

Middle Treworder Community Fund; WREN Energy Equality Project – update; Renewable Energy in the News; Electric Vehicle Information

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Newsletter of the Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network

August 2019

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My goodness, where has the time gone? This was meant to be out in early July. Sorry about that.

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Middle Treworder Community Fund

There is still about a fortnight to apply for grants from the Middle Treworder Solar Farm community fund.

The fund has over £10,000 to distribute to community and voluntary groups in the parishes of Wadebridge, St Kew, St Mabyn and Egloshayle, with funding available for projects that will provide services or opportunities for disadvantaged people or enhance the social, cultural or community life of these parishes.

There is no maximum or minimum size of grants, but the award committee is keen for the funding to be spread out to as many groups as possible. If you applied to the fund in previous years, you may apply again in 2019, whether you were successful or not last time.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on 13th September 2019. Application

forms and further details are on our website, [here](#).

WREN Energy Equality Project - update

We reported on this project in the April issue of WREN Newsletter, after we failed to get funding from one source. We haven't dropped the idea and have been working on a submission to another potential funder, which went in on 23rd August. We'll let you know how this gets on.

The concept at the heart of Energy Equality is peer-to-peer trading, when someone with solar PV panels produces more electricity than they can use and rather than just push it into the grid, they sell it to other people locally who are not generating their own, potentially benefitting both parties.

Renewable Energy in the News

Report reveals policy gaps in UK Government's net zero pledge

The Science and Technology Committee (STC) has highlighted policy gaps in the Government's plans to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, and makes recommendations on the technologies and levels of support needed to reach that goal.

The UK Government recently declared a climate emergency and announced a target of net zero emissions by 2050, but its ambitious words are not being matched by policies needed to achieve that goal, according to the Science and Technology Committee (Commons), a cross-party group of MPs.

[The Chemical Engineer, 23 August](#)

The full report can be found on a government website, [here](#).

Be warned, there are 148 pages and 65 recommendations.

There is some good news about CO2 emissions:-

Share of coal in UK's electricity system falls to record lows

Average of 0.7% of total second-quarter electricity generated came from most polluting power plants

[The Guardian, 30 August](#)

And there are other ways to heat your house than using fossil fuels:-

Northern Line to heat London homes

The London Underground will soon be a source of heat for hundreds of homes and businesses in Islington. The waste heat will be piped into a district heating scheme in the borough.

[The Guardian, 26th August](#)

I remember reading that when the Underground started, the problem was the opposite. The earth surrounding the tunnels was cold, and kept the trains and stations cold. But with over a century of usage, the earth has been heated by the trains so that now the gently simmering passengers are asking why the Underground doesn't have air conditioning.

Speaking of which:-

The air conditioning trap: how cold air is heating the world

The warmer it gets, the more we use air conditioning. The more we use air conditioning, the warmer it gets. Is there any way out of this trap?

[The Guardian, 28th August](#)

You need air conditioning most when the sun shines. If only there were some way to use solar power to run the air con. Oh, hang on...

Mitsubishi invests in UK company to bring off-grid solar to Asia

Japanese conglomerate backs solar utility BBOXX to expand service in south Asia and Africa. BBOXX, a British energy firm lighting up homes in Africa with pay-as-you-go solar power, has secured £40m to extend its reach to Asia with the help of Japan's Mitsubishi.

[The Guardian, 28th August](#)

Developing countries don't need to reproduce the centralised electricity production and transmission grid structure we have in the west (and especially not the fragmented, disfunctional structure of generators, grid, network operators and suppliers we have in the UK). They can by-pass that and go straight for local, renewable production, in the communities that use it.

How electric vehicles help to tackle climate change.

If you've ever worried that electric vehicles are not better than petrol or diesel in their lifetime CO2 emissions, or been accosted by someone who has read somewhere that they aren't, here are the facts.

[Carbon Brief, May 2019](#)

A Complete Guide To Driving Electric & Hybrid Cars

The website of Hendy, a south of England car dealership based in Hampshire, has some handy information to help with your buying decision. Click [here](#).

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