

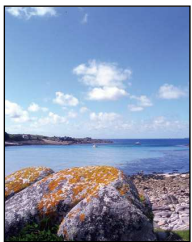


ISSUE:



The Newsletter - reducing, reusing and recycling on Scilly

ScillyWaste project marches on



The ScillyWaste project continues to implement effective, long-term solutions to the waste issues on the islands by engaging with residents and visitors, and introducing technologies, such as glass crushing and composting. Through raising awareness and diverting waste via

technological means, ScillyWaste aims to reduce the amount of waste that has to be disposed of, helping to protect the unique Scilly environment that we all cherish. To ensure that ScillyWaste funding continues for another year we are in the process of submitting a bid to the Sustainable Development Fund through the AONB – we will keep you posted on the progress.

Clare Lewis helps ScillyWaste

Local girl Clare Lewis has been doing some sterling work for ScillyWaste, helping to carryout essential aspects of the project such as a home composting trial and promoting plastic bag reuse in shops, as well as helping to design and coordinate a schools waste workshop that will teach local children all about waste and recycling. Clare will also be conducting household visits to ask residents various questions on local waste issues, and to give a reusable ScillyWaste bag to every home.

Scilly composting a resounding success

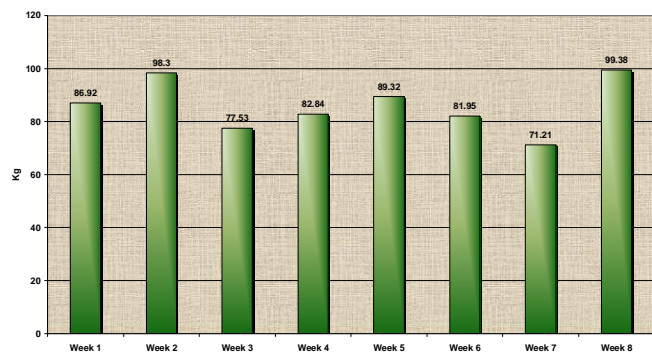
The series of compost bin giveaway days held in August, September and October ensured that nearly 48% of households across Scilly now have a compost bin, helping to divert over 73 tonnes of organic kitchen waste in a year. This illustrates that composting not only feeds the garden for free, but it also ensures that total household waste is hugely reduced. Indeed, many residents have commented on how their black bag waste has significantly decreased, by up to half in some cases, showing the benefits of home composting in terms of protecting and enhancing the environment.

Another composter giveaway day is planned for March where another 150 Green Johannas will be available for free; if we can give all of these away over 64% of residents will have access to a composter, increasing diversion of kitchen waste to just under 100 tonnes per year.

Home composting trial reveals capacity to compost

Since late December 2005 Clare Lewis has been helping to conduct and coordinate a two month long home composting trial involving 25 households, providing vital information on the amount of food and garden waste being composted, helping to reduce black bag waste. The results are now in (see graph below), and they make interesting reading. The total composted over the 8 week trial was 687.45kg, with an average of 22.62 households taking part, which is an average of 3.80kg per household per week. Currently 48% of households on Scilly have a composter, suggesting over 83 tonnes of food waste will be diverted from disposal per year.

Isles of Scilly Home Composting Trial



With the additional 140 compost bins that will be given away in April, up to 111 tonnes of food waste could be composted per year! For further information on composting, please visit: www.ScillyWaste.org.uk or www.recyclenow.com or phone 0845 600 0323.

Real nappies prove popular

Since the three real nappy trial kits were made available they have proved very popular with parents, having been continuously loaned out on month long

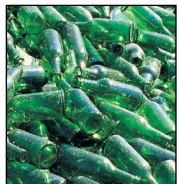
trials since October 2005. The trial kits contain many different brands of real nappy, representing various styles and designs. If you would like to try one of the trial kits, please contact the midwife, Kerry Youngman, on 07767 328 8175.

Calling all real nappy users

Using washable nappies will save you a substantial amount of money – up to £500 for 1 baby – but we know that some people find it hard to find the money to buy washable nappies up front (between £50 and £250 depending on style chosen). Luckily, parents here can access an interest free loan of up to £500 to purchase washable nappies plus a washing machine if needed, with repayments of only £5 per week – making washable nappies cheaper than disposables right from the start! However, we are looking for someone to become a nappy agent able to supply washable nappies to interested parents. If you use, or have used, washable nappies and would like to earn some extra money please get in touch with Bec Thomas at the Cornish Real Nappy Project (details below).

