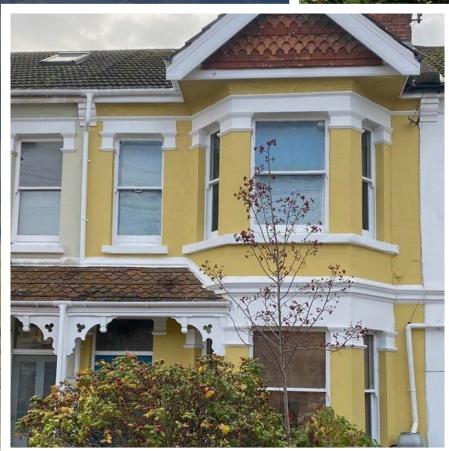


Eco Open Houses, Gardens & More...

A collaboration between **Transition Towns
Worthing & Shoreham** and **Greening Steyning**

7-19 April 2026



SAVE MONEY ON ENERGY & WATER



Worried about paying energy bills? We can help

At Citizens Advice, we are available to give free independent information and advice on:

- Energy efficiency
- Benefits and Budget checks
- Taking action on energy debt
- Checking you are on the best tariff
- Signing up to the Priority Services Register

To book a free appointment anywhere in West Sussex, call our energy team on:

01273944433

Or visit our website:
www.advicewestsussex.org.uk



Greening Steyning's Home Energy Helpdesk

Free advice and a friendly chat - 2nd Saturday, every month, 2pm-4pm,
Upper Beeding Village Hall. www.greeningsteyning.org/helpdesk

One Planet Living

Our event is underpinned by principles laid out by the sustainability framework, One Planet Living. Visit: www.ttworthing.org/mapping for information on how we've used One Planet technology to map what's going on locally.



Welcome

to our 6th informative, fun and inspiring
2026 Eco Open Houses event!



We appreciate that not everyone owns their own home or can afford to do a lot of the more techy stuff we showcase in this event, but we do offer a wide spectrum of options to suit most needs – from simple, inexpensive, effective solutions to high tech, or even whole house retrofit, all designed to reduce costs to our budgets and the Earth.

Although many people have played their part in this event, the one thing we all have in common is that we are committed to saving energy, water, waste (and therefore money!) and enhancing biodiversity - reducing carbon and our impact on the environment in countless creative ways. As the weather becomes more extreme, flooding is likely to become more of an issue for some, so we've also included info on how to mitigate surface water flooding.

The beauty of this event is that no-one is trying to sell you anything – we just want to share our knowledge, experiences (good and bad!) and our journey through what can be a bit of a minefield at times. Plus, this event is free of charge, unless clearly stated.

www.ttworthing.org/events/#eco-open-houses

www.transitiontownshoreham.org/eco-open-houses-2026

www.greeningsteyning.org/eoh



ADUR & WORTHING



Worthing Homes



Fringe Events

Please see booking link under each listing. Information about each event is on the relevant booking page. **All Fringe Events need to be booked in advance.** You will not be admitted without proof of booking. Please note any requirements for visiting that site – e.g. parking, where to meet, whether there is a fee to pay etc.

Disabled friendly sites are indicated by  and if refreshments are available by 

Please note, some tours have limited places, so no more than 2 tickets per booking please. We will be operating waiting lists so, if you do need to cancel, please let us know - then we can offer your place to someone else.



TOUR & PRESENTATION

Splashpoint Pool

Tues 7 April 10am

60 Brighton Rd, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Splashpoint swimming pool is a complex state-of-the-art eco building. This tour includes a behind the scenes visit to the plant rooms and a Q&A with a slide show on how Splashpoint strives to achieve their sustainable targets.



TOUR

The Fen Community Farm Tour

Wed 8 April 11am & 2pm

The Fen Farm, Test Road, Sompting

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

From growing plants from seed, to selling to the public, there are plenty of fun things to try. Meet the conservation grazing sheep with lambs, and possibly one of the working horses. Also hear about the many volunteering opportunities at the farm and across Sompting Estate.



PRESENTATION, FILM, Q&A



Raingardens - Our Future?

Wed 8 April 6.30 - 8.30pm

Maybridge Keystone Centre, Raleigh Way, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Listen to inspiring local residents who have created resilient solutions, by taking simple but effective measures to help mitigate localised flooding. There will be the opportunity to chat and ask questions and find out how to access information to help you take practical action.



TOUR

Hemiko Energy Centre

Thur 9 April 10.30am & 2.30pm

Hemiko Energy Centre, High Street, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -
For tickets email: worthing@hemiko.com

A look inside the Worthing Heat Network Energy Hub to find out how this facility is helping to provide low-carbon heat for buildings in Worthing. Hear from the project team about how heat is generated and distributed, and how the project has been designed. There will also be time to ask questions and learn more about how the network may develop in the future.

TOUR & PRESENTATION

Splashpoint Pool

Thurs 9 April 6pm

60 Brighton Rd, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Splashpoint swimming pool is a complex state-of-the-art eco building. This tour includes a behind the scenes visit to the plant rooms and a Q&A with a slide show on how Splashpoint strives to achieve their sustainable targets.



TOUR

Sleep Eco Hotel

10, 11 & 13 April 12 - 12.45pm

37 Richmond Rd, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -
Peep inside Worthing's only eco hotel! Owner Andy Sparsis will run tours of this historic building that's been renovated to provide a state-of-the-art eco stay.



FILM

Power Station

Sat 11 April 6.30pm

Ropetackle Arts Centre, Little High St, Shoreham

Tickets £5: <https://ropetacklecentre.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/873682760>

Working to turn a whole street solar, Power Station is a prototype of community-led power, detailing the financial and emotional challenges of making change together - from sleeping on rooftops and growing thousands of sunflowers, to attempts at a Christmas No. 1. Screening followed by discussion about local community energy.

Eventbrite booking

www.eventbrite.co.uk/transition-town-worthing-29435819407





WORKSHOP



Warmth, All Stitched Up!

Sat 11 April 11am - 5pm

Community Hub, Beach House Park, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Kathy and Sally from CREW's Stitch it, Don't Ditch it group will be sharing ideas on how to upcycle a variety of items, and make draught-excluders, gloves, leg-warmers, ponchos and curtains.



PRESENTATION



From Earthship France to Eco House Worthing

Mon 13 April 6.30 - 8.30pm

Audio Active, 85-87 Montague St, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Gillian and Kevan Trott built an Earthship in Normandy as an off-grid home for their family. Come and share the inspiring journey undertaken by these two amazing pioneers of a very different kind of "technology".



