

Share Offer countdown begins!

The Share Offer Launch was a great success with around 50 people attending to listen to a variety of presentations and to talk to volunteers and existing investors. The home-made cakes baked by volunteers Julia, Tom and Abigail were particularly well received! Since the Launch we have raised £26,800 which gives us the grand total of £76,800 towards our £250,000 target. It's an excellent start but there's still a lot of work to be done!

If you were unable to make the Launch, you can access the presentations and some photos on our website: <http://www.sheffieldrenewables.org.uk/2012/09/25/share-offer-now-launched/>

Share Offer talks

We are holding a series of informal talks aimed at giving potential investors and those just interested in what we are doing more information about Sheffield Renewables, the Jordan Dam project and our Share Offer. It would be an ideal opportunity for anyone who was not able to attend the Share Offer Launch to come along and listen to a talk on the Share Offer and have a chat with some of our investors and volunteers. There will also be tea, coffee and biscuits provided! The talks will take place on:

- Wednesday 24th October, Quaker Meeting House, 10 St James Street, Sheffield, S1 2EW – there will be two talks given on this date, one at 6pm and one at 7.15pm
- 8pm-9pm, Thursday 1st November, The Crowded House, 215 Sharrow Vale Road, Sheffield, S11 8ZB
- 8pm, Monday 12th November, St Thomas Church, Nairn Street, Crookes, S10 1UL. Please note that this will take place in the upper games hall which is accessed by stairs as the lift currently isn't working due to building work

Tour of the Jordan Dam Hydro site

We have also arranged a tour of Jordan Dam, the site where our hydro scheme will be built, for Saturday 27th October. The tour will be followed by lunch and a talk by our Finance Director Mark Wells. The tour will involve a lovely walk down the canal to Jordan Dam, it takes about 10-15 minutes to walk there and you'll only have to climb over one lock (don't worry there are steps up it).

You will be taken by mini bus at 11.30am from a city centre location to the Dam for the tour of the site. You will then be brought back for a sandwich lunch followed by a talk at 2pm about Sheffield Renewables, the hydro scheme and our Share Offer.

If you would like to come on the tour please email jean@sheffieldrenewables.org.uk to book a place and Jean will give you full details. Places will be limited so it is important that if you are interested you contact Jean as soon as possible.

We survived the raft race!

Our brave volunteers Dave Berry, Julia Carrell, Oliver Copeley-Williams and Mark Wells not only survived the Kelham Island festival raft race on 23rd September but also won a plaque for the most flour covered raft! Photos are now on our Facebook page and there is an article about the race on the Sheffield Telegraph website (look out for the orange raft at the front of the photo!): <http://www.sheffieldtelegraph.co.uk/news/local/festival-sees-plenty-of-fun-tales-from-the-riverbank-1-4969932>

New staff

As promised in our last newsletter, here is a little more background about our new staff, Emma Bridge and James Duffy. Emma, our General Manager, has previously worked in regeneration and sustainability for local authorities and the private sector in South Yorkshire and is a qualified project manager. She is committed to environmental sustainability and working towards this through partnership and community engagement. In the current jargon "she has hit the ground running" and has already pulled together a strong team of volunteers in the office.

On the technical side, James has joined us as Technical Project Manager and will be spending time preparing the contract documents ready for the tender for the construction side of the Jordan Dam Hydro project. James has a civil engineering background and has experience of managing and involvement in projects on the River Don, including the Five Weirs Walk and fish pass construction. Both have lots of local knowledge and will be based at South Yorkshire Energy Centre. We are really pleased to have been able to recruit people of such commitment and high calibre.

Other events

Sharrow Vale Market Day, Sunday 7th October. Sheffield Renewables will be at the next Market Day on Sharrow Vale Road, alongside local business stalls, entertainment and live music. You will easily spot us as we will be the ones in the large orange gazebo!

A Frack-Free Future: Opposing UK's second 'Dash for Gas', 7.30pm, Tuesday 16 October, Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, S1 2EW

Sheffield Campaign Against Climate Change (SCACC) has arranged a speaker from Frack Off, the Brighton-based extreme energy action network that has been leading opposition to Hydraulic Fracturing (fracking) and other extreme methods of extracting fossil fuels (www.frack-off.org.uk). Simon Bowens, Yorkshire & Humber Campaigns Director for Friends of the Earth will also be speaking about fracking potential and FOE actions. Refreshments will be available from 6.45pm with the SCACC AGM starting promptly at 7pm (all welcome to attend), followed by the public meeting on a Frack-Free Future at 7.30pm. A local Anti-Fracking petition is open for signatures on www.sheffieldclimatealliance.net.

Sheffield's 2012 Transition Awards, 7pm-11pm, Thursday 29th November, Burton Street Function Suite, Hillsborough, Sheffield, S6 2HH

Join Transition Sheffield for a sparkling evening to celebrate groups who are creating more sustainable communities in Sheffield. With inspiring local artists, special celebrity guest and Chrystine Moon as compere. Tickets are £12/£8/£5 according to income and include a vegetarian buffet. More details can be found at: <http://www.transitionssheffield.org.uk/node/114>

Heeley Heritage Walks, 10am-11am every Friday

The Heeley area has some fascinating history and architecture with some interesting local stories. Taking place every Friday, the Heritage Guided Walks, organised by the South Yorkshire Energy Centre, are a fantastic way to discover more about the area and let nature feed your senses. Walks are fairly easy and last about 1 hour to take in local nature and places of interest. Meet outside the Energy Centre, Alexandra Road, S2 3EE. For more information contact Shelly Davis, South Yorkshire Energy Centre, on 0114 258 4574.

Contacts

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