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Transition Town Kingston



Newsletter #63 – Tuesday 10 May 2011, in this newsletter...

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- All Potted Up (Thursday 19 May)
- Kingston Orchard Project plant sale and volunteer on Sundays (Saturday 14 May)
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- Bike Maintenance Workshop (Saturday 21 May)
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News...

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TTK's Food Group – From the Ground Up

- News from the food co-op... report from their speaker series, and can you help pack?

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

- TTK has lots of groups and projects running, find out more about them!

Visit our website at <http://ttingston.org/>

Events

"All Stitched Up" at the library, Monday 16 and Friday 20 May

TTK's "Stitch in Time" organisers Toni and Marilyn will be taking their needles and pins to Surbiton libraries during Adult Learners' Month to show people how to renovate and repair their clothes. Do bring along your alteration or mending problems - and tell your friends. At Surbiton Library, Ewell Road, on Monday 16th May, 10.00am – 12.30pm, and Hook Library, Hook Road, on Friday 20th May, 10.00am – 1.00pm.

All Potted Up, Thursday 19 May

Do you want to improve your garden this year but don't know how? Why not come along to our FREE gardening introduction to sowing and transplanting. The workshop starts with a brief presentation before a practical session so PLEASE bring along 2 empty plant pots! Reserve your place now at the Library Counter or [email Christine Bunce](mailto:christine@ttingston.org). From 1.30pm-3.00pm, Hook & Chessington Library, Hook Road, KT9 1EJ.

The Kingston Orchard Project plant sale, Saturday 14 May and volunteer every Sunday!

Kingston Orchard Project will be selling edible plants at The Canbury Arms pub on Saturday 14th May from 9am to 12noon. Come and visit us and listen to madrigals by Canbury Singers at 10am.

Visit: http://www.thecanburyarms.com/promotions/may_market.



Every Sunday between 2 and 5pm join other volunteers at the Orchard, but only a few tools, spades, forks, secateurs would be useful as well as safe shoes and sensible clothing. More at: <http://ttingston.org/groups-and-projects/kingston-orchard/>

'Sow & Grow' at Ham House, Sunday 15 May

Family event highlighting the potential for home grown and seasonal produce with 'grow your own' activities, tours of the 17th century kitchen garden and stalls selling local produce. From the Ground Up will be there as a great example of a local food initiative from 11am-4:30pm - come by and say hello and try your chances at winning a free box of fruit and veg.

FTGU are also open to assistance from people who may want to help tell the FGU story to interested visitors. Please email FTGU at fgu@ttkingston.org
The event is free but admission charges to the House and garden still apply.
More details at: http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-events-find_event.htm?uuid=f7af6cd8-7c80-4a02-a66a-8aad83e809b9.

Bike Maintenance Workshop, Saturday 21 May

From 10am-12.30pm, at Kingston Eco-op, New Malden, KT3 3SF
Dr Bike will teach you how to keep your bike in tip-top condition. Kingston Eco-op, Unit 5, Adams Ind Estate, New Malden, KT3 3SF (entrance near the Matalan store off Kingston Road).

Stud Nursery, Home Park's hidden gem, has two public open days on Sunday 22 May and 7 August

Stud Nursery in Home Park invites you to two open days. Enjoy Sunday in the park, discover this hidden gem and leave with something unique for the garden! Lots of garden and wildlife items for sale, and you can enjoy a cream tea too!

Stud Nursery is a partnership initiative between Historic Royal Palaces, Kingston's Learning Disability Services and Kingston Mencap. It provides adults with learning disabilities with valuable work activities and training in horticulture, woodwork & DIY.
Access via Home Park's Kingston Gate, near Kingston Bridge. Follow road into the park, take first right fork at signpost marked 'Stud Nursery'. We are to the left of Stud House.
Access could be difficult due to road works and parking may also be limited as a result. Check before you travel if you have to drive.

For more information, contact Kingston's Learning Disability Services (Work Activities) on: 020 8547 6658 or Stud Nursery on: 07757392087.
Email: naomi.blackwell@rbk.kingston.gov.uk.

Richmond Park and Twickenham constituencies combine for a mighty Big Climate Connection public meeting, Wednesday 25 May

Speaking: Zac Goldsmith MP, Vince Cable MP, Colin Butfield, Head of Campaigns at WWF, Paul Cook, Advocacy & Media Director at Tearfund, Craig Bennet, Campaigns Director at Friends of the Earth. From 7:30pm, Duke St Church, Richmond.
More info at <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=202912746402798>

Stitch in Time, Wednesday 1 June

From 7-9pm at Kingston Environment Centre, Fairfield East, KT1 2PT.
Everyone is welcome to come along to Transition Town Kingston's sociable sewing sessions to get help with your own making or mending or altering project, or to teach or learn a new skill, or to join in this month's project: we have offered to make new curtains or blinds for the Environment Centre, so you could help with this.

