



Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEEd e-newsletter! We aim to keep in touch once a month with news on SEEd's development, sustainable development and ESD, jobs, funding and notifications of any useful upcoming events, courses or consultations. Please let us know what you think!

If you would like to send us an article to include for the next newsletter please email news@se-ed.org.uk.

In this edition:

SEEd News	2
Spreading understanding about the sector – Report now available	2
Request for your Feedback	2
Climate Change and ESD Youth Project in Germany – Request for collaboration	2
ESD & EE News	3
1. Ray Mears supports Outdoor Adventure Week 2009	3
2. European Institute for Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning	3
3. OPAL – New Initiative Celebrating Biodiversity	4
Member News	5
Ed Balls unveils school's new 'Supergrounds'	5
Publications and Guidance	5
South East Sustainable Schools Case Study Guide	5
Charity Spotlight - Envision	6
About Envision (written by Envision)	6
Consultations	7
Sustainable Schools: Local Authority Guidance & s3+ consultation	7
Take Part	7
1. Plant free bee-friendly flowers to save UK's bees	7
2. WWF's Earth Hour	8
Resources for schools	8
Energy Challenge – Resources Now Available Online	8
Events and Courses	9
Jobs	12
Subscription	13



SEEd News

Spreading understanding about the sector - Report now available

In 2008, SEEd received funding from the Sainsbury's Family Trusts to conduct some research on teachers needs. A review of recent surveys and reports was undertaken on behalf of SEEd by Gillian Symons. SEEd news readers are reminded that this review is available online from the SEEd website:

www.se-ed.org.uk/news/practice-barriers-enablers.html

This review showed us that we didn't know what mainstream teachers and schools thought or were doing since most of the surveys were conducted with schools or teachers already engaged in EE, ESD or Sustainable Schools. In November 2008 Schoolzone conducted three focus groups on SEEd's behalf, each with a panel of 6-8 teachers from all over England, from primary and secondary, from Senior Management teams and classroom teachers, from different subjects and from urban and rural schools. Participants were selected on the basis of them or their school having no current sustainability or environmental project involvement.

The results have surprised many in the NGO field as they show a serious lack of awareness of what is on offer, but nonetheless, the interest levels are very encouraging. This could be an open door for us all – at last! The results of the report are now available from the SEEd website:

http://www.se-ed.org.uk/resources/SEEd_Teachers_Need_Focus_Groups.pdf

Request for your Feedback

Climate Change and ESD Youth Project in Germany - Request for collaboration

A project is currently being planned in Germany on climate change and ESD for youth and Kerstin Stuhr, who is organizing the project, is looking for innovative and best-practice project concepts in the EU which may provide a starting point for further cooperation and exchange. The project will aim at:

- incorporating the development of youth leadership and change management capability;
- enabling the youth to participate in political, educational and communication planning and decision-making processes for climate change (youth for youth); and
- fostering local, national and international networking and exchange with other youth groups in the field of climate change.

If you are interested in the project and would like to make contact please email Kerstin at: kstuhr@arcor.de

Kerstin Stuhr
Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung
Rüttenscheider Str. 124, 45131 Essen
<http://www.creates-consulting.de>



ESD & EE News

1. Ray Mears supports Outdoor Adventure Week 2009

Five thousand events are happening between **16 - 23 May 2009**, Outdoor Adventurist Ray Mears urges everyone to put some spice into life and take part.

Ray Mears says: "It is vital that young people and families get the opportunities to find adventure in life to prepare them for the future. I enthusiastically support the Outdoor Adventure Week initiative and hope that you too will back it and change thousands of lives."

In 2008, 2900 events around UK were organised by centres, schools, clubs and communities. There were 1,200 forest events, and 1,000 events linked to camping and other overnights. There were events for 'Wild Women', and fund-raising abseils, sleep-outs and picnics. These things happened locally and they both raised the profile of the organisations that got involved, and raised awareness of the outdoors. All increased participation and awareness, some made money, too. The idea throughout is to have local organisations promote themselves, but using the Outdoor Adventure Week 09 (OAW09) national publicity where it helps.

For 2009, the organisers want to double the events. Individuals and organisations are invited to use this opportunity to:

- Challenge people to do something today they have never done before.
- Raise your profile by joining what people are doing for OAW09.
- Get adventure ideas from young people, parents, local activity providers such as bike hirers, outdoor centres, event promoters, communities, sports clubs, schools, local councils, fitness centres, community groups, all are welcome to join OAW09.

For more information see www.outdoor-learning.org for details of what is happening when and where.