TOUR



Wadurs Pool

Tues 14 April 12 noon & 6.30pm

Wadurs Pool, Kingston Broadway, Shoreham

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour & Q&A. See how over 170 solar panels power the centre and how energy-efficient pumps have halved electricity use while cutting nearly 10 tonnes of CO₂ every year. Every drop makes a difference!



PRESENTATION



Worthing Homes - Leading Sustainability in Social Housing

Tues 14 April 12 noon

Davison House - Resource Centre, North St, Worthing

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Beyond insulation, solar PV and heat pumps, learn what Worthing Homes is doing to build new homes fit for the future, support biodiversity, tackle today's problems such as rising bills, and carbon emissions, while looking to the problems of the future such as extreme weather.



WEBINAR

Demystifying Heat Pumps

Wed 15 April 7pm. Online.

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

This webinar will explore the whole range of heat pumps featured in this event, from domestic installations to district heating systems, not just in Worthing. It will be chaired by TTW member Rita Garner, presented by Hemiko, Splashpoint, and various householders from our event.



TOUR



Shoreham Port

Thur 16 April 10 - 11.30am

Shoreham Port Authority, Nautilus House, 90-100 Albion St, Southwick, Brighton

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Certified as an EcoPort for the last 10 years, the Port is amongst the most sustainable in the UK. It is a thriving commercial port on the south coast of England with excellent infrastructure and facilities, and a heritage that can be traced back to 1760.



PRESENTATION Q&A



Creating a Boiler Retirement Plan, Tariffs and Community Heat Networks

Fri 17 April 7 - 8.30pm

Shoreham Centre, 2 Pond Rd, Shoreham

- **Booking and details on Eventbrite** -

Retrofit Architect Sarah Kemp helps you plan ahead for replacing a gas or oil boiler with a heat pump, which can help avoid stress, inconvenience and unexpected costs, and support the transition to low carbon heating.

Emma Fletcher, Low Carbon Homes Director at Octopus Energy will explain the different tariffs on offer for heat pumps and how she helped create a low carbon district heating network for her village in Cambridgeshire.

Eventbrite booking
www.eventbrite.co.uk/transition-town-worthing-29435819407





TOUR & ACTIVITIES



Apron Community Garden

Sat 18 April 10 - 12 noon

Apron Community Garden, Buckingham Park, Shoreham-by-Sea

- To buy tickets email: info@aproncreative.com
Meet our volunteer team, learn about community food growing and composting, plus eco craft activities for families. To find out about Apron's exciting new project: www.aproncommunityfarm



WORKSHOP



ScrapSpace Draughtproofing Workshop

18 & 19 April 2 - 5pm
The Circular Space, Ham Rd, Shoreham

- Buy tickets at www.weareoverthemoon.org/upcomingevents

Reuse fabrics to make everything from rag rugs to draft excluders, insulating and warming your home while adding your individual touch to the decor! We have so much fabric and haberdashery to choose from. No experience necessary, expert help will be on hand.



TALK



Retrofit in the Community

Wed 29 April 7 - 9pm

The Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft, Steyning
- Buy tickets at: www.greeningsteyning.org/events

Paul Ciniglio is the National Energy Foundation's 'Head of Whole Home Retrofit'. He is a retrofit expert and has led award-winning sustainability projects. The talk will start with the basics from real case studies and will include research on heat pump satisfaction, and the key findings from a study of 'deep' retrofitted homes. He will also talk about the Government's updated Warm Homes Plan.



PHOTO: ANNA BOHANE

Eventbrite booking

www.eventbrite.co.uk/transition-town-worthing-29435819407



Visiting Venues

Open on the main weekends - 11/12 & 18/19 April. See pages 14 - 34.

Visits to venues are free and are possible thanks to the kindness and generosity of the property owners/managers. Please be respectful at all times and observe some basic rules:

Visiting times - please check the opening hours on each Venue Page carefully for details, as these do vary. Most venues close between 1-2pm but it will say if they are open all day or at different hours.

We suggest that you study the Case Study for any property you are visiting to get the best from your time there. These can be found on the websites listed on page 3.

Open house - You can arrive during opening hours at any time.

Tours - Some venues have informal tours. Times are listed under each property. If you turn up late, you may only be able to complete part of the tour.



PHOTO: ANNA BOHANE



PHOTO: ANNA BOHANE

Shoes - At some of the houses you may be asked to remove your shoes.

Mind your step - Some houses may be in the process of having building work done, or have uneven pathways, ponds, beehives etc. Visiting is at your own risk, so please take care.

Children must be fully supervised by an adult at all times.

Sorry no dogs (please ask individual householders about guide/service dogs).

Wheelchair accessible venues will have this symbol on their page.

Travel - We encourage everyone where possible to travel to each property by sustainable means. Details of buses and nearest train station are listed on each property page.

Saving Water & Energy

Grey water recycling

Collecting waste water from sinks, showers and baths and reusing it for toilet flushing or watering the garden. Grey water is waste water that has not been mixed with sewage.

Rain garden

Creating a "rain chain" with as many opportunities as possible to catch, store and use rainwater - preventing it from becoming runoff into storm drains. This relieves potential flooding whilst enhancing one's garden.

Rainwater harvesting

Collecting water that falls on a roof and using it at home for washing clothes, flushing a toilet or watering the garden.

Ground floor insulation

For suspended floors, mineral wool or rigid insulation boards are installed between beams. For solid floors, rigid insulation board is placed on top of the solid floor and under a finishing layer. Installing thicker carpets and/or insulated carpet underlay may also reduce draughts.

Heat pumps

Heat pumps are a great sustainable alternative for heating buildings. Our event showcases different types of heat pumps.

Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery - MVHR

A whole-house system that provides continuous fresh, filtered air while recovering up to 90%+ of the heat from stale, outgoing air. Significantly improves indoor air quality and energy efficiency.

Natural materials

Products that come from plants or animals - including sheep's wool insulation, sweet chestnut cladding, sustainably sourced timber paints and clay plaster. Natural materials tend to be more sustainable than artificial materials and allow breathability and movement of moisture.

Powerwall battery

Powerwall with built-in battery inverter, is a rechargeable home battery system that stores energy from solar or from the grid and makes it available on demand.

Renewables

Switching to a company that sources energy from renewable sources is easy these days. See page 2.

