

GreenTEA 'Monthly Brew' 2 .18

GreenTEA News

Swap Shop - Our next Swap Shop will be on Saturday 17 March at the Sports Pavilion on Oxford Road, open to the public from 10.00-11.00am and some new rules will apply. Owing to Oxfordshire County Council's decision to charge for the disposal of certain articles Swap Shop can no longer accept them. To find out exactly what these are (mainly DIY and building materials) see www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste. But, please do bring all the usual small household things, clothes, books, CDs (not videos or cassettes), all manner of crafty things, tools and jigsaws and games – we are there to accept your unloved bits and pieces from 9.15am-10.45am please do not leave things earlier. Remember - one person's rubbish really can be another person's treasure!

The Swap Shop team would warmly welcome new members. If you would like to get involved contact – Eleanor Chance on 01865 881095.

Hearts&Minds – the discussion group watched and discussed a DVD “Conflict and Climate Change” on Jan 30th. This interesting film was 20min in length and gave a good account of Climate Change and its effect on stress levels in different countries. We found it suitable for adults and 6th form school students. Our next discussion will centre on the national group ‘Population Matters’ via their website and a film.

Cornucopia ‘Drop-In’ suppers – A group of five GreenTEA members had a very pleasant evening in January at Cornucopia on the occasion of the first of Sandy's ‘Drop-In’ suppers. The food was excellent and the atmosphere just right. Geoff and I are already booked in for the next one on Feb 22nd.... who will be there?....

GreenTEA Display – in the Eynsham Library window in early March will be all about **plastic waste** the latest mis-use of resources to hit the headlines. Do view the window show and, in particular, the tips on how to rid the planet of plastic waste. Eleanor's friend suggests GIVING UP PLASTIC FOR LENT! How about it folks?!!

Local News

Bikesafe – permissions meetings have been progressing on the environmental front and the legal front. Consensus has been reached with Natural England, Oxford University/Wytham Woods, and The Vale Tree Officer about the course of the path through the SSSI at Stroud Copse. Meetings with Transport Officers of OCC are progressing towards a long-term lease arrangement. Agreement on these matters means that Bikesafe can soon progress to the formal planning application.

Peace Oak Association (POA) – had a fruitful (!) AGM on Jan 22nd. This included its change to a ‘Charitable Association’; new trustees; subgroups; volunteers; use of land and the expression of interest from 44 potential members. The committee decided on membership fees of £8pa for individuals, £10pa for couples and for family membership for children under 16 years. The Association's vision includes many features which are dear to the heart of GreenTEA, such as an orchard and community space, and more of our members are encouraged to join. Contact: Kate Ferrier at: 01865 881224.

Low Carbon Oxford North is leading the ‘Oxford Big Clean Switch’ – “One of the most important things that any household can do to help reduce carbon emissions is to buy your electricity from a company that sells power from **100% renewable energy** sources. It's easy and has a very important long-term impact. But so far only 2.5% of UK homes have switched to green power. There are currently six companies offering ‘clean green tariffs’ (Ecotricity will donate to GreenTEA – quote ETT1). The website will allow you to look at all these and choose the one you want.” From Feb 26th: <https://bigcleanswitch.org/> (LCON News 1.18)

National News

The Transition Survey – completed by members in Oct/Nov 2017, the aim is: “to set an **organisational purpose** – to help us check, prioritise and decide what actions to take and which projects to develop.” They are currently collecting comments on the Analysis of this very interesting Survey – do join in.....! <https://transitionnetwork.org/news-and-blog/transition-networks-purpose-tell-us-think/>

Research - published this January in Nature Climate Change and authored by ECI's Richard Millar and SSEE's Cameron Hepburn proposes a new set of principles for helping investors and companies to address the moral challenges of climate change. The investment community is recognised as **pivotal to the success** of transitioning to a net zero carbon economy. [Read more](#) (Environmental Change Institute – Jan. Newsletter)

Iceland Supermarket Chain – pledges to be totally plastic free by 2023!! <https://www.globalcitizen.org/>
AND - London's **first electric black cab** has hit the streets! (10:10 News 4.2.18)

Clean energy investment down – Bloomberg New Energy Finance analysis shows that investment in wind, solar and other renewable sources **dropped by 56%** to £7.5bn in the UK. Meanwhile total global spending rose 3% to £242.4bn, the second-highest level on record. Politicians and analysts have blamed the UK drop on changeable policy, with 'stop-start' support in the UK. Interestingly, around half of the total UK renewable investment was from Ørsted's decision on a single huge offshore windfarm (Hornsea 2) off the Yorkshire coast. (The Key, 1.18)

The 'Elephant in the Room' - Michael Gove recently launched the Government's 25-year plan for the environment, '*A Green Future*'. Seen by some cynics as a political ploy to attract younger voters. PM's more measured response is downloaded [here](#). "Any plan which seeks to address environmental challenges needs to acknowledge the key factor of **population**. Research confirms that choosing to have one less child is the most effective action a family, especially in a developed country like the UK, can take to curb climate change." (PM Members Update 1.18)

Energy UK - has released [this](#) download report, detailing the importance of energy in the UK's departure from the EU. The paper reports that the UK must remain in the EU's internal energy market to prevent a spike in energy prices and to reduce carbon emissions. (Community Energy England News 2.18)

International News

Worst Climate warnings – “will not come true”, according to a report in 'Nature'. Researchers warn that “emissions must still be cut sharply”.
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/worst-climate-warnings-will-not-come-true-0r5fvd7hm> (18.1.18)

EU moves – to strengthen renewable-energy goals to **35% by 2030**, according to the journal 'Nature'. But the decision is not yet legally binding... <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-00879-9>
AND – from 10:10 "A great victory for the climate" - the European Parliament has backed a proposal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to **zero by 2050!**

New Experience: WestMill Windfarm –

See 'The Brew 12.17' The Windfarm will be open to the public on Sat 17th Mar. 11.00-13.00

Booking: <https://docs.google.com/forms/> Contact: Marcus Simmonds <mailto:marcus.simmons@talk21.com>

GreenTEA Events

Feb 22nd **Drop-in Supper** at Cornucopia 6pm Book with Sandy if you wish: 07551 876285

Mar 3rd **GreenTEA Café** at The Emporium 32-34 Mill St., Eynsham OX29 4JS 10.30am-12noon.

Mar 17th **Swap Shop** Sports Pavilion 1 Oxford Road, OX29 4HG 10am-11.00am Helpers: 9am.

Apr 11th **AGM** plus **Transport Talks** - Eynsham Village Hall, OX29 4QW 7pm [Bring&Share Supper.](#)

Other Events

Feb 22/23 'Cities tackling Climate Change' Oxford Town Hall. Booking essential: [Email Councillor John Tanner](mailto:John.Tanner@oxford.gov.uk)

Mar 3rd 'Population and Climate Change' Conway Hall, London. 2-4.30pm <https://my.populationmatters.org>

Mar 5th George Monbiot talk on Climate Change Oxford 7.15pm <https://www.oxfordclimatesociety.com>

Mar 26th The Community Energy Afternoon of Big Ideas! London 1-5pm info: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/>

