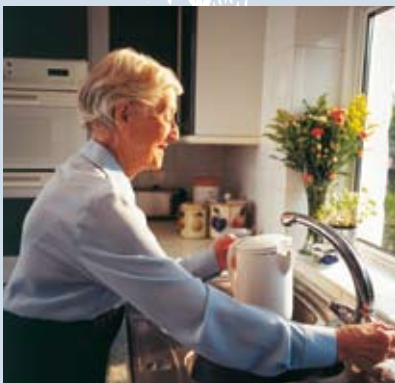


GLOBAL DIRECTORY 2007/8

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Going green

Claire Taylor from energywatch helps you get to the bottom of all those green energy tariffs

● With 19 different green tariffs currently on offer from specialist green suppliers and the big six energy suppliers, it can be extremely difficult choosing the one that's right for you. And what do energy suppliers mean by 'green' anyway?

A green tariff can mean one or a combination of three things. One: your supplier will guarantee to match a percentage of the electricity you use (from 10% to 100%) with a supply of renewable electricity back into the grid (green source tariff). Two: your supplier will make a donation to a fund that supports the development of new renewable generation or environmental causes (green fund tariff). Three: your supplier will make a donation to a carbon-reduction project in the UK or abroad in order to help offset a household's carbon dioxide emissions (carbon offset tariff).

But the information suppliers provide about the different green tariffs on offer isn't always transparent, and it can be unclear what environmental benefits they deliver. There's no scheme currently in place to verify the claims that suppliers make about the 'greenness' of their tariffs.

Licensed electricity suppliers are already legally obliged to supply a certain percentage of electricity from renewable sources under the Renewables Obligation. Some of the green tariffs on offer today are simply a 'repackage' of this legal obligation. Thus, signing up to one of these tariffs may not amount to environmental benefits (ie carbon dioxide emissions reductions) over and above those which already occur under the law. However, there are innovative green products entering the market, and suppliers are beginning to introduce tariffs that provide environmental benefits beyond their legal obligation. As a general rule, these tariffs will command a premium over suppliers' standard tariffs.

To help in the confusion surrounding green tariffs, energywatch has produced a guide with background information on each of the green tariffs available. They're also campaigning for the introduction of an accreditation scheme for green tariffs so that suppliers' claims can be verified and you can be fully confident of the environmental benefits that green tariffs deliver.

Ffi: www.energywatch.org.uk/help_and_advice/green_tariffs/tariff_types.asp

of the use of a computer by someone with a disability, plus individual assessment of technology needs. *Tel: 0800 269545 Email: enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk Web: www.abilitynet.org.uk*

ASSOCIATION FOR PROGRESSIVE COMMUNICATION (APC) Global umbrella of networks to empower and support organisations for human development, social justice etc. Links to 50,000 NGOs and organisations in 133 countries. *Web: www.apc.org*

BARTON HILL WORKSHOP provides a quality IT resource and training facility for people in the BS5 area of Bristol, and offers IT consultancy/advice to the voluntary sector throughout the city. *Contact: Barton Hill Settlement, 43 Ducie Rd, Barton Hill, Bristol BS5 0AX. Tel: 0117 955 6971 Email: admin@bartonhillsettlement.org.uk Web: www.bartonhillsettlement.org.uk*

BRISTOL WIRELESS Community network that uses free software and recycled machines to connect people not only to the internet, but also to each other for local content sharing and education. Offers profit-free broadband, open-source migration for businesses and community groups and a telephone support service. *Contact: Room 5, St Werburghs Centre, Horley Rd, St Werburghs, Bristol BS2 9TJ. Tel: 0117 325 0067/0845 862 0110 Email: info@bristolwireless.net Web: www.bristolwireless.net*

COMPUTER AID refurbishes donated Pentium Class (PIII or above) PCs from the UK and sends them to schools and non-profits in the developing world. *Contact: Computer Aid International, Unit 10, Brunswick Industrial Park, Brunswick Way, London N11 1JL. Tel: 020 8361 5540 Email: info@computeraid.org Web: www.computer-aid.org*

COMPUTERS FOR AFRICAN SCHOOLS sends refurbished computers (Pentium III and above) to schools in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. *Contact: Barry Haley. Tel: 0118 933 2229 Email: barry@cfas.org.uk Web: www.cfas.org.uk*

DIGITAL BRISTOL Website is host to a wide range of local organisations, with links to many local sites, including environmental groups, MPs, events, charities & NGOs. *Web: www.digitalbristol.org Bristol City organisations database: www.bristol-city.gov.uk/organisations*

GREENNET Electronic communications network, founded in 1985 and offering comprehensive internet and web-hosting services to the progressive community, working for peace, social justice and the environment. *Contact: Development House, 56-64 Leonard St, EC2A 4JX. Tel: 0845 055 4011 Email: info@gn.apc.org Web: www.gn.apc.org*

