

CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS UPDATE - OCTOBER 2011
ABERGAVENNY & CRICKHOWELL FOE and ABERGAVENNY CLIMATE ACTION

1. Progress has been made in setting up the Abergavenny Community Orchard. The lease for the Mill St. Site has been agreed and the Orchard was launched at the Environment Fair. (from Liz Barnett)
2. The Environment Fair was a success. A steady trickle through the door brought an amazing total of 820 people through the day. Stallholders had gone to a great deal of trouble to make their stands interesting and inviting. The general view was a wish to repeat next year. But we need to rethink the presentations as few people went over to listen and the afternoon ones were abandoned. (from Richard Lewis)
3. We now have 13 volunteers on the Eco-Open homes register with a good range of facilities. The leaflet produced for the Environment Fair in Abergavenny and the forthcoming drop-in at Llandewi Rhydderch VH on October 19th is displayed on Monmouthshire Greenweb. We need links to this from MCC's website and as many partner organisations in the CCC group as possible. (from Richard Lewis)
4. A & C FOE group organised a stall at the Environment Fair on Oct. 9th. Rod Walters set up a display covering a wide range of the campaigns organised by FOE nationally and locally. We sold 30 Abergavenny bags which were made all the more desirable by an offer of free cooking apples to fill them with (courtesy of Rod Walter's Bramley apple tree).
5. The Abergavenny Bag project is coming to an end. All the bags have now been sold, raising a total profit of just over £2000. Every penny of the money raised has been used to fund green planting projects in the community. These include: a mini orchard of 10 fruit trees at Crickhowell Primary School; an insect-friendly garden at Our Lady & St. Michael's School; native hedgerows at Cantref School; fruit trees and soft fruit for King Henry VIII School; 5 native trees and 2 fruit trees for Deri View School; nut trees and damson trees for Crucorney Allotments; and 3 or 4 fruit trees each to 6 more local primary schools.
About 80 trees have been planted altogether since the start of the year and the 3 members of the Bag Committee have worked very hard liaising with schools and local organisations, advising on planting projects and helping to choose and plant trees. Still in the pipeline is a major donation to the new Abergavenny Community Orchard plus additional trees to some schools.
We are in discussion with the Abergavenny Chamber of Trade and the Brecon Beacons National Park about taking over the management of the Abergavenny bag.
(from Sue Harrison)
6. A FOE group went on a visit to Llwyn Franc Community Forest Farm where we were shown round the woodland, orchard and mushroom farm in progress by Stephen Powell.
7. Rod Walters has been working on Community Renewable energy schemes.

8. The Crucorney community allotment is up and growing. Nut trees are planted. Damson trees will be planted soon.
9. The running of the highly successful FOE cafe at the Abergavenny Farmers' Market has been taken over by Cath Barton. It still remains a focal point for getting the FOE message across and raising vital funds.

With apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

Sue Harrison
Abergavenny & Crickhowell FOE