



future proofing Penrith and Eden

What does PACT do?

PACT thinks that the main challenges of the next few years are those of declining oil supplies and changing climate and as political response is very slow local people should get on and prepare for themselves. The longer we wait the harder the transition will be. So like other towns in Cumbria, **Penrith ACT** is finding ways to raise local awareness of the challenges we face and the actions we can take as individuals and as a community.

PACT also forges links with local authorities, schools, businesses, churches, voluntary organisations and environmental groups in order to share experiences avoid duplication of effort and reach a wider audience.

PACT works on community events such as the Story Giants of Eden and the Cob Oven building Project to build community links and get communities thinking about community projects like allotments.

PACT holds monthly public discussions on topics related to the Transition e.g. Local Food, Local Transport, Waste Management and Renewable Energy.

PACT works with the local authority on improvements to the local environment e.g. Vitality of Penrith

PACT doesn't have all the answers and that's where you come in. Bring your ideas and skills along and help us to build a more resilient Penrith and Eden.

*For more information
about Transition Towns go
to www.transitionnetwork.org*

... What can you do?

Get involved, take a look at the website and see what interests you, lets us know via the site that you are interested and tell you friends. Start reducing you own oil dependence (see overleaf)

what will Penrith be like in 10yrs...?

In the last few years the world around us has changed more than most people would have dreamt of 10 yrs ago. The financial crisis, the rise in the cost of energy, the rise in the cost of food and the changes that are taking place with the climate have all contributed. Most of the changes are driven by the limits of finite natural resources. Probably the greatest effect is caused by us having reached the point where we have consumed half of the oil on Earth. More importantly the half that is left is more difficult, more expensive and requires more energy to extract. Virtually everything we do depends on oil being cheap and available. Transport, heating, farming, food, medicines all require oil. Well as you know, it's no longer cheap and will only get more expensive. Over time as oil production declines it will be less available. **Continuing to use oil as we do now is no longer sustainable**

All over the world groups of people have come together in their local communities to look at how these challenges can be addressed. A few years ago a Transition group formed in Penrith – Penrith ACT or PACT (Penrith Action for Community Transition) The 'Transition' referred to is the transition from the old world of abundant, virtually free energy to one in which energy is scarce and expensive, a world in which more sustainable economies and lifestyles will be the norm. This change will affect everyone so the whole community needs to be brought into the discussion on what changes there will be and what the community's response will be. Cumbria and Eden in particular is an area where the impacts are starting to be felt since travelling distances/costs are greater here and the availability of cheaper and better types of energy is limited e.g. gas.

See the back page for what PACT does and the inside for some suggestions on what you might do to get started.

*'Virtually
everything we
do depends on
oil being cheap
and available'*

*For more information about PACT
go to www.penrithACT.org.uk*



*Start your own transition by reducing your own dependence on oil
do some easy things first!*



It may sound a bit strange asking people to reduce their oil consumption because until now we hardly needed to think about it but as oil gets more expensive and more scarce it makes sense to save the cost as well as the energy use here are some suggestions to get you started



Reduce the energy used to transport your food by buying locally grown seasonal food



better still grow it your self



Reduce fuel consumption, share your car journeys and share the cost



or cycle, or walk instead



Turn down the heating a degree or two



and put on a pullover



Switch off lights you are not using



and change to low energy lighting



Exchange unwanted items using freegle



and the rest ... **reduce, reuse, recycle**



So now you have seen some things you can do yourself, tell your friends about them...



and imagine the **impact** of your whole community getting involved.
PACT is committed to working for community involvement

