ScottishPower offers great deals designed to save energy and help customers reduce their fuel bills

The green energy magazine for you
Issue 12 | spring/summer 2012 | www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk

Spring clean
Tip tips for recycling
Write to win
£500 Eco Editors competition

GET Active:
All the latest funded projects from the Green Energy Trust

Too good to waste?

Insulation: save energy and cash!
Welcome to green

EDITORIAL

Green Matters
GET projects and you

W

elcome to our jam-packed edition of Green for Summer 2012. This is our exclusive magazine for eco-conscious customers who contribute to the ScottishPower Green Energy Trust (GET) through their energy tariffs.

A few of our GET-funded projects are featured in this edition—check out page four and five to get an insight into how they have used their funding and are benefitting the environment.

And, we’ve included a whole host of ideas to keep the family fit and entertained over the spring and summer months. As always, we’ve been busy monitoring the news and visiting environmental projects across the country to bring you another informative and fun-filled edition!

As an added bonus for our readers, check out our competition on page 20 to be in with a chance of winning a £250 voucher to spend in Dobbies Garden Centre.

Alison McKean
Senior Environmental and Social Policy Manager at ScottishPower and Green Energy Trust

ScottishPower
the energy week

If you would rather read green online, you will always find the latest issue at www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk

If you don’t want to receive a copy of green in future, let us know by emailing greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com

green is written and designed for the Green Energy Trust by The BIG Partnership, Scotland. Opportunities to advertise in green are available occasionally, subject to approval.

Contact us on: Tel: 0141 568 3492
Email: greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com

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CONTENTS

12

COVER STORY

RETAIL WIND POWER

7

See fashion in a new light

Too good to waste?

IN THE NEWS

6 Conservation training for youngsters
Forestry Commission Scotland provides employment skills.

7 Highest green score for new campus
Sustainability is the name of the game for Ayr campus.

WHERE YOUR MONEY WENT TO IN 2011
GET-funded projects around the United Kingdom.

8 Power of green Solar power, insulation and biodiverse.

10

GET INSPIRED FOR THE SPRINGTIME

14 Where your money went to in 2011
GET-funded projects around the United Kingdom.

REGULARS

18

Go green Get fit

12

Garden Grow-How

Win

Dobbies garden competition

Green Energy Trust renewable Energy Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>21</td>
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Apply online for a Green Energy Trust grant

People seeking funding from the Green Energy Trust apply online as this is the most environmentally friendly method. The application form has been designed to make the process easy to follow. Applications can be saved, edited and printed right up to the submission date. There is also an information icon to assist in application completion.

Where to find us

The forms and the guidelines are all available at: 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

The Green Energy Trust
Find out more about the trust

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 include wind power, biomass, solar energy, ground and air sources heat pumps and small-scale hydro technology.

How does it do this?
Every year the trust generates an income of around £150,000. This money comes from ScottishPower customers who donate to the trust on why supporting renewable energy is important to them. Please email greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com with any comments referring to “green spring edition”.

Who decides where the money goes?
The Trustees do. They are:

Christine Davis
Chairperson
Dr Robin Wallace
Energy Systems Research Institute
Willie McChee
Bioclimate Research & Development
Nicola Pearseall
Northumbria University
Alison McKean
Senior Environmental and Social Policy Manager
Martin Matters
Onshore Policy Manager for ScottishPower Renewables

How much is available to spend?
Around £50,000 is available at each Trustees meeting. We would be interested to hear from our green tariff customers who donate to the trust on why supporting renewable energy is important to them. Please email greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com with any comments referring to “green spring edition”.

www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk

green spring/summer 2012
Heating for cycle hire
Cycle repair and resource centre

The Glasgow School of Art is working towards its Mackintosh building becoming carbon-neutral with help from the ScottishPower Green Energy Trust. The internationally recognised higher education institution for creative education and research in fine art, design and architecture is replacing its outdated gas boiler heating system with a modern and environmentally friendly biomass wood pellet system.

Funding boost
A £10,000 funding boost to help install the system came from the ScottishPower Green Energy Trust. The new system will provide low carbon heating and hot water across three buildings – The Mackintosh building, the Bourdon building and the new Design School building currently under construction. The new building has the aim of achieving a BREEAM rating for sustainable design, construction and operation.