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL COMMUNICATION exists to expand and inspire movements for peace, economics and social systems, human rights and environmental sustainability. *Email: support@igc.apc.org Web: www.igc.org*

RECOMMIT Founded in 1997, one of the UK's leading IT equipment disposal agencies, undertaking the collection, secure data purging, recycling and redistribution of redundant IT equipment. *Contact: 4 The Dolphin Centre, Southampton Rd, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2NB. Tel: 01722 339660 Web: www.recommit.co.uk*

RURALNET supports the work of grassroots rural development agencies by providing them with access to appropriate communications technology. *Contact: National Rural Enterprise Centre (UK), Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2RR. Tel: 0845 130 0411 Email: enquiries@ruralnetuk.org Web: www.ruralnetuk.org*

TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS recycles electronic equipment and computers. Refurbishes surplus commercial computers and sells them at a low cost to schools, education charities and for home education purposes. *Contact: PO Box 49, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 8WY. Tel: 0845 450 5889 Email: admin@tfs.org.uk Web: www.tfs.org.uk*

MEDIA & PUBLICATIONS

THE BIG ISSUE SOUTH WEST Quality, general interest magazine produced weekly and sold by the homeless. Campaigning for the homeless and highlighting major social issues. *Contact: 5 Brunswick Court, Bristol BS2 0BH. Tel: 0117 916 6495 Email: rich@bigissuesouthwest.co.uk Web: www.bigissuesouthwest.co.uk, www.bigissue.com*

BRISTLE An alternative publication for Bristol aiming to provide a space and information for local groups and activists. *Contact: Bristle, c/o Kebele, 14 Robertson Rd, Bristol BS5 6JY. Email: editors@bristle.org Web: www.bristle.org.uk*

BRISTOL INDYMEDIA Part of a global collective, a group of independent media offering news coverage that's not owned or influenced by corporate interests. Aims to create an open publishing news service for the people of Bristol. *Contact: Bristol Indymedia, Box 7, Booty, 82 Colston St, Bristol BS1 5BB. Web: www.bristol.indymedia.org*

CAMPAIGN FOR PRESS & BROADCASTING FREEDOM Campaigns for a diverse and accountable media and against current trends towards media concentration in the UK and internationally. *Contact: 2nd Floor, Vi & Garner Smith House, 23 Orford Rd, London E16 9NL. Tel: 020 8521 5932 Email: freepress@cpbf.org.uk Web: www.cpbf.org.uk*

COMMON GOODS RESEARCH Media link researching hard-to-reach audiences. *Web: www.commongoodresearch.gov.uk/bmes*

COMMUNITY CHANNEL The only UK TV station dedicated to championing good causes. Aims to use the power of television to create positive action in viewers' lives, society and the world at large. Broadcast daily, 24 hours a day, on Sky Digital 539, Telewest Channel 233 and ntl channels 14 and 511. Also shown on Freeview 87, daily, 6-9am. *Contact: Community Channel, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BB. Tel: 08708 505500 Email: info@communitychannel.org Web: www.communitychannel.org*

COMMUNITY MEDIA UK representative body for the community media sector. Committed to promoting access to the media for people and communities. Chaired by Phil Shepherd, director of the Engine Room, a community media centre in Bridgwater (www.theengineerom.net). The CMA holds two main events annually: the Festival of Community Media and an annual Conference and AGM. *Contact: Workstation 15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield S1 2BX. Tel: 0114 279 5219 Fax: 0114 279 8976 Email: cma@commmedia.org.uk Web: www.commmedia.org.uk Also see Communities Online, the UK community internet network: www.communities.org.uk Community Media South West: www.cmsu.co.uk*

COMMUNITY NEWSWIRE Joint initiative between The Press Association (PA) and Media Trust, funded by the Active Community Unit within the Home Office. The newswire aims to make it as easy as possible for community and voluntary groups who currently have little contact with the media to make their voices heard. *Contact: Joanna Inskip (community newswire manager). Tel: 020 7874 7610 Email: communitynewswire@mediatrust.org Web: www.communitynewswire.press.net*

CSV MEDIA CLUBHOUSE offers media training to individuals and community groups around Bristol. Experienced trainers support you to get online, discover digital photography or record your own radio programme. Community Service Volunteers work in partnership nationally with the BBC. *Contact: 17 Midland Rd, Bristol BS2 0JT. Tel: 0117 908 2266 Email: kate@csvavon.org.uk Web: www.csv.org.uk*

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES Aid and development digest published every two months. *Contact: Old Westbrook Farm, Evercreech, Somerset BA4 6DS. Tel: 01749 831141 Email: di@devinit.org Web: www.devinit.org*

DIALECT RADIO Bristol-based internet radio group