

WELCOME

Welcome to our autumn edition. We assembled this newsletter at a time of escalating concern about climate change. Our main article and Quote of the Quarter reflect this. Naturally we want to do our part as property developers and managers to ensure the planet is liveable for future generations.

WORKING TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY

It's heartening to see the rapid growth in numbers of people around the world who are taking practical action for the planet. Early in October over 400 MPs joined Extinction Rebellion's appeal to plant more trees. Here's the story: <https://rebellion.earth/2019/10/10/more-than-400-mps-join-extinction-rebellion-reforesting-action-calling-for-billions-more-trees-to-be-planted/>

On October 10th the Environment Agency committed to become a net zero organisation by 2030. Emma Howard Boyd, Chair of the EA, said: "Tackling the climate emergency is the biggest challenge facing humankind [...]. We are under no illusion about the scale of the challenge that we have set ourselves, but action is needed if we are to preserve our planet for future generations."

Gareth Redmond-King, Head of Climate Change at WWF-UK, notes that the UK will host a global climate summit in 2020. This is "a major opportunity to show international leadership in tackling this planetary emergency. But we must demonstrate we're walking the talk at home by taking rapid and ambitious action to reduce our emissions in a way that also helps people and communities."

Report from Centre for Alternative Technology

For the last 45 years CAT has conducted research, developed resources and provided training. Rob and Gill went to Hereford on October 1st to hear Paul Allen, a scientist from CAT, talk about Zero Carbon Britain. They were encouraged to hear him explain that all the technologies needed for net carbon neutrality are available now. Much of our familiar lifestyle could be maintained by redirecting resources to support these technologies in place of the current systems that depend on fossil fuels. Paul invited listeners to download free reports from the CAT website:

<https://www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/zero-carbon-britain/research-reports/>



Rampion Offshore Wind Farm, UK – photo by Nicholas Doherty

It was great to hear that more and more local authorities, including our own Herefordshire Council, have declared a climate emergency. Here's the map: <https://www.climateemergency.uk/blog/map-of-local-council-declarations/>

You can sign up on the CAT website to demand a climate emergency action plan from the UK, Welsh and Scottish governments: <https://www.cat.org.uk/demand-a-climate-emergency-action-plan/>

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PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH WALES

When we develop our sites in Swansea and Cynonville we'll certainly want to use innovative designs and materials for the sake of people and planet. We expect to meet with the planning department in Swansea shortly with a view to getting our application under way.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Pictured below are photos taken before and after the replacement of a pair of leaking bath taps.



Elsewhere in the portfolio a new shower was installed, annual gas safety checks were done and a plate heat exchanger was replaced. Our team has started refurbishing a double-storeyed 3-bedroom semi which became vacant recently when the elderly tenants moved into a bungalow for health reasons. It's in a good location and we expect it to attract suitable tenants without undue delay.

COMPANY PROGRESS

We are reporting to our shareholders every quarter by means of an insert in their copy of the newsletter.

NEXT EDITION

Our winter newsletter will be sent to investors in January 2020. For news and information before then, please visit the website or contact us directly.

Thank you for your continued interest in Giroma.

QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

“It is still not too late to act. It will take a far-reaching vision. It will take courage. It will take fierce determination to act now, to lay the foundations when we may not know all the details about how to shape the ceiling. In other words, it will take cathedral thinking.”

(Greta Thunberg)