Display monitors will be strategically placed around the building to highlight the amount of energy saved and to educate staff, pupils and the general public and inform research. After completion of the project it will also be added into the syllabus as a working example for students learning about sustainable environmental design.

Alison McKeen, Senior Environmental and Social Policy Manager at ScottishPower, said: “We’re delighted to be supporting such a high profile education institution in their bid to move with the times and go green. The ScottishPower Green Energy Trust is always extremely keen to help fund projects with a genuine passion for, and a solid commitment to, renewable energy and the Glasgow School of Art has shown this in its long term plans. In addition, we’re very pleased that the project has a very strong educational element which will enable future generations to learn about how the heating system contributes to an environmentally friendly building.”

Ellen McAtteer, Development Manager at ScottishPower, said: “Financial support from organisations such as The ScottishPower Green Energy Trust is vitally important to Glasgow School of Art and helps us to progress with our development plans. We would like to thank the Trust for its generous funding and support of our project.”
Wild things!, the Scottish environment education charity, has been awarded a Green Grant of £1,600 from The Green Insurance Company to fund the Moray Firth Coastal Classroom, an outdoor learning and exploration course for local primary school classes. The funding was awarded as part of The Green Insurance Company’s Green Grants scheme which was launched in 2011, inviting green projects from across the UK to apply for grants to fund a plethora of worthy green community initiatives.

Coastal Classroom turns the stunning natural beauty of the Moray Firth coastline into an interactive classroom for primary school pupils. Working with groups of up to thirty, Wild things! will use the funding to provide children with the chance to experience the marine environment on their doorstep.

June Lynch, Managing Director of The Green Insurance Company said: “We’ve been really impressed with both the number of Green Grants applications we’ve had and the quality of the projects. The Moray Firth Coastal Classroom project was a great example of this, a project with a strong environmental message, community involvement and a sustainable future. Wild things!, the organisation at the heart of the Moray Firth Coastal Classroom project submitted an excellent application and we’re excited to see their project develop.”

Cutting edge training
Youngsters build employment skills with FCS

Young people across central Scotland are planting the seeds of new careers after completing a range of outdoor conservation-based training, thanks to a ground-breaking project funded by Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS). The 10 week Forestry Environment Learning Programme involved five trainees from central Scotland aged between 17 and 20. The youngsters had been disengaged from mainstream education but happily rolled up their sleeves to dig into vocational courses such as handling chainsaws, brush cutting, pesticide control, leadership and first aid.

The programme, delivered for the Commission by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), aims to provide young people with the necessary experience and qualifications required to secure seasonal jobs and apprenticeships in areas such as landscaping and gardening. The programme not only offers young participants a chance to work towards a better future but encourages reclamation of woodland areas where the hands-on training takes place.

Joneen Clarke, Employment Skills Manager at the Forestry Commission Scotland: “The reason behind this employment and skills programme is to help the Scottish Government in their drive to tackle the problem of youth unemployment. Our course is specifically designed to provide young people with a stepping stone towards improving their employability.”

More of a site’s operational lease with MEG Renewables project managing the site, Henri Hunter, Business Development Manager at MEG Renewables, said: “As an independent and privately-funded developer, MEG Renewables provides the risk capital to progress projects through each of the development stages. We are confident that we will be able to progress sites across the UK to meet our goal of supplying M&Co with all its electricity needs from renewable sources.”

M&Co to make their own electricity
Retail group will operate its own wind turbines

O ne of the UK’s largest independent fashion retailers, Maccays Group, which trades as M&Co, is taking steps to secure its continued growth by becoming the first High Street chain to secure full control of its future electricity consumption. M&Co will use all of M&Co’s stores, in nearly 300 towns across the UK, powered by its own renewable energy sources. To ensure total control and long-term supply, Maccays Group has launched a wholly-owned subsidiary business, MEG Renewables, which will invest in, develop and operate small to medium-scale wind turbine sites across the UK. The MEG Renewables’ unique model is to develop and own smaller sites of typically one to three turbines with a combined capacity of between 500 kilowatts and 5 megawatts. The output from these turbines will be secured directly by M&Co. The arrangement will also mean that the MEG’s business will have continuity of supply throughout the 25 years or

As part of the programme, Jamie Rasburn, Kieran Gaggin, Nathan Scott, Lisa Wright and Willie Richardson helped local communities by clearing fallen trees and general woodland waste from roads and paths following storms which caused damage at sites managed by the Commission.

