



## GREEN ACHIEVER NEWSLETTER

February 2013

Dear Deb,

Welcome to the February edition of the Green Achiever Newsletter.

Here in the Green Achiever office, we have been searching for the five best Climate Change websites. With so many to choose from, it was hard to select just five! From recycling to green travel, here is our top five -

[www.climatechangecafe.com/](http://www.climatechangecafe.com/) A virtual café aimed at raising awareness and inspiring action on green issues.

[www.recyclenow.com/](http://www.recyclenow.com/) A practical guide to recycling and composting, including what can and can't be recycled in kerbside collections and where to take the items that the council won't collect.

<http://uk.freecycle.org/> A network of groups where unwanted items can be offered or items wanted can be listed.

[www.seat61.com/](http://www.seat61.com/) This website aims to provide vital information to travellers who want to travel in Europe by train or ferry rather than flying.

[www.planetark.com/](http://www.planetark.com/) The online home of the international charity set up by the former tennis player, Pat Cash. A great website that supports individuals and businesses who want to reduce their day-to-day impact on the environment.

### **Generate your own electricity**

Have you ever thought about installing renewable energy for your business but don't know whether it is viable for your site? Whether it's a wind turbine, anaerobic digester or solar panels, E4environment offers a range of services from Site Viability Studies to assistance with Planning Applications.

We can also arrange for competitive quotes for many renewable technologies. For more information, please contact Nicky on 01743 343403 or [njs@e4environment.co.uk](mailto:njs@e4environment.co.uk)

### **Introducing sustainable electric vehicle charging**

As part of our on-going drive to promote good environmental practices the Green Achiever Scheme have linked up with Green Bays®, the producers of sustainable electric vehicle charging points. We speak with numerous of our members who are interested in using electric vehicles or promoting their use by employees, and the re-charging is often an issue. The Eco-Port outlined below may make considerations easier.

For interested companies, Green Bays® are offering a free site appraisal and survey (possible value of up to £1,500) for Silver or Gold members. Read on and find out more about the Eco-Port.

Whilst many of you will have thought about operating electric vehicles, very few will have considered sustainable charging options as a means for travelling an extra green mile. The team at Green Bays® have taken electric vehicle charging a step further in helping to drive a sustainable future. In developing the Eco-Port, sustainability is at the forefront of the design, with the structure being made from a choice of materials including FSC approved timber it is sure to make a big impression on everyone's environmental agenda.

Whilst the main purpose of the canopy is to mount solar panels, the underside of the canopy is a great space for advertising your company or products. Vehicles are parked underneath the canopy and charged with benefit from a carbon zero source.

Phil Hughes from Green Thinking told us, "There has already been great interest in the product with enquiries coming from a real mix of organisations from local authorities, public charging operators, vehicle manufacturers and dealerships to couriers and even a taxi firm".

The Eco-Port is available in a range of configurations and designs. Green Bays® have developed various schemes for electric vehicles including electric cars, LCVs, electric bikes, scooters, and industrial equipment. A mixed use scheme has been developed and is in the running for the Edinburgh College Green Transport Prize.

UK investment in electric vehicle charging equipment and infrastructure has mainly come from the Government's 'Plugged in Places' project which was set up to encourage the installation of electric vehicle charging points. The electric vehicle industry is really gathering pace and new electric vehicle registrations in 2013 are set to reach record levels in a growing marketplace.

If you are interested in learning more about electric vehicle charging and how the Eco-Port can bring benefits to your business, then please either contact Deb Cairns at the Green Achiever Scheme on 01743 343403 or [deb@greenachiever.co.uk](mailto:deb@greenachiever.co.uk) or contact the Green Bays® team on 01244 911522 or [mail@greenbays.co.uk](mailto:mail@greenbays.co.uk) Twitter: @green\_bays [www.greenbays.co.uk](http://www.greenbays.co.uk)



## Company Profiles

**THE MANDER CENTRE  
WOLVERHAMPTON**



The Mander Centre, Wolverhampton has attained Green Achiever scheme silver award status. Centre director Nicholas Pitt and his team manage over 100 shops, restaurants, cafes, a 500-space car park and a ten-storey office building within the complex. The Mander Centre is committed to preventing pollution and complies with all relevant green legislation. Eco-friendly initiatives allow tenants to segregate waste so that cardboard, plastic, shrink-wrap and hangers are recycled. Low-energy hand dryers, stop taps and dual flush cisterns in the public toilets reduce energy consumption and water usage.

He said: "Over the next three months we aim to increase the proportion of recyclable waste by reducing the total amount of waste we produce. We will continue with our programme of introducing energy-efficient lighting and ensure the environmental credentials of all products purchased and used in the centre are in line with our green objectives. We will also be researching the feasibility of installing solar PV panels, a grey water harvesting facility for use in the public toilets, and electric car and bicycle charging points."

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

## Dates for your diary

**Climate Week 4-10 March 2013** [www.climateweek.com](http://www.climateweek.com) - The UK's biggest climate change campaign incorporating a week of sustainability based events.

**Earth Hour 23 March 2013 8.30pm** [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org) - In 2012, 7001 towns and cities in 152 countries switched off their lights sending a powerful message for action to save the planet with many individuals making a commitment to go 'Beyond the Hour' and continue to with their action for the planet.

**Sustainability Live 16 - 18 April 2013** [www.sustainabilitylive.com](http://www.sustainabilitylive.com) - Held at the NEC, Birmingham, Sustainability Live provides a showcase of the latest products and services across the energy, water and energy from waste sectors.

**Recycle Week 17 - 23 June 2013** [www.recyclenow.com/recycle\\_week](http://www.recyclenow.com/recycle_week) - A week of recycling events run throughout the country.

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Sincerely,

Mandy Stoker  
Green Achiever Scheme