				Page	Water saving features				Energy saving features															
					Green roof	Grey water recycling	Rain garden	Water efficiency	Cavity wall insulation	Draughtproofing	Eco appliances + lighting	EV charging	Food growing	Ground floor insulation	Heat pumps	Lifestyle choices	Loft insulation (270mm ³)	Low waste	MVHR	Natural materials	Powerwall battery	Renewables	Solar PV & thermal	SWI external or internal
1	46 Beechwood Avenue	Worthing	14																					
2	79 Downlands Avenue		15																					
3	39 Downlands Avenue		16																					
4	Cortis Av Wildlife Garden		17																					
5	51 Northcourt Road		18																					
6	Henry House		19																					
7	Eco Sleep Hotel		20																					
8	9 East Avenue		21																					
9	6 Penlands Close		22																					
10	33 Roman Road		23																					
11	26 Church Lane	Steyning	24																					
12	17 Pepperscombe Lane		25																					
13	14 Juniper Walk		26																					
14	22 Windlesham Road		27																					
15	86 Gordon Road		29																					
16	Houseboat Verda		30																					
17	Lynridge 28 Riverside Rd		31																					
18	18 Winterton Way		32																					
19	118 Harbour Way		33																					
20	59 Connaught Avenue		33																					

Solar power

Solar thermal uses heat from the sun to heat water. Solar PV converts sunlight directly into electricity.

Solid wall insulation

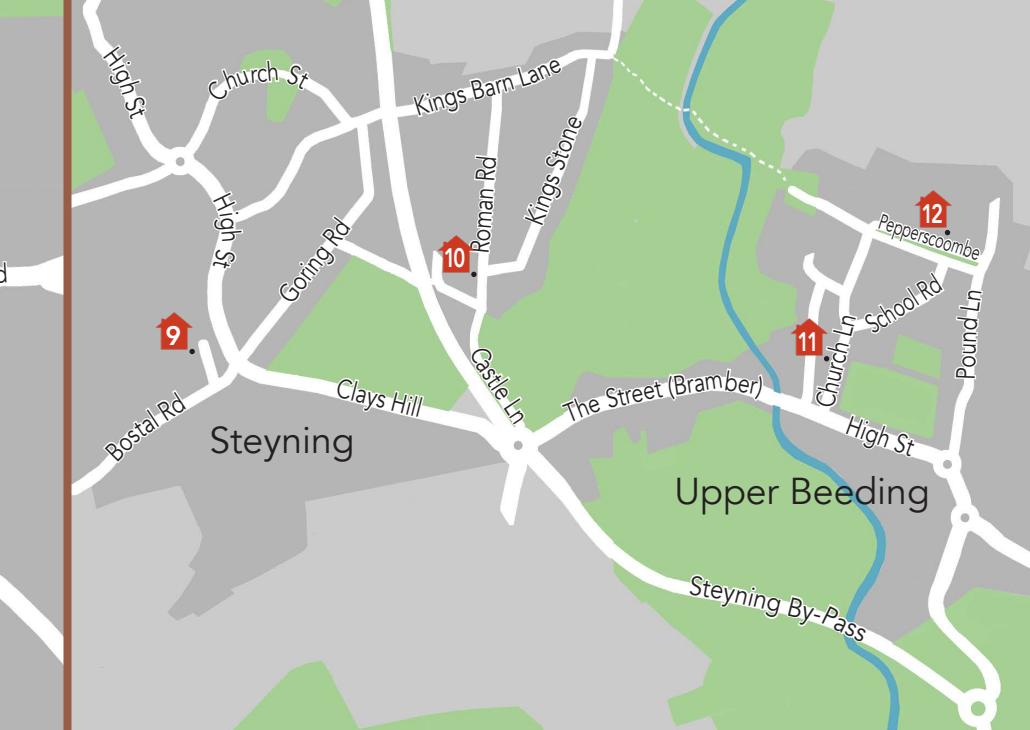
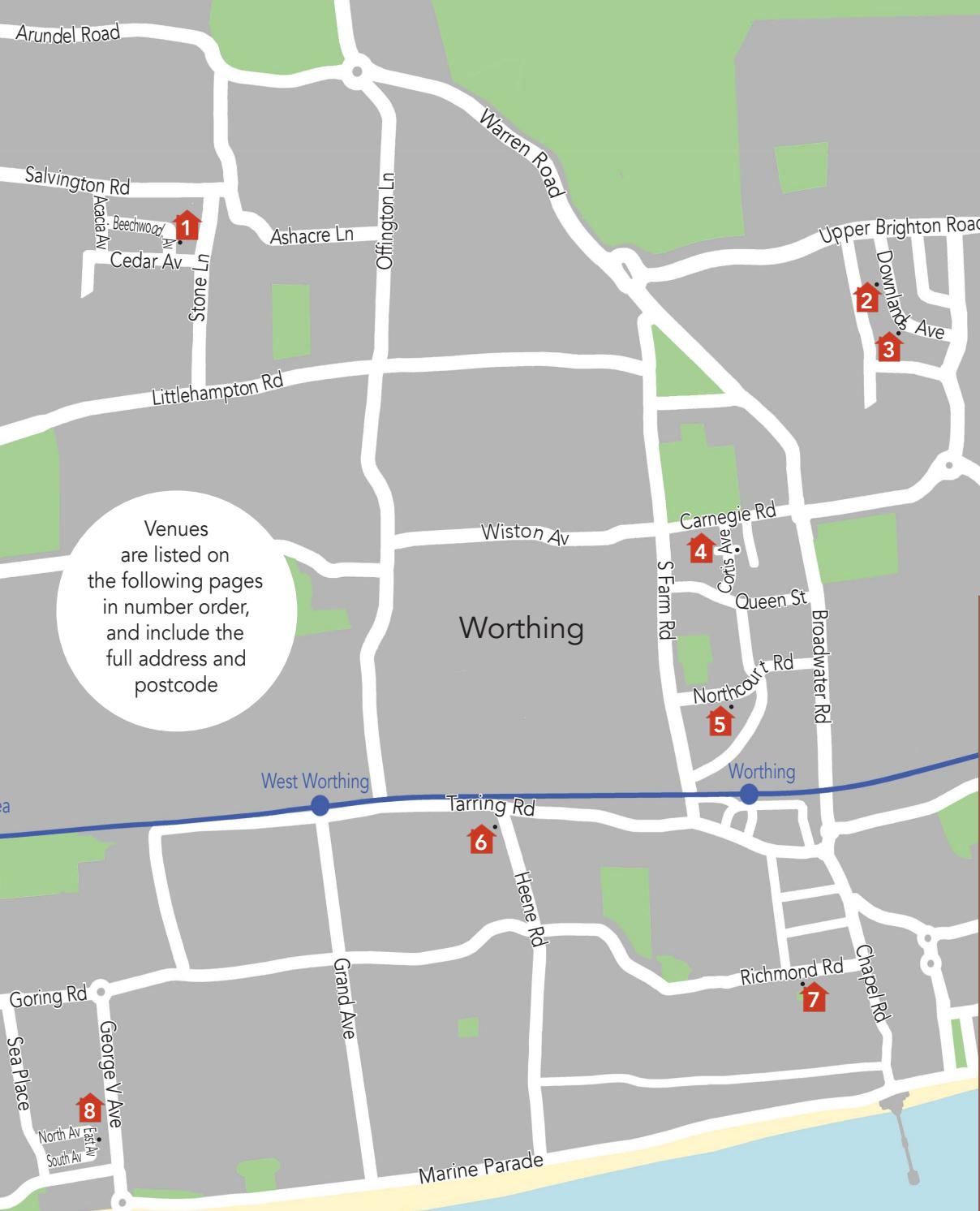
Solid walls can be insulated externally by fixing insulation boards to the wall and then finished with rendering or cladding. Walls are

