

Half a tonne recycled at this year's Peace Festival

Action 21's theme at this year's Peace Festival was recycling, not only on its stand but also for the entire festival site.

All weekend teams of volunteers were picking up rubbish from the ground, emptying the bins and sorting it for recycling — you may have noticed them with their green Action 21 tabards. Warwick District Council provided a set of recycling banks on a trailer. The amount of waste that the festival goes left behind was quite amazing but so was the amount of material that could be saved for recycling. On Sunday morning a whole van full of crushed cans and bottles went to the recycling centre — really quite satisfying.

Over the whole weekend we recycled just over half a tonne of materials. Announcements over the festival PA system were full of praise for our efforts in controlling waste on the grounds. None of this would have been possible if it were not for the great efforts of over 20 volunteers. Action 21 would like to thank all of you who helped out after the festival. It was as if the grass had been newly vacuum cleaned.

Steven Coulsting



Gareth Davies, Judy Steele and Richard Hicks doing their bit



Kenilworth lies on the railway line between Coventry and Leamington but the railway station has been closed for nearly 40 years. The ASK campaign (A Station for Kenilworth) was started by Graham Hyde and Richard Hicks of Action 21 to fight for the reopening of a station and is now beginning to pick up steam.

The last Local Transport Plan mentions re-opening the station but there has been no progress since then. Now it's important to ensure it is included in the next Transport Plan and is in the local public's consciousness. The group met with Kenilworth's MP Andy King and an interview in the Kenilworth Weekly News generated correspondence in the paper supporting the campaign. Interestingly, Kenilworth has the highest number of rail commuters in the area, as although they do not have their own station, they drive to Warwick Parkway, Leamington Spa and Tile Hill stations.

In April ASK had a successful stall at Kenilworth Farmers Market, where the level of support was very encouraging. To find out more contact graham@kenilworthstation.org.uk

Chantal Pottage

Theme Group Contacts

Energy

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Transport

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Local to Global

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Recycling

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Allotments

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Food & Nutrition

Bill Warrell, bwarrell@hrda.org.uk

If you don't have e-mail, please phone us on 01926 456067 for the phone contact you need.

DIARY dates DIARY dates DIARY

August

9th–15th

National Allotment Week Have a look on <http://nationalallotmentsweek.net/firms.com/>

9th

Action 21 Energy Group Meeting 7.30pm Sikh Community Centre. Contact steven@c@eco-architects.org

25th

K2L Join the campaign for a much needed cycle route between Leamington and Kenilworth. 7.30 pm, Baptist Church Chandos Street, Leamington

September

15th

Recycling Group Relaunch 7.30pm, 83 Montrose Ave, Leamington (see Volunteer Opportunities)

18th

Car Free Day Public Event at Abbey End Kenilworth persuading people to move to greener transport. Would you like to help out? Contact Jenny on 456067.

October

2nd

Cradle to Grave – A family event on ways to slim your bin Children's activities, plus info on composting, recycling and imaginative ideas for re-use. Organised by Kenilworth Soroptimists. 10am – 1pm St Francis Church Hall, Warwick Road, Kenilworth.

23rd

Pumpkin Day at Bath Place Bring the family to enjoy this event on Saturday afternoon (see volunteer opportunities).

Check www.action21.co.uk for latest details.

Youngsters Look to the Future

In June over 1,500 young people descended on Coombe Country Park for '2004 & Beyond', an event to raise awareness of sustainability. Here 45 schools in total including nine from Warwick District joined in with workshops aiming to encourage the 10 and 11 year olds to think about the impact their lives have on people and the planet, and give some simple ideas for making a positive difference. The fun, interactive and thought provoking workshops will hopefully encourage children (and through pester power their parents!) to make positive changes to their lifestyles. At Action 21 we enjoyed doing this event again just as much as we did last year. If you would like to help next year by guiding a school group around the event for a day, please get in touch. *Jenny Sansom*

Reduce, Refill, Recycle

It is a fact that over 40 million printer cartridges a year are dumped in UK Landfill sites. Each one of these takes over 400 years to break down. Now that the Institution of Civil Engineers officially confirmed last month that we are fast running out of landfill space, we need to be thinking of alternative ways of dealing with waste.

We need a culture change where we reduce our waste to begin with, even before we consider recycling. Bringing your own bags to the supermarket, passing old clothes to charity shops, and choosing products with less packaging are ways in which we can help. Refilling printer cartridges is also a great way to help the environment and save money through re-use.

InkXpress on Smith Street in Warwick is one of a number of businesses offering cartridge refilling services, and as a double whammy to encourage greener living, they have agreed to donate £1 to Action 21 for every cartridge refilled. Keep the envelope provided with this newsletter by your computer printer and use it to send cartridges to InkXpress. Alternatively, just mention Action 21 when you take your cartridge into the shop. You will save money, save waste from landfill, and help Action 21 deliver the green message to more people. Thanks!!

Carry on growing!

We are delighted that we have received funding to continue the Allotments Link Project for another year. Thanks to the Heart of England Community Foundation, we will be able to focus on promoting healthy eating in Lillington, and continue the work we are doing throughout the district to support the newly formed local Allotments Federation. Through cookery workshops, open days and training for gardeners we hope to encourage more people to lead healthier, more sustainable lifestyles.



Bug hunting in long grass at 2004 and beyond



Transaction

Summer 2004

It was great to see so many of you at our AGM in May.

Our new chairperson Richard Hicks is a longstanding member of the Action 21 Transport Group with a wide range of skills. Richard has been acting as chairperson since February. To spice up our AGM the Slaughterhouse Brewery in Warwick generously contributed free samples of delicious real ale. Action 21 is keen to support local produce for the sake of the local economy and to reduce the distances goods are transported. Slaughterhouse ales are sold at the Simple Simon and the Avon Tavern Pubs in Warwick and available from the brewery direct on 01926 490986.

Jenny

For more information visit www.action21.co.uk

If you don't have internet access we'll post information to you.

Contact Sustainability Officer: Jenny Sansom 01926 456067

Email: jenny@action21.co.uk

Renewable Energy Update

The Energy Group has been busy with the development of the 'Engage' project. Early this year a questionnaire was sent to 2000 people in the district to canvass their opinion as part of the feasibility study. The result was remarkably positive with a high percentage in favour of renewable energy. Solar energy came top with 90% in favour. Four projects have now been identified as possibilities for our area:

- **All Saints Parish Church** Solar water heating
- **Bath Place Community Venture** Solar water heating
- **Wind power** Oakley Wood Crematorium
- **Hydropower** Re-commissioning the Victorian hydroelectric plant hidden in Jephson Gardens. (Do you know where it is?)

Now that the feasibility study is complete the Engage team is applying to funding organisations and energy companies for funds to implement the project proper – a challenging task. Have a look at the Energy Group's poster on our website which shows how a community energy company would work and how it could benefit an individual household. *Steven Coulsting*

◆ Open below with care ◆



A sustainable future
for Warwick District

Transaction Summer 2004

Recipient address

Volunteer Opportunities

Recycling Group Relaunch Help organise action in the community to make a real difference on waste. Come along to our meeting on 15 September (7.30pm at 83 Montrose Avenue, Leamington Spa). Contact Chris on 735 626.

Car Free Day Would any volunteers like to help out on Car Free Day on 18 September? We are planning an event in Kenilworth Town Centre to promote greener transport. Contact Jenny on 456067.

Pumpkin Day You could help children carve pumpkins, give out information on the Action 21 stall, or judge the pumpkin competition. Pumpkin Day is always fun and a good way to promote local, fresh organic food to the public. Contact Judy on 887119.