

Low Carbon Warwickshire Network Newsletter

April 2023 – Issue 26

The Low Carbon Warwickshire Network aims to connect low carbon groups across the county, sharing ideas and stimulating and supporting new activity. Although primarily rural in focus, we exclude no one.



<https://www.harburyenergy.co.uk/warwickshire-low-carbon-network>

Welcome to the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN) Newsletter

The LCWN aims to create a central hub providing guidance, information and inspiration for new and existing groups, mainly in rural areas. 'Low Carbon Communities' events have been held in Harbury, Napton on the Hill, Henley-in-Arden, Church Lawford, Boddington, Kenilworth and Brailes.

The next event is in Cubbington Village Hall on 3rd June 2023, 9:30 for 10:00

LCWN Steering Group

We are very keen to expand the steering group membership to include a few more representatives from the groups in the Network. For continuity and better representation this is really important. We meet infrequently and only when we have something of significance to discuss, and there is no Treasurer role! Please do think of joining us. **If you can spare just a few hours a year please contact Bob Sherman at lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com**

New member groups

- ✓ **Sustainabillington** – Lillington and Cubbington residents have started a low carbon group with the aim to celebrate existing low carbon / sustainability activities in the area, start new low carbon projects and find ways to encourage other people to do so as well. If you are already involved in low carbon activities in Lillington or Cubbington and would like to get involved or attend a meeting please contact **Matt Black** on 07765684941 or email: matt.black@pop3.poptel.org.uk or **Ian Wood** on 07756721589 or email: ianwoodawas@ntlworld.com
- ✓ **SAFE** - Stourvale Action For the Environment (Shipston-on-Stour) their contact is **Verity Richardson** at verityrichardson@gmail.com

Diary Date - The next LCWN event is at Cubbington Village Hall on 3rd June 2023, 9:30 for 10:00.

For any questions or to register please contact **Matt Black** at matt.black@pop3.poptel.org.uk

Do you want to host a LCWN event in your community?

If you would like to host a funded "Low Carbon Community" event where you live, please email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com and let us know where and when and we will support you in planning it. You will not be on your own.



LCWN Schools Project Group

Since the LCWN Steering Group decided that it was time for a Schools Project, it has been rather like opening a benign Pandora's Box. There is an amazing amount of information in the ether and inevitably a lot happening very fast in very many different areas. Our dilemma is how we organise this often, overlapping information into appropriate form so that it can be sent via the LCWN in ways accessible for schools.

We have two main bands of questions in mind. The first:

- a. Those which highlight **School Buildings**, i.e.: Solar Heating, Energy, Costs and Efficiency, Waste and Pollution.
- b. What demands are there on teachers, in terms of Climate Change and the **Curriculum** and what resource information can we offer to be of help.
- c. What support we can offer in terms of **practical projects**.

The other band concerns how we make this information reach the appropriate people within the 30+ individual LCWN groups.

1. Those most connected with School Buildings and Finance, Headteachers, Governing Bodies and those in charge of finance.
2. Those most directly concerned with the teaching day, staff and ancillaries, volunteers, etc.
3. Parents and PTAs Leaders of School Clubs e.g., gardening, Eco Clubs, Arts and Craft Groups etc. and those interested bodies within the local community.

Most of us are aware that change is a constant factor in life on this planet but what we are now facing is the speed of change at present and the necessity for us as human beings to adapt our lives to that change. It can be done and schools are in a great position to help with this.

We would love to know the areas in which you feel we would be most useful and if you have any school initiatives which you would like to share with us. Do email me, **Teresa Buckle** at:

teresabuckle2@gmail.com

Solar for Schools 8th Bond Offer now live!

Up to 5% return on investment

Community solar and student education



With a track record of over £3 million fundraised and 90+ UK schools across the UK, Solar for Schools CBS has now launched its 8th Bond Offer! This investment is geared towards community minded investors passionate about schools, solar and national climate education.



Support schools

Solar for Schools is also working with Low Carbon Warwickshire to help local schools save money and gain education. If you are interested in helping schools in your area, please contact **Bob Sherman** at lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com or **Shannon Jackson** at shannon.jackson@solarforschools.co.uk

Invest today

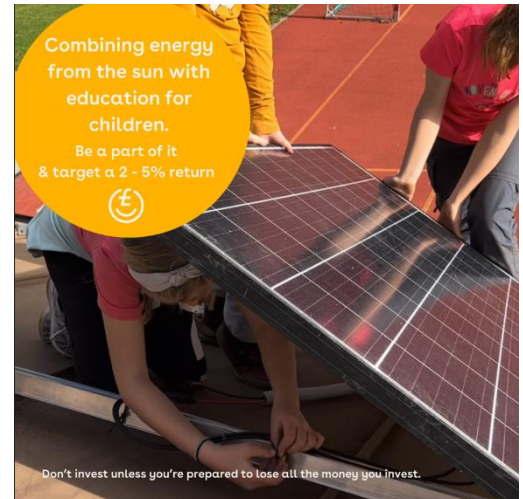
You can also invest to support action for schools in the latest Bond Offer here [Solar for Schools - Renewable Energy - Ethex investment opportunity](#).

