

Supporters' and Members' Newsletter from Transition Exmouth

New Year 2017

From the Chair Adrian Toole aka @GreenManExmouth

If you are a registered supporter and want to get more involved by becoming a Member, the £5 subscription is easily paid to Treasurer, Cllr. Rob Masding c/o Exmouth Town Council, 44 Rolle Street, Exmouth EX8 2SH.

If you prefer to pay by bank transfer, our details are: 'Transition Exmouth', Cooperative Bank, 08-92-99, a/c 65332739

Members are additionally requested to plant a tree, either in our wood or elsewhere.

Website www.transitionexmouth.uk **email:** tte.inform@gmail.com

All our own events and others that I am aware of are on our Website calendar.

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1. Christmas Cycle Ride – tomorrow!

Tuesday, December 27th at 11.00 a.m.

Paul Ives is organising the annual XCycle ride, which will take place tomorrow, December 27th, leaving from outside the Exmouth Leisure Centre/Swimming pool. I do not know what route Paul has planned for us but I suspect that this will be a two-stage experience with a convenient refreshment stop from where the more energetic can continue, whilst the rest of us return home!

The forecast is for dry, if cloudy, weather and we'll need to wrap up warmly.

Contact me on 07966 239464 in the morning if weather turns doubtful; best by text.

2. Tree Planting January 1st

We will be planting in our 'wood' at Bapton Valley Park, For members, this is your chance to fulfill your vow!

Sunday 1st January 2017, meet at 11.00 up at the north end near the Partridge Road footpath. You can also walk up from Pound Lane near Greenfingers. Bring a tree of some kind!

Contact me on 07966 239464 on the morning if weather dubious; best by text.

3. A nail-biting 29-minutes Session?

Thanks to Lynne for her entertaining and instructive presentations recently, she sets a hard act to follow but on 5th January we will have something different. Paul Ives (him again!) finds that his love of flying clashes with awareness of the damage that aviation does to the environment; I know many of you suffer the same quandary in your own lives so come along and help him in his anguish. 29 minutes will obviously not be enough time for this major theme but still not to be missed. Thursday 5th January before Green Drinks at the Park Hotel Exeter Rd, EX8 1QH at 19.30. At the back of the bar on the left.

4. Transition Exmouth's NP suggestions

As I've written repeatedly in these pages, if you want to have your say in the future of our town (does anyone not care?), you need to engage with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Noel and Roger have been developing their proposals and if you saw the front page of the EJ last week, you'll have seen Roger's fanciful design for a dinosaur-shaped environment centre; don't discount this out of hand, there is a similarly shaped one in Australia! As alternatives, they suggest an Experience Exmouth permanent exhibition or, my favourite, a more conventional Exhibition Centre, which would, I'm sure, be continuously booked. If located behind the Seafront, the visitors that it would attract would support many other businesses in the town.

You can email your responses to npsg@exmouth.gov.uk or in writing to the Town Council at 44 Rolle St, EX8 2SH. Bear in mind that the NP is a planning document and as such must contain specific development proposals.

5. Working with the LAs

Prompted by an article on the Transition Network's NEW Website (from where some of this text is lifted), I'd like to thank those of you who have put so much time in 2016 working with our Local Authorities; the Transition Handbook is very clear that your LA is a critical element in Transition because of the levers it controls, such as planning, and that Transition groups need to build bridges to local government. TTE was represented on COLP at its inception; your representatives have devoted many many hours to this work and I think Transition Exmouth can take some of the credit for the environmental awareness demonstrated by most of our Councillors and their officers.

"You will not progress very far unless you have cultivated a positive and productive relationship with your local authority,"

writes Rob Hopkins in The Transition Handbook. Equally, councils and councillors have much to learn from the Transition Movement where so much thinking is underway about life after oil in a world with climate change.

With EDDC set to move some of its functions to Exmouth in the year ahead, this presents a great opportunity to pick up on many more issues than we currently tackle; I must admit that I do not get enthusiastic about trekking to Sidmouth!

What if there existed a companion to The Transition Handbook which contained examples of best eco practice from local authorities across the UK (and elsewhere), to inform and inspire councils and councillors everywhere? And what if that companion handbook was also designed to help local environmental activists, community groups and Transition Initiatives to understand what they can reasonably (and unreasonably!) ask for from local councils, as well as to explain exactly what levers they can pull?

That book is **Local Communities and Local Councils: working together to make things happen**. You can order this through the Transition Network's NEW Website: <http://transitionnetwork.org/shop/>

6. Logo

Thanks to Roger and Jo Salter our new logo is about to run off the drawing board and will be appearing soon all over the place!

7. Social Media and Website

<http://www.transitionexmouth.uk>.

[@GreenManExmouth](#) continues his tweeting, not always on TE items but always seeking to entertain so be prepared for the bizarre!

Simon runs a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/ghroups/15416577788/>

and a page: <https://www.facebook.com/transition.exmouth> thanks Simon

Not to forget the ever popular Green Drinks: <http://www.greendrinks.org/Devon/Exmouth>

8. And Finally

Something we should all consider, an optimistic outlook lowers the risk of stroke:

<http://www.nhs.uk/news/2011/07July/Pages/optimism-reduces-stroke-risk.aspx>

A good plug for Mindfulness!

ENDS