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.

News...

Tell Kingston Council what your environmental priorities are

Kingston Council is developing a strategy that will set out the priorities for behavioural change and actions we all need to adopt to help our environment. Tell RBK what your environmental priorities are by completing their [online questionnaire](#). It should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. The consultation runs from 2 May to 30 June 2011.

Abundance Kingston creates fruit map of Kingston

Abundance Kingston (TTK's fruit harvesting project) is progressing well. We have begun to map Kingston fruit trees using googlemaps, which is currently available to those who request the information. We are continuing to recruit volunteers for harvesting fruit from August onwards as well as expanding our database of available trees. If you are interested in getting involved a meeting has been arranged for Monday 23 May.
To find out more email abundance@ttkingston.org

TTK out and about

TTK volunteers have been out and about recruiting and handing out information. In early April we had a stall on All Saints lawn from which to approach Saturday shoppers, and on 7th May we had a display at Seething Wells community sports day, where some of the Steering Group also enjoyed taking part in the races. If you'd like to help TTK with this kind of outreach, please contact james@jamesfhunkin.com.



Green notice board

We have also negotiated a "Green Kingston" section on a notice board in the Market House in central Kingston, which TTK and other green groups in and around Kingston will be using. If you have a green event or project that you'd like to promote this way, ask Market House Tourist Information Centre manager Rebecca Wright. Please keep notices small so that lots of us can share the limited space, and help us to keep the notice board tidy, up-to-date and attractive.

Kingston Orchard Project news and AGM date set

The Project has been very busy recently with successful participation in St George's Day celebrations on Old London Road, the Royal Wedding Spring Grove Street Party, and at the May Merrie in the Market Square. And now have close to 80 sign-ups and the pots of edibles are selling very well in Kingston. To register your interest in Orchard activities please email the address below. And on Thursday 9th June from 6.30-7.30pm it is the AGM. Please e-mail kingstonorchard@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

From the Ground Up (TTK's Food Group)

The From the Ground Up Food co-op offers the Kingston community affordable certified organic fruit and vegetables at exceptional prices. The Coop 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. View the latest ordering schedule at: <http://ttkingston.org/groups-and-projects/ground-up/ordering.asp>. Follow us on **Facebook** at: <http://www.facebook.com/fromthegroundupcoop>.

WE NEED YOUR HELP... From the Ground Up will only survive on the generosity of You! If it is to continue as a source of affordable, varied, safe organic food we rely on your help to keep it going. We are looking for packers to assist in assembling people's food orders. Each shift will last approximately 3 hours.

To find out more and to volunteer, please email fgu@ttkingston.org

When we need your help....

Canbury Arms Pub on Fridays, fortnightly, and starts at 7am. The dates when we need help are 1 July, 15 July, 29 July, 12 Aug.

Kingston Environment Centre are Saturdays, fortnightly, and starts at 9am. The dates we need help are 4 June, 18 June, 2 July, 30 July, 13 Aug.

From the Ground Up's final talk in their Spring Speaker Series took place on Monday 9 May in Kingston Market House Ben Reynolds of London Food Link and editor of Jellied Eel (<http://www.sustainweb.org/jelliedeel/>), a quarterly free ethical food magazine, spoke on sustainable food growing in London and the Capital Growth project, which aims to support 2,012 new community food growing spaces in London by the end of 2012. As well as inspiring listeners to go out and grow food and look for unused plots to grow it on, he gave lots of useful websites, including:

Sustain, the alliance for better food and farming (<http://www.sustainweb.org/>);

Edible Cities (http://www.capitalgrowth.org/links/edible_cities/;

Vertical Veg "High yields from tiny spaces" (<http://www.verticalveg.org.uk/>);

and <http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/>

Get involved... and do you have some news to share?

Find out about the groups and projects TTK is running...

Visit the project groups and projects pages at <http://ttingston.org/groups-and-projects/> and get involved with any or all that interest you! There are lots!

Got a news item? If you have a local event or news item relating to TTK in particular, or of relevance to the Kingston area more generally, please send it to Sarah Bowness via sarahbowness@hotmail.com. *Please put TTK in the subject line.*