

Canaries in a Coal Mine

NEWSLETTER 3
NOVEMBER 2007

Time to work together

The project has been set up, the competitions are under way, the prizes have been found and itinerary for the two days of awareness-raising events is almost complete - so the time has come for all the schools taking part to work together, teachers and pupils alike. In order to make the project as successful as we all wish so that those who live in and around the Tonbridge area really do take note of the importance of doing something positive about climate change, we need individual schools to volunteer to take responsibility for an event. With such a wide variety of events being promoted we hope there will be something to attract each and every school. If this seems too daunting, then do come up with an idea of your own so that your school makes its individual mark on the project next March. An outline of the provisional itinerary for the project in late March is published below. Please have a look and let us know which specific event you would like to help with.

List of prizes

Almost all the prizes for the competitions have been kindly donated and more are being offered on a regular basis. A list of the prizes is published at the end of this newsletter. If you know of an individual or company who might be willing to add to this list, then do contact us so that we can approach them. We want to make sure that the work of all students entering the competitions is well rewarded.

Posters for competitions distributed

All schools who have notified us of their interest should have received the posters and entry forms for all the competitions. If you haven't as yet, please contact mim@tonbridge-school.org. If you work at a school which hasn't as yet become involved in the project, then just contact me and I will make sure our introductory pack along with the posters/entry forms reaches you as soon as possible.

Tree Planting

We intend to encourage all Head Teachers in all participating schools to plant a tree on Friday March 28th as a symbolic gesture of support for the project as well as a reminder that every little helps. We will be providing the trees for each school because we feel that such a gesture will be a powerful statement of each school's commitment to doing something to improve their carbon footprint.

Meeting with TMBC

Recently Charlotte and Gill met up with Lyndsey Bennett and others from TMBC and, in what proved to be a very fruitful meeting, a number of key issues were decided. TMBC will help with advice and organization to make sure we are able to book the key venues we need (Angel Centre, Castle, etc) for the various events we wish to put on. TMBC recognize that the work we are doing is helping to promote the fact that Climate Change is high on the list of the council's priorities – not just obvious ones like recycling, but a wide range of ideas that will ensure what we do locally will make its impact on the global problem.

Carbon Neutral

We have had two fruitful meetings with a company called Carbon Neutral. They began by specializing in Carbon-Offsetting and still encourage companies who say they can find no other way to improve their carbon footprint to make a difference. However recently they have become increasingly involved in highlighting ways to reduce the carbon footprint of large, often international, companies. They are particularly keen to help schools assess their footprint as a first step to drawing up plans to reduce their carbon emissions. Carbon Neutral have already put us in touch with Ben Saunders, the young polar explorer who will be visiting us in February before, extraordinarily, walking to both North and South Poles during 2008 (see below for the date of his visit).

Bore Place

Jacqueline Leach, director of Commonwork, based at Bore Place in Chiddingstone will link the excellent educational work done there with our project. On Friday 28th, Commonwork will be going into schools to conduct workshops. On Saturday 29th, when they will be holding their Spring workshop event, they will be open to the public from 11am-3pm, and their focus will be climate change and food. A free shuttle bus between Tonbridge Station and Bore Place will run on that day. Their work will establish a perfect urban-rural link for our project. For more information about their work see www.commonwork.org .

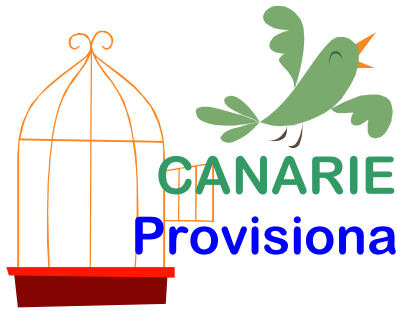
Steve Dawe

"STEVE DAWE has joined the committee coordinating the Canaries in a Coalmine project. Steve is a lifetime environmentalist who speaks regularly to schools and other groups on behalf of Climate Concern. During the past ten years, he has been a part-time interdisciplinary social science lecturer in Higher Education, which has included teaching Environmental

Policy, European Studies and International Development. He organizes periodic meetings in his capacity as Kent organiser for the Campaign Against Climate Change which is an all-Party and individual members campaign responsible for the annual climate marches in London. The next one is on Saturday 8th December, assembling at 12.00 noon at Millbank in

London, near Westminster. With Philip Clarkson Webb, Steve is trying to set up a Transition Town group for Tonbridge - a new type of campaign which is designed to help communities deal with the challenges presented by climate change and the imminent peak in global oil supplies See:

www.transitiontowns.org for further information. Steve serves as a member of the Planning Committee of the Tonbridge Civic Society. He is also a member of the West Kent Neighbourhood Watch Association Committee, as the Region Representative for Tonbridge and Malling."