Real Nappy Week

April 24th – 30th is National Real Nappy Week and to show our commitment ScillyWaste and the AONB have teamed up to raise awareness about the benefits of offering real nappies to visitors. In this respect, free real nappy kits, which include several nappy styles and sizes, are being offered to accommodation providers to be used by visitors to cut down on seasonal waste. Bryony and Nick Lishman of Mincarlo Guest House have already expressed an interest in using one of the kits, which leaves four that will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like further information on obtaining a real nappy kit, please contact the AONB on 01720 423 486 and speak to Louise Graham.



Glass crushing on St Agnes and Bryher

The glass crushing trial at Tamarisk Farm on St Agnes has brought to light several issues with the current glass crusher model. After extensive consultation with the makers of the equipment and Ben Hicks who has been running the glass crushing operation, we have decided to exchange the present crusher with the next model up in the range to make the operation run more efficiently. Around 2 tonnes of glass has been crushed to date by Ben Hicks and this will be stored for use as an aggregate in an upcoming barn construction project which will house the new crusher. We expect the barn to be completed at the beginning of the autumn, when crushing will begin on a larger scale. Using glass locally means money is

saved on importing aggregate with the added environmental benefit of fewer ship movements, lowering emissions and associated pollution.

We are also in discussion with Chris Hopkins and Chris Potterton about obtaining a glass crusher for Bryher, diverting up to 20 tonnes of glass a year for use as an aggregate substitute in road building. Bryher already has a well established glass collection system in place, which includes the two biggest producers of glass, Hell Bay Hotel and the campsite, allowing a straightforward transition to glass crushing to take place. Watch this space for further updates.

British International to boost waste awareness

ScillyWaste is in the final stages of producing a new set of boarding cards for British International, the helicopter airline, on the theme of waste. The boarding cards cover all aspects of waste and recycling at the national and local levels, from paper and glass to cans and composting. With 127,000 passengers travelling to Scilly in 2004, the potential for generating awareness with regard to waste minimisation is huge. The new cards will depict messages about reducing, recycling and reusing waste and will be made sustainably from recycled foamex, a by-product of the print and design industry. It is hoped that the messages relayed by the boarding cards will encourage people to think about the amount of waste they produce when on Scilly, helping to reduce overall waste production, especially in the high season.

St Martin's to get new waste site

With funding from The Sustainable Development Fund the clay pit area on St Martin's where all domestic waste has hitherto been dumped is undergoing an extreme make-over. The area is being completely cleared and will be turned into a smart civic amenity site with different types of waste being separated into skips placed in bays, making it much easier to transport waste and recycle materials such as scrap metal. Local materials and labour are being used to build the site, which should be operational by May 2006. Additionally, Bryher's waste area is also going to be modernised with a similar system, allowing waste to be safely stored and transported to St Mary's for disposal or recycling.

Possibility of securing further funding for 2006

The Sustainable Development Fund is currently inviting applications for projects that focus on protecting the Isles of Scilly for now and the future. If you have an idea for a project that will enhance Scilly by conserving the quality of the environment, economy

and/or local communities, then contact the AONB office to discuss your proposal on 01720 423 486. Application forms can be downloaded from the AONB website at www.ios-aonb.info. The deadline for applications is 31st May 2006.

Sustainable Scilly life

A variety of sustainably produced products and foods can be found on Scilly, some of which are featured here.

Scilly Organics (St Martin's) – grow a range of fresh organic fruit and vegetables, available seasonally; contact Jonathon Smith on 01720 423 663 or go to www.scillyorganics.co.uk

Mike & Christine Hicks (St Agnes) – produce honey and a range of beauty products (soap & floral water) made from herbs and flowers.

Product spotlight

Waste Log Maker – Fuel for Free! Available from Natural Collection
www.naturalcollection.com / 0870 331 33 33



Help reduce the amount of paper you throw away by turning it into logs that can be used on your fire. Not only do you reduce your waste, you also save money by reducing the amount of logs you have to buy.