Details include,

- Up to 5% interest on investment
- IFISIA and non-ISA eligible options
- £500 minimum investment
- 80+ UK schools track record
- Supporting community solar and student education

Offer closes **30/06/2023**

Shannon Jackson, UK Schools Project Manager, Solar for Schools, April 2023



Warwickshire Cycle Buddies

Warwickshire County Council – Climate and Sustainability News

Sustainable Warwickshire Podcast – Switching to Sustainable Transport

At 42% of the total, transport is the biggest cause of carbon emissions in Warwickshire. We are a county with over 4,000km of roads and many of us rely on our cars for our everyday lives, including getting to work, going shopping and socialising. And yet, the latest figures suggest around 47% of us have access to a bike – so why don't we see more cyclists on our roads?



In the third episode of the Sustainable Warwickshire podcast, host Steve Smith meets Hazel Underwood, the founder of Warwickshire Cycle Buddies, a volunteer organisation which sets out to match novice cyclists lacking in confidence with more experienced buddies. Hazel is joined by Dan Morris, a Senior Transport Planner at Warwickshire County Council, and together they talk about the need for cycling infrastructure and behaviour change to go hand-in-hand.

So, if you are interested in learning about the WCC plans to build more cycling infrastructure, or want to hear about how Cycle Buddies has helped local people to overcome their fears of the road, do have a listen – you can find it at <https://sustainablewarwickshire.podbean.com/> or search for Sustainable Warwickshire on Spotify or Apple Music.

[Home - Warwickshire Cycle Buddies](#)



Who are we? Introducing.

This month we get **Matt Black** from **Cubbington / Sustainabillington** to tell us about his low carbon journey.

1. What is your first memory of when you realised things needed to change?

My dad's rants (endless) on the theme of "this can't go on - the system will collapse". Rants included how fertilisers and pesticides destroy soil quality and eco-systems, how in the "good old days" farmers (especially Italian farmers!) understood and respected biodiversity, how capitalist greed is the road to ruin for the planet, and that too many people have cars - "all these b***** cars, I can't get anywhere!".

Also, reading the beautiful and moving *Whale Nation* (by Heathcote Williams, 1988) which showed humans' multiple use and abuse of whales, and also his *Autogeddon* (1991), a fantastic extended poem with photographs, showing how cars would take over the world catastrophically.

2. What made you commit to doing something?

The above. And the requirements of my job as a poet ("What? Poets have job requirements?" "Yea, kind of, 'fraid so, usually best ignored."). My view is that we act less selfishly, more wisely and in the interests of community, when our emotional landscapes are in good health and order, which poetry and other artforms can help them to be. And we can't expect information or messages about low carbon life choices to be received and acted upon easily or straightforwardly - when people are beset with busy lives, families, low incomes, misinformation, mixed feelings etc.. So, we have to change hearts and minds, by finding interesting and powerful ways that express and help us to work through the mass (and mess) of contradictory feelings and messages about the need for lower carbon lives. Hopefully through this we can move towards personal, practical, and wise conclusions and actions. I've tried to do this by writing about the environment in loving and in political ways. I wrote a prose-poem novella (*Plot 161*) which celebrated allotment life, its eccentric and interesting characters, the politics of shared communal taps, seed swaps, beetroot ceremonies and a retail estate called *Cabbage World*, which I toured in Germany and Poland. I wrote a warning play called *The Storm Officer* reflecting on the Cumbrian floods of 2018, which toured to Live and Local venues and the Minack Theatre. I built (with sculptor Jonny White) a bicycle-powered Heath Robinson machine for inspiring and performing poems called *The Zing Zong Poetry Imagination Machine*. The more obvious signs of climate change over the last 10-15 years have also moved me towards being more active in a more direct way.



3. What have you done?

I'm organising (with Ian Wood and the new Sustainabillington group) a Low Carbon Warwickshire Network event for June 3rd at Cubbington Village Hall. I've done some obvious things. Had no car till 40, reduced aeroplane flights a bit, public transport when easy enough, second-hand clothes - an Oxfam-chic fashion choice, rather than low carbon necessity! I feel we must find as many genuine wins as possible, rather than hard to make choices, that will make low carbon living more attractive. Most people just ain't gonna go down a do-without and this-is-too-hard road. I'm keen that on June 3rd we find some easy to achieve things we can do together (*Easy Ways to Be Eco*). I'm not very methodical myself, have a short attention span, and a degree of laziness - I suspect some other people are a bit like this too! We will be sharing all the usual wonderful low carbon activities that take regularity and persistence (which I am trying to improve on), but also exploring enjoyable and interesting ways of doing things together, 3 or 6 month low carbon projects, working in pairs (low carbon buddies), rotation systems, street by street initiatives, and other creative solutions.



We also need to pressurise governments to tax/ regulate/ legislate people into low carbon living. I'm in Extinction Rebellion - in the coward's non-arrestable camp, that is! Which is anyway the direction that Extinction Rebellion are currently going in - as in "attendance over arrest, and relationships over roadblocks".

