



Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEEd e-newsletter. You will find news on sustainable development in the Education sector and sustainable schools, ESD, environment news, sustainability news, jobs, funding and any upcoming events, courses or consultations.

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

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SEEd News & Invitations

1. News from Ann Finlayson

I have been asked a lot over the past few weeks about both Sustainable Schools and the SDC – on which I serve as the Education Commissioner. I realise in these times of huge change and uncertainty rumours abound. So we plan to keep everyone up to date on Sustainable Schools in this newsletter and with a separate update every month.

You will be hearing over the next few days which quangos have been closed or merged, or funded to continue. You may have even seen a leaked document a few weeks ago! The SDC has had its funding stopped by Caroline Spellman (SoS Defra) and so will not be able to continue after March 31st 2011. Since it is co-owned by Wales and Scotland as well as Whitehall, the decision does impact all over the UK and more will be revealed.

The SDC continues to work and especially in helping and advising this government on how it will embed the functions that the SDC covered in its 10 years of operation. This includes Defra still leading within government on SD, and the Environmental Audit Committee within Parliament taking on the 'watch dog' and scrutiny role. If you have a view on this, please consider replying to the EAC's enquiry on Embedding Sustainable Development Across Government.

Although the closing date was October 13th they will accept late submissions. parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/witnessguide.pdf. Letters and messages of support from all over the world have reached the SDC and I am sure it is helping the SDC cope in these difficult times.

Ann Finlayson, SEEd Chief Executive

2. Become a Member! Special offer for anyone who has taken part in a SEEd course or event!

We are still offering special rates for SEEd membership for attendees of the Sustainable Schools regional and online conferences, or any other SEEd event or training in 2009 and 2010.

- **Individual Membership:** £25 (usually £55)
- **School and Small Organisation Membership:** £55 (usually £110)
- **Medium Organisation Membership:** £110 (usually £250)

It is now more important than ever to join SEEd as the umbrella organisation trying to help schools and organisations progress their work on Sustainable Schools. We need your membership and voice to show government they should still support Sustainable Schools. We need your schools' stories and news of your organisations services. Membership has benefits including discounts on SEEd events, promotion of your services, access to resources, up to date policy information, discussion groups, professional development, and research. For example if you were unable to attend the National Sustainable Schools Conference in June this year, by becoming a member you can get an electronic version of keynotes, resources, discussions and workshops – just for the price of your membership!



You can also be part of consultations and help create the change we need to embed this in all our education work. Our members are just like you – individuals, teachers, Further Education colleges, schools, local authorities, NGOs, and other organisations.

To join, please email admin@se-ed.org.uk or visit our website: se-ed.org.uk/membership.html

3. Would you like to become a SEEd Fellow?

You will have already seen the think pieces from Professor William Scott and headteacher David Dixon. If you have been thinking about environmental education, or ESD, or have views on progress in the UK - think about becoming a SEEd fellow. Chris Horton and Nigel Rayment of Magnified Learning have applied, and thinkers within the field have agreed to come on board also. So why not become part of this set of SEEd Fellows?

Ten SEEd Fellows will be chosen per year by application and will choose a month of the year in which to develop a think piece or topic for discussion and produce a piece of work of about 1500 words in relation to ESD or environmental education. The opportunity is open to anyone, not just academics, and SEEd fellows will benefit from a year's free individual SEEd membership including access to the SEEd Members area on the website. Enquiries and applications should be directed to Ann Finlayson: ann.finlayson@se-ed.org.uk

4. SEEd Trainee Internships

SEEd are offering the opportunity to gain invaluable training and experience through our Internship scheme. Please see the [Jobs](#) section below for more details.

5. SEEd Events

Please see the [Events](#) section below for details of our unique facilitation course and for a 'sneak preview' of the provisional dates of our forthcoming events and courses.