insulated internally by

fixing rigid insulation boards to the existing walls or by building a stud wall, filled with mineral wool or equivalent, which is then dry lined with plasterboard.

Low waste

Addressing the issues of single use plastics, fast fashion, food waste (including composting) and recycling.





1 46 Beechwood Avenue Worthing, BN13 2HS

As a director of Transition Town Worthing, Pauline spends a lot of her time at home organising projects and events (like this one) aimed at reducing impact on the environment. Pauline and Alan's home is a living example of small, achievable, inexpensive steps.

This 2-bedroom bungalow with both Pauline & Alan at home all day most days, has low energy and water consumption. Go along and see just how simple it is to achieve, through eco appliances and settings, water butts and a conscious choice to use mains water at a minimum.

Pauline and Alan also have solar PV panels, which were paid back after 7 years in 2021, allowing them the luxury of being guilt and carbon free as they power their home needs. And let's not forget their zero-cost rebuilt shed (from Freecycle), and their home-made pond, costing them just the liner as the rest was created from materials left around the property, from other home improvements.

This is a cosy, comfortable and environmentally positive home that is efficient and yet has come together from a make-do and mend philosophy using and reusing everything.

Come and talk to Pauline and Alan about simplistic efficiency that's actually very easy to achieve.

KEY FEATURES

- + Water efficiency
- + Solar PV
- + Innovative waste practices

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

CREW will do thermal imaging demo during the afternoon

TRANSPORT

Bus: Stagecoach 5 (stops in next road - Stone Lane)

Train: West Worthing (1.5 miles)

2 79 Downland Avenue, Worthing BN14 9HE

Heather has invested in the proven measures which deliver good carbon savings. This is not simply an economic exercise but is driven by her Quaker principles to support sustainability.

Heather is always considering her impact on the environment in her choices, avoiding unnecessary waste of precious resources and energy. She has a shower over the bath and collects shower water to flush the toilet. She has 5 water butts to catch rainwater to use for watering her vegetables, soft fruit bushes, young fruit trees and flowers.

Solar panels produce electricity mostly in the mornings, so Heather uses electrical goods in the morning one after the other, when needed. She has a small car, which she uses as little as possible, mostly getting about by bicycle, walking or using the bus. For long distances she always travels by train.

Heather is a classic example of being content with what you have and not buying into consumerism. She has had most of the same furniture for 45 years. She has a "make do and mend" mindset - repurposing clothes, furniture and other items. Any small electrical goods that are not working she will only dispose of after first getting them checked out at the Repair Café. Anything that needs replacing she will try to buy from charity shops.

KEY FEATURES

- + Solar panels
- + Rainwater harvesting
- + Low energy lighting & appliances
- + Food cultivation & planting for wildlife

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

CREW will do thermal imaging demo during the morning

TRANSPORT

Bus: Compass 7, 16 (stops end road). 1, 5, 23 (to Broadwater Green - 10 min walk)

Train: Worthing or East Worthing (1 mile)



3 39 Downlands Avenue, Worthing BN14 9HD

If you want to know how to live with water and energy consciousness, Richard and Merry's house is well worth a visit. Speaking with them you begin to understand how concerned they are about living at one with nature, conserving water and reducing their CO2.

They have a small, but efficient rainwater garden at the front, fed via an old beer keg, and an extensive rain water harvesting system in the back that feeds two of the small ponds that are dotted around. Buckets capture the water from their washing machine, kitchen sink, bath and upstairs basin, proving that grey water recycling can be super easy.

They have an Apollo Gem Solar Power management system, which can direct surplus generated solar electricity to various uses in a sequence of priorities. The main advantage is that the hot water tank immersion heater is activated when free solar electricity is available.

Their house is triple glazed with timber frames using natural materials wherever possible. Their whole house is very well insulated. As a result, they barely need any heating and keep the thermostat to a mere 16 degrees. Effectively their home is carbon neutral.

Their garden design is simple; working with nature, feeding the wildlife and letting it grow how it evolves.



KEY FEATURES

- + Rainwater garden/harvesting
- + Grey water recycling
- + Cavity and solid wall insulation
- + Triple glazing in timber frames
- + Wildlife garden and woodland

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
Closed 1 - 2pm
CREW will do thermal imaging demo during the morning

TRANSPORT

Bus: Compass 7, 16 (stops end road). 1, 5, 23 (to Broadwater Green - 10 min walk)

Train: Worthing or East Worthing (1 mile)

4

Cortis Avenue Wildlife Garden, Worthing BN14 7BG

The site of the Cortis Avenue Wildlife Garden was originally an open access grass playing field which had been situated behind newly built Council houses in the 1920's.

By 2000 the badly fly-tipped site was closed by Worthing Homes. In 2010 residents, with Transition Town Worthing, supported by Worthing Homes, started turning the site into a secure wildlife garden. Volunteers removed 20 skips of rubbish, installed a donated shed as an office, acquired a metal tool store, and started planting to turn the grass field into a range of habitats for wildlife.

Now, fifteen years on, there are 126 species of trees, shrubs and flowering plants, and two ponds. The garden attracts insects, birds and mini-beasts. It offers a calm oasis in the heart of Broadwater for visitors and volunteers, and a learning space for children and adults interested in the natural world.

Cortis Avenue Wildlife Garden is usually open to the public at 10am – 12 noon on Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. Activities and nature notes are regularly posted on their Facebook page. Google 'Cortis Avenue Wildlife Garden' to find out more and follow.

