



GREEN ACHIEVER NEWSLETTER

December 2012

Dear Deb,

Welcome to the December issue of the Green Achiever Newsletter. This month has a celebratory feel to it. We have an article on Christmas Food; a herald of the Climate Awards for 2013 and company profiles of two Gold Award members - both Shopping Centres in Hull - and our most northerly Silver member, being up on Shetland.



Well done to all our Green Achievers on the actions you've taken this year to reduce your environmental impacts. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Christmas Food Shopping

Love Food Hate Waste have some great ideas and tips about how to save money and reduced waste by shopping wisely for food this Christmas. Tips include buying the right sized turkey for the amount of people you are catering for and some ideas about using up leftovers.

For more information please see their website -

<http://england.lovefoodhatewaste.com/content/are-you-making-list-and-checking-it-twice>

Climate Week Awards

The Climate Week Awards 2013 are now open. Climate Week runs from 4 to 10 March 2013 and is Britain's biggest climate change campaign with thousands of events and activities arranged in every sector of society. The search is now on for the UK's most inspirational organisations, communities and individuals in their efforts to tackle climate change.

The categories are -

- Best Educational Initiative
- Best Artistic Response

- Best Technological Breakthrough
- Best Product
- Best Initiative by a Government or Statutory Body
- Best initiative by a Public or Uniformed Service
- Best Local Initiative
- Best Campaign
- Best Community Initiative
- Best initiative by a Small or Medium-Sized Business
- Best initiative by a Large Business
- Best Climate Ready Initiative
- Most Inspirational Young Person
- Most Inspirational Leader

Nominations are now open and the deadline for entries is Friday 25 January 2013. We would love to hear that some of our Green Achievers have been nominated for awards. www.climateweek.com/awards

Resource and Efficiency Grants for Worcestershire Businesses

Resource and Efficiency advisors will soon be place to offer free assessments to Worcestershire small and medium size businesses. The advisors will help businesses decide how to improve lighting, heating, insulation, improve processes, reduce waste and use water more wisely plus more.

Businesses can then apply for a grant to make improvements for projects worth up to £15,000 (55% funded by business).

Worcestershire County Council has teamed up with Herefordshire & Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce to bring you this support funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

For full details visit <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/start-up-and-grow/finance/resource-efficiency-grants.aspx>

Company Profiles

This month we're celebrating two Golds and a Silver. The Gold awards are both for Shopping Centres and both are in Hull - does this make Hull the greenest place to do your Christmas shopping? The Silver is for our most northerly member, being in the Shetland Islands.

1) The Prospect Shopping Centre



Hull's Prospect Shopping Centre is celebrating after been awarded its very own gold medal in the year of the Olympics for its environmental best practices. The centre signed up to the Green Achiever Scheme in 2010 and was quickly awarded four star self-assessed status. In October 2011 it was awarded with a silver award for its environmental performance. Now, just two years into the scheme, the centre has been awarded the highest award, Gold.

"Green Achiever is an award framework that enables us to demonstrate to all stakeholders what we are doing to proactively reduce our impact on the local environment," said Lee Appleton, shopping centre manager. "To achieve the Gold Award we had to continue our legal and regulatory compliance, make improvements to our environmental performance throughout the year, plus continually improve our environmental performance through an agreed action plan".

Prospect is the first shopping centre in Hull to have been awarded this level of national achievement. Within the centre a number of environmental changes have been made since signing up to Green Achiever. 201 saw the centre become zero to landfill. Lee says "None of the waste that the entire centre produces goes into landfill; we work very closely with our tenants to ensure that everything is recycled". Not only is the centre landfill free, the centre has cut water consumption by 114,000 litres and the team is planning to cut it further by 334,000 litres through improving water management."

www.prospectcentre.co.uk

2) St Stephens Shopping Centre



St Stephen's, Hull's largest shopping and leisure destination has attained Green Achiever gold status for continual efforts to prevent pollution and reduce its environmental impacts. Impressive results include reductions of 70% in water and 35% in energy use, as

well as 60% on-site recycling and zero to landfill waste management. This has saved the centre £58,400 in the last three years and reduced its carbon emissions by 390 tonnes.

Tony van der Vliet, deputy centre manager for St Stephen's said: "St Stephen's attracts more than ten million people a year into Hull, but despite this huge footfall, we don't ignore our impact on the environment. In fact, the opposite is true - we work hard to minimise our environmental impact for the benefit of the local community. We know that people come here for the shops, restaurants and leisure facilities, but they also want to know that it is safe, clean and green."

www.ststephens-hull.com

3) Nortower Lodges



The business running two self-catering holiday residences on a Scottish island is the latest and the most northerly in the UK to confirm its environmental credentials by attaining Green Achiever award silver status. Providing not only first-class accommodation but also the opportunity to experience life on a working croft Nortower Lodges consist of Boitan and Holsas, located in the coastal area of Aithsetter on the south mainland of the Shetland Islands.

Commenting on the development, the accreditation and its good practice, Hazel Mackenzie proprietor of Nortower Lodges, the aim of which is to provide people with relaxing holidays, home grown produce and a taste of traditional island life, said: "We have identified and are actively working to comply with all environmental legislation relevant to running the lodges and are committed to actively preventing pollution. Each lodge has solar panels on the roof, an under-floor heating system using wool insulation, cladding made from recycled Western Red Cedar, low energy appliances, 100% Shetland wool carpet and large windows enabling the best use of natural light. We encourage our guests to follow this environmental lead by providing eco-friendly cleaning products, instructions about recycling and information about bus and cycle hire. The lodges are offered as self-catering and we encourage our guests to buy local and provide leaflets and brochures about the availability of food in Shetland. In addition, we are looking to implement a robust waste management system and are working closely with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency to ensure we meet our duty of care obligations."

www.nortowerlodges.co.uk

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