

Cambridge Environment Festival 2010 – Programme of Events

Saturday 12th – Saturday 26th June

Borrow a young explorer backpack at Cambridge University Botanic Garden during the Festival, containing a special range of activities including 'spot a lot' activity sheet, binoculars, minibeast magnifying pots, a biodiversity fortune teller and leaf hunting activity. Backpacks are free to borrow and available from either entrance to the Garden.

Cost: Adults £4.00. Under 16's are free.

INFO: www.botanic.am.ac.uk, 01223 336265.

Saturday 12th June

Arbury Carnival

10:00am – 4:00pm

Arbury Town Park, Campkin Road

Visit the City Council environment stands for expert advice on energy efficiency grants and recycling, find out about plans for new local nature reserves in the city, and pick up your free kitchen caddy (while stocks last!).

Also see a flamboyant performance from the Orchard Park Carnival Club, including body and junk percussion, recycled costumes and a banana bike!

INFO: www.arburycarnival.org.uk, www.parkartsgroup.org.uk, amy@start-arts.org.uk 01954 288748.

12th and 13th June

Conversazione Natural History Exhibition

11:00am – 4:00pm

Cambridge University Department of Zoology, Downing Street (entrance opp. Tennis Court Rd.)

The annual exhibition of the natural world. Past exhibition subjects have included slime, cacti, cowpats, birds & bees, local reserves, historical documents and much more. Refreshments available.

INFO: exhibition@cnhs.org.uk.

Visit to the Green Backyard in Peterborough.

9:45am for 10:00am train at Cambridge Station

This inspirational community growing project is set in 2.3 acres of previously derelict land in Peterborough. Meet at Cambridge Station to travel to Peterborough by train. Bring a picnic. Organised by Cambridge Carbon Footprint. Booking essential.

INFO: info@cambridgecarbonfootprint.org, 01223 971353.

Plants in your Neighbourhood walk

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Meet: entrance to Cambridge United FC, Newmarket Road.

With Keith Jordan search out plants recorded by botanist John Ray in 1660.

What new plants have arrived in the last 350 years?

Route: from the Leper Chapel to Stourbridge Common and the remains of Barnwell Priory. Children must be accompanied.

INFO: abbeyaction1@tiscali.co.uk, 01223 517259.

Sunday 13th June

Biodiversity Fair and Family Fun Day

11:00am – 5:00pm

Lammas Land, Newnham Road

Celebrate the wonders of nature at this free event, involving Cambridge-based local and international conservation organisations. Activities include natural art workshops and guided walks of Paradise local nature reserve and Sheeps Green/Coe Fen county wildlife site.

INFO: sustainablecity@cambridge.gov.uk , 01223 457135.

Junk percussion workshop and performance

Time: TBC

Histon and Impington Recreation Ground

Celebrate the opening of a redeveloped recreation space for children and families at this Family Fun Day. Make your own junk instrument and join Orchard Park Carnival Club in their fantastic 'recycled spectacular'.

INFO: amy@start-arts.org.uk, 01954 288748.

Foraged lunch

11.30am - 1.30pm

Venue: TBC!

Wild food expert, forager and Transition Cambridge Food Group member Jacky Sutton-Adam demonstrates some simple, tasty, wild food recipes. Prepare and share a communal lunch together. Adults only. Booking essential (only 8 places). Cost: £10 per person

INFO: wildfoodie@gmail.com, www.wildfoodie.com.

'FISH' by Gomito Productions

9:00pm – 9:45pm

Lammas Land pool, Cambridge

One man remembers the year of the great flood, when fish ruled the world and humans slept with the seaweed. Visual theatre company Gomito Productions, a paddling pool and some water puppets, will help him tell you an apocalypse story you will never forget.