KEY FEATURES

- + Habitats designed for wildlife
- + Rainwater harvesting
- + Eco-toilet
- + Composting and hot bin
- + Community orchard & beehive
- + Disabled trail

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Connect 7A, Stagecoach 1, 5 (to Broadwater Rd)

Train: Worthing





5 51 Northcourt Road, Worthing BN14 7DT

Clare & Ryan's approach for many years has been to use low tech, low spend solutions in their home to save energy, reduce mains water use, recycle resources, and save money.

In 2022 they invested in an air source heat pump which doesn't currently save them money (because electricity doesn't get the subsidies that oil and gas do) but they are now off-gas completely. With the addition of an 100% renewable electricity supplier, they have cut their carbon emissions to zero. If you want to see how this technology keeps a Victorian terrace house cosy, come and visit.

Claire & Ryan's technique of fitting secondary double glazing has always generated lots of interest during Eco Open Houses. The other unique feature on show is their DIY solar powered toilet, which saves approximately 10 pints of water every time they flush. If they use their toilet say 6 times a day, that is a whopping 60 pints of water a day, or 21,900 pints of water saved a year... Imagine that reduction on your water bill!

Claire & Ryan's gardens showcase effortless ways to collect rainwater, ensuring it doesn't add to the risk of surface water flooding. Instead, it flushes their loo, tops up the pond and waters their plants too. The gardens also make space for nature and are packed with useful, edible, and pollinator plants.

KEY FEATURES

- + Air source heat pump
- + DIY Secondary double glazing
- + DIY solar powered toilet
- + Rainwater garden

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Connect 7A, Stagecoach 1, 5 (to Broadwater Rd)

Train: Worthing

6 Henry House, 189 Heene Road, Worthing BN11 4NN

If you are wondering where to start, but don't know how, come to Henry House Hydrotherapy Centre, as they have it all covered, whether it be water or energy efficiency, or urban bee-hive management.

Water is needed for everything here, both for business and personal use, as is energy. The relationship created by these, through Karen & Rolf's innovative DIY ways of reducing their consumption, in turn positively impacts something else, such as saving money, water recycling, using less mains water, generating income and energy from their solar panels.

They now have two operational bee hives, having collected a wild swarm from Davison High School for Girls, which began producing honey within 6 weeks. As they were such peaceful and productive bees, from that first swarm a second queen was raised so that another colony could be established. So far, the two hives have produced over 50 kg of prize-winning honey. Just like us, bees need water, so the hive is situated right next to the pond, which is perfectly safe for all to get a good view of the garden's increasing diversity of dragonfly, damsel flies, frogs and toads.

A great synergy has been created by Karen's long-term passion for ecology and her engineering background. Henry House is a perfect learning environment for parents and children, which can be easily replicated.

KEY FEATURES

- + Bee hives
- + Deep flow guttering
- + Digital water monitoring systems
- + Rain and grey water harvesting
- + Solar PV & solar thermal
- Make smoothies using large and small bike generators, and explore their interactive Eco Open doll's house

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 8am - 5pm

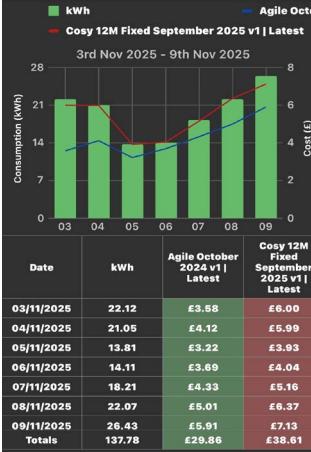
Q & A session: 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Stagecoach 10, Compass 7/7A

Train: West Worthing





7 Sleep Eco Hotel, 37 Richmond Rd, Worthing BN11 1PW

Sleep Eco Hotel sits in the town centre, nestled amongst many civic properties such as the museum and library. The site originally built as a grand wash-house has been returned to its 1910 civic status. Historically it's been a school, a library and even a vaccination centre. It's now a 9 room Eco Hotel imaginatively set up and run by entrepreneur and restauranteur Andy Sparsis.

Sleep's commitment to sustainability is manifested in operational efficiency, facilitated by advanced automation systems. Most hotels are incredibly wasteful, running at the same rates of energy use whether full or empty. Sleep is different. The building understands when a guest enters the main entrance, and activates the heating or cooling in the room and turns on the hot water. This twinned with Eco Navi Habitat Sensors monitor movement and guest body temperature, depending on guest numbers and movement will adjust not only direction of heat but levels of power. The ground source heat pump minimizes carbon emissions by reclaiming most of the energy already used.

Sleep will save tens of thousands of pounds year on year, proving that environmentally smart buildings are cheaper and easier to build and run. Sleep are honoured to contribute to the preservation of heritage while also pioneering sustainable hospitality practices and are delighted to share what they have learned so far along their journey.

KEY FEATURES

- + Smart building
- + Room habitation monitoring sensors
- + Carbon neutral heating, cooling and hot water
- + Ground source heat pump
- + Waste recycling

OPENING HOURS

Sat 11 April: 12 noon - 12.45pm only
Tour: Book a place using Eventbrite (see page 5)

TRANSPORT

Bus: Stagecoach 9, Coastliner 700 & 701
Train: Worthing
Cycle: racks opposite

Ground floor access only

8 9 East Avenue, Goring by Sea BN12 4DD

Jo and Mary have worked really hard over the past 8 years to bring this 100-year-old bungalow into the 21st century in a thoughtful and tasteful way, using the wrap around garden to fit their desire to both care for nature, and feed themselves.

They wanted to completely redesign and extend the interior to include an open plan, double glazed living space, taking the opportunity to upgrade their heating system to an Air Source Heat Pump with underfloor heating, resulting in a cosy, comfortable yet modern space to live and work from.

Jo is a keen gardener and has come up with all sorts of inspiring and innovative ways of improving soil, supporting nature and producing food. She uses a soil blocker which creates small blocks of soil with a hole in the top for seeds, enabling seedlings to be directly planted into the garden without disturbing the roots when planting or potting on, resulting in stronger plants. It also saves on plastic seed trays. Fruit grown in the garden is preserved by canning, or dried using their own dehydrator.

Do come and learn from Jo about Agile Tariffs to save money on fuel bills, and find out about how to garden to support nature.

