



Newsletter of the Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network

May 2020

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Energy Equality Project



On-line Video Launch

If local renewable electricity was cheaper than your supplier, would you be interested?

That’s the question that WREN asked at the launch of its Energy Equality project in April. The launch, originally planned for Wadebridge Town Hall, had to be moved on-line due to Covid-19, and attracted nearly 40 participants, including guest speakers from Loughborough University and University College London.

You can view the meeting, including a question and answer session, online at: <https://youtu.be/XBPLPChFx1o> or read more about it on our [website](#).

The launch event attracted mainly those who already have an interest in renewable energy, which meant that many were already solar PV owners. However, to be successful, a peer-to-peer trading system requires a good number of people who don’t have panels and just want to buy cheaper electricity.

This means that we are still very keen to talk to all households who would like to buy locally generated electricity at a lower price than currently on offer from big energy suppliers.

Get in touch with us by completing [this questionnaire](#) on Survey Monkey. It shouldn't take more than a couple of minutes. We will then be able to follow up with you by phone or email to explore your interest more fully and explain more about the project.

If you have already done the questionnaire, please ask your local friends and families. We don't want anyone to miss the chance to be involved.

How you can be involved

We have previously said that there are four ways in which people, businesses and community groups can be involved in the Energy Equality Project feasibility study. The first reiterates our main point this issue:

(1) You don’t have solar panels, but want to participate in Energy Equality to get cheaper, local electricity.

If you don't fit into this category, you might find yourself in one (or more) of the other three:

- (2) You own, or are looking to own, solar panels and want to sell your surplus energy to your neighbours for a better price, or to give them a better deal, or both.
- (3) You have a rooftop which might be suitable for solar panels and would be happy for WREN to install panels to generate electricity for peer-to-peer trading.
- (4) You would like to invest in the new solar panel installations that WREN will create in (3).

We'd still really like to hear from you, via the [questionnaire](#).

In The News

The Guardian: **Global carbon emissions from fossil fuels could fall by 2.5bn tonnes in 2020.**
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/12/global-carbon-emisions-could-fall-by-record-25bn-tonnes-in-2020>

The Daily Telegraph: **Renewables overtake fossil fuels in Britain's electricity mix for first time.**
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/04/08/renewables-overtake-fossil-fuels-britains-electricity-mix-first/>

The Guardian: **Britain breaks record for coal-free power generation.**
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/apr/28/britain-breaks-record-for-coal-free-power-generation>

Solar Power Portal: **UK solar smashes peak generation records.**
https://www.solarpowerportal.co.uk/news/solar_smashes_peak_generation_records_as_it_soars_to_9.68gw

Carbon Brief Factcheck: **How electric vehicles help to tackle climate change** (update 7 Feb 2020)
<https://www.carbonbrief.org/factcheck-how-electric-vehicles-help-to-tackle-climate-change>

Forward this newsletter

It would help us greatly if you could forward this email to friends and family, so that they can be involved in Energy Equality and complete the survey as well. You don’t have to be a WREN member to benefit. You don’t have to have solar panels to benefit. In fact, that’s the whole point of Energy Equality - to spread the benefits of local solar panel ownership to those who don’t or can’t have their own panels.

We’ll be back next month with more news about Energy Equality and other WREN activities. Until then, whether you’re working or staying home, or both, keep safe.
And don’t forget the [questionnaire](#).

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