



**"Cherish the Natural world because you're part of it and you depend on it"... David Attenborough 2018**

## **GreenTEA News**

**AGM and discussion on COP26** - Our AGM will take place online next Wednesday (21 April) at 7.30 pm. You are invited to [attend via Zoom](#). In addition to our usual business (reports from and elections of officers), we would also like to take this opportunity to consider any plans which GreenTEA should be making in preparation for the upcoming [COP26 meeting](#) in Glasgow later this year. In particular, there is going to be a [Great Big Green Week](#) taking place nationally in the week before COP26, and we would like to discuss any ideas for events and activities which we could arrange in Eynsham. We have greatly missed our live events over the past year, and would love to take this opportunity to reconnect and celebrate the things which have been achieved in spite of lockdown. Please do join us next Wednesday, and bring your ideas!

**'The Economics of Kindness'** - was the topic for the latest Discussion Group meeting on 5th April. Six attendees discussed the topic of a book by Guy Dauncey, due to be published later this year. We found him to be an interesting and exciting thinker who has been propounding the idea of 'Eco' not 'Ego' in relation to the Economy for 50 years now! His thesis is that Marxism and Classical Economic theory are both wrong, and that the economy should be based on co-operation and conservation of environment and resources. "A new Ecological Civilisation, based on beauty, love and harmony with nature!" The only part found wanting was references which, no doubt, will be given in the book.

**Tree Planting at Thornbury Green** - will go ahead on Saturday 22nd May at 10.30am. This will involve mainly Thornbury Road residents and GreenTEA activists. If you would like to be involved please [contact Sue Raikes](#).

**20's Plenty** - Green Tea supports the campaign for 20mph speeds where people live, work, play and learn. If you would also like to show your support we have a supply of wheelie bin stickers to distribute.



20's Plenty for Us campaigns for 20mph as the default speed limit for urban and village streets where people live, work, shop, play and learn.  
[www.20splenty.org](http://www.20splenty.org)

To request 1 or 2 stickers, [send your name and address to Tricia Crowley](#) - along with the number of stickers required and these will be posted through your letter box. The Brew will keep you updated on the local and county wide 20mph campaign where people are.

## Local News

**Bikesafe** - The A40 dualling and roundabout at Eynsham - there is no provision being made for pedestrians or cyclists to cross. Ian Leggett, Chair of BikeSafe reminds us that the 'hot spots' for accidents are at road junctions; so it is essential to ensure that road crossings are safe and well-designed **for all**. The most critical will be at the A40 roundabout where the volume of traffic and the lack of provision for a safe crossing means that it will be a **terrifying obstacle** for pedestrians and cyclists, travelling to or from Oxford or using the proposed B4044 path to Farmoor, Botley and Oxford Station. Bike Safe will be urging the MP Robert Courts to ensure that an **underpass for pedestrians and cyclists is considered** by OCC and its consultants.

**Zero Emission Zone pilot approved** - Oxford's proposed Zero Emission Zone (ZEZ) pilot has been [formally approved for launch in August](#). Oxford will be one of the first places in Britain to introduce a ZEZ to reduce air pollution, help tackle the climate emergency and improve the health of residents.

**Sustainable Wantage Helping Local Wildlife** - Resources: <https://sustainablewantage.org.uk/>

**School Streets Initiative** - Pilot schemes for '[School Streets](#)', a timed road closure that restricts access for motor vehicles at school drop-off and pick-up times, have begun at a limited number of schools in Oxfordshire. It is hoped that this will reduce car usage. More information on encouraging active travel is also

available from the [Living Streets initiative](#).

From Sustainable Woodstock: - "like many of the major challenges we face, a combination of individual action and larger Government and industry involvement is required." Sources of advice and help: [Cosy Homes](#) and Renewable Heat Incentive – see [Energy Saving Trust](#)

## National News

**Britain's grid 'greenest ever'** - Britain's electricity grid was the [greenest it has ever been](#) at lunchtime on the Easter Bank Holiday Monday.

**Prince William warns humans must avoid climate disaster** - The Duke of Cambridge says humanity must fundamentally [reset relationship with nature](#) and our trajectory as a species.

**Ministers consider North Sea exploration ban** - Ministers considering [declaring beginning of the end for North Sea oil industry](#) with ban on new exploration licences.

**Local Councils - What next?** - The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) has almost daily contact with Councils which have declared a Climate Emergency and are now wondering.... 'what next?' 'CAT', the intrepid fount of all wisdom, [replies in this download](#).