KEY FEATURES

- + Air source heat pump
- + Wet underfloor heating
- + Agile tariff
- + Innovative garden and waste practices
- + Gardening for nature

OPENING HOURS (GARDEN ONLY)

Sat 11 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 8, 8A, 700 & 11 (stops opposite yachty club). 701, 11 & 700 (stops Shaftesbury Av)
Train: Durrington





9 6 Penlands Close, Steyning BN44 3PH

Vicci & Robin bought this brand new home five years ago. Attracted by the beautiful glass roof and bifold doors to the rear of the property, it was only after moving in they realised how hot this room got in the summer with the large areas of glass facing south-west. They needed summer cooling but were also keen to get off the gas network, and rid themselves of fossil fuels.

Their solution was to install two types of heat pumps. An air-to-air heat pump to provide cooling and top up winter heating, and later on an air source heat pump to cover hot water and home heating. They also swapped to an electric car and replaced the gas hob with an induction hob.

They have done an imaginative job to make their back garden wildlife friendly, replacing the expanse of lawn with raised beds and gravel paths. Adding pollinator friendly planting, composting, slow worm shelters and bird feeders has made it a haven for wildlife.

Access: Penlands Close is first right off the Bostal Rd. Easiest to park nearby in Goring Rd. Disabled parking available on request.

KEY FEATURES

- + Air source heat pump
- + Wet underfloor heating
- + Agile tariff
- + Innovative garden and waste practices
- + Gardening for nature

OPENING HOURS

Sun 12 April: 11am - 5pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Brighton & Hove Buses 2/2B
(stops Goring Rd)

10 33 Roman Road, Steyning BN44 3FN

Roger and Jill live in a 1930's detached house. They wanted to 'future-proof' their home by switching to clean energy. They worked on this in stages.

Their first task was to install cavity wall insulation, new double-glazing, and switch to a green electricity tariff. Later they installed 7 solar panels on a south facing roof and converted their gas AGA to run on electricity. They also topped up their loft insulation.

The solar panels worked so well they decided to install 10 more, on the flat roof. They added storage batteries so they can make use of stored solar energy in the evening. Their EV is charged almost entirely from solar and cheap night-time tariff electricity.

In March 2025 they added an Air-source Heat Pump using the Government's Boiler Upgrade Scheme grant of £7,500. They have been very pleased so far and find the house always comfortably warm.

Outside you can enjoy their delightful wildlife-friendly garden which is regularly visited by foxes and hedgehogs. Roger has a wealth of horticultural knowledge and uses it to expertly manage his fruit trees and no-dig veg plot, all watered with harvested rainwater.

KEY FEATURES

- + Cavity wall insulation
- + Loft insulation
- + Solar PV and battery
- + EV
- + Wildlife friendly garden
- + Rainwater harvesting

OPENING HOURS

Sun 12 April: 11am - 5pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Brighton & Hove Buses 2/2B
(stops Bramber Castle)



11 26 Church Lane, Upper Beeding BN44 3HP

Frank and Liz's story is one of incremental improvements to an ordinary traditionally constructed building as time and money allow.

They moved into their c1975 house in the early '90s and set about rectifying the lack of energy efficiency by installing loft insulation (originally just 2ins!), cavity wall insulation, double glazing and an efficient condensing combination boiler.

But the journey is one of continuous improvement, so more recently they have increased the loft insulation to 10in including an insulated loft hatch, insulated their dorma bedroom, and installed a warm roof and a lantern window with energy efficient glass on a flat roofed extension.

In 2024 they had a 9kWp solar pv system installed with a 10kWh battery and this year have converted their kitchen to be fully electric. Their overall aim is to move away from fossil fuel consumption so this year they changed their car to an EV, and charge most of the time from their domestic charger.

When the gas boiler has to be replaced they plan to switch to an air source heat pump and a recent survey reports the good news that the house is now suitable.

KEY FEATURES

- + Insulation
- + Warm roof
- + Solar PV and battery
- + EV

OPENING HOURS

Sun 12 April: 11am - 5pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Brighton & Hove Buses 2/2B
(stops Kings Head pub)

12 17 Pepperscombe Lane, Upper Beeding BN44 3HS

Jill and Stephie's 1950's bungalow has grown over the years to meet their needs and become a comfortable, light and low carbon space. 1991 saw a substantial timber-framed rear extension added to the original footprint, followed more recently by a whole house renovation. They added various types of insulation – cavity wall, floor, external wall insulation and improved loft thickness, and in 2023 a front porch to protect them from the weather.

3.6kw PV of solar was added in 2021 with a 10kWh storage battery. They have an A-rated combination gas boiler and a wet underfloor heating system, having been advised that an air source heat pump would not work for their layout. They are keeping an eye on heat pump technology to see if this changes, but have reduced their energy use considerably in the meantime.

An EV charge point was fitted in December 2020 and has been upgraded this year to 32A (8kW) for full EV charging. They are currently on the Octopus Go tariff.

Their beautiful garden is wildlife friendly, with native hedging, a wildlife pond and hedgehog feeders in constant use thanks to hedgehog-friendly fencing along all the neighbouring gardens. The compost heap is perfect for slow worms.

KEY FEATURES

- + Cavity wall insulation
- + External wall insulation
- + Solar PV and battery
- + EV and charge point
- + People's tariff
- + Wildlife friendly garden

OPENING HOURS

Sun 12 April: 11am - 5pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: Brighton & Hove Buses 2/2B
(stops Kings Head pub)



13 14 Juniper Walk, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 6JE

Do you want to get your head around solar PV, home batteries, ASHP, and electric cars? Then this is the house to visit!

Warren attended the 2016 event, talking to and inspiring two home owners to install solar panels and another to buy their first EV. Since then, he co-founded EVA England and, in 2025, was named among GreenFleet's 100 most influential for advancing transport decarbonisation.

Warren and his family love technology and have plenty of knowledge on Solar PV, home batteries, ASHP, EVs, triple glazing and a hot composter - all featured in their home.

In summer, the Philips' home can be 100% energy self-sufficient thanks to a large solar array and battery, including powering two cars! In the days with less sun, they charge overnight with cheap, low carbon electricity to avoid costly, high carbon peak rates. Where possible, anything electrical is run when the sun is shining, including the washing machine, dishwasher, and even slow cookers on timers to cook when the power is provided by solar installations. Even with a battery, this is still the most efficient way to use the power generated by the solar panels.

Don't miss the chance to get inspired and ask your questions, come see what's possible!

