

## NEXT EVENTS

Wed. 17th Sept. 20:00—22:00  
Sun Inn, High Street, Buxton  
For more information , call 01298 71041

### Special Green Drinks

Discussion about the future of Transition Towns:- whether they should continue with a localised bias or be more involved with globalisation concerns.

Sun. 14th Sept. 14:00 - 15:30 URC

### Workshops

**“Harvesting, Traditional Storage Methods and Sowing Winter Veg.”**

**“Pickles and Chutneys”**

**“Hedges and Windbreaks”**

**“Jams and Jellies“**

**“Wine-making“**

Sun. 21st Sept. 14:00 - 16:00 URC

Sun. 12th Oct. 14:00 - 15:30 URC

Sun. 19th Oct. 14:00 - 16:00 URC

Sat. 8th Nov. 14:00 - **17:00 Janet ‘s**

For more information , call 01298 71041

Sat. 22nd Nov. 14:00 - 17:00 TBC

For more information , call 07769 627133

**“Make your own Traditional Christmas”**

Workshops are free, but as we have considerable ongoing costs any donations are welcomed.

Sun. 28th Sept. 10:00 - 16:00  
including a social lunch at 12:30 - 13:30

### Serpentine Volunteer Day

Next phase of site clearing. Come along for either or both sessions.

17th of each month, from 8pm  
Sun Inn, High Street, Buxton  
Contact [neil@buxtonspa.co.uk](mailto:neil@buxtonspa.co.uk)

### Green Drinks

Join us for an informal chat over a drink, no agenda, any colour drink is fine.

Have a look at our website on  
[www.transitionbuxton.co.uk](http://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk)

See our Transition Buxton Facebook page

See twitter at <https://twitter.com/transitionbux>



*When people join forces and decide to tackle the problems of climate change and oil shortage they've taken the step to creating a TransitionTown.*

September 2014

## NEWSLETTER

### Going Ahead at the SERPENTINE Nursery

It's almost a year since we reported that the Ser-



pentine Nursery had the go-ahead for development from HPBC (High Peak Borough Council). It has proved to be rather a catch 22 situation, as TB

couldn't complete their Business Plan until the scale of renovations was estimated, which was to be undertaken by the DCC (Derbyshire County Council) surveyors. However, the surveyors could not carry out the full survey safely until the site was cleared and if DCC undertook the clearing this would have been at prohibitive cost. TB were worried that a complete growing cycle would be lost if work did not start soon, so Caitlin Bisknell, leader of HPBC, has been instrumental in pushing forward the agreement of a short term lease and a license for TB to use the site for environmental purposes, so that at least clearing of a small area could begin. The main growing area, including the greenhouse is still cordoned off for Health and Safety reasons, although some of this has now been cleared by



council workers. DCC are in the process of completing a survey of the greenhouse.

TB then put out requests for volunteers to help clear the area between the forecourt and the



growing area. There was an amazing response from the town and on June 29<sup>th</sup> about 20 people came along and put in 73 enjoyable hours of work between them, as you can see from the photographs. During the day, the existing foundations for a polytunnel were uncovered.

There was a huge amount of enthusiasm for the coming project, which will provide work placements and volunteering opportunities for, among others, students from Buxton and Leek College. The college is providing a huge amount of support in the planning of the project and Len Tildesley, the principal, is very much involved with this process.

Charles Jolly, at a recent meeting, said that the Serpentine Nursery will create a good exemplar of what can be grown at higher altitude.

In July there was a visit to the site by judges of the East Midlands in Bloom competition, who were apparently very impressed by the amount of community involvement in such an important development for Buxton, so we need to keep that impetus going. Anyone interested please contact Janine on [janinekaihau@hotmail.com](mailto:janinekaihau@hotmail.com). She would also be interested in any historical photos or information that you have of previous use of the nursery. One gentleman said he used to work there in the 1960s, as an apprentice, but we think it may have been

used to supply food during WW2. If you have information about that it would be great to include in further newsletters. Please look at the website [www.transitionbuxton.co.uk](http://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk) for full details of the proposal.

## An Economic Blueprint for Buxton

An Economic Blueprint is a tool developed by the National Transition Network to inform decisions and to develop and improve the resilience of local economies. Inspired by the value of this work done in 4 UK locations last year, Buxton is one of 8 towns in Europe undertaking a blueprint project this year. The research and surveys are done, now the results are being collated and written up. So, the information and opportunities for our local economy should be ready to share in early autumn. The small Transition Buxton team working on this project would like to thank all those individuals and organisations who have contributed data and responded to surveys. We will be announcing shortly a date and venue for a publication launch and consultation event. Do please come to learn and explore how we can use and apply the information to help secure our local economic and environmental future. If you have any questions in the meantime contact Jean Ball on [jean@tblid.co.uk](mailto:jean@tblid.co.uk)

## Gardening Made Easy

A series of gardening workshops, run by Peter Burgess Allen and Charles Jolly have proved very popular.

Keen and budding gardeners alike have been treated to an insight into seasonally organised sessions. It started with "Preparing the Ground" in October last year, and progressed through building cloches, water siphoning systems, composting, taking cuttings and general planting techniques. They continue with Harvesting and

Traditional Storage Techniques at a rate of 1 per month. See overleaf.



## Connie

Connie has been popping up in different places lately.

She began her season at the Buxton Spring Fair in May, where Transition Buxton showed its new plans for the Serpentine and map of the dispersed



Community Orchard.

Her second trip was to Bakewell Goes Green Day, when she managed to squeeze into a horsebox with a little coaxing from strewn barbies.

She made quite a focal point, amongst the outdoor stalls and brought in a few more contacts. Another good draw there was the outside jigsaw of the world and crafts made from scrap. As she was feeling a bit lonely, she made 2 other trips in August to the Green Man Gallery to host dinosaur building workshops as part of Buxton Family Festival. This was a great success,



thoroughly enjoyed by all, where imaginative children assisted by their very able parents created miniature dinosaurs from scrap materials, such as plastic bottles and scraps of material.

As well as the gardening workshops, we have

## Other News

continued with the program of "Cookery for Beginners", which has in the main been well-attended and a textiles workshop for Knitting and Crochet.

Stalls similar to that of the Spring Fair have been held at the University Goes Green Day and One World Festival. In June the Plant Swap took place at the foot of the Slopes, which proved to be more successful than the traditional spot in Spring Gardens, which was host to the Seed Swap in March.

Many of you will remember that Cath Johnstone, the previous chair of Transition Buxton, departed for sunnier climes (Tanzania) 2 years ago. She came back for a quick visit in March and updated us on what she has been doing. She has been very busy helping to build a new training centre for local young people who are unable to attend school and developing an allotment using permaculture methods. If you'd like to look at her blog, this is the link.

<http://cathinafrica.wordpress.com/2014/07/13/297/>