Bring a cushion and blanket. Tickets £5 (Under 18's FREE)

INFO: The Junction Box Office tickets@junction.co.uk, 01223 511511

Monday 14th June

Talk - 'Nature & Transition'

7.30am - 9:00pm

Friends Meeting House, Jesus Lane, Cambridge

Iain Webb (Wildlife Trust and Transition Cambridge founder member) talks about the importance of including nature in our responses to climate change and peak oil. Learn why any sustainable future must have nature at its core. Free, by donation. INFO: www.transitioncambridge.org/events

Tuesday 15th June

The Cambridge History & Wildlife Safari!

6:30pm – 8:30pm

Coldhams Lane entrance to Coldhams Common (opp. Cromwell Road).

Learn the history of the Common and the best places to see water voles and sticklebacks with local historian Allan Brigham and wildlife expert Iain Webb. No wheelchair access. Booking advised.

Cost: £6.50 (under 16's free) - includes contribution to The Wildlife Trust.

INFO: allanbrigham@hotmail.com, 07933114324.

(In conjunction with Cambridge Past, Present and Future and The Friends of the Leper Chapel.)

Eco-renovation Question-Time and launch of Open Eco-House days.

7.30pm – 9:30pm

St Luke's Church Centre, Victoria Road

Meet the experts and ask your questions about creating a climate-friendly home: Anne Cooper (Sustainable Architect); Andy Brown (Sustainable Construction consultant); Tim Acheson (Green builder) and Justin Smith (Council officer and grants specialist). Cambridge City Councillor Sian Reid, Executive Councillor for Climate Change & Growth will Chair. Organised by Cambridge Carbon Footprint. Donations welcome.

INFO: www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org.

Wednesday 16th June

Bird Hide Work Party at Wandlebury Country Park

10:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00 – 3:00pm

Help to build part of the new Bird Hide overlooking Varley's Field, a new feature for the park. Come for the morning or afternoon session, or both! Bring a picnic. Booking required.

INFO: Cambridge PPF Ranger 01223 243830, www.cambridgeppf.org.

Cambridge Climate Change Charter Awards Ceremony

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Venue: TBC

This local initiative helping businesses and organisations do more to address climate change issues will announce Charter Award winners at this event. Includes winners' presentations on how they have made a difference, and a workshop on communication, exploring ways to engage colleagues and friends in climate change discussions.

INFO: www.cambridgeclimatechangecharter.org, 01223 460475.

Film screening - 'Power of Community: How Cuba survived Peak Oil'

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Arbury Community Centre, Campkin Road

The inspiring story of how Cuba dealt with the sudden break of supply of oil & food imports after the Soviet Union collapsed in 1990. Follow the hardships and creativity of the Cuban people during this difficult time.

Cost: £1.

INFO: transitioncambridge@googlemail.com

www.transitioncambridge.org/events.

Talk - 'The World Needs Your Passion'

7.30pm – 9:00pm

Friends Meeting House, 12 Jesus Lane

Local coach Corrina Gordon-Barnes explores why passion must be the foundation of our environmental action, and introduces the concept of Contribution Footprints. Hosted by Transition Cambridge. Spaces are limited, so arrive early.

Cost: By donation (recommended £2/£3)

INFO: yes@youinspireme.co.uk, 01223 415113.

Thursday 17th June

17th – 20th June

3rd Ring Out: Rehearsing the Future

11.30am, 1:30am, 4:30pm and 7:00pm

Parker's Piece, Cambridge

The temperature is rising, the Earth is changing, your city is threatened. How will you respond? *3rd Ring Out* takes you to 2033 and an emergency planning rehearsal set in Cambridge.

Metis uses live performance, video simulation and interactive computer systems to combine the immediacy of theatre with the thrill of a disaster movie; a fiction rooted in fact. www.3rdRingOut.co.uk. Booking essential. Tickets £8 (£5 conc.)

INFO: The Junction Box Office tickets@junction.co.uk, 01223 511511.

