



SEAVIEW HOUSE, LYBSTER COMMUNITY BUSINESS AND ENERGY RESOURCE CENTRE



The training room / meeting room has been completed and several meetings and training events have already taken place.

Seaview House promotes Energy Awareness and Renewable Energy, and will be developed as an example of good practice in the reduction of CO₂. The CO₂ Reduction Presentation Area has also been completed.

An application is being developed for installation of Solar Panels for domestic hot water and a Log Boiler to provide heating for the building through Community Energy Scotland (CARES) programme, some match funding will be required.

The Allotments and Polytunnels project has been developed ahead of schedule with plots allocated and most of them now planted with substantial growth of a variety of vegetables. The boxes in the polytunnels have been allocated and planted, again with substantial growth of fruit and vegetables.

Gardening Courses was also part of the funding award and the first session of classes has been completed and proved to be successful and informative. These will restart again towards the end of summer. The classes are mainly intended for the people who have never grown anything before, to help them to get started with their own gardens but will also benefit those who want to know a bit more about developing their garden.

It is intended that space for offices and hobby classes will be available shortly. If anyone is interested in finding out more please contact us.



A training session held in one of the Poly-tunnels

If you have any ideas for hobby classes or training please let us know and we will investigate the potential as a future activity.

Last call for home renewables grants

Householders are being urged to snap up grants for home renewables. Government grants are available for 30 per cent of the cost, up to a maximum of £4,000, for heating technologies like wood fuel boilers, heat pumps or solar thermal water heating. Due to unprecedented demand, people are being encouraged to apply for an Energy Saving Scotland home renewables grant before the scheme ends.

The uptake of small scale renewables among householders is now

unprecedented and the home renewables grants funding is facing pressure. The grants scheme will stay open to new applications until 23rd July 2010. In an extremely tight financial climate they will now look to see what further support they can give to small scale renewables. The Energy Saving Scotland home renewables scheme is managed by the Energy Saving Trust in Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government. See: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scottishgrants or call 0800 512 012.

Free Energy Saving Scotland home renewables advice visits will continue. Specialist renewables advisors can visit householders and give impartial advice and information on renewable technologies to suit their properties.

The Scottish Government's Community Renewables Energy Fund and the Small Business Loans Scheme programmes continue.

See: <http://www.communityenergyscotland.org.uk/cares.asp> and <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/Scotland-Welcome-page/Business-and-Public-Sector-in-Scotland/Grants/Small-business-loans>

Contact Michael Berry:
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For further information or to arrange a visit please contact us by telephone on: 01593 721 283 or by email:

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Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing us today and we want our community to be part of the global



solution. The Climate Challenge Fund has provided funding which will help our community to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions. As a result of a very successful Home Energy Awareness campaign held last year in Lybster a second campaign has been carried out in association with Energy

Saving Trust for the remainder of the South East Caithness Area. Everyone who responded has now received their free advice and insulation work should be completed by mid August. If you have not yet completed a Home Energy Check questionnaire and are interested in loft and cavity wall insulation measures, it is not too late; please contact Anne Sutherland, tel: 01593 721283 to find out more. The 2009 Lybster campaign has been put forward by the Energy Saving Trust to the parliamentary working group as a good example.



2 local residents completing HEC questionnaires

Calvin's Story

8 year old Calvin was so inspired after his visit to our Allotments and Polytunnels that he decided he wanted an allotment of his own.

His Mum, Lorraine, had attended a RHIS Food and Health Course in Seaview House, and when she told Calvin what was happening down the road he wanted to see for himself. He arranged to visit and was so inspired by what was going on at the allotments and polytunnels he decided he wanted to 'have a go' at growing his own vegetables.

Calvin's Grandparents live just over a mile from him and he couldn't wait to visit to tell his 'Papa' all about his plans. He demanded that his 'Papa' gave him a piece of ground for his own allotment which George was more than happy to do. Calvin then decided he would need a shed just like the ones on the Seaview Plots. George agreed to the shed and set aside some time to make it. However, independent Calvin wanted to do it himself. He went to the wood yard and ordered up his wood and other materials and under the supervision of 'Papa' has completed his shed, complete with his own garden tools and not forgetting his chair. Calvin is growing cabbage, carrots, beetroot and lettuce and is doing all the work himself under the watchful eye of his Grandad who offers helpful advice when required. "I can't wait to be able to eat them" says Calvin.



Calvin, with Papa George, Mum Lorraine and Anne



Calvin working on his allotment

Calvin now has plans for his own polytunnel although he is not divulging those yet. Papa too will just have to wait and see what develops. Calvin has also attended some of the training sessions which was held at Seaview House as part of the Allotment and Polytunnel Project and has already enlisted for the next session of courses.

Calvin and his friend Mackenzie being shown how to transplant their cabbage seedlings under the watchful eye of Mum Lorraine, during one of the training sessions held in the polytunnel.