You can also contact Ian Lewis at: ian@campaignforadventure.org
Or ring 07802 423502 or contact Jim Hammett at: jim@cci.org.uk.

2. European Institute for Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning - Seminar on use of water in Outdoor Education

The European Institute for Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning (EOE) are holding a seminar this September on the Baltic coast of Germany. The theme is our use of water in outdoor education.

EOE are seeking to identify 2 or 3 outdoor education organisations in the UK who work in interesting ways with water, who would like to tell others of their practices and find out about the practices of others from across Europe. A bid for EU funding is being made and any organisation that is happy to join in and complete the paperwork to be a partner in the seminar in time for this bid will receive 2 funded places at the seminar. This will cover about 80% of seminar, travel and accommodation costs.



After the partners have been identified it will of course be possible to attend the seminar for the full fee. If you are interested in participating please contact Chris Loynes for more details and to receive the necessary forms.

Chris Loynes: chris.threshold@btinternet.com or telephone: 01229 584 500

For more information on EOE visit: www.eoe-network.org/

3. OPAL - New Initiative Celebrating Biodiversity

OPAL is a new partnership initiative celebrating biodiversity, environmental quality and people's engagement with nature.

The Open Air Laboratories (OPAL) network is an exciting new initiative that is open to anyone with an interest in nature. OPAL aims to create and inspire a new generation of nature-lovers by getting people to explore, study, enjoy and protect their local environment. In 2007 OPAL received a grant of £11.75million from the Big Lottery Fund.

OPAL is developing a wide range of local and national programmes to encourage people from all backgrounds to get back in touch with nature. The project will also generate valuable scientific data concerning the state of our environment. By bringing scientists, amateur-experts, local interest groups and the public closer together, lasting relationships will be formed and environmental issues of local and global relevance explored.

OPAL's chief goals are to:

- Increase knowledge and awareness;
- Create new generations of nature enthusiasts;
- deliver an innovative educational programme for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities;
- encourage local participation; and
- increase partnerships between the community, voluntary and statutory sectors.

OPAL began in 2007 and will run until the end of 2012. The five year programme will bring scientists and the public closer together, allowing environmental issues to be explored which have both local and global relevance. A total of 15 partners are working together to deliver a total of 31 projects. The entire OPAL portfolio is headed by Imperial College, London.

For more information visit: www.opalexplornature.org



Member News

Ed Balls unveils school's new 'Supergrounds'

Ed Balls, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, unveiled the transformations to Morley Newlands Primary School in Leeds to reveal the school's Supergrounds.

The transformation was made possible through the 'Royal Bank of Scotland Supergrounds' programme. Pupils at the school played a huge part in designing, planning and transforming the grounds and were thrilled that Ed Balls could officially open their new outdoor area which includes a wildlife garden, a seating area for an outdoor classroom, raised flower beds, a bark chip path and added improvements to an area of woodland.

Ed Balls, commented, "Outdoor play is both fun for kids and a really important part of their learning. So it is good news that the children of Morley Newlands have been able to find ways to making better use of their school grounds with the help of the RBS Supergrounds programme."

"With the new wildlife garden that the children have chosen, as well as an outdoor classroom, the Supergrounds programme will make a real difference - not just helping children to learn, but also keeping them fit and getting plenty of fresh air."

Read the full story at: www.ltl.org.uk/news.htm?t=1&item=243

Publications and Guidance

South East Sustainable Schools Case Study Guide

As a result of the publication and launch of 'Supporting Sustainable Schools in the South East: a report on current local authority activity with recommendations for further action in 2008-09', a need was identified for more effective dissemination of best practice with the recommendation for GOSE to produce a schools case study guide for distribution to local authorities and schools. Out of this a schools case study guide was published in January 2009 and is now available to download from the GOSE site at the link below.

The South East Sustainable Schools Case Study Guide is available to download from: www.gose.gov.uk/gose/educationSkills/650833/650836



Charity Spotlight - Envision

About Envision (written by Envision)

Envision was founded in 2000 with the aim of challenging the perception that young people are apathetic and disengaged. The educational charity was formed on the belief that young people have the desire and capacity to make a difference and that all that is required is the opportunity. Eight years later this still lies at the heart of Envision's work. The charity's Post-16 active citizenship programme not only provides a platform from which young people can be heard, but also the opportunity for young people to take a lead on bringing about positive change in their communities.

Envision works in 100 schools and colleges across the UK, and with the support of adult volunteers, helps groups of 16-19 year olds develop social and environmental projects. Their youth-led approach seeks to empower young people, build confidence and encourage active citizenship. Envision's schools programme has been selected by the Learning and Skills Network as a Citizenship Education Champion and in 2008 they were proud to be awarded the Guardian Charity Award for innovation and excellence in community reach.

Over the past couple of years Envision have started to diversify their services and have developed an off-timetable programme called "Agents for Action" aimed at younger secondary school students. This is an interactive citizenship half day that has been designed to engage young people with a number of citizenship and sustainability themes and inspire them to become leaders. Games, group activities, role-play, conversation, video and presentations are used to help young people develop their understanding of sustainable development and social justice issues and explore ways to make a difference.

Envision also offers schools and colleges INSET on citizenship if there are staff members with new responsibility in this area or if staff would like support and advice around incorporating a more active dimension to the subject. In the new GCSE, AS and A Level Citizenship Studies specifications there is a clear emphasis on the importance of active citizenship and participation. We can help staff understand the Government's National Framework for sustainable schools and the duty to promote community cohesion now inspected by Ofsted.

Envision's expertise in youth empowerment and sustainable development has been recognised by DCSF and the charity are working with them to create a toolkit that will enable young people to advocate sustainable development to their peers and to decision makers in their communities. This includes designing workshops to develop skills such as using the web, delivering presentations, taking effective photos and using film to get a message across. As well as workshops, the toolkit will also provide links to online resources, action plans and helpful tips based on Envision's years of experience.

Visit: www.envision.org.uk



Consultations

Sustainable Schools: Local Authority Guidance & s3+ consultation

The following documents are now available for use by local authorities in draft format and for consultation:

- Delivering Sustainable Communities through Sustainable Schools: Guidance for local authority officers
- s3+: sustainable schools self-evaluation for authorities who support sustainable schools

Beverley Anderson would be grateful for all contributions and responses to this consultation. Please be encouraged to respond or pass this on to colleagues, local authority contacts and interested stakeholders who may have an interest in responding. To respond to this consultation please request one of the following response forms from Beverley Anderson:

- Local Authority guidance consultation response form
Deadline: 24th February 2009
- Local Authority guidance case study submission form
Deadline: 24th February 2009
- Local Authority self-evaluation tool consultation response form
Deadline: 24th February 2009

Contact: Beverley.Anderson@gose.gsi.gov.uk

Take Part

1. Plant free bee-friendly flowers to save UK's bees

For National Science and Engineering Week this year Save Our Bees are encouraging people to plant bee-friendly seeds in their gardens/window boxes/balconies to promote bee health and well-being. You can apply for your free seeds (and a free activity pack for KS1,2,3) by registering on the Save Our Bees website. Regional 'bee' events are also taking place across the UK on 7th March as part of the campaign, check out the website for further details below.

www.saveourbees.org.uk



2. WWF's Earth Hour

On Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 8.30pm, people around the world will turn off their lights for one hour, WWF's Earth Hour, to show their support for global action on climate change. Recent predictions show that climate change could lead to 30% of the world's species becoming extinct. It will also have major effects on the lifestyles and livelihoods of people living all around the world. We need a global deal to reduce emissions and keep global temperature rise below 2°C. 2009 is the year in which to get it right: Earth Hour is your chance to lend your voice.

WWF believes that schools have an important role to play in leading and championing action on climate change. Therefore, to support Earth Hour, WWF is producing a range of resources for schools which can be used for an 'Hour for the Earth event' in the days or weeks leading up to Earth Hour, including:

- Earth Hour schools toolkit: including assembly activity with accompanying photoset, classroom activities, student challenges and climate change games
- A climate change information pack
- Earth Hour film.

Join with WWF and get your school involved. Visit www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour/schools to sign-up.

Resources for schools

Energy Challenge - Resources Now Available Online

SE2 now have online resources available to help with secondary schools tackling energy and climate change.

Visit www.se-2.co.uk/energychallenge and you'll find links to:

- **Tackling Climate Change – Guidance for Secondary Schools**
Designed to help teachers take a whole school approach to sustainable energy, helping to tackle climate change across the curriculum, campus and community
- **Education on Climate Change – How Stakeholders Can Help**
Find out how schools are already working on sustainable energy education and how you can help
- **Take the Energy Challenge and tackle climate change**
We want to encourage all secondary schools to participate in the Energy Challenge. Our challenge to schools is to adopt a whole school approach and take the easy steps available to saving energy. We welcome your help in getting the message out to schools and we've designed some resources to help your communications work.

At www.se-2.co.uk/energychallenge you'll find a PowerPoint presentation, a PDF leaflet/poster and templates for a newsletter article or a direct mail campaign that you can



use. Feel free to use these resources as you wish – all SE2 ask is that you keep them informed of how you get on!

