



## Newsletter of the Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network

**July 2015**

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## WREN in Wadebridge Carnival

This year WREN is making an entry in the Wadebridge Carnival on Saturday 8th August.

Our theme is sunshine and our entry will be pulled by a solar powered electric quad bike!

Come along and join in the fun - we will be doing a mask-making workshop at the Energy Shop on The Platt from 11.30 am - 2.30 pm on the day of the carnival. You can be a solar panel (you will need to wear grey/silver or blue clothes for the parade) or a sunflower (wear yellow or green for the parade).

We will be gathering at Egloshayle playing fields for the judging from 6 pm. The parade itself starts at 7pm.



*WREN at the Carnival three years ago*

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## £20,000 Available for Community Projects

£20,000 is now available for community projects to benefit people living in Wadebridge, St Kew, St Mabyn and Egloshayle parishes.

The money comes from the Middle Treworder Solar Farm under a “Section 106” agreement, and is available as grants to charitable projects and purposes with a focus on grass roots community and voluntary groups in the area around the solar farm.

This is the second year of the fund, which last year gave away £10,000 to groups including Wadebridge Skateboard and BMX Park, Wadebridge Swimming Club, and St.Kew Highway Football Club. This year there is no specified maximum size of grant which can be applied for. However, the committee is keen to spread the funding as widely as possible.

The fund is administered by WREN, but all decisions about the awards are made by a fund committee made up of representatives from Wadebridge Town Council, the Parish Councils of St Kew, St Mabyn and Egloshayle, the landowner and WREN.

The fund committee’s priorities are for projects that will benefit children, young people and schools, or households in or at risk of fuel poverty, and also to low carbon initiatives and climate change mitigation or adaptation projects.

WREN director Tony Faragher said, “WREN is delighted to be able to help run this fund for the second year. The committee has made some small changes to the eligibility criteria this year by including schools, since all the local schools are not-

for-profit Academies.”

**Organisations must apply by 31st August 2015** using forms available from WREN, and the fund committee’s decisions will be announced towards the end of September.

Organisations can obtain application forms and full details of eligibility by:

- email to [communityfunds@wren.uk.com](mailto:communityfunds@wren.uk.com)
- the website <http://www.wren.uk.com/community/apply-for-funds>
- visiting WREN at the Energy Shop, Hamilton House, The Platt, Wadebridge, PL27 7AE
- telephoning WREN on 01208 812992.

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## Nanstallon Solar Array

Wadebridge Energy Company’s first solar portfolio nears completion. The 100kW solar array next to South West Water’s sewage treatment plant at Nanstallon has been built and is now undergoing connection and commissioning.

The array will supply all its output electricity directly to South West Water to run the plant, reducing its electricity costs and its CO2 emissions. South West Water has previously built its own solar arrays where it owns sufficient land around a plant, but this is the first time it has worked with a local community group and a landowner. There will be a formal opening ceremony later in the year.

The array forms part of the first solar portfolio owned by the Wadebridge Energy Company, the other part being a number of rooftops in Wadebridge. The portfolio will be funded by some combination of a loan from The Low Carbon Society Limited and the issue of Wadebridge Energy Company shares to local people, who will thus own the company.

We will soon be communicating more information on how people can apply for shares. Watch this space.

Any surplus funds after paying operating costs and returns to investors (including loan repayments) will be used in projects to benefit the community. We intend that there will be a specific community fund established for the people of Nanstallon.

This is WREN’s first step into locally owned electricity production, following the work we have done over the last four years helping individual people and

businesses generate their own energy through solar panels, biomass boilers and the like.

## Royal Cornwall Show

WREN took a stand at the Royal Cornwall Show, on the “Wadebridge Street”, surrounded by architects, accountants and solicitors, as it turned out.

For the full story and photos, see our website:

<http://www.wren.uk.com/news/97-wren-at-the-royal-cornwall-show>

## WREN AGM - advance notice

The WREN AGM is scheduled for the evening of **Tuesday 29th September** in Wadebridge Town Hall. More information later, but please make a note in your diaries.

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