

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.agroforestry.co.uk the website for the Forest Garden that we are visiting.

www.boveyclimateaction.org.uk Find out about Bovey Tracey's project to encourage greater use of renewable energy.

<http://www.recyclenow.com> – reducing waste

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk> – the home of the Environment Agency

Eco Friendly Bags for Sale Through 'Tamwed'

Westden has a partnership with Tamil Nadu in southern India and have formed a charity called Tamwed which links with and supports southern Indian communities that were affected by the tsunami.

One of the projects they have set up is the production of items using the art of kalamkari – a traditional process with patterns drawn or printed onto cloth using natural dyes. The women who create the products are paid a fair wage and any profits from sales in the UK contribute towards post-tsunami, health, education and other projects.

They have made bags especially for Belstone which we are selling for £2, all profits to go to the charity. The bags are strong enough to carry shopping or could be used for storage, etc and every bag used saves on plastic carriers so please support this worthy cause. They can be bought through Café Club or by ringing Marion on 840498.

Biodiesel – The Fuel of the Future?

Biodiesel is non-toxic, fully biodegradable and, therefore, much safer to store than fossilised diesel. It is produced locally and is the “green” alternative to regular diesel.

For more information and details of where it can be purchased, contact *Devon Biofuels, Higher Sessland, Spreyton Crediton EX17 5BA* 01837840614

“Snow White and Several Dwarfs” Panto 2008.

If you would like to take part, onstage, backstage or somewhere in the middle – come to the meeting on Friday 11th May or phone Eddy (840332) to register your interest!

Belstone Green

Editorial

So, spring is well and truly with us and we have had some glorious weather – heard the cuckoo on 16th

April. However, we really could do with some real rain!

With plants and vegetables beginning to grow, we are hoping for an increase in produce for the Thursday morning market stall. Anne Dickman already brings a range of wonderful vegetables, Sandra from Woodlands Farm brings organic vegetables and eggs and there is also a plant stall. If you would like to buy some or you have surplus produce of your own to sell, bring it to the Hall on Thursdays; if you are unable to stay, leave it on the stall and collect unsold items later.

This month's picture was taken on Easter Sunday, during the Youth Group's Egg Hunt. As you will see in their article, they are a very active group, thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of their members and the adult leaders. It's great to see events and activities for our young people once again.



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.

Young People's Initiatives

The Youth Group is now officially "Belstone Youth Group" They have a committee, (next meeting on 14th May) a bank account so that they can apply for funding and are represented on the Village Hall Committee by one adult and one young person.

They are hoping to set out a year planner of events so that they can co-ordinate the sessions more effectively and their activities have got off to a flying start. An egg hunt was enjoyed by many on Easter Sunday (see photo on front page) not least by the adults, it would appear! Diana Lee from Holsworthy organics ran a cooking event similar to the one ran for adults some weeks ago and this was attended by 20 youngsters from 3-16 yrs old.

The film group are meeting on the weekend of 5th/6th May to finalise ideas for the film. There are three more planned major activities before the main May bank holiday – a treasure hunt and scavenger hunt evening, a country dancing session and a disco. We look forward to seeing photos on the new website!

Post Office – Important Notice

Please note that, as from 8th May, the post office will be open from 9.30am until 11.30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Unfortunately, Allenton (our postmaster) is unable to continue the six-hours a week provision we have become used to and our allocation has dropped.

Please continue to support the post office as much as you can.

Data Projector

Thanks to the Green Village Project and the grants it has received, the Village Hall now has a data projector and stand. This is able to project computer, video and video camera presentations and can be used with the screen provided by the Garden Club. Anyone giving a talk or presentation in the Hall will be able to use the projector.

Belstone Questionnaire

Please forgive us – included with this issue is another questionnaire. It is important to have people's responses to the work of the Green Village Project and any impact it may have had – positively or negatively. **Please spare a few minutes to fill it in – everyone's response is valuable.**

Village Hall 'Library'

This is already being well used by many people and it is good to see novels being borrowed and swapped as well as people reading the magazines and growing range of books on environmental issues. If you haven't yet seen any of them, it is worth a trip to the Hall for a browse.

Forthcoming Belstone Events - May

Fri 4th – 7.00pm South Tawton Garden Club Plant Sale in Belstone Village Hall

Sat 5th – 1940s Lunch 12.30pm in the Hall

Sun 6th – Gardens Open, Tai Koo (2.00-5.00pm) & Andrews Corner (2.30-5.30pm) for the National Gardens' Scheme. Cream Teas

Fri 11th – 7.30pm Belstone Players' Panto Meeting & AGM in the Hall

Thurs 17th – 7.00-10pm Candlelit Garden Opening, Andrews Corner for NGS. Wine and Cheese

Sat 19th – Forest Garden Trip. Leaving the car park at 9.00am Contact Eddy and Robin if you would like a place

Sun 27th – 2.30-5.30 Garden Open, Andrews Corner for NGS. Cream Teas

Future Dates for Your Diary

Falklands Talk 1st June in the Hall. A repeat of Ian Solomon's popular talk, with slides and video footage.

Beating of the Bounds Thurs 7th June
All parishioners have had notification. Free to members of the parish; tickets available from the Tors Hotel for non-residents.

Visit to Ann Dickman's Garden – to see a variety of vegetable growing techniques.
10th June 2.30 – 4.30 with cream tea.
Further details next issue.

Talk from the Devon Wildlife Trust
22nd June in the Hall. Richard White, in his capacity as Head of Wildlife Champions, will be giving a talk on *Climate Change and Wildlife – The Adaptation Challenge*.

Safari Supper

23rd June. Usual rules – each couple to produce starter or main or dessert, in their own home for yourselves and 2 more couples; your other venues are a surprise! For more details or to book your place, contact Eddy or Robin.

Cream Teas in the Village Hall – back by popular request! Each Sunday afternoon from 1st July to 2nd September (Except Village Fair day on 8th July).



"It is not the strongest species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the ones who are most responsive to change". Charles Darwin