**First microwave-powered home boiler could help cut emissions** - 'Drop-in' replacement for gas boilers may help tackle challenge of [cutting emissions from home heating](#).

**Bladeless turbines could bring wind power to your home** - ['Skybrators' generate clean energy](#) without environmental impact of large windfarms, say green pioneers.

**£22m fund launched to restore peatlands** - Scottish peatlands should be capable of capturing the equivalent of up to [140 years of the country's carbon emissions](#).

**Groups dispute claim that biomass is carbon-neutral** - UK's plan to [burn more trees](#) to generate "renewable" electricity comes under fire from campaigners.

**Johnson urged to set up bank for sustainable farming** - Supporters say responsible agriculture [needs funding to be profitable](#) in the long-term.

**Queen to host summit for green investors at Windsor Castle** - [Royalty part of UK efforts](#) to woo investment into clean infrastructure ahead of COP 26.

**Raw sewage spilling into rivers and seas 1000 times a day** - More than [3m hours of spills recorded](#) as population growth and climate change put more pressure on waste infrastructure.

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**From the ECIU...COVID: emissions drop, but not from land and agriculture. Why?** - [Cutting emissions and increasing absorption on land](#) will be crucial in achieving net zero emissions.

**UK woodlands 'at crisis point' amid wildlife decline** - [Poor woodland health](#) will "severely damage" UK's ability to tackle climate crisis, charity warns.

## International News

**COP26: Greta Thunberg says summit should be postponed** - Greta Thunberg says she [does not plan to attend UN climate conference](#) due to be held in Glasgow this November.

**France moves ahead with bid to add climate protection to constitution** - Reform would see the [French constitution guarantee action](#) to protect the environment and biodiversity.

**China leads global wind industry after record installations** - [Finding an alternative to coal](#) is the biggest obstacle to Beijing achieving net-zero emissions.

**Biden meets with UN Security Council members to talk climate** - Biden tells the U.N. Security Council the [US will join](#) the international body's Group of Friends on Climate and Society.

**Big banks' trillion-dollar fossil fuel finance 'shocking'** - [Coal, oil and gas firms have received \\$3.8tn](#) in finance since the Paris climate deal in 2015, report says.

**Brazil meat giant JBS vows net zero target by 2040** - [Much of net zero target could be met](#) if world's biggest protein producer ended supplier deforestation, say campaigners. *First negotiate the Bolsonaro obstacle!!*  
<https://www.theguardian.com>

**Benefits of reaching net zero by 2050 outweigh costs, survey** - Two-thirds of 700+ leading economists believe [ambitious climate action is 'cost-benefit justified'](#), according to new survey by New York University.

**Report by the Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit** - and Oxford Net Zero [scrutinises net zero commitments](#) across countries, sub-national governments and major companies.

**Gunvor joins clean energy push** - [Oil traders plough billions](#) into renewables in preparation for shift away from oil and gas.

**Kerry: US hopeful it can work with China on climate change** - Despite longstanding disagreements between US & China, US climate envoy [John Kerry hopeful of cooperation](#).

**Record rise in global methane emissions in 2020** - It marked the [biggest increase since records began](#) in 1983, in what scientists called a 'worrying development' for the planet.

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**Third of Antarctic ice shelf 'at risk of collapse'** - [Antarctica's imperilled ice shelves](#) are the only barrier maintaining the world's coastlines as we currently know them.

## New books

**'Manifesto: How a Maverick Entrepreneur Took on British Energy and Won'** by Dale Vince founder of 'Ecotricity'. [Available from the Ecotricity website.](#)

This is the story of a man whose unwavering mission to help save the environment has driven him all the way to the top, and a powerful manifesto for anyone who wants to change the world. "I found Manifesto enthralling, thought-provoking and I learnt so much from it." ..... Chris Packham

**'Clean Slate'** - Magazine of The Centre for Alternative Technology offers some sage advice about 'burnout': [https://cat.org.uk/ page 23](https://cat.org.uk/page 23).

## GreenTEA Events

Wednesday April 21st at 7.30 pm - AGM [join us via Zoom](#)

Saturday May 22nd - Tree planting at Thornbury Green at 10.30am. Residents and GreenTEA members welcome, [contact Sue Raikes](#)

## Other Events

Community Energy England's Community Energy Fortnight - is the annual celebration of all things community energy. This year, it will take place 14-27 June and the theme is #WeThePower. More details to [appear on their website](#) imminently.

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