(Awarded a TippingPoint Commission with support from the Department of Energy and Climate Change
Co-commissioned by Without Walls, Norfolk and Norwich Festival 2010 and The Junction, Cambridge.
Supported by The National Lottery through Arts Council England).

East Cambridge Wildlife Walk

6:30pm – 8:30pm

Meet at the Uphall Road entrance of Barnwell East Local Nature Reserve.

Explore a wealth of wild places in east Cambridge. Discover moon carrot, hopefully spot a kingfisher, reach the highest point in Cambridge and, with luck, see Ely Cathedral.

INFO: iain.webb@wildlifebcnp.org, 01954 713531

Story Telling - '2020 Visions of the Cambridge of the Future'

7.30pm – 9:00pm

Cambridge Blue Pub, Gwydir Street

Transition Storytellers look into our city's future – how might it change when we use less oil and find new, exciting ways of living? Bring along any self-penned stories on this theme. Participation not essential but warmly welcomed!

INFO: www.transitioncambridge.org/events.

Saturday 19th June

Mammal Day at Wandlebury Country Park

10:00am – 4:00pm

Wandlebury Stable Rooms (Education Centre).

Which mammals can be found at Wandlebury Country Park? Look for tracks and signs, dissect owl pellets and join in small mammal trapping. Bring a packed lunch. Booking essential.

Cost: £5 per child (CPPF members £3). INFO: Cambridge PPF Ranger 01223 243830, www.cambridgeppf.org.

Donarbon Waste Management Park Open Day

10:00am – 4:00pm

Ely Rd, Waterbeach

Find out what happens to your waste, see our revolutionary new waste treatment plant and enjoy a guided tour by minibus. Bring sacks and a spade to help yourself to free compost!

INFO: reception@donarbon.com, 01223 861010, www.donarbon.com

Think Green and How to go about it

10:30am – 4:00pm

62-64 Victoria Road

Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (CECF) is an umbrella group for the Black and Minority Ethnic groups in the Cambridge area. Meet the staff and volunteers of their “Forumfield” allotment project – where people of different cultures learn about each other by growing food together. All welcome, light refreshments provided.

INFO: mitesh@cecf.co.uk, 01223 315877.

Bug Hunt and picnic

11:00am – 1:00pm

Trumpington Community Orchard (path between 112 – 114 Foster Road)

It's National Insect Week so come and see the beetles, bugs and other tiny creatures collected around the trees and woodpiles. We'll provide magnifiers so you can take a closer look! Bring a picnic lunch and a blanket.

INFO: trumpingtonorchard@yahoo.co.uk, 01223 841870 or 840602, www.trumpingtonorchard.org.

Young people and the environment - open session

11.00am – 1.00pm

Brown's Field Youth and Community Centre, 31a Green End Road

Local young people have been learning about the environment and the diversity of life over the last year. See displays of their ideas and what they've made. Refreshments provided.

INFO: The Brown's Field team, 01223 420309.

Sunday 20th June

June 20th and June 26th.

Cambridge Open Eco-Houses with Cambridge Carbon Footprint

11:00am – 4:00pm

Venues: TBC

Cambridge householders open their doors to show best examples of how to renovate your home to make it truly climate-friendly. Super-insulation, pv panels, solar-thermal, off-grid heating, sedum roofs etc will be on display.

Booking essential.

INFO: www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org, 01223 971353.

Plant Swap with Trumpington Allotment Society

10:30am – 12:00pm

Allotment trading hut (track between 80-82 Foster Road)

Swap your spare seedlings, plants and seeds and meet other local gardeners.

Come even if you haven't anything to swap - there's usually enough to spare!

(Support from Transition Cambridge food group).

INFO: trumpington@allotments.net

The Environment Event

11:00am – 4:00pm

Milton Country Park

Celebrate International Year of Biodiversity with free pond dipping, den building and crafts on the Recycling Bus. For children up to 11 years, accompanied by an adult. At 12:00pm the winners of the Cambridge Environment Festival 'Nature in Cambridge' photo competition will be announced at the visitor centre. Take the Transition story-telling trail (2pm – 3pm) and listen to stories inspired by the wildlife living there (www.transitioncambridge.org/events).

Also 'Think Global, Buy Local' stalls from local sustainable businesses.

Parking: £2 per car (except blue badge holders).

INFO: www.cambridgesportlakes.org.uk/MiltonCountryPark.cfm, 01223 420060.

Monday 21st June

Summer Solstice Stroll - For the early birds!

7:00am – 8.30am

Hemingford Road entrance, Romsey Recreation Ground

Savour the sounds and sights of nature in this neighbourhood green space with Keith Jordan (Romsey Garden Club). Ends with a light breakfast at Ross Street Community Centre. Children must be accompanied. To book, call 01223 471674.

(In partnership with Caroline Biggs, Community Development, Cambridge City Council).

Environment Pub Quiz

Cambridge Blue Pub, Gwydir Street

7:00pm – 10:00pm

Join in an evening of friendly competition at the 5th annual environment pub quiz for your chance to win some eco-goodies! Teams of up to 6 people, £6 team entry fee. All proceeds go to a local environment charity. Book your team in advance, or just turn up! INFO: sustainablecity@cambridge.gov.uk, 01223 457046.

Live the future today

7:30pm – 9:30pm

The Barn, St Barnabas Church, Mill Rd/St Barnabas Rd

With Cambridge Carbon Footprint members, staff and volunteers, discover how we can prepare for a low-carbon future together with our award-winning projects including the Akashi Project, Carbon Conversation groups and Climate-Friendly Homes. Delicious low carbon refreshments provided.

Donations welcome. INFO: www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org, 01223 971353.

Tuesday 22nd June

Gardening and Green spaces walk

6.30pm – 8:00pm

Meet at the garden area on Mill Road, (opp. Madras Road).

With Keith Jordan, seek out the wildlife livening up Mill Road and Brookfields such as foxglove trees and kingfishers. Refreshments at Ross Street Community Centre. Children must be accompanied. To book, call 01223 471674.

(In partnership with Caroline Biggs, Community Development, Cambridge City Council).

Film screening: 'In Transition'

7:30pm – 9:30pm

URC Church Hall, Emmanuel Church, (corner of Cherry Hinton Road/ Hartington Grove)

See how towns across the globe are transitioning to more sustainable living – ending their dependence on fossil fuels and lessening the negative effects of climate change. For all ages. Free - donations welcome.

INFO: www.transitioncambridge.org/events.

Wednesday 23rd June

Rags to Riches Fashion Show

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Manor Community College, Arbury Road

The annual competition fashion show for Cambridgeshire schoolchildren to design a fashion item from waste materials. Will we see another 'crisp packet' dress, or an alternative use for drink cartons?

Cost: £3.50. Booking essential.

INFO: office@manorcc.org.uk, 01223 508742.

Talk - The Wicken Fen Vision

7:30 pm – 9:30pm

Friends Meeting House, 12 Jesus Lane.

Chris Soans (National Trust) talks about one of Europe's most important wetland sites for biodiversity. The Wicken Fen Vision is a 100-year project to safeguard the existing biodiversity and adapt the reserve to climate change. Organised by Cambridge Carbon Footprint.

Free - donations welcome. Booking essential.

INFO: info@cambridgecarbonfootprint.org, 01223 971353.

Transition Story-writing Competition prize-giving ceremony

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Michaelhouse café, Trinity Street

Story-writing competition winners will be announced and awarded their prizes! Their stories, set in Cambridge in 2050 describe how the city has adapted to life without oil and other fossil fuels, but is nevertheless still a buzzing and vibrant city. All welcome.

INFO: www.transitioncambridge.org/storycompetition.

Thursday 24th June

‘Bee’ is for Biodiversity!

