

Transition Exmouth Newsletter for Members and Supporters April '18

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, Town Hall, St Andrews Road, Exmouth EX8 1AW. Please in addition, plant a tree.

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

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29-minute Sessions

First of course our monthly thought-provoking lecture series. This Thursday, 5th April – local musician and deep-thinker Ian Wycherley is to talk to us about Personal Change. Our mission to change the awareness of Exmouth residents cannot succeed unless we first allow space for change within ourselves. Come along at 19.30 (sharp or you'll miss it) for the talk at The Park Hotel, 114 Exeter Road, Exmouth, Devon EX8 1QH

On 3rd May – Alan Griffey from Torquay, who was snowed off last month, will be here and tell us all about Friends of the Earth (FOE).

On 7th June – our own Dawn Andrews will introduce us to Mindfulness.

Green Drinks

Don't forget, our purely-social Green Drinks follows on from the talk; you are welcome to bring your own 'green' table decoration but in view of forthcoming expenditure on the Festival, Rob had turned his 'installation art' into a collecting tin; Buddy can you spare a dime?

Your Publicity Team

I am very pleased to announce that Martin Weller has stepped forward to help with our Press & Publicity work. Martin is well known in the town as a musician and all-round good guy. He will co-ordinate the efforts of Rob, Roger, Carol & Simon bringing to the task a lot of experience in PR & Marketing.

If you have a Transitiony-type message to get out, contact him on mwcweller@gmail.com

Numbers of Carol's posters are up around the town but we can always print more so please tell me of anywhere else that we could get up an A5, A4 or even A3 version put up.

Considering Starting a Group?

The anonymous donation of £100 (many thanks) has enabled us to get public-liability Insurance this year. So you can now go ahead and run your wacky events without being sued in the event of a mishap. We do require that you keep us informed about where and when (surely you want publicity!) and complete a risk assessment. If you hold repeat performances of the same activity, the RA need be done once only and consists of you considering the possibility of injury or damage and showing that you've taken measures to minimise the risk. Get in touch with me.

Neighbourhood Plan

This important document will shape our town for decades to come and is on course for it's approval at a public referendum in the autumn but the window of opportunity for commenting is about to finally close: There are lots of positives in there, some of which have been influenced by Transition Exmouth; our own Rob Masding is on the NPSG. You can find the Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission Consultation documents at www.exmouthneighbourhoodplan.uk

Comments must be made by Mon April 9th and you can e-mail yours to npsg@exmouth.gov.uk and please specify the chapter and paragraph numbers to which you are referring.

Festival

We will have a festival stall this year (bank holiday weekend) thanks to our anonymous donor and support from Carla the Festival organiser!

Doreen Sandham is organising and the theme will be re-skilling. Doreen hopes to be offering workshops on sewing, bag-making, & nesting boxes and to be planting out seedlings *** please collect all your yoghurt cartons for this***.

Our aims are to:

- reach all those young, idle hands, (and remind a few older ones that making things yourself is good fun)
- put out the word that Transition Exmouth is here and wanting to make this world a better place
- capitalise on the new wave of interest in our environmental health.

These great things cannot happen every day at the festival unless YOU volunteer to help!, e-mail Doreen on deesandham@gmail.com asap.

Plastic Waste

Looks like campaigns to limit the use/misuse of plastic are gaining momentum. Our own David Ireson of the Iona Community has written a useful briefing paper on what you can do yourself about it and he will send you a copy on request: david-ireson@outlook.com Text/Mob 07786 943 967. It will also be on our Website.

Wild Exmouth

Tim Dafforn of EDDC gave NPSG an update on his Wild Exmouth project. I was there as were Jan Gannaway & Heath Nickols of the Exmouth Wildlife Group. Results of NP surveys make it clear the Natural Environment is the top priority for the town and Tim got 183 responses to his survey on access to 'The Wild'. Wild Exmouth will support other projects including we hope our Green Routes aspirations and I hope to be able to announce good news on that soon.

Jan is also active in the Exmouth Swift Group and in preparations for our feathered friends return from the Southern Hemisphere, Heath and I have been making nest boxes!



The Colony it appears is an important nesting site for swifts but they will consider elsewhere in the town. We have the plans if anyone with DIY skills wants to have a go!

- To find more information and news, contact Jan at exmouthswifts@gmail.com or visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ExmouthSwiftGroup>
- <https://www.facebook.com/ExmouthWildlifeGroup/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ExmouthWildlifeGroup/>

New ‘Corporate Member’

We welcome Glenorchy ‘Eco-church’ as a new corporate member and look forward to holding some joint events with them. Glenorchy have achieved a Bronze level award for their Eco efforts and we hope that joining Transition Town will set them on course for silver! They have agreed to provide the venue for our AGM this year FOC, which in view of our shaky finances is very welcome. Date to be decided.

