

## Welcome to the February 2008 edition of e-Thumbprint, Envolve's monthly e-newsletter

### ABOUT ENVOLVE

*e-Thumbprint is Envolve's e-newsletter. Envolve Partnerships for Sustainability (Envolve) supports wiser ways of living that lead to more healthy and sustainable businesses, schools and communities. We are a charity based in Bath's Green Park Station, which we also have responsibility for running. We deliver our work through three teams: Business - delivering specialist environmental consultancy to small and large businesses, charities and local authorities; Education - working with schools to promote better knowledge and understanding of the relationship between people and planet; Community - providing the support to enable individuals and communities to make a significant and lasting difference to where they live.*

### 1) Fun Activities for Green Leap Day 29 February

The education team is calling on all schools in B&NES to use the extra day of the leap year to do something different for the environment. From zero waste lunch boxes to 'switch off days', toy and book swaps to work days in the school gardens and even green mufti, we are brimming with ideas to raise awareness of environmental issues and take action to improve sustainability. For the whole story see the education newsletter on our website.

More info: <http://www.envolve.org.uk/education/index.html>

### 2) Free Consultancy Advice for Eligible Businesses

Businesses based in parts of Central Bristol and West Somerset are being offered free environmental consultancy, worth over £100, which could save them up to 30% per annum on utility bills. Eligible organizations are entitled to 2-3 hours of free environmental consultancy tailored to their individual requirements. Practical advice includes ways to save money on electricity, gas, waste and water bills, waste minimization, staff training & workshops and specific environmental advice for individual business needs.

To find out if your business is eligible, please contact our business team on 01225 787910.

More info: [veronica.parsons@envolve.org.uk](mailto:veronica.parsons@envolve.org.uk)

### 3) What Do You Want to Do? - New Fast Forward Course

A new, free three week course is being organised by Fast Forward in Twerton. The course is aimed at anyone who is thinking about what they want to do in the future and covers training, volunteering, the needs of employers, CVs and interview skills. The course runs on Mondays 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March from 12.30 – 3pm at Rose Cottage, High Street, Twerton. A free one-to-one interview is also available by appointment.

More info: [shelley.bartlett@envolve.org.uk](mailto:shelley.bartlett@envolve.org.uk) or text 07504 532 033

### 4) Online diary of local green events

Don't forget to visit Envolve's Green Diary to find out what is going on this month (and future months too). And let us know of any of your events which you would like us to include in the diary.

**More info:** <http://www.envolve.org.uk/diary.html>

## NATIONAL NEWS

### **\*\*SPOTLIGHT ON... Fairtrade Fortnight 25 Feb – 9 March**

There are now more than 3000 Fairtrade certified products to choose from. Why not try something new during Fairtrade Fortnight? The theme this year is Change Today, Choose Fairtrade. Harriet Lamb, Executive Director, Fairtrade Foundation, will be in Bath on 27 February with Marta Rodriguez, a coffee grower from the Sopexxa Fairtrade coffee co-op in Nicaragua, to launch the B&NES Fairtrade Directory 2008. Harriet Lamb will also be speaking at the Bath Literature Festival.

There will be a Fairtrade Exhibition in The Foyer, Green Park Station, throughout the fortnight.

**More info:** <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/index.htm>

## LOCAL NEWS

### **\*\*SPOTLIGHT ON... Bath Literature Festival 23 February – 2 March**

Tony Juniper, Director of Friends of the Earth, is appearing at the Bath Literature Festival in conversation with Mark Lynas, author of *Six Degrees: Our future on a Hotter Planet*. The event takes place on Friday 29 February, 6-7pm, at Bath Guildhall with tickets £8 (or £6 with concessions). This year's Literature Festival features a varied and thought-provoking series of events focusing on the environment and the state of the world we live in. Speakers in this series include Harriet Lamb, Director of Fairtrade (27 Feb), Sir David King, former advisor to Blair's government on climate change (2 March), Clive Stafford Smith, Director of Reprieve (29 Feb) and Sari Nusseibeh Palestinian peace activist (25 Feb).

There is also a Wild Places series, featuring Sven Lindqvist on Australia (24 Feb), Mark Cocker on British birds (27 Feb) and Alex Mustard on coral reefs (29 Feb).

**More info:** [www.bathlitfest.org.uk](http://www.bathlitfest.org.uk)

### **\*\*SPOTLIGHT ON... Transition City Bath**

Following on from a sell-out Green Light Lecture on Peak Oil, a group has been formed to facilitate Bath in becoming a transition city.

Over 120 people were initially interested and a core group has been formed to co-ordinate efforts. Support in terms of ideas, practical and financial help is needed to

move things forward. You are invited to register your interest online at <http://www.transitionbath.org.uk/>.

**More info:** <http://transitiontowns.org/>

## **\*\*SPOTLIGHT ON... Broadlands OrchardShare**

Broadlands OrchardShare is a local community enterprise based in an orchard in Bathford. It is run by volunteers who are working to conserve and maintain the orchard to supply locally grown apples to the Bath area. Seasonal events and training days are held at the orchard throughout the year. Volunteers can get involved by sponsoring a tree or taking part in a work day doing pruning, tree labelling and clearing. The work days take place every second Saturday and the next one is March 8 starting at 12.00 midday. Children are very welcome.

**More info:** [jfountaine@freenet.co.uk](mailto:jfountaine@freenet.co.uk)



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**Best wishes,  
The Envolve Team**

**ENVOLVE**

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**Registered charity no. 1039848**

Envolve is passionately optimistic about the future. We believe that together we can build a more just, equitable world that uses and shares natural resources for the good of this and future generations.

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