KEY FEATURES

- + Solar PV Array & Battery
- + Air Source Heat Pump
- + 2 Electric Vehicles and charging points
- + Hot composting
- + Triple glazing

OPENING HOURS

**Sun 12 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
(please note - different date to other Shoreham venues)**

Informal tours: 10.10am, 11.10am, 12.10am & 2.10pm, 3.10pm, 4.10pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 2/2B/9/19 stop at Southlands Hospital on Upper Shoreham Rd

Train: Shoreham - 27 mins walk

Parking: Park at the end by the green triangle

14 22 Windlesham Rd, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5AE

This Art Deco style family home was built by Gates Builders, Shoreham, in 1938. The owners bought the house in November 2023 from a family that had owned it since 1947. Full scale renovations were needed in order to make it their own, importantly requiring wheelchair access for Elizabeth. Work started in June 2024 and took a year to complete.

They wanted an energy efficient renovation and extension using structural insulated panels, and were interested in using natural and sustainable materials wherever possible.

Wheelchair access for Elizabeth was an important part of the brief. All interior wood doors are 96 cm wide to allow a wheelchair to pass through, and space for the turning circle of a wheelchair is incorporated to all areas except the loft.

The Art Deco style of the original building was to be continued and enhanced. You can see the Art Deco influence in the emphasis on horizontal lines, the Crittall-like windows, and the corner window on the 1st floor bathroom (an octagonal window saved from the owners octagonal house in Colorado).

Internally, they kept and sanded two floors in the bedrooms and kept a 1930s kitchen cabinet in the pantry and another original fitted cabinet in the front bedroom.

KEY FEATURES

- + SIPs (structural insulated panels) used in extension and pitch roof
- + Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery
- + Passenger lift to first floor floors
- + Triple glazing

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 & Sun 19 April: 10am - 1pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: No 9 stops on Buckingham Rd

Train: Shoreham - 10 mins walk

No access to top floor



15 86 Gordon Rd, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 6WE

Caroline lived in, observed and tweaked the house for 10 years before embarking on a full retrofit in 2021. As an Edwardian house, it was designed to be well ventilated and heated with open fires throughout, but like many old houses was draughty and cold.

Initially, small measures were undertaken incrementally and in 2021, and when more funds became available, Caroline and her partner decided to complete a full renovation. Having consulted with Misha Hewitt from Earthwise, and drawing on experience from Green Architecture and Eco Open House events in the past, the house upgrade focused on the 3 pillars of Airtight, Insulate, Ventilate.

The thermal envelope of the house was defined, with a commitment to insulating and making airtight, every surface edge of the house, including walls, ground floor and roof. Natural non-toxic materials were utilised wherever possible, reducing chemicals and plastics and sourcing from as close to home as possible.

Valued and trusted local trades and crafts people were used throughout, gathering a great team of skilled and committed people, some may be there this weekend to chat to. The side extension and loft conversion were completed Feb 2024, the rest in 2025.

KEY FEATURES

- + Whole house retrofit
- + Air source heat pump
- + Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery
- + High level insulation throughout
- + Non-toxic materials
- + Solar panels
- + Water conservation

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
Sun 19 April: 10am - 1pm

Tours of the upstairs: 11am, 12 noon, 3pm & 4pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 2 stops on Gordon Rd

Train: Shoreham - 6 mins walk

Small step at entrance

16 Houseboat Verda, 20 Riverbank, Shoreham Beach BN43 5YH

You can't have an event like this in Shoreham without including a houseboat, and Verda is an exceptional example. Hamish's passion is rescuing old boats and living a sustainable, low environmental-impact lifestyle, and he certainly walks his talk!

Verda is not just a quirky home, it's a place of work - and an extraordinary art form, that has inspired others for many years and, like the materials it has been constructed from, it's seen some action!

If you've ever wandered along the towpath on the west bank of the river at Shoreham and wondered what it might be like inside the houseboats, do come and chat to Hamish about how he has not only used his ingenuity, creativity and a wide range of practical skills to create a unique dwelling, he has helped his neighbours to create unusual homes and also provided a community space for local residents. Verda hosts an annual art trail each summer and is used for yoga classes and other activities.

Hamish and Sarah try to live their lives according to their values of sustainability and community. They make informed choices about what they consume and purchase, what they can reuse and how they travel. They have found that having a very low carbon lifestyle drastically reduces day to day running costs.

KEY FEATURES

- + Re-purposing, re-using, recycling
- + Community & performance space
- + Air B&B space on "Dodge"
- + Solar panels
- + Composting toilet

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 & 19 April (hourly tours)

Tours: 10am, 11am, 12 noon, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 2 stops on Gordon Rd

Train: Shoreham - 6 mins walk



17 Lynridge, 28 Riverside Road Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5RB

Simon and Safiya fell in love with the 'beach pad' when they first viewed it in September 2022 and moved in June 2023. The previous owner had lived there since the property was built in 1943. Having had no modifications, on one hand the property was completely unspoiled, but they also knew they had a huge task on their hands!

Being one of the original detached bungalows on Shoreham Beach, the property had a large front and even larger rear garden which Simon, with the help of their architect Ben, saw the potential to achieve 'Passive House' standard to the new build extension, and to achieve EnerPHit standard to the existing property.

After two years of living through icy cold winters, where mould grew on the windows and also in the wardrobes!, Simon and Safiya are excited to open the 'beach pad' and share their dream and knowledge to help advise others.

The transformation is unrecognisable. The 'beach pad' uses a 12kW Vitron inverter coupled to 46kW of battery storage, an Aira air source heat pump and a Zehnder MVHR for ventilation. Even the tumble dryer is a low energy heat pump model. The Pad is now powered totally by electricity, and the gas has been disconnected. This enables them to live off grid for 9 months of the year, and they are now reaping the benefits of all their hard work.

KEY FEATURES

- + Air source heat pump
- + Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery
- + Large solar array
- + Rainwater recycling for flushing toilets

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 & 19 April: 2pm - 5pm

Informal tours: 2pm, 3pm, 4pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 19 stops on Old Fort Rd

Train: Shoreham - 13 mins walk



18 Winterton Way, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5RE

This stunning bungalow conversion has used materials largely chosen for low environmental impact, whilst still being stylish and modern.

Come and see what's possible with a lot of imagination and careful consideration of how to save money as well as reducing your carbon footprint. It's a prime example of how a very well insulated envelope can make such a difference, and is a vital component of any eco open house design.

Before installing an Air source heat pump, insulation is key. The lower floor of this property is cavity brick and the upper floor timber, but the entire property double insulated and wood clad. The materials have been chosen carefully to ensure they survive the coastal location.

Insulated, double glazed and supplied with an air source heat pump, the property then includes an air circulation system, allowing air to flow in and out. The vents are in the roof, and the outgoing air warms the incoming air.