Lend Lease helps launch new £81 million Ayr Campus
New campus building designed to highest environmental rating

Lend Lease has helped the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) and Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) officially launch their new £81 million Ayr Campus. The new building is designed to the highest environmental rating – BREEAM Excellent (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) – adopting sustainable strategies within its design and operation.

The new 18,000m2 campus, constructed by Lend Lease, was developed by UWS in partnership with SAC and is situated on the Craigie Estate, next to the River Ayr. The new campus is part of UWS’s multi-campus £200 million development programme and was developed in consultation with Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Wildlife Trust. It provides Ayrshire with one of the UK’s most modern, environmentally friendly and sustainable Higher Education learning environments.

Gordon Anderson, Executive General Manager in Scotland for Lend Lease, said: “We are immensely proud of our professional performance and safe delivery of the stunning new Ayr Campus to the University of the West of Scotland, which adds to our proven track record in the education sector. “In particular, Lend Lease fulfilled its commitment to using local labour with a high number of jobs created for local people during the construction process as well as many of the materials being sourced from the region.”
With the winter chill gone and summer hot on its heels it’s time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air, natural environment and participate in some great outdoor activities. Enjoy the great green outdoors with our top 10 tips to get fit in the ultimate green gym:

1. **Hill Walking/Hiking**
   Enjoy the rolling hills and vast green spaces the UK has to offer this spring and summer by exploring a wide variety of hiking destinations.
   Visit: [www.nationaltrail.co.uk](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk) for more information about routes in England and Wales or [www.walkhighlands.co.uk](http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk) for trails in Scotland.

2. **Jogging/Running**
   An easy way to get fit without having to venture far, jogging and running are excellent activities to help you get fit this spring. For those starting out, a leisurely jog can help increase stamina and strength to build up to more vigorous run.

3. **Cycling**
   Cycling is the third most popular recreational activity in the UK with an estimated 1.1 million people cycling each month, making it one of the easiest ways to get fit. Cycle for leisure or use your bike as an alternative form of transportation cutting costs to your wallet and environment.

4. **Climbing**
   For the more adventurous, climbing offers an excellent activity to see the UK’s cliffs, while building flexibility and upper body and core strength. Check out [www.ukclimbing.com](http://www.ukclimbing.com) for more information.

5. **Gardening**
   A more low-key outdoor activity, you might not think of gardening as a way to keep fit but gardening offers an alternative way to stay healthy. Digging, lifting, pruning and planting mean that gardening slowly works to build up strength and help you get fit while keeping your garden in top condition. Planting garden vegetables also encourages ‘green’ consumption and organic alternatives.

6. **In-line skating**
   Trade in your ice skates in for in-line skates to enjoy aerobic activity in the warmer weather. Why not start out with some in-line lessons.

7. **Boot Camps**
   Many cities and towns are embracing the boot-camp workout, encouraging physical activity modelled on army style training. Boot camps are the ultimate green gym, utilising a variety of terrain, obstacles and hills to re-create the machines found at a traditional gym and an intense workout.

8. **Swimming**
   As the temperature rises, swim to get fit in the green ‘blue gym’. The UK’s water environment provides an ideal place to become more active and healthy and the Outdoor Swimming Society can provide you with more information on swimming in the great outdoors.
   [www.outdoorswimmingsociety.com](http://www.outdoorswimmingsociety.com)

9. **Kayaking/Canoeing**
   More than 2 million people paddle in Britain, according to the British Canoe Union, exploring the UK’s extensive network of waterways, lakes and coastline. Canoeing and kayaking are a great way to get fit on the UK’s rivers and lakes, increasing upper body fitness and stamina.