COLP

The Town Council cancelled the last one unilaterally but the ECO groups have met and agreed to make representations to the effect that this forum should enjoy shared ‘ownership’ and rather than be seen in decline, needs to look towards an expanding role in view of all the challenges the town faces. We will keep on the case.

Sustainable Exmouth

Watersports Centre

Ref. No: 18/0376/MFUL

“Construction of new water sports centre including various facilities for water sports users, a cafe, restaurant and retail plus car parking and open space together with associated infrastructure including new stepped and ramped access to the beach and landscaping - Car Park Off Queens Drive Exmouth EX8 2AY”

Much to our annoyance, Andy and I felt that we had to object as Transition Exmouth. We are unhappy about the incomplete consultation report, which didn't mention environmental aspects and perceived a lack of detail about energy use, indicating that a less-than-thorough energy audit had been done. We were satisfied at the more obvious aspects of the design but in the quest for an eco-positive development, felt that despite all the fine words, they had not proved their case.

Phase 3

The EDDC cabinet approved the appointment of Hemingway Design for the long-requested independent consultation. Our involvement in this was publicly acknowledged and Wayne Hemingway has written to me:

'... we are looking forward to getting to know Exmouth more and doing our bit. We are grateful that Transition Exmouth suggested Hemingway Design at an early date so my thanks for that. ... I and my team are starting to gather and interpret key data to build up a picture of Exmouth and then move on with analysis, applying our wider expertise and increasing local engagement. The engagement will definitely include local organisations like Transition Exmouth and the involvement of the local arts community as well. ... Lets keep in touch over these next weeks and months'.

EDDC have promised to publish the design brief 'shortly' and we believe that the timescale that Hemingway is working to will require him to deliver a report this year.

We have been told for some time now that they are prepared to go 'Back to the Drawing Board' on this so there's everything to play for. GET INVOLVED!

Social Media and Website

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

You can contact me Adrian Toole, Chair, on transitionexmouth@gmail.com

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

We have a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/15416577788/>

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

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

Dates for your Diary

12th April

Storing Renewable Energy in Homes and Communities. Thursday 12th April 4.30pm at the Bateman Lecture Theatre, University of Exeter. To book a place [Ctrl Click here](#)

14 April

Saturday 14 April, 11 am - 3.30 pm: VEGAN BAKE SALE. The annual EFFA/Fairfoods. joint venture takes place this year at St Stephen's Church, directly on Exeter High Street. Featuring an array of sweet and savoury treats, with all profits going directly to animal causes. We've also got some great plant-based food stalls including homemade cheeses, locally made baked goods and chocolates, along with a taster table and the ever-popular Fairfoods cafe with snacks and hot and cold drinks (see here for details). And for anyone curious to know more about a vegan lifestyle, we have a wealth of information, plus talks by Food For Life instructor Ali Brantingham and Rob Masterson of the Vegan Approach. They want donated vegan food for this.

29 April

EFFA again on Sunday 29 April; from 3.30 pm: ALL-VEGAN CARVERY at the Farmers Union pub. Another chance to sample one of chef Mike's spectacular feasts - we guarantee you won't come away hungry! Bring friends and family and make a lazy afternoon of it. Please book directly with the pub on 01392 279955.

6 May

And again!- Sunday 6 May: FUNDRAISING GIG at the Cavern. This year we'll be rounding off our "Go Vegan" celebrations with a Bank Holiday Sunday night of great music from the inimitable Phat Bollard supported by local favourites Front Cover, and with delicious vegan food available at this iconic Exeter venue this is bound to be a popular and fitting finale.

12 May

Saturday 12 May – Exeter Pride.

Bank Holiday Weekend

Transition Exmouth at the Festival

19th June

RegenSW are again this year organising the "Smart Energy Marketplace" at Sandy Park, Exeter on 19th June. Please check the Regen website for details:- [Ctrl Click here](#) or sign up for Regen newsletters.

In Brief...

* Neat graphic illustrating the impact of food and farming on our lives:

<https://www.farmmachinerylocator.co.uk/impact-of-our-consumption/> and if you want to buy a second-hand combine harvester, I'm happy to endorse them!

* A Rocha has launched a Microplastics Toolbox to help us act against microplastics in our local community- whether we are acting as an individual, a family, a church or any other group. This contributes to global efforts to fight plastic pollution in the oceans under the Sustainable Development Goal 14. [Ctrl click here](#) Thanks to Martyn Goss for that.

* Anyone who wants to start a Happy Cafe, get in touch with me. Boy did we need one with that weather over the weekend!

* Could you live without money? Maybe we should all try and live a few days or weeks each year totally disconnected from modern life! Thanks to Paul Ives for these links: [Ctrl-Click here](#) and [here](#)

ENDS