



# Case Study - Octagon Cybercafé

## A sustainable energy beacon at the heart of the community

The Renewable Energy Action for London (REAL) project team worked with the London Borough of Croydon to install a 4m<sup>2</sup> solar hot water system on the Octagon Cybercafé in New Addington, Croydon. Once a disused building prone to graffiti and vandalism, the Cafe now provides members of the community with the opportunity to hone their computer skills and learn more about sustainable energy.

## It didn't cost the earth...

The REAL project team were able to secure 50% funding from the Community Renewables Initiative (CRI), a Countryside Agency scheme.

## A bright beginning...and there's more to come

The 4m<sup>2</sup> solar water heating system provides hot water from the Sun's energy for use in the Café.

It is estimated that use of the system will directly result in carbon dioxide emission savings of 0.5 tonnes each year.

## A commitment to environment, energy and education

The New Addington Cybercafé provides discounted Internet Access to residents of New Addington as well as training sessions in Information Technology. The Café is well used by members of the local community, especially young families and people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The Café has proven to be an excellent platform for the dissemination of sustainable energy messages. The REAL project team will further promote the benefits of energy efficiency to those who visit the Café through displays, presentations and workshops.

## Key Points

**Technology**  
**4m<sup>2</sup> solar water heating system**

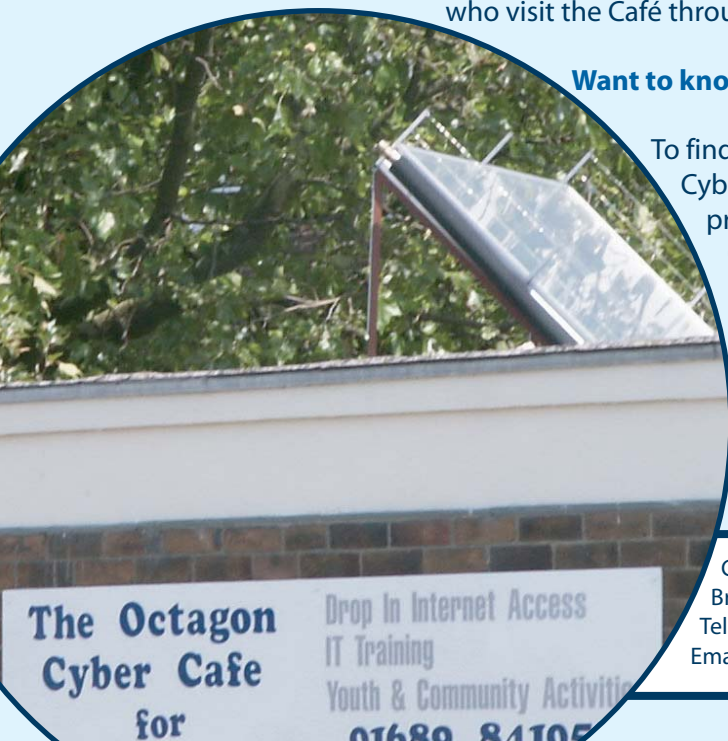
**Carbon Dioxide Savings**  
**0.5 tonnes per annum**

**Funding**  
**50% Community Renewables Initiative**

**Collaborators**  
**London Borough of Croydon**  
**The REAL Project Team**

## Want to know more?

To find out more about the New Addington Cybercafé solar project, or to discuss your own project, contact the REAL project team on 020 8683 6683.



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