



## Newsletter of the Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network

**May 2015**

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### Contents

**The Energy Shop will  
be closed  
4th, 5th & 6th June.**

**See us at the Royal  
Cornwall Show  
instead.**

- WREN at Royal Cornwall Show
  - Free LED bulbs for first 20 members each day
  - Win W50 in our competition
- £10,000 community fund awards
- £20,000 community fund opens soon
- Tamar Energy Community - Intern Vacancy
- Wattstor installation

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## WREN at the Royal Cornwall Show

It's Royal Cornwall Show time 4th - 6th June and WREN will have a stand (well, half a stand, strictly speaking) on the "Wadebridge Street" organised by the Wadebridge Chamber of Commerce and North Cornwall Advertiser.

The Energy Shop will be closed for the duration, so if you need urgent advice on energy-related matters, from home insulation and energy saving to zero-cost solar panels and investment in renewable energy, you'll have to come to the Show to find it.

And even if you don't need advice that urgently, come and see us anyway.

The first 20 WREN members each day who make themselves known at the stand will receive a **free LED light bulb**. (Sponsored by the Hawkey family at The Olde House, Chapel Amble.)

You'll also have the chance to **enter our free competition** and win 50 Wrens, equivalent to £50, which you can spend in over 50 Wadebridge shops and businesses.

Who knows, we might be doing something you didn't know about and didn't realise you were interested in.

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## **£10,000 Community Fund Awards**

A total of nearly £10,000 has been awarded to voluntary and community groups from St Breock and Wadebridge. The committee of the **Pengelly CE Wind community fund** has decided that the following local groups should receive awards (in alphabetical order):

- Cornwall Young Farmers
- Egloshayle Pre-school
- Growing Wild Cornwall
- Loaves and Fishes Community Help Café
- May Play
- Moor Harmony
- N. Cornwall Talking Newspaper
- St Breock Primary School
- Time to Shine
- Treraven Farm
- Wadebridge Bowls Club
- Wadebridge Carnival
- Wadebridge Creative Hub
- Wadebridge Girlguiding
- Wadebridge Memory Café Association
- Wadebridge Toy Library
- Wadebridge Youth Project Community Video and Mural
- Wednesday Arts and Craft Group (ARC)
- Whiterock Residents

Presentations are scheduled for 3pm on Friday 5th June at the CleanEarth stand (417) at the Royal Cornwall Show. Further updates will be posted on our website at this address: <http://www.wren.uk.com/community/apply-for-funds>

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## **£20,000 community fund opening soon**

The Middle Treworder Solar Farm Fund will be open again for applications in June with awards made in September 2015. This year £20,000 will be available for

community projects in Wadebridge, Egloshayle, St.Kew and St Mabyn.

The funds can be for any charitable purpose, but particularly local children's groups, young people's schemes, local youth projects, support projects and services for households in or at risk of fuel poverty, low carbon initiatives, climate change mitigation or adaptation.

Details will appear on our website: <http://www.wren.uk.com/community/apply-for-funds>

## Wattstor installation

In the April Newsletter, we included an offer to WREN members from Wattstor (<http://wattstor.com>) for an electricity storage system at a discounted price. This offer was taken up by Richard & Marion McDonald and the system has now been installed. Here is what they have to say about it.

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We moved into our current home 18 months ago, having lived in Wadebridge for several years. Our hundred year old Police cottage left quite a lot to be desired as an eco home - it is an ongoing project with still a little way to go. First priorities were to have solar panels installed and address insulation issues. I installed a solar diverter to heat the water for us but could still see lots of our generated power being fed back into the grid. I looked for alternative ways to use or store this energy. At the time there was little I could do. There were battery storage systems available, but they were very bulky, expensive, of dubious battery life and worst of all, not type-approved for a grid tie system. They were all of European origin and I wanted something "home grown".

I had been a member of WREN whilst in Wadebridge, and have used their considerable knowledge base to improve my homes. I also signed up for Wattstor's news letter and had been following their progress and development with quite some interest. So when the WREN newsletter came announcing a generous discount on Wattstor's system, I knew it was time to commit.

I arranged a site survey with Michael Danes of Wattstor, we met and discussed my requirements and I was assured that each system they install is tailored to the householder's needs and requirements. We agreed a price for some additional work I wanted and I gave them the go ahead.

The lead time was short, just a couple of weeks. The team from Wattstor arrived on time and after an initial discussion and cup of tea, work

commenced. One of the main aims of the team of engineers was to make it as neat and unobtrusive as they could and the results speak for themselves: a tidy installation that took just one day and with minimum disruption and no mess left.

Within the first few days it was clear we were making considerable savings on our electricity usage with very little coming from or going into the grid. I would recommend Wattstor to anyone who has solar PV installed and wants to use their investment more effectively.



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## Tamar Energy Community - Vacancy for Intern

Tamar Energy Community (TEC) is a newly established community energy enterprise. Its purpose is to support energy reduction and local energy generation across Tavistock, Callington and their parishes. [“Excellent!” - Ed.] They have a vacancy for an intern to work with them for 20 days in June-August.

They say: “We need an enthusiastic intern to help us develop the projects side of TEC, and develop our community engagement. This is a great opportunity for someone such as a graduate with an interest in renewable energy and energy reduction to join the organisation at the beginning and help to explore and set up the project programmes.”

Closing date for applications is 4th June.

Click [here](#), and follow the links, for more information and details of how to apply.

**And finally...**

Did you spot this piece about Wadebridge and solar power on the BBC News website?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-32782324>

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