4. What's kept you going? What sustains you?

I haven't done enough to merit answering this question. But what keeps me going is.....my lovely grandson, Sonny, my kids, my partner and true love, my extended family, the joy of shaving, the smell of basil, summer rainbows over the A46, gooseberry crumble, jazz and soul music, laughter, rubbish TV (Dragons Den etc.), swimming in rivers, the smell of a pub, waking up, stretching, dancing. In terms of low carbon activity, I am scared of the world my grandson is inheriting and that keeps me going.

5. If there was one thing / one solution you wished everyone knew about / did - what would it be?

Be happy to do it your way! If you're methodical, all praises to you, and do your recycling methodically, and take thermal images of your house, insulate it etc. If you're not methodical, try and get better, but also find your own ways of doing things - find a low carbon buddy, or group, take action together, build sculptures out of your unrecycleables, bury your underpants¹, do three months lower carbon living twice a year, recycle one thing better, buy one less plastic, plant a tree, read and snooze instead of going for a drive! Do whatever you can, but do it!

Please DO come to our event on the morning of June 3rd if you can. As well as low carbon talks, discussions and stalls, there will be The Happy Recycler theatre sketch, poems on recycled materials on display, good cake, a quick game of How Bad are Bananas, free sunflower plants for everyone and other fabulous extras.

If you want any more information, or to be included on our invites mailing list, please contact **Matt Black** at matt.black@pop3.poptel.org.uk or **Ian Wood** at ianwoodawas@ntlworld.com

Matt Black, April 2023

Who are you?

If you have an interesting story to tell which could inspire others to take action, please send your answers to the five 'who are we?' questions to lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com. We'll include your story in a future newsletter.

- 1. What is your first memory of when you realised things needed to change?**
 - 2. What made you commit to doing something?**
 - 3. What have you done?**
 - 4. What's kept you going? What sustains you?**
 - 5. If there was one thing / one solution you wished everyone knew about / did - what would it be?**
-

¹ [Plant Your Pants! | The Country Trust National Educational Charity](#)



Ted's Tech – what in the world are others doing?

I am very passionate about controlling the warming of our atmosphere. In my opinion many people are so blinkered and don't see the emergency we have, the whole world needs to be working together not fighting, the main war being against the use of fossil fuels and deforestation etc.

Technology and solutions are at our fingertips, we need to prioritise their rapid production and installation. Winston Churchill in World War 2 declared a War Effort, making, where possible, every person, business and factory to produce equipment to defeat Hitler. We now need a new War Effort - to make and install equipment to produce, store and use Renewable Energy, completely replacing Oil & Gas - ASAP!



Also very necessary, an advertising or educational scheme to convince climate deniers that it is really happening and immediate action is essential for the future of our children. I unknowingly saw the effects 59 years ago. In 1954 I was in a Swiss sanatorium, just before I came home to England a group of us were taken on a trip up on to the Grealech glacier off the Fluela pass near Davos. Ten years later, 1964 on a camping trip to the Mediterranean with my Mum & Dad we decided to visit the glacier. We climbed up the valley and over a hump to where the snow and ice was held back - to my shock and horror, it had all gone! I didn't know why or what to say.

To slow down and one day reverse this warming, immediate and rapid adaptation is necessary. Going back only 200 years people had to walk everywhere, if lucky they could use a horse. Today most journeys consume a fuel stored by nature millions of years ago, this has to stop, the sooner the better - should have been years ago!

The fuel of our future has to be the most abundant gas in the universe, hydrogen. It is in almost everything, how best to separate it out, store it, transport and use it is now being madly researched all over the world with new ideas appearing every day.

We all know about electrolysis of water H_2O , producing 2 parts hydrogen to 1 part oxygen, for a good UK example search:- cph2.com [Home | CPH2](#) and click on 'Our Tecnology' [Our Technology | CPH2](#).

Now others are producing it from wood and food waste, e.g. search:- patriothydrogen.com.au [A waste-to-hydrogen project developer | Patriot Hydrogen](#)

Also from non recyclable waste, normally sent to landfill search:-bosonenergy.com [BOSON ENERGY: Clean 24/7 Hydrogen from Waste](#)

It can be stored and transported in liquid carriers such as ammonia and methanol, also other liquids can chemically bind to and release hydrogen used as a Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carrier, search:- Hydrogenious LOHC Technologies [Hydrogenious LOHC Technologies](#).

Uses are numerous, passed through a Fuel Cell it recombines hydrogen with oxygen from the air to produce electricity and heat with only pure water from its exhaust system. The electricity produced can be used to power anything from a mobile phone up to the electricity grid.

Companies are redesigning regular engines to run on hydrogen, for example search:- JCB Hydrogen engine [Hydrogen | Building a Greener Future | JCB.com](#).

Hydrogen is driving trains, heavy haulage, cars and very soon passenger planes - just think, guilt free flights!

The future is bright if only we can stop wasting energy fighting between countries and use the energy, working together and completely eliminating the use of fossil fuels and release of CO₂ stored by nature millions of years ago. Oh how I wish!!!!

