

Reduce our oil dependency?



We often forget, or perhaps do not even realise, how dependant on oil we have become. Oil is the biggest single source of the world's energy. In the short term, we already know that vital public services like ambulances, fire-engines and public transport are all put in jeopardy when fuel supplies run low.

But oil is also fundamental to our modern means of food production and large scale agriculture has become almost totally reliant on cheap crude oil. It is essential to manufacture and run its tractors, combine harvesters and other farm machinery, and vast amounts of oil and gas are used as raw materials and energy in the manufacture of fertilisers and pesticides. Harvested crops and food products require yet more energy for processing and packaging, and fuel to transport the final products to factories, warehouses and shops.

One shopping basket of 26 imported organic products could have travelled 241,000 kilometres and released as much CO₂ into the atmosphere as an average four bedroom household does through cooking the meals over 8 whole months! Locally produced food is not only fresher and healthier, it avoids the 'food miles' incurred in transporting it long distances.

Such inefficient use of energy results in increasing CO₂ emissions which in turn results in more environmental damage and frequently reductions in crop harvests. And other problems emerge as less developed countries which used to account for 26% of oil demand in the early 1970s develop their own energy intensive systems. Demand for oil and energy in the new economies of China and India is fast increasing and will no doubt continue to grow.

If we are honest we must know that fossil fuels can't last forever, but are we investing enough in alternative sources of energy like solar power and wind farms? Shouldn't we be encouraging people to reduce their energy consumption?

We believe the Vale can become a low-carbon economy! We can respond in a practical way to the challenges of peak oil and climate change! Why don't you join us?

" I first encountered the Transition phenomenon in November 2006, when Rob Hopkins invited me to give an evening lecture in Totnes, Devon. Knowing that this was a fairly small town, I was hoping that fifty people might turn up. Instead, over 400 packed the largest hall available.

The same thing happened a few days later in Penzance, Cornwall, when Jennifer Gray invited me to kick off Transition Penwith; and again a few months later at a similar event in Stroud. Clearly a pattern was developing. The people at these events were not idly curious; they were champing at the bit to do something constructive in their communities about Peak Oil and Climate Change. I quickly formed the opinion that the Transition virus was the most exciting thing that was happening in the UK "

Richard Heinberg, Post Carbon Institute, California from his Foreword in The Transition Handbook'

"(Transition Towns) . . .one of the most dynamic and important social movements of the 21st Century".

Rob Hopkins, Towns Prepare for Peak Oil Point' BBC Radio Scotland 5th August 2007

If the challenge is so absolute, the possibilities are equally comprehensive. We have identified the difficulties but also the opportunities of what is before us. A comprehensive change of consciousness is coming over the human community, especially in the industrial nations of the world.

For the first time since the industrial age began we have a profound critique of its devastation, a certain withdrawal in dismay at what is happening, along with an enticing view of the possibilities before us."

Thomas Berry



One Vale - One Planet
www.transitionnetwork.org

**A local
community response
to**

Peak Oil and Climate Change

Discover a new way to live



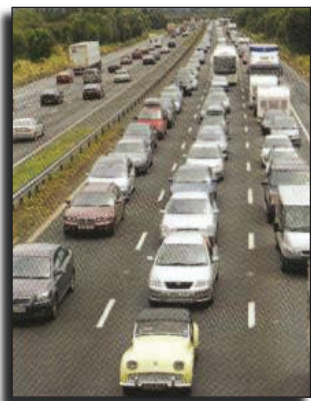
www.transitioneveshamvale.org.uk

Discovering a new way to live...

What would you say about a change for the better? Something to improve your health, wealth and happiness. No dieting, no quick fix, no self-help guru, no cult & no gym fees. It's an investment with a great return, a logical choice for a better life for everyone in and around the Vale of Evesham.



Peak Oil - Must we depend on Oil?



In just 100 years mankind has consumed half of all the world's oil. As demand begins to outstrip supply we will hit what has become known as 'peak oil'. We will experience wild fluctuations as price rises create recessions and cut backs as we are already seeing. Thereafter prices will go up and up.

What about Climate Change?

There is now very strong evidence and almost universal agreement that significant global warming can't be explained just by natural causes. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says that human activity is the main cause of the climate change. Unless drastic actions are taken in the next few years the consequences are likely to be disastrous for mankind.



Are you interested?

Here in the Vale the movement is just beginning, and there are opportunities for everyone to get involved.

Our immediate priority is to increase awareness within the communities which comprise the Vale of Evesham, to develop lively communication networks and link up with the many special interest groups and projects that already exist.



We aim to bring together individuals and groups to get the transition process going and to start work in the areas which interest them. Our idea is to help local communities become stronger and more interdependent and so more resilient to the changes that are ahead.

You could become involved in:

- growing local healthy organic food
- generating your own energy
- improving local public transport
- lobbying for safer cycling routes
- reducing waste and food miles
- using less energy (and saving money!)
- developing a new community spirit
- supporting the local economy



Transition Evesham Vale

TEV is a grass-roots movement open to all. Let us know if you would like to join one of our interest groups. Ask to be put on our email list or find out more about how you can get involved by checking our web site:

www.transitioneveshamvale.org.uk

For more information contact:

info.tev@skyfield.demon.co.uk

Transition is about doing something positive to help secure our future, being less dependent on oil and things made from oil, and reducing the impact that our way of life has on the environment. The Vale of Evesham is rich in natural resources, and our communities have enormous potential to make a real difference. Transition is about harnessing the power of our communities, the potential of our land, and the creativity of our people to make positive changes for the better.



Reducing Water Use



Reducing Waste



Trapping Solar Energy

The Vale of Evesham

"... what we must do now, for the sake of our economy, our security, and the future of our planet, we must end the age of oil in our time... If anyone tries to tell you otherwise, they are either fooling themselves, or they're trying to fool you."

US President Barack Obama (back in 2008)