10. **Surfing**
    Surfing offers a great workout for the more daring fitness fanatic. Paddling boosts cardiovascular fitness while a full body workout and strength training is gained from riding the waves. Check out the best places to catch the waves at [www.surf-uk.org](http://www.surf-uk.org)

Needing help?
Need help finding the perfect outdoor space to get fit and have fun? Visit one of the websites below to plan your outdoor adventure. Explore national parks, historic sites, the countryside or cityscape to experience a variety of activities that encourage fitness.

**National Parks:**
[www.nationalparks.gov.uk](http://www.nationalparks.gov.uk)

**Visit Britain:**
[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)

**Visit Scotland:**
[www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)
There is something about spring that makes us want to start again – whether it’s cleaning our home or spring cleaning our own lives, this time of year is a great time to refocus our priorities and find a better and more productive way of doing things.

We’ve scoured the internet to find just a sample of the green initiatives that are already happening in your community that will change the way you live forever – from recycling unwanted goods to keeping the kids entertained over the school holidays – we guarantee you’ll not only feel greener, you’ll also feel better for it.

Don’t Throw it Away – give it away and help save the planet

Freecycling is when a person passes on, for free, an unwanted item to another person who needs that item. From silverware to mobile homes, people worldwide are choosing to freecycle rather than discard. The practice frees up space in landfills and cuts down on the need to manufacture new goods. There are thousands of groups dedicated to connecting people who want to give away something to people with a need. Here are three steps you can take to join the freecycling movement.

1. Find a freecycling group near you by searching ‘freecycle group finder’ on the internet. If you can’t find a group, consider starting one, either on your own or through organisations such as reusenetwork.org, freemesa.org, freecycle.org or freesharing.org. Freecycling works best when the group members live geographically close because it’s more convenient and uses less energy when goods are exchanged.

2. Each freecycle group will have its own rules, so learn and abide by those rules. But commonly there are four kinds of posts: WANTED is you searching for an item; FOUND is telling others that you got what you were searching for; OFFER is letting the group know what item you have to give away; and TAKEN is informing the group that you found a person who needed the item offered.

3. Before buying something, check to see if anyone in your group is looking to get rid of the item you need. Before throwing an item in the rubbish, post an offer for the item to see if anyone needs it.

Get back to nature with a nifty mobile

Take your family on a walk through the woods or a local park and pick up any interesting branches, stones, or bits of bark you find along the way. Assemble everything using twine, and hang your masterpiece near your window. Tip: Add metal bottle tops to turn your mobile into a wind chime.

Make a plastic bottle greenhouse

Wash out an empty, clean plastic bottle. Cut the bottle in half, and place a few scoops of potting soil in the bottom. Add a few seeds, then another scoop of soil. Water lightly and replace the top of the bottle, making sure the top overlaps the bottom of the bottle. Also make sure the bottle cap is screwed on tightly. Place the bottle in a sunny spot, and watch your plants grow. After a few weeks, you can transplant them outside.

For more green activities for kids, check out these great websites:

- www.kidsgreen.org/krg.html
- kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/spacescience/green-tips/
- www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/green-balloon-club/

Everyone loves a party

Create Less Mess

Unleash lots of kids on any house and the result is likely to be rubbish on a large scale with party hats and paper plates, plastic bags stuffed with yet more plastic toys, balloons and streamers, they can be tough on the environment as well as your purse.

That’s why going back to basics can help the environment and cash-strapped parents without compromising on fun. Here are a few tips that will help you plan an eco-friendly birthday party to remember.

Have the Party At Home

Rather than following the crowd and booking a table at the local fast food restaurant, why not save cash and host the party at home? If space is an issue, check out your local community centre, or other independent venues where you can bring your own drinks, food and activities. Cut the kids involved and let them make their party invitations using recycled paper and let the lot in the recycling when the kids have finished.

Goodie Bags

While every child loves to take a small gift away with them, it doesn’t have to be a nasty non-biodegradable bag stuffed with yet more plastic. If you’re feeling flush, small wooden toys are a great alternative. If you’re on a tight budget then homemade sweets are a delicious way of cutting down on cost.

With these tips in mind, hosting a greener birthday party can be easier than you think – you may even start a trend in your area.
In an eye-opening four-part series, **Too Good to Waste** on STV, eight media personalities opened up their homes to let the waste experts in!

