

StewkleyGreen Grapevine August

Stewkley Green were very pleased with the interest generated at the school fair by their stand and The National Energy Foundation's "Green Energy Machine" which gave children and adults an opportunity to see and try a range of renewable energy sources. The wind turbine although not ideally placed clearly demonstrated the viability of siting a wind turbine at the school. "I was very impressed by the knowledge and interest of the children visiting the GEM" said NEF's Felicity Beaton. Roger Crews- coordinator of StewkleyGreen said he was pleased with the response to their stand, particularly considering all the other attractions. The greatest interest was in biodiesel and solar water heating. Tish Pascoe sold several of the new T-shirts with the StewkleyGreen logo, and a baby-grow too. "It is babies born now that will be most affected by Global Warming" she said.

The next Wednesday, over 50 Stewkley inhabitants gathered at the school to see "an Inconvenient Truth" the award winning film on climate change. This was followed by a discussion on the issues raised and the aims of the StewkleyGreen group. Fair-Trade Refreshments were provided by members of the Mothers Union. Internationally the MU are very concerned about global warming which is having devastating effects on some of their members in the third world. "We were pleased with the interest in the film, and surprised to discover how many Stewkley families had already seen the film" said Caz Evans of Stewkley Farm, "we will show another film in the autumn"

As a result of these activities, more people have joined the pioneering group, which is working hard to introduce a baseline survey to calculate the current Carbon Footprint of the village. The initial indications from the test survey published in last month's Grapevine are that in Stewkley, we are worse than the national average. If you haven't completed a survey yet please do so and return it to the Carpenters Arms, Harvey's, the Swan or Fountains. Alternatively surveys can be returned to –or obtained from – Roger Crews. They are also available on the website www.StewkleyGreen.org.uk

"The group will be concentrating on developing the full survey and fund raising for projects including the school alternative energy programme, and the tedious business of writing a constitution during the summer months" said Roger Crews "we plan to have much more help for villagers on reducing their energy costs in the autumn, and we will be inviting leading experts to come and speak to the whole village."

If you could spare some time to help in any way please contact Roger on 240 794 or Roger.Crews@StewkleyGreen.org.uk