

PRESS RELEASE

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Oxfordshire show boosts (green) economy, better homes, lower energy bills

“It’s the (green) economy, stupid!”

Local firms lead way at Oxfordshire home show

Thirty companies from Oxfordshire’s green enterprise economy will be displaying their wares at this year’s Oxfordshire Ideal Green Home Show. Following the success of last year’s inaugural event, this year’s show has been expanded to 2 days: Friday/Saturday, 23rd/24th April, in Oxford’s Town Hall.

The event features 30 local green building and renewable energy companies, technology introductions from local suppliers, case studies from eco-renovators, plus expert advice on the new “feed in tariffs” .

Jo Hamilton, from Oxfordshire ClimateXchange, says *“The Ideal Green Home Show lets visitors get inspiration from other homeowners who are leading the way , and checkout a wide range of products and suppliers. The new ‘feed in tariffs’ for home energy generation is a great boost for making money from upgrading your house. Now is the time to see what is possible”*.

Local architects, solar hot water and solar energy installers, grey water and insulation installers, plus suppliers of eco-products, recycled materials and a host of energy saving advice will all be “on display” , but with no “pressure selling” says Jo Hamilton.

Councillor John Tanner, Board Member for a Cleaner, Greener Oxford, says: *“Our houses are one of the biggest sources of carbon emissions so I encourage everyone to drop into Oxford’s Ideal Green Home Show. This exhibition will help you use local suppliers to save on your home energy bills and save the planet from climate change.”*

The Green Home Show demonstrates that Oxfordshire is an eco-renovation powerhouse, with home owners, businesses, and community enterprises stimulating a spirit of local social enterprise and innovation that keeps Oxfordshire in the lead.

Daniel Dempsey of Oxfordshire County Council said, *‘Oxfordshire County Council is pleased to be supporting the Ideal Green Home Show. Oxfordshire householders are lucky to live in the centre of the UK’s green economy and can benefit from having green homes experts right on their doorstep.’*

Chris Jardine, from local supplier JoJu Ltd said: *'Joju Ltd, Oxford's largest solar photovoltaic installation company, is delighted to continue our ongoing involvement in this event. With the combination of the Government's introduction of generous payments for renewably generated electricity, a thriving installer base, and the information provided by the Ideal Green Home Show, there has surely never been a better time to go ahead and install.'*

The event is organised by Oxfordshire ClimateXchange [1] – www.climatex.org and the Climate Outreach Information Network (COIN) [2] www.ecovation.org.uk (two of the county's leading climate change networking organisations) with support from Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council.[3]

Event Times: Friday 23rd April from 4-7pm, and Sat 24th April from 10am – 4pm.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The Eco-homes Open Days, organised by ClimateXchange and COIN, have been held annually since 2007, and have featured over 30 householders opening up their homes to share their stories and successes of eco-renovation.

[1] Oxfordshire ClimateXchange is led by Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute and works with community groups, individuals and specific partners to promote positive engagement and action on climate change. The Environmental Change Institute are the creators of the influential *40% House* and *Home Truths* reports, which set out plans for massive reductions in the carbon emissions from the UK's existing 25 million homes.

[2] Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN) undertakes events, training and network building to increase public understanding and awareness of climate change. It is the lead provider of 'communicating climate change' training in the UK. COIN's Ecovation project www.ecovation.org.uk links eco-renovators across the UK, with strong links nationally for replicating successful experiences in Oxfordshire.

[3] This event organised with generous support from:

