

COMMUNITY - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland



November 2015

ESRAG TREE PLANTING UPDATE COUNCIL OF LEGISLATION 2016 RODNEY HUGGINS AWARD FRACKING - BOILER CHOICE



ESRAG
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP

The RI Board of Directors decided to officially recognise the Group at their meeting recently. The Group includes our own Sustainability Trust whose Chairman, Peter Sephton and our own Group member Peter Moralee have become Joint Vice Chairmen of the new Group.

Its aims are 'to proactively assist Rotarians in planning, implementing and evaluating service projects, building awareness, and inspiring action towards environmental sustainability'.

The application for recognition by RI was submitted last August with 600 prospective members from 55 countries. Membership is open 'to Rotarians, their family members as well as participants and alumni of all Rotary (and Rotaract) and Foundation programs'.

This recognition of the Group by RI is another step towards full recognition of the importance of environmental issues and the role that Rotary could and should play globally. The next step will be our RI Resolution which is to be put to the RI Council of Legislation next year under 16 -123 (see later article under COL)

TREE UPDATE

OVO TREES

There are still another 50,000 FREE trees available from this new source to which reference was made in the Sept/Oct Newsletter. Over 100,000 trees have already been allocated. Several Rotary Clubs are known to have already taken up the offer.

TREES FOR TANZANIA

After several years of not knowing quite what was going on, one of our members has recently returned from the tree planting area. He has been in touch with several Rotary Clubs there and seen for himself the progress and success of the tree planting.

Those who cannot find places to plant trees in their own area but would still like to plant trees can donate money to the scheme through the Sustainability Trust. The trees cost only 20p each, so a little money goes a very long way!

WOODLAND TRUST

Dates have now been released for planting in spring 2016. Requests for free trees must be submitted by 6 January 2016, though be warned that requests are dealt with on a first come basis, so if the trees run out, the date will be brought forward. 3250 packs of trees are to be made available with delivery between the 7 and 11 March.

The Woodland Trust is also suggesting that now is the time to check up on trees which have been planted already. There have been some strong winds, with probably more to come this autumn. Check the guards and make sure they are in



place. In wet areas we have found that the canes can soon rot and may need replacing, though they can be turned upside-down as a stand-in temporary measure. Make sure the trees are free of weeds as otherwise the plants can get strangled or simply smothered. If there are sleeves, these can often 'force' the grass inside to grow more quickly.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

A great way to raise money is to have a Christmas Tree collection. Homes in an area where there are likely to be Christmas trees are circulated with leaflets between Christmas and New Year, and then a lorry, working with a team of 3 or 4 people can be used to collect the trees around Twelfth Night. Typically a charge of £3 minimum can be made with many giving £5, as it saves them having to mess up their cars taking their trees to the tip.

For more details on Trees for Tanzania, Christmas Tree Collection and the Woodland Trust, there are leaflets available on the web site.

If you need any help or advice, please contact Terry Knowles, Secretary Of the GB&I Environmental Sustainability Group by e-mail on TERUNA2@aol.com or telephone 01423 525014



RODNEY HUGGINS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

A reminder that entries for the Trophy must be in by **31 January 2016** with judging taking place in February and the winners being announced at the Rotary GBI Conference in Bournemouth in April. The overall winner will get £250 plus the replica trophy and the runner-up £150. To remind you, there are three categories –

Rotary Clubs – Any Rotary Club which is, itself, carrying out or supporting projects connected with the environment.

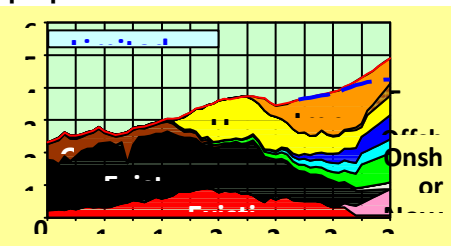
School & Youth Groups – Projects, connected with the environment, run by schools or youth groups. There **must** be some Rotary involvement.

International – Any Rotary Club or District involved in an environmental sustainable project outside RIBI

Entry forms are on the web site or apply to me and I will let you have one.

FRACKING

This is a very controversial subject about which we should be aware of the pros and cons. Our web site holds a very interesting Power Point production on this subject, prepared by our own Group member Professor Keith Tovey and is in a format where it can be used at a Rotary Meeting and given by any Rotarian with a bit of preparation.



I have prepared some notes to go with the PP Production which are also available on the web site which explains each slide in more detail.



This is ideal to have in hand if a speaker does not arrive!

COUNCIL OF LEGISLATION 2016

The Resolution which we asked Clubs and Districts to support, and to which 5 Clubs and Districts responded, has now been listed as an official resolution for the Council of Legislation in 2016 under Resolution 16 – 123. As my own Club of Harrogate and District 1040 have been shown as the proposers of the Resolution, the District COL delegate, PDG Willie Clarke, has kindly undertaken this task.

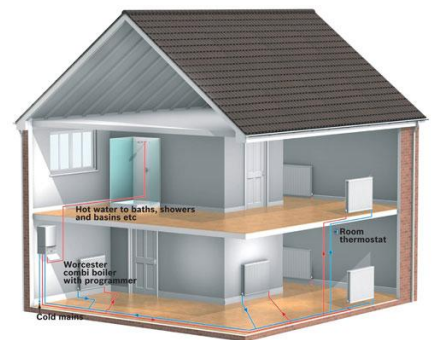
Other environmental Resolutions include 'To request the RI Board to consider establishing an Environmental Preservation Awareness Day (16-121 proposed by a Brazilian Club)', 'To request the RI Board to consider including Preserve Planet Earth as an official programme of RI' (16-122 from a French Club) and 'To request the Trustees to consider making planet earth a new area of focus' (16-143 by a South African Club). An Enactment by the Rotary Club of Madison, USA (16-98) reads 'RI supports the reduction of greenhouse emissions to mitigate the global warming humanitarian crisis'.

Please bring these important issues to the attention of all the COL Delegates and request their support, especially of our Resolution 16-123

COMBI OR CONDENSING BOILER?

Bruce Boucher (DEO District 1210) is a new member of our Group and is a specialist in energy in buildings of any kind, and fuels relating to energy i.e. Electricity, Oil, Gas, LPG, Heat Pumps and Renewables.

He has written some papers on the pros and cons of Combi or Condensing Boilers and on Heat Pumps. I hope these will soon appear on our web site as they make interesting reading especially for those who are looking to change their boilers and are not sure what will suit them best.



The above shows a typical Combi boiler layout.

Non-Condensing boilers are no longer available, but there are many benefits of adding heat pumps and solar panels to your existing systems.

We hope to produce more information on the latest grants and benefits as these are changing all the time.