

GREEN ACHIEVER NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2010

Holidays are over. Schools have reopened. The weather has turned from dull to wet. Yep, autumn is officially here. So it may be odd that our newsletter this month is featuring our collaboration with the Bike2Work Scheme! You could say comic timing but many companies have already taken advantage of the Government's Green Transport Plan and have used the Bike2Work Scheme to make savings on their employer NI contributions, reduce their carbon footprint and support the drive for a healthier workforce. With all these benefits we decided not to wait 'for the right time'

Plus our collaboration fits neatly with the **World Car-free day on Wednesday September 22nd**. International World Car-free day is an initiative from the World Car-free Network encouraging people to give up their cars for a day and explore alternative means of more environmentally friendly forms of transport such as cycling. <http://www.worldcarfree.net/wcfd/>

But if you're not about to get on your bike there are other ways to reduce your environmental impacts so see our featured company for this month – Plymouth-based Print Copy Scan - for some good practice ideas.

Mandy



BIKE2WORK SCHEME

We told you last December about the Green Achiever Scheme entering into partnership with the [Bike 2 Work Scheme](#), a nationwide initiative that aims to get the country's workforce out of their cars and into the saddle. The venture is made possible by the Government's Green Transport Plan, which aims to reduce environmental pollution, promote healthier lifestyles and make cycling to work a cost-effective option for employees.

The employer benefits include a saving on employer NI contributions (up to 12%), an opportunity to reduce your carbon footprint and a capacity to improve the health and productivity of employees - at a reduced cost to them also. The scheme allows employees to obtain a bike at a massively discounted rate. This is made possible via a tax exemption whereby employees save on income tax, NI contributions and VAT and the cost is deducted from the employee's gross salary in the form of monthly interest free instalments. The scheme is simple to implement and is proving massively popular.

Laura Evison, Account Manager of Bike 2 Work Scheme Ltd said: "This is one of those rare win:win opportunities where there are clear advantages to be had for employers, employees and the

environment also. For businesses concerned about improving their environmental credentials and reducing their environmental impacts, the Bike 2 Work Scheme offers a great solution which enables them to offer a genuine employee benefit also. "

For more information (and to see how Bike2workscheme can help you develop a happier, healthier, more productive workforce, visit www.bike2workscheme.co.uk or contact Laura Evison on 0800 612 2603.

As we wish to collaborate effectively with the Bike2Work Scheme we would like to share data with them but clearly will not do so without your permission. Please indicate your consent for us to share your company contact details with our affiliated companies and carefully chosen third parties.

Please forward this statement to info@greenachiever.co.uk if you do not wish to have your company information shared.

" I do not want you to forward my company contact information to Affiliated Companies or Third Parties."

Harnessing Wind Power for Cash – (Feed-in-Tariffs Scheme)

In our [March E4e-manager newsletter](#) we ran an article about the Government's introduction of Feed-in-Tariffs (FITs) from April this year. FITs will guarantee a price for a fixed period for electricity generated using small-scale low carbon technologies. Effectively the Scheme is aimed at encouraging the uptake of small-scale low-carbon energy technologies including wind turbines (including micro wind turbines), solar photovoltaics (PV), micro-hydro and combined heat and power (CHP).

With 15 years experience in the field of wind farm development, E4environment Ltd are able to offer initial site viability studies to enable people to make informed decisions about the possibility of installing micro-wind turbines. A report would be produced with data on wind speeds, environmental constraints and sensitivities, (such as ecology, landscape and visual, noise, archaeology, landscape designations, local setting, cultural heritage and aviation) turbine options and an economic overview.

If you're thinking about taking advantage of FITs and if you are interested in micro-wind turbines please do call us at E4environment on 01743 343403 or email us at info@e4environment.co.uk .

Company Profile

Plymouth based Print Copy Scan specialise in the supply and repair of colour and mono laser printer units, fax machines and photocopiers.

Aside from joining the Green Achiever scheme, the director Steve Whiteway is chair and founder member of the Eco Business Group at Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and an active member of the Plymouth Climate Change Commission. He said said: "We are also very proud of the being voted Eco dealer of the year 2010 by our supplier Develop and it shows our commitment to low energy devices and strengthens our position in the schools and charity sector where we have many devices in the field."

Print Copy Scan will be exhibiting at Plymouth's first Eco Business Fayre at Plymouth Guildhall on 27th October 2010, between 09.30am and 4.30pm.

www.printcopyscan.co.uk