You can help to close the 'recycling loop' by purchasing recycled products, as this creates market demand which in turn supports further demand for recyclable materials. **You're not truly recycling unless you're buying recycled.**

Local industry perspective



Mark Praeger – Ales of Scilly, Old Farm Outhouse, Trenoweth, St Mary's

Mark has been brewing since he was 13, and so had a wealth of experience behind him when he decided to establish Ales of Scilly in 2001, giving the Isles of Scilly its very own brewery.

All his brewing equipment was purchased second-hand (which illustrates reuse!) saving money as well as giving a new lease of life to the equipment. Mark has brewed a dozen different ales to date, with the

most popular ones being 'Scuppered' all year round and 'Natural Beauty' in the summer. Mark supplies his ale to all eight drinking establishments on Scilly, as well as 2 pubs in Penzance and numerous beer festivals all over the UK.

Mark is aiming to be bottling his ales to make exporting to the mainland easier, which will bring his much admired ale to more lucky people! Call Mark on 01720 422 419 for more information.

Mike & Christine Hicks – Honey & Beauty Products, St Agnes

Mike and Christine have been bee-keeping and producing honey on St Agnes since 1991, supplying local stores and individuals and selling to visitors. All the bee-keeping equipment was purchased second-hand, extending the life of equipment that might otherwise have been scrapped. Bees not only produce delicious honey, they also pollinate plants which help to nurture the local environment.

Mike and Christine branched out in 2004 adding locally made soaps and floral water to their honey making activities. Essential oils are extracted from Camomile, Aniseed, Rosemary, Lavender, Geranium, Sage and naturally growing Samphire to provide wonderful scents to their soaps and floral water range, which can be bought at Agnes Stores, Tourist Information Office, Longstone Heritage Centre and Bordeaux's gift shop.

The New Deli, Hugh Town, St Mary's

The New Deli, run by Gaz and Button, opened on 8th December 2005 and has proved very popular with residents. The emphasis is on fresh, locally sourced food with as little packaging as possible. Where packaging is essential The Deli aim to use biodegradable materials, such as paper carrier bags, recycled paper cups (closing the loop!) and salad pots made from starch based plastic that biodegrades in 60 days. Using biodegradable starch based plastics is especially important in Scilly where there is no plastic recycling, meaning less waste goes into the incinerator or becomes rubbish on the beaches which can damage tourism. Well done Gaz and Button for taking the lead! Telephone No: 01720 422 734.

Events to look out for

March 2006 – Primary school waste workshop; details to be confirmed; please look out for publicity or speak to the AONB or Clare Lewis (07900 293 421)

April 2006 – Green Johanna giveaway day; details to be confirmed; please look out for publicity or speak to the AONB or Clare Lewis (07900 293 421)

March 2006 – Household visits; Clare Lewis will be visiting a proportion of households on St Mary's to obtain feedback from residents in relation to ScillyWaste

Useful contacts

- ReZolve Kernow, Unit 32, Beatrice Road, Walker Lines Industrial Estate, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 1RD; Tel: 08450 580 551; Email: info@scillywaste.org.uk; Web: www.scillywaste.org.uk
- Council of the Isles of Scilly, Town Hall, St Mary's, TR21 0LW; Tel: 01720 422 537; Email: enquiries@scilly.gov.uk; Web: www.scilly.gov.uk
- Isles of Scilly AONB Unit, Old Wesleyan Chapel, Garrison Lane, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, TR12 0JD; Tel: 01720 423 486; Email: cdryden@scilly.gov.uk; Web: www.ios-aonb.info

For information on Real Nappies please contact:

- Kerry Youngman (midwife) on 07767 328 8175
- Cornish Real Nappy Project, Unit 32, Walker Lines Industrial Estate, Beatrice Road, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 1RD; Tel: 01208 265 933; Email: info@crnp.org.uk; Web: www.crnp.org.uk

If you are interested in finding out more about waste:

- Recycle for Cornwall; Tel: 0800 612 0456; Email: info@recycleforcornwall.org.uk; Web: www.recycleforcornwall.org.uk
- Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP); Tel: 0808 100 2040; Email: helpline@wrap.org.uk; Web: www.wrap.org.uk