

How to Contact the Steering Group

If you would like to speak to anyone, or have any queries/suggestions about the Green Village Project, please contact a member of the steering group:

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Useful Websites

<http://www.proeco.co.uk/index.htm>

Online store with a range of products including light bulbs

<http://www.bltdirect.com/> Light Bulb Superstore

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The mention of any product, supplier or service is for your information and does not constitute endorsement by the Green Village Steering Group.

Green Tips

From Eddy Hill: I have recently tried the product “Eco Cloths” and am, so far, impressed. They only require water, thus reducing the use of cleaning chemicals and can (apparently) be washed 300 times – which includes boiling to get them really clean! Window cloths leave no smearing and all purpose cloths can be used dry, damp or wet, depending on the strength of the job in hand. The full range of colours can be bought from places such as Pro-eco but Waitrose and Lakeland have one or two. I have not yet discovered how they are manufactured, so don't know how eco-friendly the process is – anyone else know anything about these ‘wonder cloths’?

For the record, I have tried the “Eco Balls” (made by a different company) in my washing machine but do not consider them to be either eco-friendly or economic. However, if you would like to try them for yourself, please have my set before you spend £24 on your own!

Orthcoming Community Event:

April:

Tue 10 th	Parish AGM	7.30pm
Thurs 12 th	St Mary's Church AGM	7.30pm
Sun 15 th	Andrews Corner Gdn open	2.30pm
Sat 21 st	Pudding Club	7.30pm
Thur 26 th	ST Garden Club AGM	7.30pm
Fri 27 th	Village Hall AGM	7.30pm

Sun 29th Dawn Chorus Walk 5.30am
Meet in the car park. Can't make the walk? Join us after for breakfast in the Hall (approx 8.00am).

Advance Notice:

Sat 5th May 1940s lunch in the Hall 12.30pm. Tickets – adults £3.50, children £1 – from Eddy Hill 840332

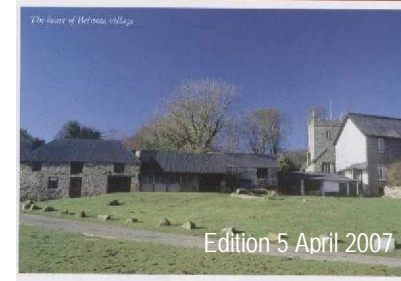
Fri 11th May Belstone Players AGM & Panto meeting. Interested? Come and join us.

Fri 19th May Forest Garden Visit. Please let Eddy & Robin know if you wish to come on this trip.

Belstone Green

Editorial

Many thanks to Brian Nockolds for this month's photo. Please keep them coming – we are building quite a collection of archive photos!



Do read Colin's article on energy saving. We have recently changed 10 of our candle bulbs for low energy candle bulbs and can already see the difference in consumption. We will be ordering more soon so, if you'd like to join us and save p+p, let us know!

Effects of climate change – is everything blooming early? This year we have noticed the camellias and daffodils open earlier, grass cutting began sooner and we have had goldfinches and blackcaps (which must have overwintered) regularly visiting our bird table for some weeks. Anyone else have similar tales to tell?

Remember, this is also the season of AGMs (see back page) so do come along and have your say.

As you know, we will be saying “Goodbye” to Michael, our Rector, at the end of this month. There will be a farewell ‘get-together’ on Sunday 22nd April, in South Tawton Church, following the service.

The Belstone Green Village Initiative aims to:

provide opportunities and resources for the people of Belstone to explore the idea of a greener more sustainable village now and for future generations.

Spotlight on Energy Saving Lamps

With so much emphasis on saving energy, here are a few pointers on low energy lamps from Colin Lawson (*Brennamoor*).

Most compact low energy lamps are of fluorescent format and come in all popular shapes – bulb, candle, globe and spot – consuming less and lasting longer than standard filament lamps. However, they take between 30 and 60 seconds to achieve full output so are unsuitable for security lighting where instant illumination is required. Also, they cannot be dimmed.

The trend for installing recessed downlights in bathrooms and kitchens has been costly in energy terms. The average kitchen would have had a 58 watt fluorescent strip light or a 60 watt lamp. A modern lighting scheme would be for six downlights at 50 watts each – an increase in consumption of 242 watts!

Modern mains voltage recessed lights can now be fitted with 3 lamp types:

- *tungsten filament; around 50 watts with 1500 hours life, giving 70% heat, 30% light;
- *fluorescent; 9 watts with around 15,000 hours life – 25% heat, 75% light;
- *LED at 1.8 watts with around 70,000 hours life – 1% heat, 99% light.

The LED lamp is still not bright enough to give a good working light, although it is suitable for hallways and subtle effects.

One example of the savings to be made is in a kitchen with eight old-style 60 watt recessed spotlights, which were changed to fluorescent type lamps at 9 watts each.

Consumption before was 480 watts; consumption after is 72 watts, making a saving of over £80.00 a year. Although the

light output is not as sparkly as before, the savings are obvious.

Do remember that old low energy lamps should not be placed in normal household rubbish; they must be recycled as they contain mercury powders.

The Future for Greener Rural Transport ...

An event to explore the options for greener transport in rural areas will be held on May 17th at the new Hatherleigh Community Centre, 10.30am – 2.30pm. It is organised jointly by Westden and DARE and places cost £5 (concessions available). This includes a buffet lunch and places must be booked with Westden in advance.

The keynote speaker is sustainable transport expert Dr Jillian Anable, a research fellow at the Centre for Transport Policy at the Aberdeen Business School and Transport and Aviation topic leader for the UK Energy Research Centre.

Also speaking will be John Waltham, Director of Green Spirit Fuels, the company launched in 2005 to produce and market bioethanol, and Clive Charlton, principal lecturer in Geography at Plymouth University. The talks will be followed by a question and answer session.

The event is funded by Defra and is part of a series of talks and events organised by Westden and DARE to help raise awareness of climate change.

To book a place or for more information contact Westden on 0845 345 5077 or info@westden.co.uk

... In Belstone' Many thanks to Fred Scott Lawson for investigating the feasibility of a community electric car which could be available for short local journeys as a fuel- and cost-saving measure. It will be difficult to take forward without grant funding and community support so Fred will look into it further and keep us informed.

Young People's Initiatives

So far there is a core of about 18 people regularly attending the Youth Group sessions. A committee has been agreed and met for the first time on Monday 26th March. They will set out a calendar of events and look to various organisations for grant funding and support in establishing the group. So far, there has been a successful film evening and a cooking session with Diana Lee, using local produce. The group are also raising awareness of green issues. To join, contact Carl Wratten- 840227.

Anyone with appropriate skills who would like to run a half day course, or similar, for the Group please also contact Carl.

Tim Webster is working with the Film Group, which is going well. They are hoping to begin on the 'story boards' for the film soon.

Don't Miss ...

'Climate Change on Dartmoor' presented by Adrian Colston, Property Manager for the National Trust, Thurs 26th April 7.30pm in North Tawton Town Hall. Tickets £1.50 for members, £3.00 non members. Details from: environmenttrust@aol.com tel 0183789069.



"In the long term, the economy and the environment are the same thing. If it's unenvironmental it is uneconomical. That is the rule of nature." - Mollie Beattie