

high barnet

Green Home Zone

because we're worth it!

The High Barnet Green Home Zone launches an energy and environmental awareness social enterprise for local residents with a plastic bag free day and an eco fair – energy and recycling advice, driving simulator, face painting and crafts for children – at The Spires and in The Hyde Room, Chipping Barnet Library on Saturday, 20th March 2010.

We all no doubt know by now that climate change is a reality but what we might not know is that Barnet is one of the biggest producers of household CO2 emissions in London. The good news is that we can do something about it - helping reduce the emissions that cause climate change can be simple, effective and start in your own home.

High Barnet Green Home Zone is a not for profit organisation run by local people for local people. With the support of Barnet Council, the Energy Saving Trust and sponsored by Velux, we are dedicated to lessening the neighbourhood's carbon footprint whilst engaging residents in socially responsible environmental practices.

In order to achieve this we are focusing on the following areas:

Energy

To reduce our household energy use and CO2 emissions by 10% in 2010 and by 10% annually thereafter.

We have links with organisations that can offer you free advice about what you can do in your own home to reduce your energy bills (hurrah!), insulate your property and make your home more comfortable, as well as provide free energy monitors on a loan basis for a number of households.

Waste and Water

To increase homeowners recycling rates and reduce the amount of household rubbish we send to landfill. Also to increase levels of home composting i.e. we can provide tips on how to set up garden composters, harvest rainwater and water saving ideas around the house.

Self-Grower

To be more sustainable. Did you ever watch *The Good Life*? Ever thought about keeping chickens and growing your own vegetables? We can provide information and help you set up.

Plastic Bags

To eventually make High Barnet a plastic bag-free zone.

Who needs new ones - they just clog up landfill, get stuck in our lovely trees and are harmful to wildlife? Re-use your old plastic bags and then recycle them at Waitrose's recycling point or take a cloth bag with you when you know you will be going shopping. Mayor Boris Johnson aims to make London plastic bag free by 2012 so let's get a head start! To kick start this, our aim is that 20th March will be a plastic bag free day in High Barnet.

Fair Trade

To increase the number of homeowners who purchase fair trade, ethical and locally grown/produced products.

Transport

To increase the number of people car sharing, walking and catching public transport. Also, to set up a car-sharing scheme in High Barnet and achieve a reduction in the number of two car owners.

Get Involved

We are looking for local residents, businesses, schools and organisations in High Barnet who will support our aims and work with us. This could involve volunteering time, inviting us and the Energy Saving Trust to give a talk, or by publicising our Eco Fair in your shop or newspaper.

Come and visit us between 10am and 4pm, on Saturday, 20th March at the launch event/Eco Fair at The Spires and in The Hyde Room, Chipping Barnet Library to find out more about how you can get involved...

Editor's notes

The High Barnet Green Home Zone encompasses all the streets behind The Spires and the Meadway and roads off it - some 2,250 homes in High Barnet. Our ambition is that every household will reduce the energy they use, the water they consume, recycle more and waste less, walk more and use the car as little as possible locally.

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ENDS