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TTKingston Newsletter #47 Tuesday, 28th September



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Quick Link <http://ttkingston.org/> **Check out our website!**

Events this fortnight... and beyond

Stitch in Time, Wednesday 6th October, 7.00pm

TTK's October sociable sewing session runs from 7.00 - 9.00pm at Kingston Environment Centre, Fairfield East, KT1 2PT. Come along to get help with your own making or mending or altering project, or to teach or learn a new skill or to join in the next few months' creative activities. These will include making reusable mini-bags for Christmas presents, especially awkward shaped ones, and decorating these or anything else you'd like to bring along with appliqué and embroidery (which can be anything from simple chain stitch, handy for initialling children's clothes, to really beautiful artworks).

Wild Law Lecture, Wednesday 6th October

From 6pm (refreshments from 5:30pm), in Room 0001, John Galsworthy Building, Penrhyn Road Kingston University. Open to all.

The ideas of Wild Law and Earth Jurisprudence, aimed at protecting all the Earth's community – including animals, plants, rivers and ecosystems - are increasingly being discussed among lawyers, environmental scientists, policy researchers and academics and have begun to be translated into practice through the enactment of laws in several jurisdictions. Representatives from the UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) will be talking us through the concepts and shedding light on how we can rethink our legal and political systems to stop environmental destruction.

Incredible Edible Todmorden London Conference, Saturday 9th October

The first to be held outside of Todmorden (in West Yorkshire) is being held in Peckham on 9th October from 9am to 4pm at John Donne School, Woods Road, Peckham, SE15 2SW. Come and hear an uplifting and inspiring story about a Northern towns growing success and what this could mean to the home of the world famous Peckham experiment.

More information about the conference at <http://www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/blogs/london-conference-booking>.

To book please email ie_conference@yahoo.co.uk.

A Celebration of the Thames: Doorstep Heritage and Landscape Design, Wednesday 13th October 2010

Organised by the Environment Trust for Richmond upon Thames and Kingston University. Speakers are Richard Flenley and Stuart Downward.

Richard Flenley is a celebrated landscape architect who has worked on many major projects over the past 30 years, including Bedfont Lake and Harmondsworth Park in West London. Richard will discuss landscape design since the eighteenth century. He will share his wide experience of heritage sites, including the recently restored Water Gardens in Bushy Park, and the Master Plan for Painshill Park. He is chair of the highly regarded Land Use Consultants.

Dr Stuart Downward lectures in physical geography at Kingston University. His work on 'de-engineering' London's rivers has made a substantial contribution to the quality of their ecology and wildlife habitats. He has also done much to improve their relationship with the communities through which they flow.

Venue: Kingston University, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, 6pm reception and exhibition and talks at 7pm. Tickets £15.00, Students £10.00, including refreshments. For more information about tickets call 020 8891 5455 or email office@environmenttrust.co.uk.

Weaning Woking off Oil: Exploring Transition Locally, Thursday 14th October

From 7.15pm, Christchurch, Woking.

Inspired by the Transition Town model (www.transitionnetwork.org), this will be a free informal and participatory 'open space' event to discuss what we want to do to wean Woking off oil and create a better, fairer and more resilient place in which to live.

All welcome- just turn up on the night. (Note: this is the same event as Woking- A Transition Town? for which some of you may have received flyers in the post)

If you want to get together with like-minded people to start developing projects which will help yourself and Woking become more resilient, whilst also developing a sense of community, then this is the event to attend.

For more information contact Clare at clare.palgrave@hotmail.co.uk.

(Map here: <http://www.christchurchwoking.org/Group/Group.aspx?ID=98076>)

More events of interest... On our website at <http://ttkingston.org/events/> Kingston University's website http://www.kingston.ac.uk/environment/happen_events.html.

In the news...

TTK film for Germany – a reminder

A German television network is keen to make a film about TTK to show at schools/colleges (age 14-18) in Germany. Our member Craig Churcher is coordinating the possibility at our end, and is looking for three or four volunteers who are involved with TTK who can feature in the film. They will be shown undertaking their TTK project and talking about why it is important for them. Ideally one or two of the volunteers would be close in age to the target group. Contact Craig on 07793 739765 or craig.churcher@talk21.com as soon as you can if you would like to be a part of the film.

Opportunities bulletin - your chance to get involved

At each TTK open meeting, anyone who comes can add to a list of all the green projects and ideas mentioned at the meeting that people can participate in or help develop. Take a look at <http://www.ttkingston.org/cms-assets/documents/7125-51245.opportunities-from-ttk-open-meeting-23> and if anything interests you, don't be shy to contact the relevant person!

Think tank calls for people to join Transition Towns

The New Economics Foundation (NEF) has placed Transition Towns at the centre of its vision for better high streets in a new report.