These included throwing hard earned cash out of draughty old windows, chucking away perfectly good food, driving uneconomical vehicles, and using energy sapping gadgets. Each episode saw the celebs taken on a journey to see what became of their waste when it left their bins.

**Episode 1: Electricity**
Stephen Purdon and Des McLean

Des and Stephen both love their gadgets and continue to hold onto them. The duo saw what happens to mobile phones and iPods when they're tossed away for a newer model and with the help and advice of housekeeping queen, Aggie McKenzie, they were both encouraged to de-clutter their homes and see how much money it could make them.

**Episode 2: Food**
Shereen Nanyani and Julie Hannah

Fashion conscious ladies, Shereen and Julie were challenged to take a look at their extensive wardrobes and learn to love vintage. But staying seasonal wasn’t out of fashion, as the Too Good To Waste team revealed to Shereen and Julie exactly how much food they wasted each year and they learned how to fix their wasteful culinary habits.

**Episode 3: Fuel**
Fred MacAulay and Kaye Adams

Fred and Kaye both have cars that guzzle fuel. In the programme they were challenged to drive more economically and efficiently, as well as being shown ways to reduce the miles they clocked up every year by using other transport options.

**Episode 4: Gas**
Chick Young and Liz McColgan

Sporting celebrities Chick and Liz wasted a lot of money on their gas bills. Waste experts made them aware of what lifestyle changes they could make to cut down on their gas consumption. Back in the kitchen again in this episode, Liz was shown how planning ahead could give her more quality time with her family and at the same time save cash at the tills.

**Less wasteful**
Fred MacAulay, said: “This wasn’t just about making a television programme, it was about changing my lifestyle to become less wasteful. It was also about how I treat waste and what I do with it. I’ve made some small changes and bigger ones will follow.”

Kaye Adams said: “With some good advice, a bit of thought, and very little effort, I’ve shaved about £400 off my annual electricity bill. What’s not to like!”

“The big surprise has been not to like! The programme has revealed to Shereen and Julie exactly how much food we’ve wasted each year and they’re tossed away for a newer model. In the programme they were challenged to drive more economically and efficiently, as well as being shown ways to reduce the miles they clocked up every year by using other transport options.

People across Scotland had the opportunity to find out more about what happens to the things we recycle, when the Scottish Government sponsored two interactive recycling bank visits to Lidl stores in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen and Dumfries at the beginning of the year, as part of its 2012 recycling campaign, **Greener Together**.

**Transformation**

The recycling bank visited universities, large employers, a shopping centre and a supermarket, to show what common household items such as paper, plastic, glass, metal and cardboard can be transformed into through the recycling process, to raise awareness of the benefits of recycling more items, more often.

The first stop marked the launch of the campaign at Ocean Terminal in Edinburgh, where Cabinet Secretary for the Environment Richard Lochhead spoke to shoppers to show them just how easy it is to recycle more often.

The next stop was Dundee, where shoppers at the local Lidl store and students at the University of Abertay found out how recyclable items can be transformed through the recycling process.

This was followed by a trip to ScottishPower in Glasgow (pictured), before moving on to Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen and the University of the West of Scotland’s Crichton Campus in Dumfries, where staff and students learned how plastic, cans, bottles and cardboard can all be recycled and given another life.

For more information about the recycling campaign visit: www.greenerscotland.org
The Green Energy Trust works to do a power of good across the whole country. In the past year the Trust has funded 12 innovative projects with a total of £155,832. Projects funded are pinpointed on the map opposite.

Glasgow Building Preservation Trust: Station as a Cycle Repair and Resource Centre
Glasgow £11,280
1. Funding to install a wood pellet stove to provide heating and hot water in the refurbished Pollokshaws West Station Building. The building will provide a community cycle resource repair centre for South West Community Cycles.

The Mackintosh Building: A Carbon Neutral Amenity
Glasgow £10,000
2. Funding to help replace the existing outdated gas boiler system with a biomass woodchip system and help make the Mackintosh building carbon neutral.

New Crossroads Women's Centre Solar Energy Project
Kentish Town, London, £6,995
3. Funding to install solar PV panels at the organisation's new centre to enable it to become environmentally friendly and sustainable.

Flights Mill Community Hydro Project
Kirtlington, Cherwell, £20,000
4. A community project which will install a hydro turbine in the river Cherwell beside and existing historic sluice. The ultimate aim of the project is to generate income for energy saving measures in homes, community buildings and local businesses.

Minehead First School: Renewable Energy
Minehead, Somerset, £25,000
5. Funding was awarded to install solar panels to provide a substantial contribution to electricity consumption and a thermodynamic solar energy system to heat the school swimming pool.

Woodlands Farm Renewable Heat Project
Shooter Hill, Welling, £1,675
6. The project is to provide a sustainably fuelled heating source for the farm education centre.

Brading Roman Villa
Isle of Wight, £9,825
7. Funding was awarded to install solar PV panels and air source heat pumps to help the Villa’s visitor centre reduce its carbon footprint at the site through sustainable energy technologies.

Hospiscare
Exeter, £25,000
8. Funding was awarded to help install a biomass boiler to help reduce the cost of heating the care-unit for elderly and infirm patients. The main aim of the project is to provide all heat from a sustainable source to secure the long term future of the hospice.

SoLearning Futures’ Dukeries Community Project
New Ollerton, Notts, £15,000
9. Installation of Solar PV system to decrease CO2 production as well as allowing the College to export energy back to the grid.

RSPB Dearne Valley: Wind in our Sails
Wombwell, Barnsley, £3,786
10. Funding to install two wind powered water pumps on two sites at Old Moor and Edderthorpe Flash bringing numerous benefits to the reserve, the environment and the community by increasing awareness of renewable energy.

Highfield Farm Community Kitchen Garden
Topsham, Devon, £14,287
11. Funding for a solar PV installation to power an electric zero emission all terrain vehicle to transport vegetables to schools for sale.
The Green Energy Trust’s Eco Editors competition is an innovative writing and environmental project for pupils which gives eco-conscious schools the opportunity to produce two pages of content for this magazine and win £500 to spend on a school environmental project.

The aim of the competition is to encourage awareness amongst school pupils about environmental issues and green projects. The students taking part in the 2012 Eco Editors are being challenged to write about current ‘green’ projects at their school or come up with inspirational eco-friendly activities that pupils can put into practice and tell the Trust all about it.

Saving the planet
In order to become an ‘Eco Editor,’ simply tell us in not more than 300 words, your eco experience or suggestions which schools across the UK could implement to help save the planet.

In addition to securing £500, the winning school’s pupils will be able to see their work in print in the autumn/winter edition of this magazine.

Alison McLean, Senior Environmental and Social Policy Manager at ScottishPower, said: ‘We’re very excited about the launch of our Eco Editors’ competition which we hope will encourage schools throughout the UK to think and learn more about the environment around them."

"We are looking for the next generation of eco-friendly ambassadors who will champion green initiatives that benefit the environment and The Trust is very much looking forward to receiving the innovative ideas which will feature in the autumn/winter edition of Green News."

GET writing
Secondary schools are being encouraged to enter into our new Eco Editors competition.

"We’re very excited about the launch of our ‘Eco Editors’ competition which we hope will encourage schools throughout the UK."

All schools taking part in ‘Eco Editors’ should submit their entries to Kirstin Aitken, The BIG Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH, no later than Friday, June 22, 2012.

BATTERY RECYCLING

Don’t throw your old batteries in the bin

What else can I do other than recycling?

Use rechargeable batteries wherever possible – you can even buy a solar powered recharger
Plug electrical equipment into mains electricity
Try to buy appliances that use renewable energy such as a wind-up radio or torch, dynamo bicycle lights or a solar powered calculator

Getting the BUG in Cathcart
Encouraging people to commute on two wheels

ScottishPower’s Cathcart BUG (Bicycle User Group) is a voluntary group set up to promote cycle commuting. As well as providing cycling information on ScottishPower’s environmental intranet and promoting cycling facilities at its Cathcart offices the group recently organised a visit to site by Dr. Bike, a service provided by a Government funded charity based in Glasgow called The Bike Station. The Bike Station also offers everything from cycle training, guided bike rides, fleets of bicycles to training and events.

By the end of the day almost 30 bikes had a clean bill of health and their owners had pledged to reduce their car usage thus helping with the reduction of CO2 emitted into the atmosphere while they work on improving their own health.

CATHCART BUG

The deadline for submissions is July 27, 2012. More details can be found online at the dedicated website www.scottishpowergreenwards.co.uk

Outstanding Contribution to the Scottish Environment
Carbon Reduction
Most Innovative Green Product
Best Green Community Initiative
Best Green Campaigner/Activist
Best Green Large Company
Best Green Small Company
Best Green PR Campaign
Best Green Public Service or Public Sector Provision
The Green Energy magazine for you
 Doing the power of good
Cheshire village aims to be carbon neutral

Ashton Hayes is an award winning village in rural Cheshire with ambition to become the UK’s first carbon neutral village. Since 2006 the village has achieved a carbon reduction of 23% by introducing behavioural changes towards energy usage. The village has subsequently become an early adopter of several low carbon technologies including two substantial photo-voltaic generation schemes and the introduction of a community electric vehicle.

Ashton Hayes is home to a groundbreaking low carbon partnership between the community and the electricity distribution network operator SP Energy Networks. During 2011 SP Energy Networks installed several power monitoring devices in the substations that supply the village, these devices measure the electrical consumption of the village over 140 times a day to provide a detailed picture of the flow of electricity. SP Energy Networks is using this information to assist the village’s goals by providing detailed analysis of its electricity consumption over the course of the next two years. SP Energy Networks also aims to use the information to enhance the electrical network that supports Ashton Hayes by trialling new technology and developing a sustainable ‘smart’ network that will benefit customers in the future by accommodating more low carbon technology.

RSPB AWARDS
Praise for Biodiversity Action Plans
Two projects shortlisted in prestigious awards scheme

ScottishPower Generation was this year shortlisted in the first annual RSPB Nature of Scotland Awards in the Sustainable Development Award category. The shortlisted position recognised the company’s Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) which aim to protect and foster habitats and species in the vicinity of its power station developments. The awards also shortlisted ScottishPower Renewables’ efforts to deliver one of the largest biodiversity schemes in Europe at Whitelee Windfarm, near Glasgow. The project, which covers more than 2,500 hectares, aims to improve and increase the extent of habitats for the benefit of Black Grouse and re-establish 900 hectares of heathland and blanket bog for the benefit of upland breeding and wintering birds.

Both projects were shortlisted in the Sustainable Development category which recognises research, initiative, planning or development has had a positive effect on nature conservation linked to Scotland. Hugh Finlay, Generation Director at ScottishPower, said: “We are very pleased that our hard work to promote and protect wildlife around our power station sites was shortlisted by the judging panel. Our staff are committed to the local communities in which they work, and it is important to ScottishPower as a company that we do all that we can to promote sustainable development at all of our sites. More than 40% of our land in the UK is located in protected areas, and we fully understand the importance of conservation.”

Simon Christian, UK Managing Director, ScottishPower Renewables, said: “The habitat management area at Whitelee Windfarm is designed to enhance the local environment for a variety of plants and animals, and encourage the long-term sustainable development of the area. We are very pleased that our hard work was shortlisted by the RSPB Nature of Scotland Awards. We hope Whitelee Windfarm will remain to be seen as a leading example of responsible development and social inclusion for a long time to come.”

How to apply

Refrerrals can be made directly via the ScottishPower website: www.scottishpower.co.uk or alternatively customers can call us on 0845 601 7830 Monday to Friday 9.00 am – 5.30 pm.

If you haven’t had loft or cavity wall insulation installed in your home now is a great time to do it. Right now ScottishPower is offering house holders across the UK the opportunity to have loft (where there is less than 60mm existing insulation) and cavity wall insulation installed for free! You don’t even have to be a ScottishPower customer.

