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November 2017

The Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership updates are getting a refresh! This newsletter is sent to members of our SPEP mailing list and brings you the latest goings on, local events, support, practical ideas and guidance related to sustainability in South Cambs.

We welcome your ideas and contributions to help shape future editions, please [email us](#) with your feedback.

Welcome to your new SPEP newsletter

Siobhan Mellon has dedicated a great deal of time and energy into regular updates for SPEP and we hope to continue her superb work. As you can see we have now migrated our mailing list to Mailchimp to streamline and improve our updates. We trust you enjoy the improvements. If for any reason you no longer wish to be a part of the mailing list unsubscribing is only a click away at the bottom of this newsletter.



New Thermal Imaging Cameras

The Council has invested in five new ultra compact [FLIR C2 cameras](#). Along with the three [Exx series](#) cameras, these are available for use by residents.

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[Council](#). If you missed our most recent free training of thermal imaging cameras at Council, don't worry - jump on board at Cambridge Carbon Footprint below!

Thermal Imaging Camera Training



[Cambridge Carbon Footprint](#) is offering free **thermal imaging camera training sessions** on: [7 November](#), [7 December](#) and [15 January](#)

These will take place from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at St Barnabus Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 2BD. Trainees can then borrow cameras. **Online booking is essential** via the links above.

Please tell people who might be interested. Or take advantage if you want a refresher.

CCF's online [Thermal Imaging Guide](#) has lots of examples and advice.

They're trying a different system this year, by not offering surveys to anyone who asks, but encouraging them to come to a training session or get friend to, who will then survey their home.

Chris Doubleday was Cambridge Carbon Footprint's friendly helpful Thermal Imaging Volunteer for three years. He's stepping down to follow new directions. They're [looking for a volunteer](#) who will encourage and facilitate camera use for one to two hours a week between November and March. Would this suit you or someone you know?

When it's cold, please borrow a camera to show a friend, neighbour or workplace where they are leaking heat.

[Cambridge Architectural Research](#) on Gwydir St have offered to host the TIR 105 camera for borrowing more centrally. CCF hope this makes it more convenient for you to borrow and return a camera. The CCF [Booking Calendars](#) remind you where each camera is hosted.

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World's Biggest Repair Cafe

South Cambridgeshire District Council have supported Cambridge Carbon Footprint and Transition Cambridge in the development and promotion of Repair Cafes across the district. Now as a part of Circular Cambridge they are attempting the World's Biggest Repair Cafe

World's BIGGEST Repair Cafe

Get your stuff fixed by experienced repairers for free

CIRCULAR CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL

Speakers, kid's workshops, cafe, upcycled gift stalls and more

We can fix:

- 3 Appliances and gadgets
- 3 Small items of furniture
- 3 Clothes and jewellery
- 3 Phones and laptops
- 3 Toys and ceramics
- 3 Household items
- 3 Bikes and more

Sat 11th Nov 2017
10am – 6pm

Wesley Methodist Church
Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG

Book online or by emailing a brief description of the item and problem to cambridgerepaircafe@gmail.com
Booking strongly recommended

Full programme & online bookings:
www.circularcambridge.org/festival

Cambridge Carbon Footprint
Mackay DRAPER Tools
Green Cafe
Restart

Saturday 11th November, 10am - 6pm

Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, CB1 1LG

Join the fun

The Circular Festival is taking a bold and exciting step and is challenging repairers and the public to help set a world record to run the World's Biggest Repair Cafe.

Cambridge Carbon Footprint and Transition Cambridge need your help to set this record so please bring us your faulty, torn, wobbly, and malfunctioning items and we'll have a huge repair party. The whirl of the drills, smell of solder, tapping of hammers and patter of sewing machines will be blended with:

- copious amounts of homemade cake
- short talks from trailblazing companies and individuals like [Patagonia](#), [BuyMeOnce](#), and [The Restart Project](#)
- upcycled craft workshops for children
- stalls from local artists selling upcycled Christmas gifts

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Book in your items for repair via the [Circular Cambridge website](#)

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[The recent Open Eco Homes](#) event attracted 208 visitors, making 444 tours. That's the most since 2012.

66% of visitors were new to the initiative, so lots of new people want to learn about good home-energy choices.

Now people can enjoy [Cosy Cambridge follow-up events](#) helping visitors turn their inspiration into real home-energy improvements.

Cosy Cambridge - Human Library



Thursday 2 November from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at St Barnabas Church, Mill Road
Cambridge, CB1 2BD

Why a Human Library?

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The human library format is great for discussing 1:1 queries and getting personal advice. We hope to facilitate the sharing of information, experience, ideas and expertise so attendees feel confident and inspired to go forth and make changes to their own home.

How it works

Each person sharing their experience or advice becomes a 'book' in the Human Library. 'Books' each have their own area with a couple of seats for guests to sit down and talk to each other.

