drives ahead with green car park innovation



DJ and green campaigner Heather Suttie gets to grips with St. Enoch Centre's new electric car charging bays.

An eco-friendly car park has formed the first stage of a Glasgow shopping centre's £100 million transformation.

Canadian-based owner and manager Ivanhoe Cambridge has invested more than £2 million in a major refurbishment of the St. Enoch Centre's 750-space car park.

And, in line with the company's commitment to promoting renewable energy, it has introduced an innovative 'green' element to the new facility.

In a first for Glasgow city centre retail, St. Enoch provides charging bays, allowing drivers of electric vehicles to recharge for free during their stay.

Four of the bays – painted in a distinctive green – will be located on the second floor and the number may be increased in line with demand.

There's also improved facilities for those travelling on two wheels, with new bicycle stands and dedicated motorcycle spaces planned as part of the redevelopment.

Susan Nicol, General Manager of the St.

Enoch Centre, said: "We are exploring every opportunity to adopt initiatives and policies which are in line with Ivanhoe Cambridge's commitment to sustainable development.

"The introduction of charging bays will not only offer a convenient new service for our visitors but also help to raise further awareness of greener forms of transport."

The Centre is also working with the Government-sponsored Carbon Trust to explore green initiatives which can be implemented as part of its redevelopment programme.

A new metering system will be installed to control and monitor energy; solar shading will be used to control heat and minimise air conditioning and there will be an upgrading of plant and equipment controls to improve efficiency.

Susan Nicol added: "Our construction programme is on schedule for completion by the end of August 2009 and I'm delighted that we are now able to unveil this first stage of our new look."

# GO WILDE FOR GREENER GARDENS CAMPAIGN



Kim Wilde gets a helping hand from Helen Everett, Yorkshire Bank's Head of Sponsorship, and Head of Gardens at the National Trust, Mike Calnan.

Pop star turned gardener Kim Wilde has launched a new initiative to help people make their gardens 'greener'.

The green-fingered songstress, who still enjoys a successful pop career alongside one in horticulture, teamed up with Yorkshire Bank and the National Trust to encourage people to make their gardening more environmentally friendly and save money in the process.

Simple ideas that people can try in their back gardens, allotments and school yards include composting, worm farms, rain water collection and growing their own vegetables.

Kim says: "The Greener Gardens campaign combines two topics close to my heart – gardening and the environment – and so I'm really excited to

be part of it.

"People are already taking steps to make their homes greener but aren't necessarily thinking about what they can do in their gardens.

"We want to show people that there are simple changes they can make and, if enough of us get on board with these small steps, we can make a big difference."

Mike Calnan, Head of Gardens at the National Trust, added: "The National Trust is taking major steps to 'green-up' its gardens to help combat global warming.

"From gardens the scale of ours to the smallest window box, everyone can do their bit, like recycling garden waste to making compost or installing water butts to harvest rain water for use in their gardens."

**National Trust top tips for greener gardens – things YOU can do at home**

#### Make yourself a compost heap

- There are all sorts of things you can recycle into plant food. You can get a cheap compost bin through your local council. Call the WRAP helpline on 0808 100 2040 to find out more or visit [www.wrap.org.uk/composting](http://www.wrap.org.uk/composting).

#### Grow your own

- Get yourself an allotment, or at least get your name on the list for when the next plot becomes available
- Dig up a patch of your garden and convert it into a vegetable plot
- Don't have a garden? Plant herbs and miniature crops like strawberries or tomatoes in indoor tubs or window boxes.

#### Save water

- Mulch the garden. Adding a 5-10cm layer of mulch cuts down on evaporation so you need to water less frequently and it also reduces the amount of weeding you'll need to do
- Replace water-loving plants with drought-tolerant varieties
- Buy a water butt and connect it up.

#### Did you know?

- Annual summer rainfall has fallen by about 20% since the late 19th century
- There's an earlier onset of spring flowering, and trees are coming into leaf on average two to three weeks earlier than 30 years ago
- The growing season has lengthened by about a month since 1900 in central England
- Frosts have declined almost to zero in SW England and frozen waters even in North England are now very rare
- Britain has become twice as stormy in the last 50 years.

# Sharing the load



## Give the planet a lift when driving to work

Monday, June 9, was National Liftshare Day and the ideal date for ScottishPower to launch its own scheme to encourage staff to buddy up and share the journey to work.