SE2 are also pleased to announce that a helpline service is now available to schools who want to know how to get started on tackling climate change. On behalf of the Energy Efficiency Partnership for Homes, SE2 are offering telephone and email support to schools, helping to answer their queries about sustainability in general and energy in particular. SE2 don't run a schools scheme themselves, but rather plan to use the helpline to point schools in the direction of local, regional and national schemes that may be suitable for them. The helpline will be in place for February and March 2009, and the case will then be made for future funding to continue the service.

Schools can call SE2 on 08700 622 882 or email energychallenge@se-2.co.uk

Events and Courses

1. Sustainable Schools Showcase in Lincoln

- Description:** The idea behind this event is to offer school staff, governors, council officers and councilors the opportunity to see what is available to schools to help them work towards sustainability. There will be over 100 exhibitors and about 20 workshops during the day under each of the eight doorways of Sustainable Schools, designed to appeal to a wide audience. Speakers include DCSF, Ofsted, British Council, Carbon Trust and many more.
- Date:** 4th March 2009
- Venue:** The EPIC Centre, Lincoln
- Further Information:** For more information please contact Kim Hudson: Kim.Hudson@lincolnshire.gov.uk

2. Enabling a connected curriculum: opportunities for global learning at key stage 3

- Description:** This Conference is an opportunity to take stock of experiences following the introduction of the new KS3 curriculum in September 2008. It provides a forum for sharing innovative approaches to curriculum planning and organisation and a chance to explore teaching and learning strategies that best meet the needs of learners in a changing global context.
- The day has been designed to bring together teachers, senior managers and advisers from a range of subject areas to share thinking and expertise. The focus for the day will be 'enabling a connected curriculum' and this will be explored through both subject-based and cross-curricular approaches.
- Keynotes include *Learning for a sustainable future ~ perspectives from Geography* from Dr Alun Morgan, London South Bank University
(All participants will receive a complimentary copy of a new Tide~ publication 'Enabling global learning through the KS3 curriculum'.)
- Date:** Thursday 5th March 2009
- Venue:** Thinktank Theatre, Millennium Point, Birmingham
- Further Information:** To book online visit: www.tidegloballearning.net or email: wmc@tidec.org
For further enquiries email: jackie@tidec.org or ring 0121 202 3290



3. Sustainable Schools in the East of England Conference

Description: This conference is organised by the Government Office for the East of England on behalf of The Department for Children, Schools and Families.

The conference is aimed at school heads and local authority Sustainable Schools leads and will involve guest speakers from DCSF, Building Schools for the Future, Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service and the Training and Development Agency.

This conference will provide the opportunity to:

- Gain a broader understanding of the Sustainable Schools agenda, particularly in the context of other government agendas
- Hear examples of best practice from DCSF and local authorities
- Identify barriers and opportunities in the delivery of the Sustainable Schools agenda
- Consider solutions to barriers and future action

The event is free of charge and places are limited. A reserve list will be in operation.

Date: 6th March 2009

Venue: Moller Centre, Cambridge

Further Information: If you would like to book a place please respond to Clare Milton:

ChildrenandLearnersTeam@goeast.gsi.gov.uk

Children and Learners Directorate, Government Office for the East of England

4. Growing Schools Conference

Description: The Growing Schools Programme is holding its second national conference "Get Your Hands Dirty" at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, on the 23rd March. The conference aims to support all teachers from Early Years through to Secondary who are interested in expanding and improving learning outside the classroom in their schools.

The day will begin with key note speakers Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools and Learners, Sarah McCarthy-Fry MP.

The day will also consist of a market place made up from many of our sector partners as well as a series of workshops which will be run throughout the day. Choices will include Den Building, Art Gene, The Great Plant Hunt and Thinking Walks. The workshops will be facilitated by the education departments of many organisations such as the Royal Horticultural Society, The Botanic Gardens Education Network, Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Date: 23rd March 2009

Venue: Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, London

Cost: £75

Further Information: For more information or to book a place please email:

conference@countrysidefoundation.org.uk or ring 01422 885 566



5. South East Sustainable Schools Conference 2009 - “Creating Sustainable Schools through Global Learning”

Description: The South East Sustainable Schools Network and Local 4 Global invite headteachers, governors, teachers, local authority officers and those supporting schools in work relating to the global dimension to join them at a regional conference to:

- inspire and enable schools on their journey to become a sustainable school and integrate global learning throughout all aspects of their school, including how to embed it fully within their curriculum, campus and community
- enable local authorities and other organisations to support schools in work contributing to the National Sustainable Schools Framework
- provide participants with a broader and deeper understanding of an effective global dimension in schools and its significance in support of the whole framework

Date: **26th March 2009**, 9.30am - 4pm

Venue: Ashcombe School, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1LY

Further Information: For further details and a booking form please contact Beverley Anderson:
Beverley.anderson@gose.qsi.gov.uk

Booking forms should be returned by Wednesday 18th March 2009

6. Learning to Fly... With Red Kites

Description: Are you trying to inspire and educate people about wildlife and the environment? Do you need some guidance on how to develop a lifelong learning programme? This course will help you learn about the processes and concepts successfully used by the Northern Kites lifelong learning programme and how to apply them in developing your own people engagement activities.

