



Solar Independence Day Special

In the last newsletter we mentioned the Solar independence day, An event organised by the Solar Trade Association where solar farms are opened to the public on July 4th. The idea was to help the public to understand how solar farms can contribute to our independence from fossil fuel energy. We asked some of the participants how it went.

Seventeen solar farms took part around the UK and a few of the companies involved have told us how they got on.

Susannah Wood, Chief Marketing Officer at Solarcentury commented "On this year's Solar Independence Day there was a great turnout, with over 600 people visiting solar farms across England and Wales. Solar farms can be bio-diverse wildlife havens, capable of supporting a range of fauna and flora thanks to habitat management plans that include initiatives such as installing bird boxes and bee hives, and sowing seeds to create species rich wild flower meadows."



Chediston Solar Farm. Solarcentury

Lightsource Renewable Energy mobilised 45 staff to nine sites across several counties including Wales and the Isle of Wight. Representatives from the entire business including O&M, planning, technical, and communications teams were on-hand to give guided tours. They see this as a

vital way of engaging with the public to give a better understanding of how a solar farm works, the impact on the land, improvements to biodiversity and uses for diversification such as grazing of small livestock.



Crossways solar park. British Solar Renewables

Marcus Dixon, head of marketing at British Solar Renewables said "The day was a great success and we plan to host another Open Day at the end of the Summer". Their site, Crossways 5MW solar park is situated near Dorchester in Dorset and is constructed on 30 acres of reclaimed contaminated land, a site that previously served as a gravel extraction and landfill site. Richard Drax Member of Parliament for South Dorset joined the guided tour of the site.



The Hollies Solar Farm. juwi

juwi opened The Hollies Solar Farm in the North East of England to help communicate the tremendous benefits of all applications of solar, and the need for better and more stable policy support. The Hollies is an 8.6 MWp solar pv project located in Skegness. Annually, the 35,000 solar panels produce eight million kilowatt hours of electricity.



The Hollies Solar Farm. juwi

