

## **CAN Launch**



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CAN had a very successful launch at the Community Council's Coffee Morning on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Around 50 people joined CAN at the event, and we now have 65 members and another 100 people on our mailing list. At the same time, we opened our premises at 25 Well St, and launched our website [www.moffatcan.org](http://www.moffatcan.org).

If you haven't joined – do it now, by coming in, by phoning 01683 221847, or sending an email to [info@moffatcan.org](mailto:info@moffatcan.org). If you're reading a paper copy of this, please help us to save paper by sending us your email address.

The office is normally open 9.30-1pm, weekdays except Wednesdays. Please note that due to holidays we may not always be there at these times during the summer.

## **Doorstep Energy Surveys**

CAN is currently conducting doorstep energy use surveys throughout Moffat. The aim of these surveys is to find out if your house could benefit from insulation, and whether you might qualify for free insulation.

There are also some questions on general energy use. Energy use is the main source of carbon emissions in Britain, and the intention is to help people reduce their bills, while also reducing pollution. Everyone who takes part in these surveys will be given 2 free, low energy light bulbs and entered into a free prize draw, with £200 worth of vouchers for spending at the local Co-op as prizes.

We also have a detailed carbon footprint survey in the office. You can call by to pick one up – or phone – and when you return it filled in, we will give you an electricity monitor, worth £33, free of charge. The monitor shows you how much your electricity is costing you, as well as how much energy you are using, minute by minute – so you can turn off unnecessary appliances, see the difference, and start saving money.

# **GROW ALLOT Project –**

## **Greatly Reduce/Reuse/Recycle Our Waste**

### **And Lead Local Organic Trade**

The Council's Area Committee meeting at the end of June voted unanimously in favour of selling CAN the Old Church Depot and Drying Green. The issue will now go to the Council's Resources Committee in August.



#### **Old Church Depot Site for Allotments, Community Garden and Recycling store**

Our plans involve saving and restoring the church to create a low carbon building to use as a store for recycling materials such as paper, card, cans, textiles, books etc., and to turn the ground into 14 half allotments and a community garden. We hope to have news about funding for this in August.

If everything goes according to plan we hope to start work on this in February next year, in time for next year's growing season.

#### **Corehead Site and Borders Forest Trust**

Another part of the GROW ALLOT project is the CAN Community Orchard (organic) and Forest Garden at Corehead on the edge of Moffat. Borders Forest Trust (BFT) have recently been able to purchase Corehead Farm and they have very kindly agreed to give us stewardship of a piece of land for the orchard and forest garden. Our initial funding for fruit trees is from South West Community Woodlands Orchard & Wild Flower Project via donations from the public to purchase fruit trees. We will also apply for further funding to make sure the orchard and garden is as successful as it can be. Watch this space for news of a group visit to Corehead with the BFT to see the land being offered.

If you would like more information on South West Community Woodlands Trust or if you would like to make a donation please contact Jools Cox, 100a Queen Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1EH, 01556 503 649, [joolscox@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:joolscox@tiscali.co.uk)

## Best private garden

CAN has been asked to present the plaque to the winner of the Private Garden category in the annual competition after the Garage Boot sale on July 26th. We are very honoured to be asked and will be delighted to oblige.

The Moffat garage sale – turning one person’s unwanted goods into someone else’s treasure - is a great Moffat institution helping to re-use unwanted possessions, and we urge all our supporters to walk round the sales on July 26th.

## Other Events

At the end of August we will hold a general meeting for everyone interested in CAN, to decide future events. We’ll send dates etc. out during August. CAN belongs to you – so do get involved in shaping our future by coming to meetings or sending in suggestions for events.

Anyone interested can join a group outing arranged by Stranraer Recycling Group in the autumn to Warrington to see Aluminium cans being recycled.

Various other events relating to the orchard and garden at Corehead (mentioned above) are coming up.

## Moffat Bag for Life

As part of Moffat CAN Reduce, we have introduced a promotional Moffat bag for life. Plastic bags are extremely damaging to our environment. Hundreds of thousands of animals and birds are injured every year; they pollute our planet; cause unsightly litter and block drains. It is Moffat CAN’s aim to try and reduce the amount of plastic bags the town uses. Several shops and businesses are participating in the scheme, and the first bags should be ready for sale in mid-July. Bags, with a design based on the famous Moffat ram, retail at £2 each, and can also be bought in bulk from the CAN office. There has been a lot of interest already from the people of Moffat and we are sure tourists would like to take home a wee memento of their holiday in Moffat.



moffat  
CAN  
CARBON NEUTRAL  
[www.moffatcan.org](http://www.moffatcan.org)

## What is CAN?

CAN is a charity founded to raise awareness of climate change issues, and reduce energy use in Moffat and Upper Annandale. We can save money – and the world ! – at the same time. It's a win-win solution; CAN exists to enable us to explore how to do it together.

There are five areas of human activity which are responsible for most climate change gases: energy use, transport use, food production, waste, and purchasing decisions.

CAN is at present working to help local residents reduce fuel bills, by home insulation and information. We also have funding to work on reducing transport use; we would like to support the set up of a walking bus to school, to avoid the need for the school run, and we will also be producing material to publicise bus times and the local lift-share scheme.

Next year we are proposing to work on local food production, reducing, re-using and recycling, via GROW ALLOT, at the Old Church Yard premises in Annanside.

CAN is established as a Company limited by guarantee. Anyone who agrees with CAN's aims can join - subject to approval by the Board, and the Board has not at present set any requirements for membership.

Members meet together to elect the Board at the company's AGM in February. Membership is free.

CAN's company documents are available in our office in 25 Well St. If you haven't yet – come and join the CAN. And if you have, get your friends to join too.

## Who is CAN?

Moffat CAN was founded by Alis Ballance who has just stepped down as convenor to go on maternity leave. Acting Convenor of the Board is Kris Allan, and staff are Chris Ballance, Development Officer, and Katrina Tait, Administrator. Doorstep Surveyors are Oliver Mundell, David MacAdam-Sproat, both Moffat residents, and Luciana Spinola, a postgraduate student in Carbon Management at the Crichton Campus in Dumfries.

CAN stands for Carbon Approaching Neutral. Moffat may have some way to go to become carbon neutral – but we're on the way.

## Where is CAN?

25 Well St, Moffat, DG10 9DP tel. 01683 221847

Email [info@moffatcan.org](mailto:info@moffatcan.org)

## When?

Now!