



## Newsletter of the Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network

December 2014

**Merry Christmas**  
to all our members and subscribers.

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## WREN Christmas Party

Celebrate the festive season in the company of fellow WREN members.

**Tickets: £10**  
Saturday 13th December  
7.30pm till late  
at Pop Cafe Gallery  
(Unit 5, Trevanson Street, Wadebridge, PL27 7AW)

Cool tunes: DJ Wily Parker

Food will be by Blue Bus Catering, with a choice of

- Creamy orzo pasta with forest mushrooms, spinach and pecorino cheese (vegetarian) or
- Slow roasted shoulder of lamb with winter vegetables, salsa verde and flat

bread.

Please specify when buying tickets.

Buy tickets at the Energy Shop (open 11am - 3pm) with cash, cheque or Wrens, covering entry and food. Pop Cafe Gallery will operate a bar.

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## WREN's New Website

### The energy saving house

Many people in and around Wadebridge find it hard to keep warm enough in winter. Much of the housing is poorly insulated, so expensively generated heat just disappears through walls and roofs. Mains gas, the cheapest form of heating, is not available to many, especially in the surrounding villages.

Although Wadebridge has a reputation for being a well-off town, there are too many people on low incomes who can find it impossible to keep reasonably warm at home. Being cold at home can be bad for your health and wellbeing. Not being able to afford the costs of electricity or gas, coal, oil or LPG, can be worrying and distressing. And if keeping warm doesn't seem to be a problem, you could still be paying too much.

WREN has many ways to help people save energy, save money and keep warmer in winter, and these have all been brought together and made easily accessible on its new website in the 'energy-saving house' ([www.wren.uk.com](http://www.wren.uk.com)).

WREN can help you find the cheapest source of gas or electricity and help you switch tariff or supplier to get a better deal. It can help you get your house better insulated - many homes in the Wadebridge area are eligible for

free loft and cavity wall insulation, irrespective of personal circumstances, under a government scheme - and this means you will keep warmer but use less fuel.

LED light bulbs can use one tenth of the electricity of halogen spotlights and incandescent bulbs, and less than half the electricity of compact fluorescent lamps, the more familiar energy-saving bulbs, and last longer than both. WREN currently has a low cost offer on LED bulbs in the Energy Shop (see below). Draught proofing reduces heat loss and can be fitted cheaply by a confident DIYer, or



professionally.

Call into the Energy Shop and talk to WREN. We'll make some suggestions for you and help you follow them up if you would like us to. The service we provide is independent, friendly, free and confidential.

WREN can be found at the Energy Shop, Hamilton House, The Platt, Wadebridge, Cornwall, PL27 7AA. Opening hours: 11am - 3 pm, Monday - Saturday.

Telephone: 01208 812992.

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## Double award winners

In the last few weeks, WREN has picked up two awards, both of which recognise, in their different ways, what the organisation has achieved.

We are delighted to say that we were awarded £23,000 at an awards ceremony at the Eden Project on 10th November. WREN had applied for grants from Energyshare's 'Energyfund Cornwall' to help us install free solar panels on roofs in and around Wadebridge and 450 members and supporters voted for us in the first stage of the application. The final awards were decided by a panel of judges.

The grant is hugely significant and will enable us to establish the Wadebridge Energy Company and make an initial share offer to local people, so that they can own and benefit from a part of the local energy economy.

It was a double triumph for Wadebridge at the Western Morning News Business Awards on 20th November. Not only did WREN win in the Sustainable Achievement category, our near neighbours a few doors along The Platt, greengrocers The Vine, won for Customer Service.

The black tie event, held at Sandy Park, home of the Exeter Chiefs rugby club, on 20th November, attracted representatives of all types of business across the southwest for the presentation of awards in fourteen categories. WREN was up against strong opposition in Plymouth City Council Waste Department, Pickleshack

and Eon Low Carbon Energy Centre, and The Vine beat off Cornish Mutual, an insurance company, and law firm Stephens Scown LLP.

If you call in at both shops on The Platt, you will likely see the awards on display.

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### **LED Light Bulbs**

- offer closes 12th December

WREN still has a stock of various LED light bulbs, but the offer will close on 12th December. Call in at the energy shop to see what we have.

### **Stuck for a Christmas present?**

- Thinking of resorting to cash? Give them **Wrens** instead.

Available as Wr5 and Wr25 notes from the the Energy Shop, you can spend them in over 50 shops and businesses in Wadebridge.

### **Electric Car Charging Point**

Cornwall Services at the Victoria Interchange Junction of the A30 at Roche will shortly have a charging point for electric cars. For a short period they are offering a free swipe card.

**Happy  
New  
Year!**

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