



The Sun Newsletter No 3 Autumn 2005

Adnewyddadwyon Sundance (Cydweithfa Ynni Cynaliadwy) Cyfyngedig, Excal House, Ystad Diwydiannol Capel Hendre, Rhydaman, Sir Gaerfyrddin., Rhif Cofrestredig y Cwmni 4420315.

Sundance Renewables (Sustainable Energy Co-operative) Ltd, Excal House, Capel Hendre Industrial Estate, Ammanford, Carmarthenshire, SA18 3SJ. Company Registration No. 4420315.

WELCOME

Friends of Sundance!

Thank you to all our new Friends who have shown their support for our endeavours by joining our Friends of Sundance membership scheme.

As a not for profit organization we are most grateful for your donation and commitment to our work.



BIODIESEL
LIQUID SOLAR
ENERGY

There has been a huge increase in demand for Biodiesel – as we always knew there would be – you can't keep a good idea down! Consequently, we have found it difficult at times to keep up with demand, despite working long hours and being understaffed.

It seems crazy that we are still the only manufacturers of Biodiesel for sale in Wales. ...And Wales....A Showcase for Renewable Energy and Sustainability.....?

We supply 100% Biodiesel and get our supply of used vegetable oil (UVO) from local sources, such as restaurants, pubs, residential homes, take-aways, chip shops, cafes etc.

One of our Friends is starting to collect UVO from his neighbours on his local estate in Swansea –

well done Joe Mato – every little helps and it is certainly true that we can all make a difference.

We collect used vegetable oil for free and in any quantity. We are always looking for new customers to whom we can offer our collection service. We need a regular supply of used vegetable oil to keep our plant in production. At the same time we are helping to divert used vegetable oil from the waste stream or from being carelessly dumped.

Our Pilot Project has proved what it set out to demonstrate – that Biodiesel can be made as a sustainable local enterprise.



Alec, Adam, Jan & Buffy standing proud by the biodiesel plant!

In the first 8 months of operation we averaged just under 1,000 litres a week and since restructuring the plant operation at the beginning of July, we now produce over 3 times that amount.

We have clocked up over half a million road miles on Biodiesel and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by a staggering 175 tonnes. This compares favourably to a large scale PV array for instance – like the

85KW installation at St Asaph that cost over half a million pounds and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 20 tonnes a year.

We need to invest in further modifications to the plant in order to increase its productivity and help reduce our workload. Our aim is to source our feedstock locally, produce and supply locally. We don't believe it is genuinely and practically sustainable to supply outside of Wales for instance – yet we get enquiries daily, as it is difficult to source B100 (100% Biodiesel).

In the rest of the UK Biodiesel is being sold at forecourts – but it is only 5% Biodiesel (B5). B5 is sold at a premium, maybe 2 or 3p more per litre than mineral diesel – largely because the blending of B5 is controlled by the oil refineries. The larger Biodiesel manufacturers need to sell their B100 in large quantities so they transfer it to the refineries for blending (actually as Texaco have recently admitted...their mineral diesel already contains 5% of biofuel).

The larger manufacturers can benefit from economies of scale and the 20p reduction in fuel duty that the government introduced in 2003 to help kickstart the Biodiesel industry. But the fuel duty of 27.1p on every litre that we produce is crippling for smaller manufacturers – and takes away any profit that we might make. As it is we can barely cover our costs – just as well we are not motivated by profit!

New Staff

You may have been greeted on the phone or at the pump by Elizabeth aka Buffy (our Office Witch) or Adam – our Resource Manager. They both came to us as graduates from Manchester University and have brought loads of good energy with them.



Adam and Buffy

Installations

So far this year, Alec has installed 2 solar hot water systems and completed one wind turbine installation with another one underway. He is also getting ready to install our largest PV array to date – a 5KW domestic installation.

To find out more about our installation service - contact: alec@sundancerenewables.org.uk

We also supply excellent value Atmos gasifying log boilers from the Czech Republic (website www.atmos.cz) in a range of outputs from 15 – 80KW and a friend of ours from Coed Hills will be travelling to Prague this

autumn to be trained as an installer for Atmos.

Educational Stuff

Our training courses have also been hugely successful with over 15 groups from all over the world attending the 2 day courses this year. Our vision is for Wales to be supplied by a network of local Biodiesel manufacturing units. We have already shown that it is possible – and the demand is certainly there. So come on – no more feasibility studies – let's be getting on with it!



Jan working hard making biodiesel!

Jan has given numerous talks and presentations so far this year - including the Masters degree Energy Studies course at C.A.T. (which led to one of the students arranging for Sundance to supply the G8 protest camp at Stirling with Biodiesel) and the Sustainable Development Commission Conference in Edinburgh, the Cooperatives UK Conference in Glasgow and the Womens' Engineering Society Conference in York and she also

ran a 10 week course module on Renewable Energy as part of the University of Wales in Swansea's Sustainable Development Certificate for the Dept of Continuing Education.

Raising Awareness

Please help us by signing our petition and lobbying your MP for a reduction in fuel duty – at least to the level of LPG, which at only 6p per litre gives an unfair advantage to LPG – a fossil fuel. The petition and more info can be found on the website.



Sian - Our Webmistress

We shall soon be organizing a Biodiesel Action Day to present the petition which already has over 2,000 signatures.

Let us know if you would like to join us and if you have any good ideas for publicity– come along in your Biodiesel vehicle! And we can all have a Day of F.A.M.E.!

Thanks for your support!

Another World Is possible...

**BIODIESEL
NO WARS REQUIRED**

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