



Yes ! It's the ...

## Sustainable Wells Newsletter

Jan 2018

Email: [sustwells@gmail.com](mailto:sustwells@gmail.com)

### Happy To Be Back !

You are right, the last newsletter was more than a few months ago ..... it's been a busy time for just about everyone including Sustainable Wells (SW). Our New Year Resolution is to get 6 issues of the newsletter out to you at roughly 2 monthly intervals. Please let us know of any activities you want to bring to attention of SW supporters, feel free to pass on this copy to anyone you think might be interested. In our March issue we will let you know where you can find a hard copy of the newsletter to look through if that's your preference. You can contact the SW newsletter team via: [sustwells@gmail.com](mailto:sustwells@gmail.com). Hope to see you at an event soon ! If you want to contact me, please email on [maddy@milnes.myzen.co.uk](mailto:maddy@milnes.myzen.co.uk)

**Maddy**

**Milnes**

### Single Use Plastic Free

Many of you will have heard the news that Penzance are the first community in the UK to achieve "Plastic Free Coastline status as well as the decision by Mendip District council to go Single Use Plastic Free. The coastline scheme is based on the Fair Trade model and run by Surfers against Sewage, as it says on their website <https://www.sas.org.uk/> "Plastic pollution is "the new sewage" Tackling it is our number one priority".

They are hoping to establish 125 other plastic free communities by 2020 and like the Fair Trade model there are guidelines that each community have to follow in order to achieve Plastic Free Community status. We would like Wells to be one of these. There are 5 main targets that need to be reached involving local councils, schools, local businesses and community groups. The main objective is to reduce the amount of single use plastics but this is obviously part of a much bigger movement to reduce the terrible impact of all plastics in our oceans. We have just heard that our application for Wells has been accepted ! So we are one of the first 125 communities to be involved in this scheme. If you want to be a part of this SW project please get in touch with me by emailing [plasticfreewells@gmail.com](mailto:plasticfreewells@gmail.com)

**Tom Ronan**

### Repair Café: Saturday Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 noon

What a success that was ! Congratulations to all those involved in organising, to the repairers, café team and those who came along. The next Repair Café is in the same place, **St Thomas' Church Hall, Bath Road, Wells**. All the usual repairers will be there plus great tea and cake alongside a Seed Swap with some other garden paraphernalia too ! All the details are on the Repair Café Wells facebook page too !

**Laura Sorensen**



### The Return Of RECYCLE: Sun Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, 10.30 am Priory Rd Car Park (near Good Earth)

At long last we're running another **RECYCLE !** event in Wells. Just like a car boot sale but without money changing hands our recycle events have always been very popular. It's a good opportunity to clear out those things you no longer need and find something for free. Good for your purse as well as the planet. What a great way to reduce waste ! Thanks to the Good Earth car park who have kindly offered their venue. We hope to have a publicity event in Wells Library in late Feb too, check the local papers for news !

**Joanna Davey**

### Close The Door



Look out for the Sustainable Wells Close The Door posters in shops on the High Street. All part of the great 'Close That Door' energy savings scheme. Check out the website: <http://www.closethedoor.org.uk/>.

**Steve Allen**

## SW Energy Group

Sustainable Wells' Energy group acts as a hub for many of the various activities SW is involved in. Presently this includes encouraging energy conservation, improving air quality, arranging public events and acting as a centre point where new ideas to improve any area of sustainability (even if only loosely connected to energy) can be discussed and supported by likeminded people. The Group is always looking for people with new ideas that reflect what local people would like to see happening and meets on the last Saturday of every other month, with occasional 'bonus' meetings in between. We meet upstairs in **Pickwicks on Broad Street at 10 am**. The next meeting is on the **27<sup>th</sup> January** and all are welcome

**Simon Dennis**

## Collaborating !

In our search for innovative ways to increase the impact of our work we are coming to appreciate the potential contribution of collaboration to achieving this. Our network of friends in Green Wedmore, Glastonbury Friends of the Earth and Transition Langport are enthusiastic about this approach too. So, to launch this initiative, we're planning to jointly host a public showing of the film: *Demain* (as in French for tomorrow). This is a wonderfully uplifting documentary about actions enlightened people are taking around the world to solve the ecological, economic and social crises we are facing. We are planning to screen the film in May – location and date TBD – watch this space!

**Stewart Crocker**

## Images

Do you have an image that inspires you ?



This one is from SW supporter, Sarah, who writes: 'It just reminds me to be resourceful; the tie in to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs makes me laugh ... and think.' Sustainable Wells has 5 A4 posters of *The Buyerarchy of Needs* to give away. Please email us if you would like one. If you would like to share an image that inspires you then please send it to [sustwells@gmail.com](mailto:sustwells@gmail.com) along with a sentence about why it's important for you so we can include it in future SW newsletters.

## Veg talk

If you're interested in two of our local small suppliers you might want to take a look at:

- **Glastonbury Fruit and Veg** which is based at the Paddington Farm Trust market garden under the watchful eye of Rob Macbeth. They supply organic veg to the Wells market on a Saturday as well as running a shop in Glastonbury and having a stall at the Glastonbury market on Tuesdays. Have a look at the website [www.glastonburyfruitandveg.co.uk](http://www.glastonburyfruitandveg.co.uk)
- **Plotgate CSA** runs on a hectare of land at Barton St David through the work of Amy, Dan and Jane. They do a whole host of stuff including running courses and can provide you with a local box scheme. In fact they have a great offer on veg boxes at the moment ! Plotgate members can also benefit from the chance to buy Plotgate reared meat ! Have a look at their website on [plotgatecsa.wordpress.com](http://plotgatecsa.wordpress.com)

## What plans does Sustainable Wells have for 2018 ... so far ?

Here's the current calendar of events looks like this:

Close The Door - Jan/Feb  
Repair Café - Feb, May, Oct  
Recycle - March, Sept  
Film Night - May

If there is some action that you are keen to see run under the Sustainable Wells banner then please email: [sustwells@gmail.com](mailto:sustwells@gmail.com)

## Want to help

If you are interested in supporting Sustainable Wells please get in touch; let us know what you are interested in and/or what skills you would like to offer. No offer is too small or too big !

## March newsletter

Deadline for information will be March 10<sup>th</sup>, please send articles and information to [sustwells@gmail.com](mailto:sustwells@gmail.com). We're happy to advertise any relevant events from other local groups !