A.E.(Ted) Dowdeswell, Member of Harbury Energy Initiative, April 2023

PS. A futuristic idea that could work, I wish them well with their technology, search:- <https://news.mit.edu/2022/quaise-energy-geothermal-0628> [Tapping into the million-year energy source below our feet | MIT News | Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#)

IPCC Global Climate Report – my views - by our guest blogger Neil Kitching

Here are my honest views on the recent United Nation's climate change report:

The UN's International Panel on Climate Change has published its '2023 Synthesis Report' [IPCC AR6 SYR SPM.pdf](#). It summarises the state of the climate and our actions to address climate change. It is a clear read, written in stark language. My thoughts in this blog are based on the 36-page 'summary for policymakers'.

A blue rectangular graphic with white text that reads "AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023".

My comments are in italics. Most of the rest are extracts from the report.

Climate Change to Date

Human activities have unequivocally caused global warming. Global surface temperature has already risen by 1.1°C (1.6 degrees over land).

No surprise there. I knew from my university studies decades ago that humans were causing climate change, but there is now a "high confidence" (scientific consensus) on this.

The 10% of households with the highest per capita emissions contribute 34–45% of global consumption-based household emissions, while the bottom 50% contribute (only) 13–15%.

The problem has been, and is being, caused by 'rich' countries, and rich people across all countries.

Future Projections

Impacts on some ecosystems are approaching irreversibility such as hydrological changes resulting from the retreat of glaciers, or the changes in some mountain and Arctic ecosystems driven by permafrost thaw.

This is serious. We should act as if it is a crisis, which it is.

Without a strengthening of policies, global warming of 3.2°C is projected by 2100.



3.2°C would be catastrophic for nature and for human society.

Can we remain below 1.5°C of Warming?

Continued greenhouse gas emissions will lead to increasing global warming, with the best estimate of reaching 1.5°C in the “near term”.

Projected CO₂ emissions from existing fossil fuel infrastructure without additional abatement would exceed the remaining carbon budget for 1.5°C.

The answer is a clear ‘no’. If we burnt the coal, oil and gas from current extraction sites then the temperature will rise by more than 1.5°C. Unfortunately, we are still developing new reserves. More worryingly, policymakers are now planning for ‘overshoot’ where the temperature rises over 1.5°C then we magically deploy technology to reduce the temperature back to 1.5°C. Don’t bet on this being achieved, certainly not without a lot of pain.

Should we give up?

Every increment of global warming will intensify multiple and concurrent hazards. Climate-driven food insecurity and supply instability are projected to increase, interacting with non-climatic risk drivers such as competition for land between urban expansion and food production, pandemics and conflict.

However, deep, rapid, and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions would lead to a discernible slowdown in global warming within around two decades and would limit further sea level rise acceleration and projected long-term sea level rise commitment.

So, don’t give up. Fight for every emission reduction. Fight for every tenth of a degree.

Sea Level

Sea level rise is unavoidable for centuries to millennia due to continuing deep ocean warming and ice sheet melt.

- Over the next 2000 years, sea level will rise by about 2–3 m if warming is limited to 1.5°C and 2–6 m if limited to 2°C.
- At sustained warming levels between 2°C and 3°C, the Greenland and West Antarctic ice sheets will be lost almost completely over multiple millennia.
- However, due to deep uncertainty linked to ice-sheet processes, global mean sea level rise above the likely range – approaching 2 m by 2100 and in excess of 15 m by 2300 under the very high emissions scenario cannot be excluded.

It is clear that some sea level rise is now ‘built in’ and can’t be avoided. There is the possibility (likelihood in my view) of catastrophic runaway ice sheet melt unless we act urgently and decisively.

Tipping Points

The likelihood of abrupt and/or irreversible changes increases with higher global warming levels.

For example, there is “medium confidence” that the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation will not collapse abruptly before 2100, but if it were to occur, it would very likely cause abrupt shifts in regional weather patterns, and large impacts on ecosystems and human activities.

The Gulf Stream, on which Western Europe’s temperate climate depends, is vulnerable to a catastrophic change. Scientist’s think this will ‘probably’ not happen, but I am alarmed by any risk of this change (and of many other tipping points).

Will Technology save us?

Between 2010–19 there have been sustained decreases in the unit costs of solar energy (85%), wind energy (55%), and lithium-ion batteries (85%), and large increases in their deployment, e.g., 10x for solar and 100x for electric vehicles.

The mix of policy instruments that reduced costs and stimulated adoption includes public R&D, funding for demonstration and pilot projects, and demand-pull instruments such as deployment subsidies to attain scale.

The falling cost of ‘low carbon’ technology will help but this needs active support of government, industry and consumers too.

Other Benefits of action

Accelerated climate action can also provide co-benefits. Many mitigation actions have benefits for health through lower air pollution, active mobility (e.g., walking, cycling), and shifts to sustainable healthy diets.

We should shift the narrative. Strong action on climate is also good for nature, our health and will strengthen communities.

Emission Scenarios and Reductions

All global modelled pathways that limit warming to 1.5°C and those that limit warming to 2°C involve **rapid and deep and immediate** greenhouse gas emissions reductions in all sectors this decade.

It’s really not difficult or complicated. The message is crystal clear. We need to act decisively everywhere all at once and immediately.

A final quote from the report “the choices and actions implemented in this decade will have impacts now and for thousands of years”.

Sobering.



Carbon Choices

If you like my blogs, you might also enjoy my book, Carbon Choices on the common-sense solutions to our climate and nature crises. Available direct from me or <http://www.carbonchoices.uk/index.php/buy> I am donating one third of profits to rewilding projects.

Follow me at carbonchoicesuk (twitter), carbonchoices (Facebook), carbonchoices (Instagram).

[Global Climate Report – my views \(carbonchoices.uk\)](http://www.carbonchoices.uk)

Neil Kitching, Carbon Choices, January 2023



WANTED – your poems

Low Carbon / Sustainability Poetry Competition

A poetry competition is being run as part of the lead-in towards the LCWN event taking place at Cubbington Village Hall on the morning of June 3rd. Here are the details. Please do enter!

Entries are invited on the theme of low carbon/ sustainability. Poems must not be longer than 40 lines. Entries may be submitted by email, or on recycled/found materials or objects. For these entries please post them to Matt Black, 44 Gresham Avenue, Leamington Spa, or deliver them to Matt by arrangement (email: matt.black@pop3.poptel.org.uk). Please include your name and contact details somewhere on or with your entry.

First prize is £30, Second prize is £20, Third prize is £10. The winning entries will be judged solely on the quality of the poems, but I do very much welcome entries on recycled/ found materials and would like to display some of these, with the poet's permission, at the June 3rd event. Plus there will be a special recycled/ found prize for the poem on the most interesting recycled/ found material or object.

Deadline for entries is May 4th , 2023.

The winner will be invited to read their poem at the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network event in Cubbington Village Hall on the morning of June 3rd.

Wanted – Old Rechargeable Batteries

Jeanius Technologies is a technology start-up in Warwick focussing on R&D of the materials which help achieve ambitions in net-zero, reducing carbon footprint and reducing climate change.

Jeanius Tech have 25+ years of experience and is currently working on alternative electrical motors without rare earth permanent magnets and the possibilities of reusing 2nd life rechargeable batteries (e.g. from small electric appliances like electric bike, scooters, power tools, etc.).

Jeanius Tech are now looking for battery e-wastes which come up for recycling in and around Warwickshire and from the council waste collection centres. If you can help – please contact them at jeanius.technologies@gmail.com

News from an Organic Farmer - Newts, toads and farming subsidies

Retrieving debris from our irrigation reservoir last week, I caught a glimpse of a toad, retreating, disgruntled by the disturbance of his spring breeding ground. The mud settled to reveal about 20 more, then a newt, then ten more newts swimming down there. My heart sang with a rare hope that perhaps all is not lost.

The reservoir sits in a field which most farmers would view as unproductive, untidy, and poorly managed. The hedges are overgrown; the grass is unkempt and matted; the drains are collapsed and blocked. Over



200 years, previous owners have worked hard to drain, lime, and fertilise this field, but in reality, it has produced very little food in return for the environmental costs imposed on it.

As a boy, exploring the farm, I could find newts in every stone water trough. I still look for them sometimes, but until now, hadn't seen one for 30 years. Perhaps I, along with my father, unthinkingly destroyed them. Or perhaps, like so many farmers, I have been too busy controlling my land to appreciate what has survived my efforts. Watching the first episode of David Attenborough's Wild Isles on iPlayer, jointly funded by the RSPB, WWF, and BBC, filled me with shame at the arrogance and ignorance of my industry, and the havoc wrought on nature in my lifetime.

Later in the week, after months of arguing over whether an artichoke is a vegetable or not, Defra finally accepted our Countryside Stewardship plan. By 2027, the subsidy system inherited from the EU, whereby farmers received about £100/acre/year for being lucky enough to own land, will be phased out. It is being replaced by 'public money for public goods'; an excellent concept, but one that is proving hard to define and deliver.

Under our five-year agreement, we will be paid to create more ponds, plant new hedges, develop our agroforestry, rewild some field margins, manage grazing to support species-rich permanent pasture, and plant grass strips across our veg fields to reduce soil loss. The process has been frustrating, but it is a very positive step in the right direction. I am confident that we can grow even more food, capture carbon, and enhance biodiversity – although, in the short term at least, it will cost us more.

I commend all those who have fought for these changes and resisted the attempts to block them by a recalcitrant NFU, hellbent on maintaining an insane farming system whatever the environmental cost. Long live the newts.

