

SWych Hosts Energy Forum

Is your home as energy-efficient as it can be? How would you know?

With fuel prices rising disproportionately to incomes and nearly one in five of UK households falling into the government's 'fuel poverty' category, it's essential that we know about conserving fuel and reducing our monthly bills.

A Free Thermal Image of your Home

Without proper insulation, you could be losing up to a quarter of your heat through your roof and a third of your heat could be escaping through your walls. Cold air can be coming in through doors and windows which you think are draught proof and unlagged pipes and water tanks add to the cost of heating your water.

In February and March 2012, members of Sustainable Wychwoods (SWych) in conjunction with West Oxfordshire District Council, will be undertaking a survey of local domestic properties by offering householders the opportunity to commission a **free** thermal image of their home highlighting the areas where heat is escaping or cold air is entering.

Prior to the survey, on **Saturday, the 21st of January from 3 - 5pm**, SWych will be hosting an **Energy Forum** at the New Beaconsfield Hall in Shipton-under-Wychwood. This open public meeting will feature presentations which will include all the following; energy efficiency measures for your home, eligibility for government-backed grants and offers, upgrading social housing, investing in renewables such as solar PV and solar thermal, the Thermal Imaging Project and the newly-installed solar farm in Shipton.

Energise!

Light refreshments will be available and there will be discussion time after the presentations. Sam Simson has also offered to show people around the solar farm site prior to the meeting.

For more information about the Energy Forum or to book a Thermal Image survey of your home, please contact Barbara Saunders on: 01993 832012 or email barbsaund@aim.com

Jenna Saunders

Calling all Dogs to Sniff 5000!

We would like to give a **huge** thank you to all who supported our coffee morning for the Medical Detection Dogs, and helped us raise £730; we are so grateful for your generosity.

The charity has now started the prostate cancer trials, with the cancer detection team of dogs learning to indicate the disease in urine samples. There are now over 20 blood sugar detection dogs helping their diabetic partners, and we now have a dog in training to detect traces of nuts for a lady with a very severe nut allergy.

Calling all dogs - the SNIFF 5000 campaign has been launched. We are hoping to find 5,000 dogs each to raise £20 from their friends and family over the next year. Heather and fundraising dog Edward will be giving out leaflets to all their doggy friends and at vets and dog clubs.

There are treats involved - and each dog donating over £10 will get a rosette saying: *'I helped a dog save a life'*. If your dog would like to join in, please contact me on: 01993 831909.

Heather Shute