6. Sustainable Schools – support available to you

In response to the Government reducing its support to the Sustainable Schools Strategy, a consortium of organisations have produced a document setting out the support available to schools who are well on the way or about to start the journey to becoming sustainable. Please circulate this as widely as possible through your networks to ensure it reaches as many schools, Local Authorities and NGOs as possible.

se-ed.org.uk/resources/sustainable-schools/general-guidance/DEA_Support_Available_For_Sustainable_Schools.pdf

The consortium is developing fast – may even get called the Sustainable Schools Alliance. Tells us which you prefer! The goal is to have representative bodies such as SEEd, DEA and NCB acting as the core working group on behalf of the whole alliance. The alliance is open to everyone - NGOs, LAs and other organisations. To keep this work going and to maintain momentum we are having a launch in early December 2010 in London. Hope you can all join us to be part of this important movement. See potential dates in SEEd events below.

Every month we plan to send out an update just on Sustainable Schools. If you would like to be included in this please contact info@se-ed.org.uk to be put on the emailing list.



Research, Publications & Guidance

1. Thinking and Acting Sustainably: Profile of a 21st Century Professional; A training manual from PP4SD

PP4SD have published a new sustainability training manual for aimed at professionals working in the voluntary, public and private sectors. The course includes everything required for a trainer to deliver a one-day course, including pre-workshop reading material, slides and handouts.

The materials are designed to help professionals:

- Improve awareness of the principles that underpin sustainable development;
- Identify drivers for change;
- Be aware of the benefits of applying sustainable development principles to professional activities;
- Apply systems thinking to work situations; and
- Develop a personal action plan for sustainable development.

The manual is available for only £12.99 from ies-uk.org.uk/pp4sd/pp4sd.php

2. RSPB Research – ‘Every Child Outdoors’

RSPB’s Every Child Outdoors research draws together the findings from the wide range of research into the positive impacts contact with nature has for children, as well as the environment. These include the educational benefits, contributions to physical health and mental wellbeing, as well as development of personal and social skills.

The report includes new independent research from Ipsos MORI, commissioned by the RSPB, on the most remembered childhood experiences of nature amongst the general public. This discovered that 92% of people agree that these experiences are still important to children today, and that 82% agree that schools should play a role in providing them to all children. To complement the research, RSPB have produced a short film showing many of the inspiring experiences children and young people have on their reserves. Both can be see via rspb.org.uk/ourwork/policy/education/research.aspx

3. 1 Million Green Jobs Pamphlet to be launched this Thursday 14th October

With the Trades Union Congress agreeing last month to support the call for ‘1 Million Green Jobs’, a new, updated and expanded version of this pamphlet takes account of the government cuts agenda and argues that Climate Jobs can solve the economic and environmental crises we face. The launch will take place this Thursday in Committee Room 10 of the House of Commons between 6 and 8pm, with speakers including: Caroline Lucas MP, John McDonnell MP, Chris Baugh (Assistant Gen. Sec PCS) and Jonathan Neale editor of the pamphlet. Chairing will be Suzanne Jeffrey of the Campaign Against Climate Change Trade Union group.



4. Defra Discussion Document – “An Invitation to shape the Nature of England”

Responses are now being collected in reply to the Discussion Paper, “An Invitation to shape the Nature of England”, released by Defra to help develop the Natural England White Paper to be published in Spring 2011. Do not miss your chance to influence this part of Defra’s programme of engagement. These must be received by 30 October 2010 and a summary of responses will be collected on the Defra website in the autumn.

You can download the document at:

defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/documents/newp-discussion-260710.pdf

And comment online or email your response at:

<http://ww2.defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/whitepaper/>

If you would like to add your comments to SEEd’s response please contact:

michael.cutts@se-ed.org.uk

Resources for Schools

Oxfam’s Sow the Seed wallchart

Climate change is having a large impact on agriculture. The livelihoods of 2.5 billion people globally depend on their ability to successfully grow seeds. The Sow the Seed resource encourages active global citizenship, helping pupils to understand more about the issue and inspiring them to take action.

Teachers select from the range of activities to allow their pupils to complete the wallchart. Pupils use the wallchart to track their learning as they carry out these activities. They must collect evidence of them learning more about the issue and also taking some action about it to complete the wallchart successfully. Pupils must begin by planting some seeds of their own!

Sow the Seed is aimed at pupils aged 7-14. Materials can be ordered or downloaded from the website oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/seeds/

Funding

CABE Education Grants

The CABE education grants are awarded to schools to promote educational projects that explore the design and use of buildings and public spaces, and encourage the development of partnerships between schools, community groups and local organisations. Interested schools can apply for up to £1500 to fund or part-fund their proposed project, which must be completed by the end of March 2011. The deadline for applications is **Friday 5 November**. More information, guidance and an application form can be found at cabe.org.uk/education/grants



Take Part – Young People Focus!

1. School Councils' Survey for Pupils

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Education, pupils are invited to take part in this independent review of the office for the Children's Commissioner for England – 'true democracy in action'

Details about the review and how pupils can take part can be found via schoolcouncils.org/category/questionnairesandsurveys/

2. Adopt an MP!

UKYCC an entirely youth-led organisation that aims to inspire, empower, mobilise and unite young people to take positive action on climate change. The Adopt an MP project aims to get young people in constituencies across the UK engaging with climate politics, through "adopting" their MP and tracking their progress (or otherwise) on climate change. For more info, check out the website adoptanmp.ukycc.org/

3. NUS ESD Research

NUS and NUS Services are delighted to have been awarded the tender to conduct research into Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) by the Higher Education Academy. They will work in partnership with StudentForce for Sustainability, and the University of Bath to conduct this work.

This is a unique opportunity to work with first year students from all four UK member nations to understand their thoughts and attitudes to ESD and to provide senior national figures with student opinion.

If you are a first year student and would like to be in with a chance of winning £500 take part in this survey at nus.org.uk/cy/News/News/Research-into-Education-for-Sustainable-Development-ESD/

4. UK Youth Parliament Climate Change Forum

In the build-up to the United Nations climate conference in Mexico and to coincide with 10:10 campaign to cut carbon emissions by 10% in 2010, the UK Youth Parliament is hosting a three-week online climate change forum for young people in the UK aged 11 – 25. The aim is to provide young people with the chance to debate this very important issue with a panel of well-known figures from the world of climate change. A panel of experts and public figures from the climate change debate will be participating in the online forum, reading comments and contributing their own view.

ukyouthparliament.org.uk/climatechangeforum

5. Climate Squad – Operation Blackout and Pump It Up

Climate Squad is a community of over 3000, 16-25 year olds creatively working together to build a sustainable future and cutting carbon through fun projects. **Operation Blackout** group volunteers spy on shops and offices at night, recording who has left lights on to find the worst offenders so they can encourage them to switch off, save money and reduce CO2 emissions! **Pump It Up** volunteers pump up driver's tyres to the recommended level, saving on average 1.5 tonnes of CO2e and £600 per event! Volunteers will receive the *United Nations endorsed Environment Action Certificate* along



with reasonable travel and food expenses and can also receive a free gig ticket courtesy of *Orange Rock Corps* by volunteering. For more information on both projects visit the Climate Squad website climatesquad.org.uk or email climate.squad@globalactionplan.org.uk

Events and Courses

1. SEEd's Facilitation for Learning for Sustainability Course

Description:

SEEd will be running the Facilitation for Learning for Sustainability course in January 2011. This unique course brings together facilitation techniques with learning theory, action learning and practice.

Sustainability is an opportunity for us to live and work differently to develop solutions to present and future problems as a community. This involves social learning where new ideas and practices can be created together. Facilitation for Learning for Sustainability is the professional development course for teachers, educators, local authority staff, NGO staff and environment/sustainability champions in organisations.

The course has been designed to equip participants with the insights, tools, processes and confidence to work intelligently with audiences who are considering sustainability. The programme consists of four facilitated training days and a supported action learning project. You will have the opportunity to try your hand at different techniques. Whatever your level of experience as a facilitator, this course will develop your skills and improve your professional practice.

Date:

Days 1 and 2: 25-26 January 2011, Days 3 and 4: 29-30 March 2011

Location:

St. Ethelburga's Centre, 78 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AG

Further Information:

To book a place email facilitation@se-ed.org.uk or complete the online booking form at se-ed.org.uk/events/facilitation-for-sustainability.html

Book before 17th December to take advantage of the early bird rate! SEEd members receive a further 10% off.

2. Forthcoming SEEd Events

Watch this space for further details and confirmation of dates for the following events...

Sustainable Schools Alliance (SSA) Launch and Policy Forum

DATES: Late November/ Early December 2010 – London.

Potential dates are: 29th October, 2nd December, 6th December, and 10th December.

SEEd's Annual Policy Forum

DATES: Mid February 2011.

This was very successful last year and allowed participants to be informed about policy and research updates and reflect on what this meant for their own practice and as a sector.

Opening the Doorway to Sustainability Online Course

DATES: 12 January – 23 March 2011

We will be taking bookings soon. This successful course fills every year with over 50 participants, who engage in an action research activity to develop their own ESD or Sustainable Schools practice. Discussions and sharing of resources and practice is fast and furious! The course is completely facilitated and each week you move further along your journey to deepen your understanding and development your practice.

National Sustainable Schools Conference 2011

DATES: Online Conference 1 June – 20 July 2011. London 9 June 2011 – please keep this date free!

Further dates and locations to be confirmed.



3. Capacity Global's 10th Anniversary Debate and Reception 'Environmental Justice: The next 10 years?'

Description:	Capacity Global is celebrating its 10 th anniversary. To mark this special event, we are excited to invite <i>Maria Adebowale</i> , <i>Philippe Sands QC</i> and <i>Jo Confino</i> to lead a discussion on the Future for Environmental Justice in the UK and beyond. Over the past 10 years, Capacity Global has put the right of all people to live in a clean and healthy environment onto the global and national agendas. In the next decade we intend to build on this momentum to reform structures in a way that ensures deprived communities have access to a decent environment. The next decade presents us with many exciting and challenging opportunities with which to expand our work. We will continue to break down the barriers to justice that are still faced by vulnerable communities from having access to a clean and healthy environment. We look forward to welcoming you to the Menier Gallery to take part in the debate, to mingle over drinks and nibbles, and to preview our environmental justice film and photography exhibition.
Date:	25 October 2010, 6.30pm – 9pm (registration from 6.15pm)
Location:	The Menier Gallery, 51 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RU
Further Information:	Places are limited so please book as soon as possible. To book your place please register at Eventsbrite http://cg10thanniversary.eventbrite.com as soon as possible. If you have any questions please email communications@capacity.org.uk or call Jadin Martinez on 0203 117 0102.

4. Bioneers Conference 'Breakthrough Solutions for People and Planet'

Description:	Bioneers at Findhorn will provide a balance of inspirational presentations with times of deepening, practice, dialogue, integration and unique networking opportunities. It will feature plenary speakers and community building activities in the morning, and a wide variety of more in-depth, practical workshops in the afternoon. In the evenings we will come together for cultural activities of music and dance. Join us at Europe's first Bioneers conference. Bring your own stories. Share your wisdom and experience. Connect with others, so that we can build a strong Bioneers network in Europe.
Date:	30 October - 2 November
Location:	Findhorn Eco village, Scotland
Further Information:	findhorn.org/bioneers

5. Night Safari at the Natural History Museum

Description:	<p>Join us and find out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If curses darkly glint in parts of our gem collection • Why bats are a source of superstitious fear (and why they like belfries) • What those frighteningly freaky mammals really are • Scarab beetles, why are they so caught up in Egyptian mythology and why were they used to replace the ripped out hearts of the dead? • The mythical hydra, what was it and what are the origins behind the myth? <p>More highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy a snail slime cocktail and nibble on a barbecued witch's toe during the evening, or for the less adventurous, more conventional fare will be on offer. • Meet Curators from our Zoology, Entomology and Mineralogy departments who will introduce the dark side of nature • Join a Museum Librarian who will bring out rare books and art work relating to curiosities in nature.
Date:	1 November 2010 18.30-22.30
Location:	Natural History Museum
Further Information:	http://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/events/programs/nhm/night_safari.html?date=01.11.2010