Guy Singh-Watson, March 2023, farmer and founder and creator of Riverford organic farm
[Newts, toads and farming subsidies - Wicked Leeks \(riverford.co.uk\)](https://riverford.co.uk)

Events

Warwickshire Climate Alliance – Warwick District Climate Hustings

A poster for 'CLIMATE HUSTINGS' for the Warwick District Council, Warwick District Town, and Parish Councils elections in May 2023. The poster features a background image of several vintage microphones on a wooden surface. The text is as follows:
CLIMATE HUSTINGS
FOR THE WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL, WARWICK DISTRICT TOWN
AND PARISH COUNCILS ELECTIONS IN MAY 2023
ASK THE PARTIES WHAT THEY WILL DO ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE
WHEN: THURSDAY 27TH APRIL
TIME: 7:30- 9:00 PM
WHERE: VIA ZOOM
COST: FREE ENTRY
TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA EVENTBRITE
In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for the Warwickshire Climate Alliance, featuring a stylized figure holding an umbrella.

If you wish to attend – here is the link:- [Climate Hustings Tickets, Thu 27 Apr 2023 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Rugby Community Climate Café 2023

- ✚ Concerned about climate change but unsure what you can do about it?
- ✚ Interested in sustainable living and want to find out what other people in Rugby are doing?
- ✚ Looking to save money on household bills?

Join Rugby Transition Town on Saturday **April 29th from 10am-3pm** for a fun and interesting event in the quirky environment of the Alexandra Art (website) - an ex-pub turned into a great new arts venue in Rugby town centre with a lovely garden space. What is a Climate Cafe?



In line with the vision and aims of our group, the idea behind a Climate Cafe is to:

- ✚ share ways that people from the local area are working to make our town more carbon neutral and environmentally friendly
- ✚ by putting on activities and workshops giving practical advice, to help people feel empowered to make the shift to a more sustainable way of life
- ✚ bring people from the local community together to encourage discussion and debate about the sustainable future of our area

[Transition Town Rugby - Climate Cafe 2023](#)

No Mow May

No Mow May is Plantlife's annual campaign calling all garden owners and green space managers not to mow during May.



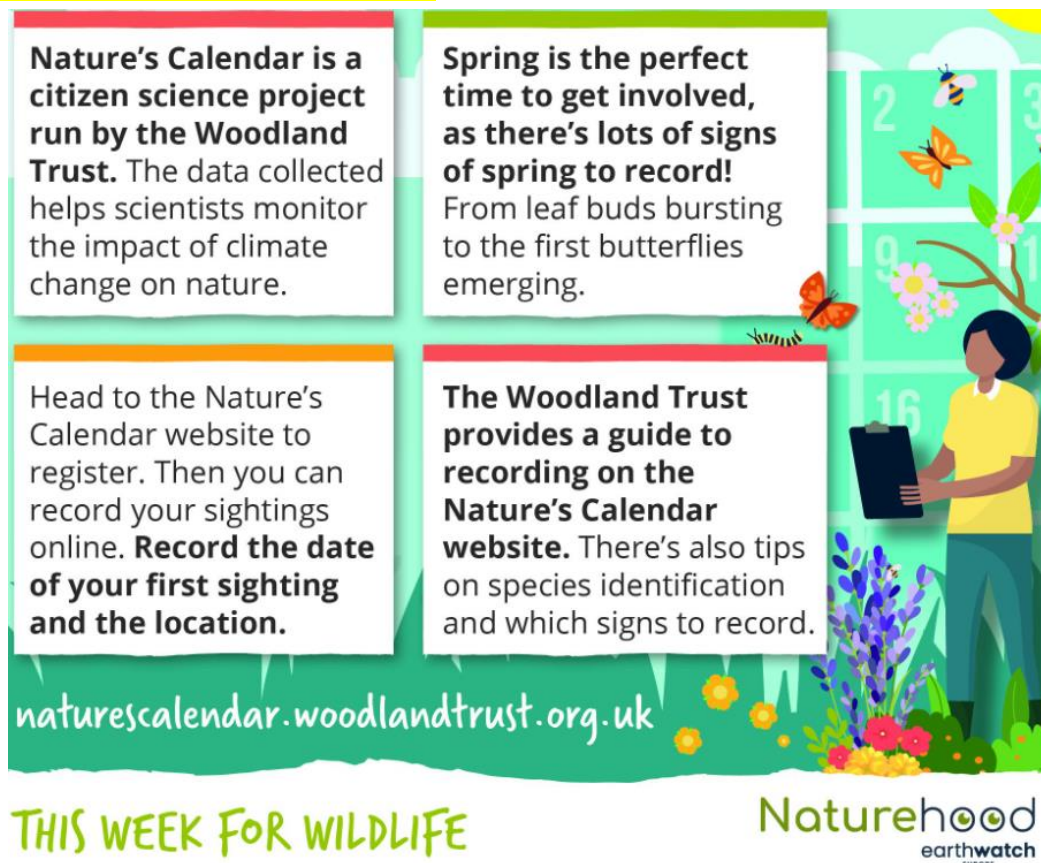
We've lost nearly 97% of flower rich meadows since the 1970's and with them the vital food needed by pollinators, like bees and butterflies, has also disappeared. With over 20 million gardens in the UK, even the smallest grassy patches add up to a significant proportion of our land which, if managed properly, can deliver enormous gains for nature, communities and the climate.

Dandelions are a particular superfood for bees and butterflies. Despite being outnumbered by daisies 85 to 1 on a typical 100m² lawn, they produce 9% of the lawn's pollen and 37% of its nectar sugar.