Liftsharing is simple. It matches individuals with others wanting to travel in the same direction so they can share the journey and the costs while doing their bit for the environment by reducing the number of cars on the road.

The team of Environmental Champions at ScottishPowers' headquarters at Cathcart, Glasgow, are right behind the scheme and were on hand to give out leaflets and answer any questions.

There are now over 290 members registered with some 80 journeys matched.

At Cathcart, a number of spaces in the car park have been dedicated for lift sharers and this provides an additional benefit for those sharing the journey to work.


Grant Barr from Energy Wholesale has been car sharing since the scheme launched and already feels the benefits.

He said: "Car sharing has been a completely positive experience for me.

"The system was easy to use and, with three of us sharing, there are lots of other benefits.

"I'm noticing a difference financially as well as enjoying being chauffeured every other day."

With over 38 million empty seats on the UK's roads every day, it is starting to be widely recognised that car sharing could be part of the solution to the country's transport problems.

ScottishPower has recognised the importance of car sharing as part of its commitment to the environment and employee experience. 

#### ScottishPower Liftshare Scheme

- Over 290 members registered with the scheme
- Some 80 journeys matched (27%)
- Based on these 80 journeys, members are saving:
  - 87,067 miles per annum
  - 27 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - £8,707 in fuel costs
- If all of the scheme's members were actively lift sharing, there is the potential to save 644,297 miles of driving per annum, 197 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> and £64,430 in fuel costs.

LET NATURE GIVE YOU A HELPING HAND

# Create your own compost corner



Composting your household waste helps your garden grow and reduces rubbish going to landfill.

Once the domain of committed 'greenies' and passionate gardeners, composting has come into the mainstream for the eco-friendly with concerns about the amount of household waste they send to landfill.

However, it should come with a health warning: it can be addictive!

You don't need to be living the good life in the country to get on board. There are composting systems to suit all households, big and small.

You can make or buy a compost bin which breaks down green waste from the garden and kitchen waste, such as vegetable peelings and tea bags.

## What is composting?

Composting is a process by which biodegradable material, such as garden and kitchen waste, is converted into compost. During the composting process, good bacteria and insects break down the organic waste using oxygen. The nutrient-rich soil conditioner that is produced is then applied to improve the quality of soil.

## What can you compost?

Home composting is easy but it is important that you have a roughly 50/50 mix of both 'green' and 'brown' materials in your compost bin.

Green materials include cut flowers, fruit scraps

and vegetable peelings, garden and house plants, grass cuttings (but not too much), tea leaves/bags and coffee grounds and young annual weeds.

Brown materials include shredded branches and twigs, hedge trimmings, paper items (including crumpled-up cardboard, egg boxes, toilet roll tubes, shredded letters and unwanted mail), straw and hay, and egg shells.

## Where can I put my compost bin?

The ideal location is a reasonably sunny site on bare soil but it's not essential. Choose a place where you can get to it easily otherwise you'll be tempted to give it a miss when it's cold and wet outside!

## How do I get started?

Have a container in your kitchen (you can buy a caddy but even an old ice cream tub will do) and fill it with your compostable waste. When your container is full, add it to the compost bin.

## When is it ready?

Compost usually takes between six and 18 months to be produced. When it's ready it will be crumbly and dark brown with an earthy smell. Keep adding more stuff as the level will reduce as the waste at the bottom is broken down.

## Why should I compost?

- It reduces waste sent to landfill
- It provides a free soil conditioner and helps soil retain moisture
- The compost improves plant health and growth and can increase yields of fruit, vegetables, flowers and herbs.

## I'm raring to go. What next?

Before you buy, check out the Recycle Now or Waste Aware Scotland websites – various types of composters, including bins, wormeries and kitchen caddies, are available at greatly subsidised prices in many areas and will be delivered straight to your door.

## I'm having problems – what do I do?

Many local authorities and organisations offer composting advice. Waste Aware Scotland has six home composting advisers who encourage and support people who want to compost at home.

## How can I find out more?

The Internet is a good starting point and there are many sites dedicated to composting. Check out:

[www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com)  
[www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk](http://www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk)  
[www.wasteonline.org.uk](http://www.wasteonline.org.uk)  
[www.gardenorganic.org.uk](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk)

There are also many good books, including 'Composting for All' by Nicky Scott, 'Composting with Worms: Why Waste Your Waste?' by George Pilkington and 'All About Compost: Recycling Household and Garden Waste' by Pauline M. Pears.