Re-imagining the High Street, a follow up to NEF's well-known *Clone Town Britain* studies, updates earlier surveys on the chain-dominated character of the high streets and examines the effects of the recession, which has seen many large chains pull out of high street locations, leaving empty properties. Citing Transition activities as an example, NEF sees potential for some such properties to be used for 'High Street Hubs' to reinvigorate and green the local economy by supporting food growing, developing local currencies and more. You can read the report here:

http://www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/Reimagining_the_high_street_0.pdf

FREE Plants! But hurry!

As the London Design Festival will end on Sunday, the University has been offered some of the plants. KU will be using some of it on the campus grounds but wondered if TTK members would like some too?

Local residents can come and collect plants between 5pm and 8pm next Wednesday 29th September. Please note that some of the plants may not be available anymore as the University has invited their community partners to help themselves first! Everything must go by the end of Wednesday! Anyone wishing to get plants will need to present themselves at the Kingston University Sustainability Hub, Town House Room 110, Penrhyn Road from where they will be taken to the storage area to choose their plants.

For more information contact Prisca at the Sustainability hub via p.baron@kingston.ac.uk.

The plants to choose from are:

16 x washingtonia palm	8x fargesia rufa	6x dianella revoluta little rev
4 x shibatea kumasaca	8x phormium dark avocado	6x oriental lily, dahlia
1sq m of michaelmas daisy	2 sq m of laurel	12 x ornamental kale.
1sq m of rosemary/sage/thyme/lavender and a 9m long x 5m wide x 3m tall polytunnel.		

How to use the sports ground in Motspur Park?

A community campaign has been started to allow the people of Motspur Park to have access to the disused old BBC Sports Ground site. The site is currently owned by Ben Dunne and since both his planning applications have been turned down on the land, he has expressed his intention to allow the site to continue to remain vacant and inaccessible to the local community.

The land has great potential and could become a hub for the local community. At the first meeting held on 19th September a consensus was found among residents that the community needs more allotment space, and would like to access the sports facilities on site. A steering committee needs to be formed to decide how this campaign progresses and welcomes anyone interested in actively campaigning for access to the land. For further details please contact Lou at communityfoodgrowers@gmail.com or on 07501 115 376.

Test the DECC 2050 calculator

Planning for an energy descent and a secure, low-carbon energy system is far from easy, as the DECC 2050 calculator demonstrates. Have a go and see what might work and what might not. For example: Should we do more to cut demand? Should we rely more on increasing and decarbonising the energy supply? How will we produce our electricity? Which technologies will we adopt? The calculator is intended to help policymakers, the energy industry and the public understand these choices and all the uncertainties involved in meeting the UK's 2050 emissions target.

See <http://2050-calculator-tool.decc.gov.uk/>.

NEW SECTION! TTK's Food Group – From the Ground Up Co-operative

The From the Ground Up Food Co-op is open for business!

The From the Ground Up Food Co-op offers the Kingston Community **affordable certified organic fruit and vegetables at exceptional prices**. The Co-op is a not-for-profit organisation run by a community of volunteers who are passionate about eating healthier, better tasting food farmed by earth-friendly practices. This is a fortnightly collection service with no minimum requirements.



For more information, please contact us at fromthegroundupcoop@gmail.com

The next collection for the Food Co-op is Saturday, 2 October at the Kingston Environment Centre. If you plan to order from us, please have your order returned by Weds 29 September to fromthegroundupcoop@gmail.com.

A simple price check of some items on this order compared with a big supermarket and other box schemes (all organic, as like to like as possible):

	<i>From the Ground Up</i>	Supermarket	Box Scheme
Leeks	£2.36/kg	£4.40/kg	£2.75/750gms
Wild Rocket	£1.15 /100gms		£1.89/100gms
Onions	£.72/kg	£1.25/kg	
Vine Tomatoes	£2.91/kg		£2.09/500gms
Eggs ½ dozen, large	£1.63		£2.29
Lemons	£.30/each	£.50/each	4 for £1.88
Pears	£2.34/kg		£3.80/kg

How you can get involved... and do you have some news to share?

TTK always needs volunteers, contact the TTK Steering Group if you can offer your help: ttkingstonsteering@yahoogroups.com.

TTK has seven public action groups, working to spread the word and get people involved. Visit <http://ttkingston.org/groups-and-projects/> to find out more about the activities of these groups.

Currently the **Business Action Group (BAG)** is working on a Local Green Business and Social Enterprise Directory for the TTK website. If you know of any green businesses that should be invited to be included, please contact Marilyn Mason (marilyn.mason@virgin.net).

Paul Parker paulparker@sustainia.co.uk reports on completed TTK events and ensures that these are posted online and referenced in the newsletter.

Sarah Bowness edits this newsletter so if you have a local event or news item relating to TTK in particular, or of relevance to Kingston more generally, please send them to her via sarahbowness@hotmail.com. *Please put TTK in the subject line.*