



## NEWSLETTER

January 2010

# ROLL UP FOR ROLLE!

**CAMPAIGNERS DETERMINED** to save Rolle College as an educational facility for Exmouth are calling for support on Monday 18 January, when a visit from the Leader of Devon County Council will provide a rare opportunity for local people to make their voices heard on issues affecting the town. Councillor John Hart is scheduled to address the Town Council at the Town Hall at 7.00 pm, and as this is a public meeting, Exmouth residents may speak for up to three minutes each.



While grass roots support for the campaign continues unabated, those in power now seem to regard the cause as lost. In a recent letter to a constituent, local MP Hugo Swire stated that, while he still 'hopes' the site will be purchased for educational purposes, he has only 'limited influence' over local issues which fall under the remit of either East Devon District Council or Devon County Council. Meanwhile, in another worrying development, DCC is claiming an ongoing consultation on spending shows public support for cuts in adult and continuing education.

## JUMP TO IT!



*Look out around town for this colourful logo, designed by Creative Exmouth for the Plastic Bag Free Exmouth Group. If you know a shop that would like one, call Roger on 01395 268074*

Undeterred, the campaigners have formed a starter group comprising representatives from the community, Town Council and Community College. According to this group, the closure of Rolle has cost Exmouth's economy £5m, plus the loss of many young people from the community. Furthermore, research indicates that coastal towns with post-16 educational provision fare significantly better than those without.

With this in mind, the group has produced an outline plan to develop Rolle as a community hub for Exmouth, including facilities for post-16 education, vocational training and leisure learning. In order to be viable, the new centre would have to be financially independent, and a draft business plan is in the process of refinement. Group members intend to discuss their vision with representatives of the stakeholder groups in the latter part of January and hope to demonstrate how Rolle could contribute to the town's regeneration and to the well-being of its residents, both now and in the future.

To find out how you can make your voice heard on this important issue, contact Jenny Budden: [postmaster@buddenhinds2.mail1.co.uk](mailto:postmaster@buddenhinds2.mail1.co.uk)

## LOCAL ACTION

### A Shared Vision for Exmouth

GILL WYATT reports on the progress made by Exmouth's Community Organisations Liaison Panel

THE PURPOSE of the Community Organisations Liaison Panel (COLP), initiated by the Town Council in July 2009, is to work towards common goals for the future development of Exmouth. COLP comprises representatives of the Town Council and community groups, and one important aspect of its work is promoting community involvement by building trust between these two groups.

In September each community group had the opportunity to present a document highlighting its interests and priorities for the future of Exmouth. While there were some differences, we were heartened by the number of shared hopes and ideas. Since September, COLP has been working on a Strategic Plan for Exmouth synthesized from these shared aspirations.

The draft strategy comprises an overall vision, mission statement, values, goals and objectives. The vision is to establish Exmouth as a centre of excellence for environment, culture, education and leisure, where residents, visitors and businesses will benefit from a sustainable economy and our unique, beautiful World Heritage location. The values identified were: environmental preservation, economic well-being, sustainability and resilience, local autonomy, community engagement and community well-being.

When discussed at the Regeneration Committee meeting of the Town Council in December, COLP's draft strategy was agreed in principle and recognised as a significant step forward. The renewed motivation to work together and to be able to find a commonly shared vision and goals for Exmouth was celebrated.

The full draft document can be viewed on the TTE website: <http://transitiontownexmouth.ncs-forums.com/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=165>. Please remember this is a draft document and will be developed further. At the moment the actions necessary to fulfil the objectives and goals are being researched. Any feedback you may have will be very welcome. Please contact Gill Wyatt at [earthsky@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:earthsky@tiscali.co.uk)

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

### Enterprise for Exmouth

Could the Social Enterprise model hold the key to local reskilling and the town's future prosperity? ADRIAN TOOLE certainly thinks so...

ACCORDING TO the Government's Department for Trade and Industry, Social Enterprises are 'businesses with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community' (*Social Enterprise: A Strategy for Success*, 2001).

In other words, since Social Enterprises are generally set up to tackle social or environmental issues, their main aim is to use income earned through trading to create further social or environmental benefits rather than generating profits for owners or shareholders.

TTE's recycled shopping bags are one example of our capability here but if we're to flourish I think we'll need to do more. (My own idea is for a make-your-own clothes workshop!)

Since any endeavour we run that has sales will need to be structured, it is clear to me that TTE needs to know about Social Enterprises I see the Transition Town model as compatible with the concept of Social Enterprise and some of us might choose to go down that route.

Co-active, in collaboration with Business Link are running a series of free Social Enterprise courses in the South West. For more information, see their website at: [http://www.co-active.org.uk/director/newsandfeatures/latestevents\\_20090814.html](http://www.co-active.org.uk/director/newsandfeatures/latestevents_20090814.html)

We must always be seeking to reach out and attract others and a social enterprise should achieve just that! If you are interested in attending one of their Starting in Social Enterprise days or discussing this further, please call Adrian Toole on 07966 239464 or 01395 268301

*Please send any pictures, news items or diary entries for the February issue to: [delia@themyrthlehouse.plus.com](mailto:delia@themyrthlehouse.plus.com) by Wednesday 20 January*

## EVENTS

### Transition Groups Together

HOW CAN Exmouth and neighbouring towns use the current economic downturn to move towards a low-carbon lifestyle? What opportunities and challenges does the recession offer the business community, the town council and residents?