Since 2004, the Northern Kites Project has successfully used its lifelong learning programme to engage over 150 community groups, over 150 schools, over 3,500 families and approximately 70,000 visitors from all over the north of England with red kites!

Date: **Wed 1st - Thu 2nd April 2009** (overnight accommodation incl.)

Venue: Whickham, Tyne and Wear

Further Information: For more information email: info@northernkites.org.uk or ring 0191 4961 555



7. Reconnections 2009

Description: Reconnections is a one week course in the Lake District from Forum for the Future, led by Jonathon Porritt. One week that lasts a lifetime!

From Crisis to Opportunity: Understanding and Transcending the Recession.

Surviving the Recession requires more than short-term sticking plaster responses. Reconnections 2009 will explore a deeper analysis, revealing the roots of our current problems in economic, political and scientific systems. It's our dominant paradigm of progress that is 'broken' as much as our capital markets. But the Economic Recession opens a window of opportunity to a more equitable and sustainable future.

Join us to explore - and liberate - the potential to transform crisis into an unprecedented opportunity. This course:

- Explores the roots of our current economic and political worldviews, and the deep flaws at their heart.
- Shows how the Recession opens a window of opportunity for businesses and organisations to engage in intelligent transformation for a sustainable future.
- Provides a unique combination of critical debate, cutting edge analysis and reconnection with the natural world, in a truly beautiful setting.

Date: **Mon 15th – Fri 19th June 2009**

Cost: £1586.25

Venue: Yewfield House, Hawkshead Hill, Hawkshead, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 OPR

Further Information: For a registration form please contact Mel Trievnor at:
m.trievnor@forumforthefuture.org or ring +44 (0)1242 266 778.
Fax: +44 (0)1242 262757

Jobs

1. Education Officer for Chichester Harbour Conservancy

Description: Chichester Harbour Conservancy is seeking an Education Officer to work within Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This is a full-time permanent position. Key responsibilities:

- To develop and deliver a programme of educational activities in and around the harbour, for schools, colleges and interest groups based at the Conservancy's busy education centre at Dell Quay
- To lead and manage the Education Team and teaching facilities

Closing Date: **13 March 2009**

Further Information: For full details and application forms contact Jean Lyle: jean@conservancy.co.uk or visit www.conservancy.co.uk



2. Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire: Environmental Education Officer - EMAS

Description: Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire together with Leicester City Council have pioneered the Eco Management Audit Scheme (EMAS) in Leicester's schools and are looking for an enthusiastic individual to join the team.

This position is unique within the UK and directly addresses the DCSF Sustainable Schools Agenda. Core delivery will include innovative environmental education to pupil groups and will support whole school communities to make positive environmental actions. They will inspire and motivate children to work towards achieving EMAS accreditation for their school. Issues covered will include the development of wildlife areas, recycling schemes and energy saving.

You will be confident at interacting with pupils and school staff alike, and will be motivated by a deep environmental understanding, be creative and solution driven and have the ability to inspire others to action.

Salary: £18,662 rising to £23,327

Closing Date: The application deadline is **23 February 2009**

Further Information: Tel: 0116 222 0 222, Email: jobs@gwill.org.uk or visit www.gwill.org.uk/jobsandvolunteers to download an application pack.

3. Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire: Education Team Manager

Description: Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire has a 25 year track record in pioneering environmental initiatives. The Education Team Manager will be responsible for a team of diverse Education practitioners. The post holder will also develop our education portfolio at local, regional and national levels.

You will have experience of partnership working, developing networks and facilitating team working. You will be passionate about the benefits of Sustainable Development Education and motivated by a deep environmental understanding. With a relevant qualification or experience, you will be creative and solution driven, with the ability to inspire others to action.

Salary: £27,000

Closing Date: The application deadline is **24 February 2009**

Further Information: Tel: 0116 222 0 222, Email: jobs@gwill.org.uk or visit www.gwill.org.uk/jobsandvolunteers to download an application pack.

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