

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:

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Useful Websites

www.shopeco.co.uk/ (Products for you, your Family, your Home and your Environment)

www.est.org.uk/ (Learn about the Energy Saving Trust's work)

www.everyactioncounts.org.uk/ (Helping community groups and individuals lead the way to a better future.)

www.westden.co.uk/ (Working to achieve sustainable rural communities in Devon and beyond)

Green Tips

This month's tips come from Ann Dixon – especially for gardeners!

Autumn is a good time to improve Belstone's thin and gritty soil. It can be made more fertile by heaping up into raised beds and keeping 4-6 ins of mulch on all bare soil. Starting new beds is easiest with the 'lasagne' method: -

Start by stamping down grass, weeds, docks, nettles and cover with 7-8 layers of newspaper or opened out cardboard boxes. Cover this with 12-15 ins of waste hay, leaves etc. which will rot down to 3-6ins by the spring which you can plant into without digging. Find out more at

http://ourgardengang.tripod.com/lasagna_gardening.htm

If you start a runner bean trench now and fill it with any vegetable waste, dead leaves, torn newspapers etc you will have an underground compost heap and your beans will love it.

This late autumn many plants have dropped seeds which have germinated. It may be worth potting some of these up and putting in a cold frame for next year in case we have a cold snap.

Community Group:

The Art Group meets every Tuesday morning in the Village

Hall – contact Marion Walpole.

Belstone Players are putting on a play in late November (see posters) and another in March. Want to be involved in the future? Contact Eddy Hill
Badminton Club meets every Tuesday evening at 7.00. Come along and join in!

If you would like us to update the Village on your group's activities, please contact the editors.

This magazine can be made available in large print. Please let the editors know and we will ensure that you always receive a large print copy.

Belstone Green

Editorial

Welcome to the monthly newsletter compiled by the Green



Village Steering Committee and delivered to all homes in the Belstone parish. The leaflet will contain updates on the progress of the Green Village Project, useful information on recycling projects and eco-friendly products as well as opportunities for everyone to share ideas on sustainability. Your comments on this newsletter, ideas for future ones and ideas for speakers and topics of interest would be very much appreciated so please contact the editors with your views. (See back page) Also contact us if, in the interests of the environment, you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email!

One simple but important starter to our project that we can all do is to support and promote our local businesses so, if you have your own business, please let us know what you do and if you would like us to feature you in a future newsletter. Also remember to support your local Post Office in the Village Hall on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The bonus on Thursday is that you can enjoy a welcome cuppa and piece of cake at Café Club!

The Belstone Green Village Initiative aims to:

provide opportunities and resources for Belstone to become a greener and more sustainable village, now and in the future.

Recycling in West Devon

A very interesting and informative meeting on Wednesday 1st November. The editors have a copy of the presentation notes or advice on how to access them on the West Devon Website. Some points that you may not be aware of – we may now put into our recycling boxes: Aerosol cans (preferably with paper off) Yellow Pages Corrugated card, as long as it fits in the recycling box.

Belstone Produce Market

Been having a clear out? Dividing your herbaceous border? Like cooking? Join in by bringing your surplus to the Village Hall on a Thursday morning, where the Market runs alongside Café Club and consists of separate tables, one of which is a communal table; others can be taken by individual producers.

Produce for the communal table should arrive by 10am, bagged and priced, accompanied by an envelope listing the items and their price. Money received (less 25p for Village Hall funds) may be collected at the end of the morning or the next Thursday.

Individual tables can be used for garden produce, plants, crafts, car boot type etc. these tables will be run by the producers, the charge being £2.50 per week.

Please contact Hetta Pagella or Ann Dickman for further information. Also let them know if you are interested in buying bulk wholefoods such as nuts, dried fruit, grains, spices, etc, to be ordered one week and delivered the next.

Belstone Questionnaire

A big thank you to all those people who took time to fill in the questionnaire and for your very valuable comments. Many thanks to Olya Maiboroda for her summary of the findings, included with this leaflet. We hope very much to be able to address some of the issues raised and that more Belstone residents will engage in the Green Village Project in the months ahead.

Young People's Initiatives

Many young people from the village responded to the questionnaire putting forward a range of ideas. Is there anybody out there willing, with support, to take on realising some of their thoughts?

Football pitch, Youth Club, Badminton or Table Tennis clubs. How about a young people's Disco or Christmas party??

11 children aged 11-15 are making a 5 minute film on climate change, working with a professional film company. It's not for TV but we hope they will allow the village to watch it!

Who's Who on the Steering Group

This month: **Olya Maiboroda**

Olya represents the Centre for Sustainable Futures at the University of Plymouth. Her role is to research the unfolding process of the Green Village Project which she is doing through personal interviews and focus group discussions.



Olya is coming to Café Club on 16th November. Why not come to meet her and find out more about the Green Village Research?

Word From The Commoners' Association

You are probably aware that there is a garden rubbish tip on the Green overlooking Skaigh Valley but PLEASE also be aware that the following plants are highly toxic to the wildlife that graze and do not deposit them on the tip:

Box; Cherry Laurel; Daphne; Garden Conifers (inc. Cypress, Yew, Leylandii, Juniper, Thuja); Horse Chestnut; Laburnum; Mountain Laurel; Privet; Rhododendron; Staghorn and Smooth Sumach (Rhus)

Green Village Events

There is another Bring & Share Lunch social event for the whole village on Sunday 26th November. The theme will be "Energy – in the Home and Community". Richard Pymm from the Devon Association for Renewable Energy will be there and **we will be discussing energy issues and ways to reduce heating bills in the home – an important issue for us all!** There will also be an opportunity for a panel of people to share ideas with us all. If you have any knowledge, expertise, ideas or experience of energy saving, that you could share, please let us know.

Look out for posters!



There is a sufficiency in the world for man's need but not for man's greed.
~Mohandas K. Gandhi