6. BGEN Conference 2010 'Know your plants; Developing better skills for science, horticulture and communication'

Description:	This conference seeks to take a fresh look at the interrelationship between horticulture and learning and explore how we can bring them together to create better programmes that excite the public and raise awareness of horticulture and science.
Date:	3-5 November 2010
Location:	Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh
Further Information:	bgen.org.uk/index.php/training/5-conferences/118-bgen-2010-annual-conference

7. DEA National Conference - Big Global Society: unlocking social action on global issues

Description:	<p>Why the Big Global Society?</p> <p>The Coalition government has emphasised the importance of the Big Society, but it has focused primarily on local initiatives. To be a truly big society, and to meet the challenges of international poverty and climate change, we need to be a 'Big Global Society'. This conference will be of interest to anyone seeking to engage the public in global issues, including NGOs, educators, policy makers, social enterprises, trade unions and progressive businesses.</p> <p>The conference will explore the latest thinking on how we can educate and engage the public in global agendas. Sessions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state of public engagement with global issues; • Funding the big society • The role of NGOs in educating and engaging the public • What sort of education system do we need to promote a big global society? • A big society for sustainable development • The politics of the big global society
Date:	2 November 2010
Location:	Mary Ward House, Central London
Further Information:	dea.org.uk/page.asp?p=6610

8. LEEF evening – Urban Gardener’s Question Time

Description:	<p>Come and ask questions to London’s most inspiring urban gardeners about your;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens • Green roofs • Guerrilla gardens • Wildlife corners • Window boxes
Date:	4 November 2010, open from 5.00pm with questions to panel from 6.00-8.00pm
Location:	The Garden Museum
Further Information:	£5 for LEEF members, £10 for non-members. To book a place email aportch@wildlondon.org.uk

9. Eco- Schools Conference 'Greener Schools, Stronger Communities'

Description:	<p>The Conference will explore how young people can contribute to the creation of a sustainable society, while enriching their own experiences and educational outcomes. Topics covered will include the role of the Eco-Schools programme, the carbon reduction commitment and practical advice for making your school and community more sustainable.</p>
Date:	23 November 2010
Location:	Reebok Stadium, Bolton
Further Information:	keepbritaintidy.org/Expertise/Events/EventsCalendar/Default.aspx?TrainingEventID=393



10. Global Dimension in Schools Conference

Description:	This major national conference aims to address three key questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why should a school consider the global dimension? • What does the global dimension look like in a school? • How does the global dimension contribute to raising achievement and expectations for learners?
Date:	Wednesday 8 December 2010
Location:	Institute of Education
Further Information:	Enquiries to G.Benton@ioe.ac.uk

Jobs

1. SEEd Trainee Internships

Description:	We are currently accepting applications for our Trainee Internship scheme. The role offers a unique opportunity to gain experience working at the heart of a broad and expanding ESD charity. Successful applicants can participate in our unique training courses (depending on timing of the internship), as well as assist in our information and research services, and in the implementation and organisation of projects and events. They will have chance to meet and work with key figures and organisations in the sector, to focus on specific areas of our SEEd's work which suit their own aspirations and interests, and to receive training in areas which suit their own needs. Internships are flexible for 6 months part-time or 6 weeks full-time.
Further Information:	Apply by sending your C.V by email to michael.cutts@se-ed.org.uk or by post to SEEd, 9-13 Kean Street, London, WC2B 4AY.

2. Freelance Teacher for Thames Explorer Trust

Description:	The post-holder will support the delivery of Global Action Plan's Schools Water Makeover project in partnership with Thames Water. He / she will ensure that the project is effectively and successfully implemented to deadline and to a high standard. He/ she will need to work closely with Thames Water, local authorities and other local organisations. The position will be based at our Head Office in London, but will require frequent travel. Salary - £22,00-£23,500 dependent on experience.
Deadline:	4pm on Wednesday 20th October 2010.
Further Information:	For more information visit: globalactionplan.org.uk/employment

Subscription

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