[Take part in No Mow May - Plantlife](#)



Nature's Calendar, The Woodland Trust

A promotional graphic for Nature's Calendar. It features a green background with a calendar grid on the right showing numbers 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 16. A person in a yellow shirt and blue trousers is holding a clipboard. There are illustrations of butterflies, bees, and flowers. Four white text boxes contain the following information:

Nature's Calendar is a citizen science project run by the Woodland Trust. The data collected helps scientists monitor the impact of climate change on nature.

Spring is the perfect time to get involved, as there's lots of signs of spring to record! From leaf buds bursting to the first butterflies emerging.

Head to the Nature's Calendar website to register. Then you can record your sightings online. **Record the date of your first sighting and the location.**

The Woodland Trust provides a guide to recording on the Nature's Calendar website. There's also tips on species identification and which signs to record.

naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk

THIS WEEK FOR WILDLIFE

Naturehood
earthwatch
EUROPE

[Nature's Calendar \(woodlandtrust.org.uk\)](http://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

[Naturehood | Facebook](#)

Diary Dates

Napton's first Eco Fair will be at Napton Village Hall on Saturday 1st July 2023.

Useful Links

- www.harburyenergy.co.uk
- [Warwickshire Low Carbon Network – Harbury Energy Initiative](#)
- Community Energy Warwickshire Fund <https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CEW-2020.pdf> The fund aims to:
 - Support the development and installation of renewable energy projects
 - Encourage the sustainable use of energy and reductions in carbon emissions
 - Promote public awareness of environmental issues and support educational initiatives
 - Available Funding - There's grant of up to £2,000. Funding must be spent within 1 year. [CEW-2020.pdf \(heartofenglandcf.co.uk\)](#)
- Farming more sustainably, Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) [1746 \(walc.org.uk\)](#)
- [BBC iPlayer - Wild Isles](#)

- [NEAT News: Tackling Climate Challenges Locally - Warwickshire & West Midlands ALC Ltd. \(walc.org.uk\)](http://walc.org.uk)
- [Newts, toads and farming subsidies - Wicked Leeks \(riverford.co.uk\)](http://riverford.co.uk)
- [IPCC AR6 SYR SPM.pdf](#)
- [Home | People's Plan for Nature \(peoplesplanfornature.org\)](http://peoplesplanfornature.org)
- [Nature's Calendar \(woodlandtrust.org.uk\)](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk)
- [What we record and why - Nature's calendar \(woodlandtrust.org.uk\)](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk)
- [Naturehood | Facebook](#)

Act on Energy

At Act on Energy we're here to offer people free and expert support with everyone's energy advice needs – anything from insulation and heat pumps to worries about energy bills. **The advice is free** – simply call on **0800 988 2881** or online www.actonenergy.org.uk



[Act On Energy - Energy Efficiency, Grants & Advice](#)

1. [\(1\) Repair Cafe Alcester | Alcester | Facebook](#)
 2. [Bar zero Barford | Facebook](#)
 3. [\(1\) Repair Cafe Harbury | Facebook](#)
 4. [Repair Cafe | Repair Cafe Kenilworth | Kenilworth \(repaircafe-kenilworth.org\)](http://repaircafe-kenilworth.org)
 5. [Repair Café Leamington Spa | Leamington Spa | Facebook](#)
 6. [\(1\) Repair Cafe Rugby | Rugby | Facebook](#)
 7. [Stratford Repair Cafe: A Net Zero and Stratford Town Trust Venture, organised by Stephen Norrie - Co-operate \(coop.co.uk\)](#)
 8. [\(1\) Repair Café Southam | Facebook](#)
 9. [Wellesbourne Repair Café | Facebook](#)
- ✓ [zero carbon schools - Green Schools Project](#)
 - ✓ [Earth Warriors: The World's First Climate change curriculum for children \(earthwarriorsglobal.com\)](http://earthwarriorsglobal.com)
 - ✓ [Encourage your child to build a bond with nature - Earth Warriors \(earthwarriorsglobal.com\)](http://earthwarriorsglobal.com)
 - ✓ [Putting sustainability and Nature at the heart of learning - A New Way of Teaching and Learning \(theharmonyproject.org.uk\)](http://theharmonyproject.org.uk)
 - ✓ [Schools Climate Network](#) (for Bath & North East Somerset and surrounding areas)
 - ✓ [Sustainability and climate change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
 - ✓ [Our City, Our World – sustainability, climate change and environmental education in Brighton & Hove schools | Local Government Association](#)

Want to get involved? – find your local climate action group

1. Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN), Harbury Energy Initiative (HEI), Harbury e-Wheels and Harbury Future Energy – Bob Sherman, email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com T: 01926 612277, M 07919 157224
2. Achieving Results in Communities (ARC CIC), Kristie Naimo, Director, www.arccic.co.uk Tel: 07906 262 364