These questions and more will be answered when TTE hosts its first 'Transition Groups Together' event. It takes place on Saturday 9 January at Glenorchy Church Hall, Exeter Road, Exmouth, from 3.00pm to 5.00pm.

Members of neighbouring Transition Town groups, such as Sidmouth, Ottery, Exeter, Lypstone and Budleigh, will join forces with TTE to discuss "Low carbon and local: Opportunities in the recession".

So no matter what your interest or agenda – be it business, town management and development, education, health or community building – there will be plenty for everyone to debate. All are welcome at this free event. Refreshments will be available, and participants are invited to bring unwanted Christmas presents to swap. For more information, call Pete on 01395 224605.

### Exe Estuary Forum

THE EXE Estuary Partnership will be hosting an Exe Estuary Forum, on Thursday 28 January from 6.30-9.30pm at Exeter County Hall. Topics will include the impact of the Marine and Coastal Act, the Shoreline Management Project and the Exe Strategy, which is looking at how to respond to rising sea levels. The role of fisheries on the Exe and the progress of the turbine trial on the river will also be discussed. During the evening there will be a showing of a new educational film created by EDDC, called *Think Deep*.

Places are limited, so it is necessary to book in advance. Please phone the Exe Partnership Officer: Jenny Lockett on 01392 382236 or email [exeestua@devon.gov.uk](mailto:exeestua@devon.gov.uk)

## GROUP NEWS

### Green Walks

TTE'S FIRST Green Walk will take place on Sunday 3 January, starting at 11.00am. The walk will be an opportunity to put into action those new resolutions for 2010 and enjoy some of the beautiful vistas around Exmouth. The next walk will be on Sunday 14 February and then every following second Sunday of the month. For further details email Gill Wyatt on [earthsky@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:earthsky@tiscali.co.uk), or call 0780 6623311.



### Xcycle

EIGHT BRAVE souls turned out for the Xcycle bike ride on 27 December and battled their way through the wind, hail and rain to Lypstone. After a warming drink at the pub, they turned round and - with the wind now behind them - had a much easier ride back to Exmouth! For details of future rides contact Elinor: [elinorscott@phonecoop.coop](mailto:elinorscott@phonecoop.coop).

### Farmers' Market

TTE WILL not be attending the January Farmers' Market, but we will be back in February at the new venue – the Estuary Car Park - when we will be starting seed swaps.

### Food Group

THE LOCAL Action on Food Network is a new national food network that is being coordinated by Sustain to link together all people and projects from across the UK that are committed to working towards a more local and sustainable food system. To find out more, see <http://transitionnetworknews.wordpress.com/2009/11/03/time-to-take-action-on-food/>

*The Transition Handbook*, written by Rob Hopkins, founder of the Transition Town movement, is essential reading for everyone interested in Transition issues. TTE has copies for sale at a reduced price of just £10 each; to order yours, contact Angela on 01395 224605.

# DIARY

January  
2010



## Sunday 3

**GREEN WALK** Starts 11.00am. Details from Gill Wyatt: email earthsky@tiscali.co.uk, or call 0780 6623311.

## Monday 4

**TTE UMBRELLA MEETING** 7.30pm, Town Hall. For more information call Pete on 01395 224605.

## Friday 8

**EXMOUTH COUNTRY MARKET** 8.30-11.15am, Wesley Hall, Tower Street.

## Saturday 9

**TRANSITION GROUPS TOGETHER** 3.00-5.00pm, Glenorchy Church Hall, Exeter Road. See Events. More details from Pete on 01395 224605.

## Wednesday 13

**EXMOUTH FARMERS' MARKET** 9am-1pm, Estuary Car Park. Details: angela@angela-ashwin.uklinux.net, tel. 01395 224605 or twobrocks@talktalk.net, tel. 01395 260119.

## Thursday 14

**BEYOND OLD HARRY** Lecture by EDDC Conservation Officer Rod Lawrence. 7.30pm, Telfer Suite, Exmouth Community College. Free entry, details from Exmouth Visitor Centre 01395 265350 or email info@exmouthvisitorcentre.co.uk

## Friday 15

**EXMOUTH COUNTRY MARKET** See Friday 8 for details.

## Friday 22

**EXMOUTH COUNTRY MARKET** See Friday 8 for details.

## Thursday 28

**EXE ESTUARY FORUM** 6.30-9.30pm, County Hall, Exeter. See Events. For more information or to book a place, call Jenny Lockett on 01392 382236 or email exeestua@devon.gov.uk

## TRANSITION TOWN EXMOUTH

[www.transitiontownexmouth.co.uk](http://www.transitiontownexmouth.co.uk)

To build Exmouth's local resilience and independence from fossil fuels,  
and to reduce its carbon emissions by a process of energy descent



### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF TRANSITION TOWN EXMOUTH

Name.....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone.....Email.....

I support the stated aims of Transition Town Exmouth and hereby apply for membership.

Signed.....Date.....

There is no fee, but donations are welcome. Please make cheques payable to Transition Town Exmouth.

Please return completed form to TTE, c/o 231A Exeter Road, Exmouth EX8 3ED