## Other types of composting

**Food digesters (eg Green Cone)** – Food digesters break down your food waste, including food scraps and meat, into a nutrient-rich liquid that seeps into the soil in your garden.

See [www.greencone.com](http://www.greencone.com)

**Wormeries** – Composting with worms (sometimes called vermicomposting) is a method of composting kitchen waste and small amounts of garden waste. The worms eat their way through the materials in your worm bin and produce finely textured, rich compost.

See [www.wormcity.co.uk](http://www.wormcity.co.uk)

**Bokashi** – A Japanese-developed system that uses micro-organisms to rapidly break down kitchen waste.

See [www.bokashibucket.co.uk](http://www.bokashibucket.co.uk)

# Tis the season...

Christmas is the time to be jolly, so why not put a smile on the face of the planet this festive season?

Send your friends e-cards instead of paper ones, or buy sticky labels from Friends of the Earth ([www.foe.co.uk/shop](http://www.foe.co.uk/shop)) and re-use last year's.

Before shopping, check your presents' eco-credentials at [www.ethicscore.org](http://www.ethicscore.org) or help to ease global poverty by buying Fairtrade gifts ([www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)).

Alternatively, do your bit for recycling by trawling your local charity shops for funky second-hand gifts.

Here's a few more ideas for those dreaming of a green Christmas:

## Ecobutton

Everyone's glued to their computers these days, whether at home or in the office.

But those hours surfing the net cost energy, so why not invest in an ecobutton™ – and lighten your PC's load on the planet?

Simply plug the gizmo's cable in to your USB port and – every time you take a break for coffee, a phone call or meeting – simply press the illuminated ecobutton™ to switch your PC to the most economical sleep mode available.

Pressing any key on the keyboard instantly returns you to where you left off, and ecobutton™ even keeps a running tally of how many carbon units, power and money you've saved.

Find out more at [www.eco-button.com](http://www.eco-button.com)



## Eggxactly

Want to go to work on an egg the 21st century way?

Eggxactly is an eco-friendly, water-free egg cooker that makes cooking boiled eggs as easy as making toast.

Simply place your egg in the cooker, close the lid, dial up how hard you want it, tap the top, and your egg cooks perfectly using around a hundredth of the energy of the traditional pan and water.

Eggxactly convinced two investors to part with their cash on the BBC's 'Dragons' Den' and, earlier this year, it won the E-On EnergyLab prize for best new green product. Find out more at [www.eggxactly.com](http://www.eggxactly.com)



## Elephant Dung Paper

Here's a green gift idea not to be pooh-pooed!

Elephant Dung Paper is made from the waste fibrous material left behind by Sri Lankan elephants.

The Maximus Conservation Trust looks after elderly and disabled elephants, and pays villagers to collect the dung, which is then boiled, cleaned and converted into hand-made paper.

[www.paperhigh.com](http://www.paperhigh.com) has a range of gifts crafted from this unusual source, including photo albums, notebooks and greetings cards.



## Wind-up Remote Control

Christmas TV means lots of channel-hopping – which can be brought to an abrupt halt when your remote batteries give up the ghost.

So here's a green alternative which will save on batteries and keep you in control over the festive season.

EZ Power's Wind-up Remote Control has its own internal battery which is fully charged by just 30 turns of its on-board wheel – easily done during a commercial break.

It can control up to six audio/video devices and one manual charge-up lasts a whole week.

Visit [www.ethicalsuperstore.com](http://www.ethicalsuperstore.com) to find out more.



## Eco-friendly Freeview Box

Talking of TV, time's running out for traditional terrestrial broadcasting in the UK.

Sooner or later, we'll all have to switch to digital services like satellite, cable or freeview.

So here's a great gift idea for a friend or relative who's yet to make the leap into 21st-century TV.

The Sagem Eco-Friendly Freeview Box gives you all the free-to-air digital channels, while using much less energy than a standard set-top box.