3. Act on Energy, Nick Bancroft, Head of External Programmes, Unit 1.4 Lauriston Business Park, Pitchill, Salford Priors, Warwickshire, WR11 8SN, Tel: 01789 333169, Email: nick@actonenergy.org.uk, website www.actonenergy.org.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/actonenergy>
4. Alcester Town Council, [Climate Action | Alcester Town Council \(alcester-tc.gov.uk\)](http://alcester-tc.gov.uk)
5. Avon Dassett Parish Council, <http://www.avondassettparishcouncil.com/>
6. Barford Bar Zero, [Bar Zero | Barford Residents Association](http://barzero.org.uk), email: barzerogroup@gmail.com
7. Beaudesert & Henley in Arden Parish Council, Cllr Bryn Turner, phone: 07904221742
8. Bidford on Avon Parish Council [Bidford Climate Change Action Group - Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council \(bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk\)](http://bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk)
9. Bishop's Itchington Parish Council, [Climate Change Action - Bishops Itchington Parish Council \(bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk\)](http://bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk) [Bishops Itchington Parish Council \(bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk\)](http://bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk)
10. Boddington Parish Council Sustainability Group, Mark Thompson, <https://www.boddingtonparish.co.uk/index.php/information/sustainability>, [Sustainability \(boddingtonparish.co.uk\)](http://boddingtonparish.co.uk)
11. Build Back Better (Ilmington) - Liz Garton, email: lizgarton15@gmail.com Liz is also a contact for Ilmington 20:20 Vision
12. Church Lawford, keithsinfield@talktalk.net
13. Clean Air Warwickshire, Warwickshire Cycle Buddies, Hazel Underwood, www.warwickshirecyclebuddies.co.uk
14. Energise Leamington, Trevor Power
15. Grapevine Environmental Action Team (GREAT) (Charlecote, Hampton Lucy and Loxley) – Tass, email: hellogreatfuture@gmail.com Trello Board: <https://trello.com/b/Pz8kWzqd/hello-great-future>
16. GROW (Wolverton) - Paul Anthony, email: paul.anthony@wolvertonpc.org.uk phone: 077109821456
17. Harbury Parish Council [Climate Working Party | Harbury Parish Council \(harbury-pc.gov.uk\)](http://harbury-pc.gov.uk)
18. Henley Climate Action - John Stott, phone: 01564 792251,
19. Kenilworth All Together Greener, Jan Burnell, <https://www.facebook.com/Kenilworth-All-Together-Greener-331940026990994/>
20. Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) – Jonathan Horsfield and Jacky Lawrence, email: neat@gmx.co.uk email
21. Pillerton Hersey PC - Tim Newcombe (although no longer on the PC), email: timnewcombe123@btinternet.com
22. Shrewley & Wroxall Environment Action Team (SWEAT) Martin Wood, email: martinwood.fiveways@gmail.com
23. Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change, Duncan Parker, [Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change | Community Group \(snitterfielddacc.org\)](http://snitterfielddacc.org)
24. Stourvale Action For the Environment (SAFE), Shipston, email: verityrichardson@gmail.com

25. Stratford Climate Action, Stephen Norrie, email: info@stratfordclimate.org, web: Stratford Climate Action – Local responses to the climate crisis in Stratford-upon-Avon and South Warwickshire, fb: [Stratford Climate Action | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Stratford Climate Action)
26. Stratford Friends of the Earth, Janet Palmer, Stratfordonavonfoe@outlook.com
27. Stratford Methodist Church, Eco-Congregation, Stratford Churches Together Eco group, Lim Ho, [Eco-Church – WELCOME TO OUR WEBSITE \(wordpress.com\)](http://Eco-Church – WELCOME TO OUR WEBSITE (wordpress.com))
28. Stretton on Fosse Sustainability Initiative - Dave Passingham, email: davepassingham@hotmail.com phone 07973 846605
29. Sustainabillington, Matt Black, email: matt.black@pop3.poptel.org.uk
30. Sustainable Brailes, Jo Taylor and Louise Appleton, email: sustainable.brailes@gmail.com
31. Sustainable Wellesbourne, Lucy Hartley, email: Lucy.Hartley@yahoo.co.uk
32. TRACC (Bishop's Tachbrook Resident's Action on Climate Change) - Martin Drew, email: BishopsTRACC@outlook.com
33. Transition Town Rugby, Carrie Pailthorpe, <https://www.facebook.com/transitiontownrugby>
34. Warwickshire Climate Alliance (WCA) – David Mond, fb: [\(1\) Warwickshire Climate Alliance | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/1Warwickshire Climate Alliance)

LCWN Facebook group set up by Emma Powell for everyone to share useful things. Please like and follow it. Please send any comments to emma.powell@octoenergy.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Low-Carbon-Warwickshire-Network-101562702401683/>



Have your say— What do you want to see in future editions?

This is your newsletter and only as good as you make it – it is your opportunity to: publicise any on-line events you are holding, let other community groups know what you are currently up to, share your experiences, let others know of interesting low carbon news.

Ideas, requests, offers, Q & A, hints & tips

Please send all copy (by 6th of each month), news items, case studies, details of events, comments, suggestions and enquiries about this newsletter to: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com referring to the issue date and number for queries or phone Jacky Lawrence on 07906 440496.