The entire roof was created using reconstituted slate tiles. Choices such as these have a significantly lower environmental impact than purchasing brand new building materials.

KEY FEATURES

- + Double insulation
- + Air Source Heat Pump
- + Air circulation system

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 2/2B/9/19 stop at Southlands Hospital on Upper Shoreham Rd

Train: Shoreham - 22 mins walk



19 118 Harbour Way, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5HH

Beccy works at a local Primary school, and Chris for the South Downs National Park Authority. They moved into the house three years ago (from a cold, badly insulated flat!) to discover a well-insulated house which already had solar panels on the south-facing roof. A good start to inherit!

Since then they've continued the journey of trying to lessen their impact on the environment by adding solar panels, air source heat pump, and buying an electric car. The Aira air source heat pump has surpassed their expectations making their home and hot water much cheaper to heat. It was paid for using a Government grant, plus they have a referral scheme for a further £250 off (see end of case study).

In an effort to help mitigate surface water flooding (which Shoreham Beach is at risk of), and inspired by a previous Eco Open Houses event, Chris and Beccy decided to install a rain garden using a galvanised steel bath, a small soakaway and planting. This has turned into a haven for local wildlife with dragonflies, frogs and toads taking up residence.

KEY FEATURES

- + Rainwater harvesting
- + Rain pond (rain garden overflow)
- + Air source heat pump
- + Solar PV and battery
- + EV

OPENING HOURS

Sat 18 April: 10am - 1pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 19 stops on Old Fort Rd

Train: Shoreham - 24 mins walk

20 59 Connaught Avenue, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5WL

After attending a talk by the Better Buildings and Retrofit Group, Jenny decided that, as certain areas of the house needed major maintenance, she would have a Whole House Retrofit Plan prepared to give her an idea of what needed to be done and a plan of works to be undertaken over a number of years, either by herself or future owners. In short, to make the house 'Fit for the Future'.

With the help of an architect, and the support of the Better Buildings and Retrofit group Jenny implemented a number of their recommendations over the last two years, which have improved energy efficiency and been part of an ongoing general maintenance programme.

Solar panels were installed on the garage in 2011, so that in the summer the boiler can be turned off and the solar powered electricity heat the water. Jenny hopes to have replaced the oil fired boiler with both Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) and Mechanical Ventilation Heat Recovery System (MVHR) in March/April 2026.

Jenny has valued being able to talk to people, hear their experiences and weigh up the pros and cons. Not every energy efficient system is suitable for every house and lifestyle. The whole house retrofit plan was vital in that it allowed for an easily understood, step by step, phased plan for work to be undertaken. The rewards of seeing what other people have done, and what to expect are immeasurable.

KEY FEATURES

- + Whole house retrofit plan
- + Solar panels
- + Triple glazed rear windows
- + Cavity wall and loft insulation
- + Air source heat pump
- + Mechanical ventilation heat recovery system

OPENING HOURS

Sun 19 April: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Closed 1 - 2pm

TRANSPORT

Bus: 2 stops at Orchard Close on Connaught Rd

Train: Shoreham - 12 mins walk

Eco Open Houses Team

There's no way that this event could have happened without these wonderful people playing an invaluable role.

The generosity of **our sponsors** and our incredibly hard-working team of **volunteers** who pulled this event together across 3 towns – not easy! Particular thanks to:

Leonie Harmsworth (www.refreshinghomes.co.uk), Jo Peters (www.linkedin.com/in/jopeterscoaching) and, for all her hard work on the Shoreham case studies, Sarah Kemp (www.eskayarchitects.co.uk) - who all help to run Transition Town Shoreham.

Jenny Knowles and Geoff Barnard from Greening Steyning.

Pauline Cory, Clare Pavitt and Sarah Slight from Transition Town Worthing.



www.ttworthing.org

www.transitiontownshoreham.org

www.greeningsteyning.org

The multi-talented Melissa Birch www.melissabirch.co.uk, for brochure design.

Our inspirational property owners, tour leaders, speakers and workshop presenters, for playing their vital part.

Our volunteer stewards who make the job so much easier for householders/tour leaders etc. and to CREW for thermal imaging demos. www.worthingcrew.co.uk

Mischa Hewitt www.lowcarbon.co.uk (the original inspiration for these events) for allowing us once again to use their logo, branding and materials.

All those in the background who helped in moral support, publicity, and in countless other ways, in particular Poppy Scott and Hazel Thorpe who went the extra mile to help us.

Our carbon neutral printers: www.pep4print.co.uk for their support and Ropetackle Arts for their generosity.

Sponsors

It would not have been possible to create an event like this without the generosity of our sponsors and we are extremely grateful to them all for their support.



The **National Lottery Community Fund** awards money raised by National Lottery players to communities across the UK, working with local groups and UK-wide charities, enabling people and communities to thrive.



ADUR & WORTHING COUNCILS

Worthing Borough Council Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund is accrued from payments made by developers building in the local area, and is available to local community groups, organisations and residents associations.

The previous CIL Neighbourhood Fund programme helped Worthing Borough Council celebrate the generosity of our voluntary and community sector and they wish to continue working hand in hand with our communities, to help our residents and our places thrive, particularly at a neighbourhood level.



Worthing Homes
people • communities • opportunities

around 4,000 households. Created in 1999, this service-led organisation began long-term investment to keep homes to a high standard and to build new homes for the future.

Homes are managed through planned maintenance with a focus on improvement, reducing environmental impact, and building for long-term communities. This work has been recognised by a Gold SHIFT Award.



Henry House Hot Pool & Therapy Centre has been a venue and sponsor since Eco Open Houses first started.

Since 1997, they have striven to keep costs down for customers, especially the elderly and disabled, and reduce impact on the

environment, as they continue to seek out environmentally friendly solutions to the challenges of modern life.



WORTHING COMMUNITY CHEST

Worthing Community Chest is a registered, local, independent charity supporting projects and activities in Worthing that work to enrich the local community. They award small grants to groups, clubs, events and other causes around Worthing.

Funds are raised through income from recycling partnerships, which include Worthing Borough Council. The more old clothes and shoes they collect, the more they can support the community!



Worthing Lions Charitable Trust is part of the worldwide family of Lions Clubs, including one and a half million members. They have no religious, political or social affiliation. The only qualification for membership is a willingness to do whatever one can, and a desire to live up to the Lions motto "We Serve."

Richard and Merry - We are very grateful to our longstanding members and Eco Open Houses householders Richard Battson and Merry Curd for their generous donation for this event.



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