While most standard boxes use up at least 10 watts, the Sagem consumes only 4 watts while in use, and a miserly 1.6 watts in standby. Find out more at [www.iwantoneofthose.com](http://www.iwantoneofthose.com)

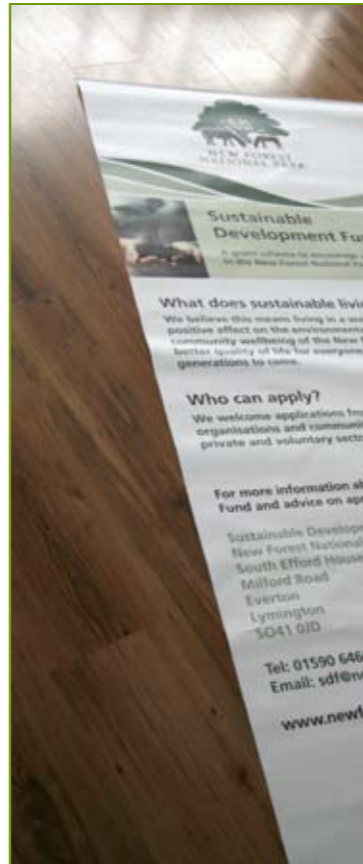


GREEN IDEAS

# Growing interest in greener bags

**B**rits are making the switch to more eco-friendly shopping bags. Supermarket giants Tesco announced recently that the use of disposable plastic bags is in steep decline. Its customers have saved a staggering two billion carrier bags since Green Clubcard Points were launched in August 2006.

Corporate and Legal Affairs Director Lucy Neville-Rolfe said, "We have helped our customers cut bag use by 40% without a bag tax adding to the cost of their weekly shop. "Our customers have shown us how keen they are to break this environmentally damaging habit of a lifetime. The 'carrot' approach clearly works. "It took more than 14 months to save the first billion bags but the second billion was achieved in less than nine months, showing that the trend is rapidly gaining support. "Even the most committed greenies occasionally forget to bring their shopping bags with them, so there will always be carrier bags available free of charge. "We want to help our customers remember to reuse their bags, rather than punish them when they forget."



## Eco-friendly conferencing made easy

Staging an event? Then look no further than the world's first biodegradable banner – printed with eco-solvent inks. The biodegradable banners have the same outdoor life as standard PVC banners. But, when the biodegradable version goes to landfill, a special additive starts to become active, starting the biological process which leads to the PVC being broken down. The website at [www.biobanner.co.uk](http://www.biobanner.co.uk) has a wide range of visual aids to choose from, including versatile, highly portable, cost-effective options – all including delivery.

## Behind the green door...



A 60s-style house in Dundee is paving the way for other residents to go green after re-opening its doors as an impressive eco-home. The former janitor's building is part of the Dundee Sun City campaign – launched in a bid to make the city Scotland's green capital.

It's been revamped to showcase how micro-renewables, materials and techniques can be applied to existing homes and help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**To learn more about Sun City House, go to [www.dundeescity.org.uk](http://www.dundeescity.org.uk)**

## On-screen sustainability for schools

Green Schools Online is bringing a whole new meaning to ecommerce. Its value-for-money web-design services are targeted specifically at schools looking to build a website that, literally, won't cost the earth.

The carbon-zero company's core ethical values include reducing, re-using and recycling, as well as offsetting one tonne of carbon dioxide per client each year. The business prides itself on getting the most out of its

paper, envelopes and printer cartridges, as well as using vegetable-based inks and limiting printing.

**Find out more at [www.greenschoolsonline.co.uk](http://www.greenschoolsonline.co.uk)**



# Keep it 'Onya'



A pioneering new product could help people dispose of plastic bags for good. The Onya Bag has been designed to help ditch the non-degrading delinquent – otherwise known as polythene – and there are literally loads of variations to choose from. Made from strong parachute material,

the reusable bag folds easily back into its own key ring-sized pouch, making sure it's always 'onya'.

**Find out more at [www.onyabags.co.uk](http://www.onyabags.co.uk)**

## Don't be down in the dumps!

**Britain's caught the recycling bug – and that's official!**

Government figures on municipal waste reveal moves to cut rubbish, increase recycling and reduce landfill are continuing to show good progress.

The latest statistics, which cover the period from October to December last year, show:

- Household waste is down from 25.8m to 25.6m tonnes
- Waste going to landfill is down from 16.9 to 15.8m tonnes
- More than a third of household

**waste is now recycled**

- Overall, municipal waste is down from 29.1m to 28.8m tonnes.

Former Environment Minister Joan Ruddock – now Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department of Energy and Climate – said: "These figures are provisional – we will know the full picture by the end of the year – but the early results show those efforts continue to be worthwhile. Local authorities and their residents are making good progress.

"We still have some way to go before we are performing at the level of some of our nearest neighbours in Europe. "But we are catching them up, and positive feedback like this should encourage all of us to keep up the effort to reduce and recycle our rubbish."



