

# GreenTEA 'Monthly Brew' 5.18

## GreenTEA News

**GreenTEA Café with EV Adviser** – Local residents Helen and Al have recently bought a Nissan Leaf 2.0 100% electric vehicle (EV) and are happy to share their knowledge/experience with you. See 'Events' below.

**'Future Directions'** - GreenTEA Core Group will use the July 18th meeting to discuss interesting and viable projects for the next few years. Please send suggestions to Ros at: <mailto:roskent@phonecoop.coop>

## Local News



Photo – thanks to Sue Chapman.

**'Enough is Enough!'** - Part of the 82-strong EPIC group demonstrating on Sat 21st April against excessive housing plans for Eynsham area. The group made their graphic and noisy way from Witney Road to Eynsham Square, punctuated by speeches, chanting and noise!

They were anxious to show that, while they were in favour of Eynsham Futures' suggestion of 750 'local houses for local people', they could not countenance cars from 3,200 new houses adding to the commuter misery and carbon emissions twice daily!

**Bikesafe** – is planning for two **Public Consultations** about the detailed route and nature of the proposed Eynsham-Botley community path:

1. Sat Jun 30<sup>th</sup> Farmoor Village Hall 10am-1pm
2. Thu Jul 5<sup>th</sup> Eynsham Village Hall 5pm-8pm

Bring your questions and find out how far the plans have got! See 'Other Events' below.

**The Peace Oak Association** – at a well-attended meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April members planned a number of events and activities, including a members' Midsummer Picnic in June and an Apple Picking Day in October, ready for juicing at the GreenTEA Festival on Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. Working parties will include Scouts and 'Farmability' students for whom more garden tools will be required. If you have spare tools - forks, spades etc. please deposit them outside Stable Cottage, next to The Gables, Queens Road, Eynsham or phone Ray: [07974 409720]

**ECI experts for 6th IPCC** – Three authors have been chosen from the university Environmental Change Institute for the three working groups of the next Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. They are; Prof. Nick Eyres, Dr F. Otto and Dr Lisa Schipper. <http://www.eci.ox.ac.uk>

**New HQ for CAG** - about 80 people attended a buzzing Social on 10th May in Community Action Groups' new HQ: 'Makespace', No.1, Aristotle Lane. Leased from Wadham College, the team are working hard to renovate the delightfully situated building, for sub-letting to Oxfordshire CAGs.

## National News

**Impressive media coverage** – On 24<sup>th</sup> April there were no less than four articles related to climate change in our newspaper! This compares with zero media coverage nine years ago, when GreenTEA formed! In an article on recent flooding of The Mississippi River, Michael Wehr, in charge of operations, said "You can call it climate change, but whatever you call it, things are changing." (iNews 24.4.18)

**"We're doomed"** – said social scientist Mayer Hillman in a brilliant interview in The Guardian. He said "..... the world's population must globally move to zero emissions across agriculture, air travel, shipping, heating homes – every aspect of our economy – and [reduce our human population too](https://www.theguardian.com)." Can it be done without a collapse of civilisation? "I don't think so," says Hillman, going on to say; "In the early 21st century, we did as good as nothing in response to climate change. Our children and grandchildren are going to be extraordinarily critical."  
<https://www.theguardian.com>

**Towards a Zero Carbon UK** - the Committee on Climate Change, the Government's statutory adviser, will begin discussion later this year on how and when the UK should bring its net greenhouse gas emissions down to zero – that means how and when we stop contributing to climate change. The likely date may be around 2050. So how do we get there? In a thoughtful blog, Richard Black, Director of the Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit, outlines some key issues: <http://eciu.net/blog> (LCON News 4.18)

**Neat!** - Could nanowood provide an [alternative to polystyrene](#)? Nanowood has been developed using cellulose nanofibrils. The result is a strong, lightweight, thermally insulating material that could replace polystyrene, and has the advantage of being biodegradable. (Sustainable Wantage News 5.18)

## International News

**Trump** - may have pulled out of the Paris Climate Agreement, but what are the rest of the signatories actually up to? 'SimPol' did a little digging and the answers may dismay you. <https://medium.com/@johnbunzl>

**'Tamera' an inspirational sustainability settlement** – in Portugal “We believe in a future without war, in love without fear, and work to build Terra Nova by creating Healing Biotopes as centers to research and model a new planetary culture, with strong ethical foundations.” <https://www.tamera.org/>

**Hurrah!** - Prime Minister of Aotearoa, New Zealand; Jacinda Ardern has banned future offshore oil and gas exploration in the country. She said: "We're striking the right balance for New Zealand - we're protecting existing industry, and protecting future generations from climate change." <http://www.nzherald.co.nz>

**Protest:** - A leading lawyer and environmental activist used fossil fuels to burn himself to death in New York in a horrifying protest against pollution and climate catastrophe. <https://inews.co.uk/> (i-News 16.4.18)

**Solar irrigation** - Farmers in Southern Africa are struggling in the face of severe droughts. Many farmers have a small plot of land which they work themselves, relying on the crops they grow to feed their families. Smallholders are suffering from hunger and running into debt. Solar-powered irrigation by 'Practical Action' gives them a reliable source of food and the chance to earn an income: Video: <https://www.youtube.com>

**Indian liaison** - As part of Indian Prime Minister Modi's visit to the UK, the two countries committed to increase research on agriculture, clean energy, global health and the environment. <https://www.gov.uk>

**Global Citizen Scholarships** – “We're looking for future young leaders from underprivileged communities in the UK aged 16-20 who embody values of global citizenship.” Info.& application: <https://www.globalcitizen.org>

## New Books

1. 'Mobility: A New Urban Design and Transport Planning Philosophy for a Sustainable Future' by Prof. John Whitelegg Publ: Amazon Direct Print 2016 £7.70. The book argues for the explicit adoption by all levels of government of 3 zeros: traffic deaths&injury; traffic air pollution; and zero carbon transport.
2. 'The Future of Humanity: Terraforming Mars, Interstellar Travel, Immortality and Our Destiny Beyond' by Prof. Michio Kaku. “Kaku is a great tour guide to the possibilities of the distant future.”

## GreenTEA Events

**Jun 2<sup>nd</sup>** - **GreenTEA Café with EV Adviser** at The Emporium 32-34 Mill St., Eynsham 10.30am-12noon.

**Jun 9<sup>th</sup>** – Community Day **Stall** at Eynsham Village Hall, Back Lane, OX29 4QW [eynsham-pc.gov.uk](http://eynsham-pc.gov.uk)

## Other Events

Jun 16<sup>th</sup> Westmill Wind Farm 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, lively open afternoon 12pm-5pm <https://www.westmill.coop>

Jun 30<sup>th</sup> **Bikesafe** Public Consultation at Farmoor Village Hall 10am-1pm

Jul 5<sup>th</sup> **Bikesafe** Public Consultation at Eynsham Village Hall 5pm-8pm

**Jul 21<sup>st</sup> Habitat Creation and Management for Bumble Bees & Other Pollinators** Chipping Norton 10 am - 4.30 pm A conference for Oxfordshire's Local Environment Groups - to help them to do more to help bumble bees and other pollinators. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk>