As they enter each guest is given a list of all available 'books' and can browse around the 'library', selecting who they would like to speak to and also taking a look at our stalls.

There's no minimum time for visitors when speaking to a 'book', but 10 minutes is the suggested maximum for one person. We'll ring a bell every 10 minutes to help keep time. We encourage 'books' to bring small samples of materials, brochures, flyers and other literature to help bring their topic to life.

If 'books' need a break (perhaps to grab a free cup of tea and a bit of cake) then they may display their 'out of circulation' card, with their 'due back' time. We encourage 'books' to browse the rest of the library if things are quiet and something interesting catches their eye.

Please contact Alana Sinclair alana@cambridgecarbonfootprint.org 01223 301842

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Wanted - Householders to take part in Home Appliance Trial

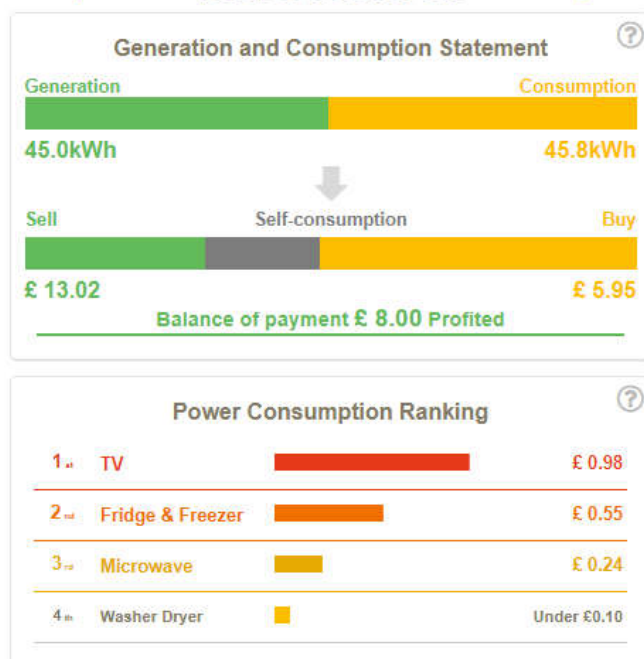


Cambridge-based start-up company Informetis is aiming to create cost effective technology solutions that help home consumers reduce their electricity bills and thus reduce carbon emissions.

Informetis would like to invite you to take part in a home appliance trial that will lead to creating an "itemised view" of the electricity bill that shows how much electricity each of the main electrical appliances uses in the home (e.g. Kettle, Fridge, Washing Machine and Microwave).

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Week of October 8th



Informetis need householders based in the Cambridge and Ely areas, including the surrounding villages, who are willing to allow them to connect “black” boxes to the main electrical appliances in the home for a two week period. You will need to have an internet connection, via a router, in order to take part. The “black boxes” are used to “learn” the “profile” of each of the electrical appliances and communicate this back to Informetis via the Internet.

At the end of the trial, they will provide you with a graph showing how much electricity your main appliances have used. As a token of their appreciation for your participation in this important trial they will give you a gift voucher up to the value of £100. Once, ready to launch as a commercial service in the UK, you will be given priority and preferential terms for the use of the service.

If you are interested in getting involved in the trial sign up [here](#)

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If you aren't already in the know here is the [SPEP Facebook group](#) where you can connect and share all things related to South Cambs sustainability.

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Solar PV

Excerpt from Trevor's letter to SSE / Ofgem:

..I am astounded to hear that SSE and Ofgem think that LGVH had received "public money" for the installation of our solar PV system, and therefore is not entitled to Feed in Tariff nor Export Tariff. "Public money" comes from government and local council taxes. LGVH has PAID VAT at 20% to HMRC for the installation of this system, which amounted to £1,109 of VAT. LGVH also paid for a structural survey on the village hall before the order the solar panels was placed to ensure that the roof could take the extra weight. This cost £645 + £129 as VAT 20%.

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LGVH has NOT received any government or local council funding for the solar PV installation.

LGVH did receive a grant from the Postcode Local Trust, which is one of many charities that the Postcode Lottery Fund has created. This is a private charitable donor...

...It seems morally wrong that if a charity (Postcode Lottery) should support another charity (LGVH) to make electricity savings, and help towards saving some carbon dioxide being added to the atmosphere, and offset global warming in our own little way, that we should be prevented from earning the FiT and Export Tariff in return for our expenditure, and payments of VAT. Indeed, if LGVH does not receive Export Tariff, it will in effect be supplying SSE for free, and SSE will increase their profit by reselling the electricity that LGVH has produced.

Please reconsider!

Yours sincerely,

Trevor R Brown

If you have any valuable advice or feedback to help Trevor [please do get in touch directly with him.](#)

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