Winners of the CEE Awards

A night of recognition and achievement
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We were delighted to receive the Outstanding Contribution to Community Energy Award at the Community Energy Awards in 2018.

Mike Smyth, Energy4All, on winning the special award said:

“...We are thrilled to receive this special award for Outstanding Contribution to Renewable Energy. Making such a contribution has relied on: the original vision of Baywind (the founders of Energy4All); the amazing support of the members of E4A’s 24 co-ops and bencoms; the work of the volunteer boards of those co-ops; collaboration with like-minded partner organisations; and the tireless hard work of the dedicated staff at Energy4All. We are energised by this celebration of what has been achieved so far and we now continue the work of delivering on our mission.”

Congratulations to;

Mean Moor Wind Farm in partnership with Thrive Renewables won the Community Energy Finance Award.

The Schools’ Energy Cooperative Ltd won Community Renewable Energy Project Award.

Springbok Wood Heat Co-operative were Highly Commended as a Community Energy & Carbon Saving project.

Energy4All has teamed up with Naturesave Insurance to create a home insurance offer that will raise funds for Energy4All projects.

Naturesave Insurance has worked with Energ4All for over 10 years, providing specialist insurance for the renewable installations of member Co-operatives. Naturesave has also provided grant funding and investment to Energy4All through its charitable arm, the Naturesave Trust.

Naturesave also offers ethical insurance for home buildings and contents, including domestic renewable energy systems and annual travel insurance. Naturesave donate 10% of the premium generated from these policies annually, into The Naturesave Trust, to support environmental projects across the UK, including many community renewable energy projects.

Following discussions with Energy4All, Naturesave has committed to the following offer for Energy4All members: -

For any Energy4All member who takes out a Naturesave home insurance policy, the Naturesave Trust will donate 10% of the premiums raised from these policies directly to an Energy4All development fund.

If you would like Naturesave to quote for your home insurance to raise money for Energy4All, call 01803 864 390 or visit; www.naturesave.co.uk/energy4all/

Please quote Energy4All when contacting Naturesave.
Over the past 12 months, the Schools’ Energy Co-operative has installed almost half a Megawatt of solar PV panels on a further 12 schools, bringing our total to 42 schools and 1.9 Megawatts. There are 15 more potential schools, and we hope to be able to install systems on at least half of these before the Feed in Tariff closes at the end of March 2019.

There has also been co-operation between the Energy4All co-ops, with two co-ops loaning money to us in advance of the share offer. We would like to thank Boyndie Wind Farm Co-operative and Baywind Energy Co-operative.

Our recent installations were funded by our fourth share offer, which achieved our target of £500,000 in less than four weeks. With our partner Ealing Transition, we were also awarded a grant by the Greater London Authority (GLA), to help with the front-end costs of installations in Ealing schools. In collaboration with Ealing Council, this enabled us to install systems on 5 further schools, with 2 more expected soon. And on the day of our 2018 AGM, we heard that our application for a further GLA grant had been successful - so watch out for news of more schools’ solar in Ealing!

The systems are installed at no cost to the schools. As well as saving a total of nearly 400 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions yearly, each school saves on electricity costs; any remaining profits, after operating costs and interest to members, are distributed to member schools.

Spirit of Lanarkshire
The Outlet Play Resource benefitted from a Community Benefit Payment of £5K from SOL. The money was used to fund summer playschemes in remote areas of South Lanarkshire. Pictured below: Jackie Meager (Director) and Susan McNeish (Senior Ranger), meeting with Gordon Jorgensen (Chair) and James McCrue (SOL director).

The Schools’ Energy Co-operative
The Schools’ Energy Co-operative held a prize draw to encourage members to recommend a friend during their latest share offer. The lucky winner of an Ethical Chocolate Hamper was Peter Bunn from Buckinghamshire.

Arrochar Community Hydro Society
Arrochar Community Hydro Society is delighted to have been nominated for Best Community Project Award in The Scottish Green Energy Awards.

Can you help? Links with PR and national newspaper journalists.
Do you have PR experience or links with National Newspapers? We would like to raise our profile within the national press and in true co-operative style we are looking to you our members for your help.
If you think you may be able to help us to get editorial coverage in the national press please contact Lorraine@energy4all.co.uk

Ofgem Board site visit to Rumbling Bridge- June 2018
The Board of Ofgem held their June meeting in Scotland and a number of the Directors took the opportunity to visit Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro.

Hugh and Katherine Wallace of Glendevon Energy, Rumbling Bridge’s development and operations partner, hosted the visit and organised an introductory presentation and site visit for the Ofgem party. Jim Lee and John Malone of Energy4All were also present.

Jim and John welcomed Ofgem’s positive and active engagement with the community energy sector and also raised a number of general points for discussion, including:
- Difficulty for co-ops to sell generated energy to members
- Observation on the development of electricity networks and concerns around the control and use of system and customer data
- The need for the community voice to be heard during on-going “Smart Grid” development
- Our experience that new export meter installation or change of operator is extremely problematic and costly.

The Ofgem Directors were receptive to these points and there was time for more detailed discussion during the tour. Energy4All will maintain and build on the contacts made.
Investments in shares of renewable energy co-operatives and community benefit societies are long term investments to deliver an environmental and social impact as well as a financial return. As with any investment there are risks. Your capital is at risk and may not be readily realisable. Returns are projected, variable, depend on performance of the project and are not guaranteed. Consider all risks before investing. As unregulated share offers, investments do not receive the protection of the Government’s Financial Services Compensation Scheme and investors do not have recourse to the Financial Ombudsman Service.