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Mawdesley is going Green thanks to Local Government support

A group of enthusiasts have recently come together to form *Green Team Mawdesley*, with the aim of reducing the carbon footprint of its members and other residents in the area.

Collectively, the group is fairly knowledgeable on this subject and is keen to share what it knows and continues to learn with the rest of the community.

Its aim is simply to help raise people's awareness of the negative effects of Climate Change and to demonstrate how we can all reduce these effects by making some modest investments and simple lifestyle changes. The Team's aim is not to alarm or lecture anyone, but simply to encourage everyone to make a difference. If successful, this initiative will hopefully be taken up by other villages in the area, until everyone is making an even bigger difference.

For those people who are not quite ready to save the Earth, there are other benefits closer to home – If acted upon, the Team's helpful hints should reduce people's energy bills and the amount of waste they need to get rid of.

Initiatives

Here's two things the Team is currently pursuing:

1. Local Awareness Project

The team recently received some welcomed grant aid from Mawdesley Parish Council (£250) and a generous award from LCC's Climate Change Fund (£9,200) to assist in publicity and the putting together of a green awareness road-show. The package will comprise of a weather-proof trailer in which will be transported various presentational materials such as placards, awareness packs and a range of demonstration kits. This equipment will be used to demonstrate to local groups various practical ways we can all reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and other finite natural resources, the consumption of which is harmful to the environment.

The Team is planning to make presentations to local schools and other organizations in the area, while loaning out its equipment to like-minded groups.

2. School Project

The Team is also keen to pursue a renewable energy project with the village primary schools. A roof-mounted photovoltaic array is anticipated for the conversion of sunlight into salable electricity. The income generated by such a project being used by the schools to raise awareness of Climate Change in their youngsters and, hopefully, reaching their parents as well.

The Team

The Green Team is properly constituted, its Membership currently stands at 12 and it is steadily increasing.

The core management team comprises of Rod Collins, Chair, Pete Green, Secretary and technologist, Martin Trengove, Treasurer and grant chaser, Grahame Green, Environmentalist and Parish Councillor, Tom Poole, IT and waste reduction, Jo Woodhouse, food issues and the natural world, Mike McDonald and Jane Woodburn with Andy Daulton .

Communications

All new ideas, suggestions and applications for membership are welcome and can be made by ringing Tom on 01704 822617, or by emailing us on :

gtmawd@googlemail.com

Forthcoming events will be advertised on local notice boards throughout the village and now, thanks to Tom, the Team also has an active and developing website at : www.greenteam.mawdesley-village.org.uk

In Conclusion

The Members of Green Team - Mawdesley are no different to any other people who live in the area and who are concerned about Climate Change, except possibly for one thing – they have discovered that it feels better to be doing something about it - they feel less like victims.

In addition, their modest efforts may just rub off on other people, other residents and other communities.

As Rod says, *“We have to begin somewhere - Here and now seems a good place to start.”*



Left to right : Tom Poole, Pete Green, Grahame Green, Andy Dalton, Jane Woodburn, Martin Trengove, Jo Woodhouse and Rod Collins