CANARIES IN A COAL MINE **Provisional Itinerary of events**

- October 2007:** The competitions are launched
- December 2007:** We anticipate that the itinerary for our two days in March will be finalized
- Friday February 8th 2008:** Visit by Ben Saunders, polar explorer, who will be giving three talks: he will be speaking to Secondary Schools, Primary schools as well as a special presentation for adults in the evening
- 22nd and 25th February 2008:** Deadline for the competition entries
- Late February, early March:** Competitions judged
- Week beginning March 24th:** Exhibitions of Art and Photography competition winners and highly commended open
- Thursday March 27th:** Dance and multi-media show (first night) at E.M. Forster Theatre

Friday March 28th – IF WE DON'T ACT NOW*

Eco Fayre, Sustainable Schools Fayre, Eco Business Conference and Debate, Tree Planting, proposal for all School Assemblies to focus on the issue, Students' Radio programme, Talks by Glenn Morris (Arctic voice) and Michael Redcliff (professor of Geography, King's College, London), Competition Prizes awarded, Live Music at Recycling Centres, TMBC Youth Council meeting, Satellite link up with Ben Saunders on the polar ice, Second performance of Dance show.

SATURDAY MARCH 29th – A BRIGHTER FUTURE*

Eco Fayre (2nd day), Bring and Swap event, Celebrity speaker (to be announced), More Music at Recycling points, Recycled Bagging + at Supermarkets, Tonbridge version of Question, Sports Tournament for Primary schools, Workshops, Candlelight/lantern parade up High Street (late afternoon), Unplugged Concert in Castle Grounds (evening)

***VENUES AND TIMINGS TO BE FINALISED**

COMPETITIONS PRIZES

PHOTOGRAPHY

PORTFOLIO CATEGORY (OF 4-6 IMAGES) – sponsored by CanvasRus

FIRST PRIZE: Digital Camera and Printer + 4 images professionally printed onto canvas

SECOND PRIZE: 3 images professionally printed onto canvas

THIRD PRIZE: 2 images professionally printed onto canvas

HIGHLY COMMENDED (5 prizes): one image each professionally printed onto canvas

SINGLE IMAGE CATEGORY – sponsored by Photocare & Allworks Photography

FIRST PRIZE: Digital camera + Image printed professionally (20"x16" size) and mounted

SECOND PRIZE: Image professionally printed (16"x12"), mounted & free sitting at Allworks

THIRD PRIZE: Image professionally printed (12" x10" size) and mounted

HIGHLY COMMENDED (5 prizes): one image each professionally printed onto canvas

VIDEO

DOCUMENTARY (sponsored by Jigsaw Systems)

First prize: Camcorder (JVC)

Second prize: Video Editing Software

PUBLIC INFORMATION FILM (sponsored by JVC?)

First prize: Camcorder (Canon)

Second prize: Video Editing Software

SONG WRITING (sponsored by Revolution-events.com & Recording Studios)

First Prize : A day in a professional recording Studio

Second prize: A Tascam digital mixer and AKG microphone

WRITING (sponsored by John Adams, Kent Lighting, Mr Books)

POETRY:

SECONDARY First prize: Book Token worth £40

Second prize: Book Token worth £10

PRIMARY First prize: £140 Box of Books (Badger's) for school
+ £20 book token for pupil

Second Prize: to be announced

ESSAY

SECONDARY First prize: £20 book token plus Anglepoise reading lamp (£60)

Second prize: Light from Kent Lighting worth up to £25

PRIMARY First prize: To be announced

Second Prize: Terracotta pot and plant from World of Pots + Blue Planet book

ART (sponsored by Halfords, Cross's Art Shops, National Trust & World of Pots)

THE RECYCLED OBJECT

SECONDARY First prize: Bicycle and Safety Helmet worth £200

Second prize: Cross's Fantasia Graphite Art Pack worth £25

PRIMARY First prize: A day at Ightham Mote

Second prize: 3 packs of Fantasia colours worth £37 from Cross's

POSTER

SECONDARY First Prize: To be announced

Second prize: Cross's Art pack worth £10

PRIMARY First prize: To be announced

Second Prize: To be announced