Installing insulation could save you up to £135 for cavity wall insulation, and a further £175 for loft insulation per year.*

It’s easy to put off decisions like this – particularly when the weather is warmer. In fact, having insulation installed is easy. It starts off by you picking up the phone and calling our dedicated advisors. When you contact us we will assess whether your home is likely to be suitable for the installation of loft or cavity wall insulation. If your home is, we will arrange for one of our surveyors to visit you to carry out a detailed survey and explain what will happen on the day – this survey will take about 45 minutes. Assuming your home is suitable we will then arrange for one of our installers to visit your home. The installation will take around half a day for either loft or cavity wall insulation. When they’ve finished the installers will tidy away after themselves. And you should then be benefiting from a cosier home and lower energy bills. It’s as simple as that.

So if you, friends, family, or someone you know who would benefit from this offer, please get in contact with us now. We’re keen to help you as quickly as possible.

FURTHER DETAILS

www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk

*Energy Saving Trust under Home Insulation February 2012 www.energysavingtrust.org.uk These are estimated figures based on installing a gas-heated, semi-detached home with three bedrooms. The loft insulation saving is based on topping up your loft insulations from 85mm of insulation to 270mm. (The recommended depth for mineral wool insulation is 270mm but other materials need different depths.)

This offer is open until 31st August 2012 inclusive. All measures must be installed and completed by 30th November 2012. Unfortunately, there are some situations in which properties will not satisfy the eligibility requirements for free insulation, which include, but are not limited to, where your property already has pre-existing cavity wall insulation or loft insulation that is more than 60mm thick. For more details please see www.scottishpower.co.uk/homeinsulation
Spread a little love around your garden with Dobbies

Dobbies Garden Centres has teamed up with green to offer one lucky reader the chance to win an incredible £250 to spend in their local Dobbies store. Dobbies Garden Centres is one of the UK’s leading garden and home retailers with 32 stores throughout the UK. One of the easiest ways to incorporate colour and balance to your home and garden is to invest in hanging baskets and planted containers. Whether you live in a small townhouse or a country cottage, anyone can try these simple and highly enjoyable methods of gardening.

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“Once you have all your planting materials together the next step is to begin arranging your plants in your basket or container, it is usually easiest to start with one, central plant. This helps to create structure and impact in the basket, leaving surrounding space for smaller plants and flowers. “Lots of plants grow well in containers and hanging baskets, some great summer plants to include are: lobelia, fuchsias, pansies, petunias, sweet-peas and snapdragon and ivy, trailing plants also are an excellent addition to any hanging-basket. “Hanging-baskets really are very easy to create, and can be fixed to most walls and exterior buildings, be it your house, garage or garden shed. They also look fantastic suspended from porch beams and garden trellises”.

Dobbies can help you to create your own individual garden look this season. Whether you are looking for brightly coloured bedding plants, hanging baskets, stylish new garden furniture or play equipment for the kids, Dobbies extensive range of quality plants and products ensures there is something to suit everyone.

Dobbies-Green-Competition-2012

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

Which of these plants is traditionally associated with spring?

A - Daffodils  B - Thistles  C - Roses

Dobbies in-store plant experts are always on-hand to inspire and advise you on how to achieve your ideal garden. Unearth a variety of easy peasy gardening tips at Dobbies short Garden Grow-How talks every Saturday and Sunday between 11am and 2pm. Upcoming topics include “Feeling Fruity” and “Hanging Gardens” – ask in your local store for full details.

Entries

Please email your entry to kirstin.aitken@bigpartnership.co.uk Alternatively, send your entry, marked ‘Green Summer 2012 Competition’ to Kirstin Aitken, The BIG Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH. The closing date is July 13th, 2012. Don’t forget to include your name address and contact telephone number. Visit www.dobbies.com for further information on products, events and seasonal talks at Dobbies Garden Centres.

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 or their families. No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Entries must be submitted by e-mail or post only, and include the entrant’s name, telephone number and address, to Kirstin Aitken, The BIG Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH. Entries must be received by the closing date of 13 July 2012 and clearly marked “Green Summer 2012 Competition”. The winner will be the first correct entry drawn at random on 16 July 2012 by a person independent of Dobbies. The prize will be a £250 letter voucher issued by Dobbies. The voucher must be used in one transaction only, at one of Dobbies’ 32 garden centres within the UK. No alternative prizes, goods or services will be provided. The prize cannot be transferred to any third party. The prize is also subject to the terms and conditions of Dobbies’ on-line shopping arrangements. 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 Kirstin Aitken, 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.