



Community Advisor Newsletter

News and Updates

Renewable energy hotting up in Kent!

October was an exciting month for the residents of Petham, near Canterbury, when they witnessed the first stages of a Ground Source Heat Pump installation at their local village hall. With the help of Kent Energy Centre a 50% grant was obtained for the heat pump through the government Clearskies grant scheme. **The Facts....**



Only a few metres below the ground the temperature stays at around 11-12 degrees Celsius throughout the year. By using ground source heat pumps (GSHP), this heat can be sourced to provide space heating in the home, and in some cases help pre-heat water for the central heating system.

A heat pump and associated under floor heating system for a domestic property will cost about £1,200-£2000/kW input. An extra £1000 would also pay for a separate fed hot water tank with immersion top up. In comparison to a gas central heating system, a central heating system powered by a ground source heat pump is 15-20% cheaper and would facilitate a 40% reduction in carbon emissions.

For more information on ground source heat pumps, and other types of renewable energy call **Neil Turner** on **020** 8683 6625

Getting the message across in Energy Efficiency Week

Staff from the Kent Energy Centre and Kent's local authorities were out and about all over Kent during National Energy Efficiency Week in October (25th-30th). Roadshows and outreach events took place in a range of locations including markets, hospitals, supermarkets and DIY stores! Hundreds of people took part in the roadshows and took home with them lots of information and freebies! Further to this, over 800 people filled in Home Energy Surveys and have been sent personalised Home Energy Reports as a have given them These reports recommendations on how to make their homes more energy efficient and how to save money on their fuel bills. Not only this, each person who filled out a survey got a free low energy lightbulb, one of which can save about £7 per year on a households energy bills!

Help your home to wrap up warm this winter!

You and your home have no excuse for being cold this winter with lower than ever prices available on loft and cavity wall insulation. The Kent Action to Save Heat scheme (KASH) which is supported by the Kent Local Authorities, offers major discounts on a range of energy efficiency measures. If your home is heated by solid fuel or electricity, you can now get your loft and cavity walls insulated for £50 each. If your home is heated by gas or oil you can get your loft insulated

for £100 and your cavity walls insulated for £125. These prices are inclusive of VAT and fitting. With the winter upon us, now is a great time to take advantage of these offers, and to do our bit to help the environment.



To find out more about the KASH scheme, or to arrange for a free quotation call **0800 358 6669**

Maturity Matters!

As part of the Kent Community Action Partnership project, run by the Kent Energy Centre, a series of multi-agency advice surgeries are to be held throughout Kent, with the first ones already completed in October. One of these events was held in the Trinity Foyer in Maidstone in partnership with the Pension Service. The theme of the event was 'Maturity Matters' and staff from various agencies were there to give advice and help to local pensioners.

Amongst the agencies attending were the Pension Service, Kent Energy Centre (also representing Health Through Warmth), Kent Benefits Partnership, HI (Hearing Impaired) Kent and the HandyVan Scheme.



Rachel Boycott from Kent Energy Centre giving out free low energy light bulbs to Maidstone pensioners.

Approximately 70 people attended the event which took place during the morning of the 28th October, and staff from Kent Energy Centre were able to give lots of advice on keeping warm and healthy in the home especially in winter. Information was also given out about the grants that are available for making homes warmer and more energy efficient, and therefore cheaper to run.



The series of advice surgeries will be held all over Kent throughout the winter months and into the New Year.

Fascinating facts....

If everybody in Kent who could installed Cavity Wall Insulation...

- ...enough carbon dioxide would be saved per year to fill 1,218,738 double decker buses
- ...enough carbon dioxide would be saved per year to fill 42,805 hot air balloons
- ...enough money would be saved per year to pay the annual fuel and power bills of 27,151 households
- ...enough money would be saved to pay the X Factor judges for 5 years

If everybody in Kent replaced their old refrigerator with an A rated model...

- ...enough electricity would be saved each year to run 514,034 TV's for a year
- ...enough electricity would be saved each year to power the Millennium Stadium for the FA Cup Final 1.838 times
- ...enough money would be saved per year to pay the wages for 282 new nurses
- ...enough money would be saved per year to pay wages for 218 new teachers

Think about it...

Do you work with vulnerable people in the community?

The Kent Energy Centre runs a scheme called Health Through Warmth in which free training sessions are available to provide key community workers with a referral pack that helps them to reach and assist clients suffering ill health, and whose damp/cold homes make their health conditions worse. Once identified, we work to find grant assistance to help these people to have warm homes. If you think this is something that is relevant to you, and you would like to have the free training then please call Rachel Boycott on **01233 646786**.

Comments and news stories

If you have a news item related to energy efficiency and you want Kent to hear about it, please e-mail Rachel Boycott at:
rachel@cen.org.uk

The Kent Energy Centre is owned by CEN, a not for profit organisation committed to energy conservation, and is supported by all of the Kent local authorities.

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