## Looking for a green day out?

If experiencing a more planet-friendly way of life sounds like your idea of fun, a visit to Findhorn Eco Village could be right up your street.

The pioneering settlement at Forres in the north of Scotland was founded in 1985 and, since then, has been working in partnership with the environment to create an enhanced quality of life for all.

It's a major adult education centre, welcoming 14,000 visitors each year from across the globe, with an ecological footprint half the UK national average.



Youngsters get their hands dirty at Findhorn's Eco Village.

It's home to the UK's oldest and largest community-supported agriculture system and even has its own bank and currency.

With an award-winning organic shop and wholefood café selling home-grown products from a nearby farm, the village is well worth a visit.

**To find out more, go to [www.ecovillagefindhorn.com](http://www.ecovillagefindhorn.com)**



There's a wealth of eco-friendly activities at Findhorn.

# Win an eco-break for two



Unwind with a clear conscience in The Yu Spa's sumptuous and eco-friendly surroundings.

Imagine the stresses of daily life washing over you as you enjoy a dip in the hot tub – with a carbon-clear conscience.

Dream no more because green has teamed up with Apex Hotels to offer one lucky winner an exclusive spa break for two.

Since opening in 2004, The Yu Spa at Dundee's Apex City Quay Hotel and Spa has undergone a number of developments to reduce its impact on the environment and, in November 2007, was named Scotland's first 'green' spa.

On offer is a two-night stay at the hotel, with full Scottish breakfast and a complimentary spa treatment, for one reader and their guest.

The winner will discover an ozone pool with minimal chlorine and self-cleaning hot tubs, which use ultra-violet light to help minimise the use of chemicals.

Changing room showers have integrated flow regulators as part of the mixer and, of course, all gym equipment is strictly switched off at night.

Environmental director of Apex Hotels Jo Harbisher said: "Being 'green' is a hot topic at the moment but it has been a key priority for us at Apex for a number of years.

"Our commitment has been demonstrated by the measures put in place at the design stage of Dundee's Yu Spa."

#### Terms and conditions

Offer open to readers of *green* aged 18 or over. Not open to employees of the Group of companies of which ScottishPower is a part, their families nor to employees of their marketing agencies. Entries are not returnable. No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Entries, including your name, telephone number and address, must be submitted to Ashley Stevenson, The Big Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH, and be received by 31 January, 2009. Entries should be clearly marked "Green Apex Offer". The winner will be the first entry drawn at random on 1 February, 2009, by a person independent of ScottishPower. The prize comprises two nights' bed and breakfast, plus complimentary spa treatment, for two people sharing a double/twin room, subject to availability, at the Apex City Quay Hotel and Spa, Dundee, and is subject to its Terms and Conditions. The winner is responsible for all travel, and other costs, which are not included in the prize, incurred by the winner and by the person chosen by the winner to participate in the prize with them. The prize must be taken within six months of the closing date. No cash alternative is available and the prize is not transferable. Entry into the prize draw is deemed acceptance of these terms and conditions. The winner will be notified by post as soon as possible after the draw. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. For the winner's name and home town, send a SAE to Ashley Stevenson, The Big Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH. Entrants will be taken to have consented to their name, home town and photograph being published if required. The promoter is the Green Energy Trust, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE.

To be in with a chance of experiencing an eco-friendly spa break, answer the following question correctly:

**What does the Yu Spa use to minimise the use of chemicals in its hot tubs?**

- a) Ultra-violet light
- b) Infra-red light
- c) Sonic waves

Send your entry, clearly marked Green Apex Offer, to Ashley Stevenson, The Big Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH. Alternatively, email your entry, with Green Apex Offer in the subject line, to [ashley.stevenson@bigpartnership.co.uk](mailto:ashley.stevenson@bigpartnership.co.uk)

Don't forget to include your name, address and contact telephone number, and please note that you must be aged 18 or over to enter the competition.

The closing date is January 31, 2009. Full terms and conditions below.

**To find out more, go to [www.yuspa.co.uk](http://www.yuspa.co.uk) or [www.apexhotels.co.uk](http://www.apexhotels.co.uk)**

No one wants to waste energy – or money. For more tips and impartial expert advice, check out our website at [www.scottishpowergreen.co.uk](http://www.scottishpowergreen.co.uk) where you will find everything from home insulation offers to green products.