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Cambridge Arts Picturehouse, Regent Street

Honeybees pollinate 1/3 of the food we eat but a science mystery, ‘Colony Collapse Disorder’, is causing them to die in their billions – potentially affecting global food production.

Hear about The Co-operative’s ‘Plan Bee’ campaign and get a local perspective on this issue from Dr Toby Carter (Vice Chair, Cambridge Bee Keepers Association) before a screening of ‘Vanishing of the Bees’ (2009). This eye-opening account of the truth behind the declining bee population asks if it’s time to end factory farming and let nature continue the job? Rated ‘U’ (Dur: 94 min). Cost: £3.50. Bookings: 0871 704 2050 www.picturehouses.co.uk.

(A Cambridgeshire Film Consortium event, sponsored by The Co-operative Membership www.co-operative.co.uk and supported by the Co-operative ‘Plan Bee’ Campaign).

Wild Food Forage Walk

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Location: TBC

Wild food expert, forager and Transition Cambridge Food Group member Jacky Sutton-Adam walks you through the pleasures, health and environment benefits of wild food plants. Limited spaces, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Cost: £3.

INFO: wildfoodie@gmail.com, www.transitioncambridge.org/events.

West Cambridge Wildlife Walk with the Wildlife Trust

6:30pm – 8:30pm

Meet at the corner of Trinity Lane/Garrett Hostel Lane.

Discover the countryside just 15 minutes walk from Kings College chapel.

Listen out for skylark and yellowhammer; search for rare plants and possibly spy a brown hare! Includes a stile to cross and muddy paths, so bring appropriate footwear.

INFO: iain.webb@wildlifebcnp.org, 01954 713531.

Friday 25th June

Abbey Black Bin Challenge

2:00pm – 5:00pm and Saturday 26th June 10:00am – 1:00pm

Outside Barnwell Road library

Get sensible advice and tips from local recycling champions, and enjoy kitchen leftover cookery demonstrations, apple pressing, and a veggie and fruit swap shop with Freedom Club Timebank volunteers.

INFO: david@freedomclubtimebank.org.uk, 07757 103149.

(In partnership with Abbey Action Project, Learn and Train Parkside Federation adult education and Abbey neighbourhood recycling champions).

Saturday 26th June

Wildlife Trust Garden Watch

All weekend

Join in our countywide survey to find out and celebrate what lives in our gardens over this weekend. Keep an eye on your garden both day and night and fill out the online form to share your sightings and claim a free gift.

INFO: www.wildlifebcnp.org/wildlifegardening, 01954 713500.

Marvellous Minibeasts

1:00pm – 4:00pm

East Pit Local Nature Reserve, Lime Kiln Road, Cherry Hinton

Join the local Wildlife Trust to discover just what lives in this unique nature reserve. With over 500 species present, there are plenty to find!

No need to book. INFO: laura.watson@wildlifebcnp.org, 01954 713530.

Bike Week section

Get pedalling this summer! Cycle Cambridge has organised lots of fun cycling events:

12th & 13th June

Bike Fair on Parker's Piece

Try out the cycle scalextric, watch a movie at the cycle cinema and enjoy a free pedal-powered fruit smoothie at the *Blendavenda* bar. There will be free advice on cycle training, security and basic bike maintenance along with free bike goodies.

16th & 25th June

Unusual history bike tour around Cambridge

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Discover the real Cambridge with local historian and Blue Badge Tour Guide Allan Brigham. Cycle past history through Cambridge's unique green spaces from the Market Square to Cherry Hinton Hall.

Cost: £3 (accompanied children under 14 go free)

Tickets available from The Cambridge Tourist Information Centre, Peas Hill.

19th – 27th June

Get cycling during Bike Week

Free cycle hire, free guided bike rides, work place cycle challenge, competitions and free cycle maps of local routes.

For further information visit the events pages at

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling or call 01223 699906.