



Climate Action Stokesley and Villages update June 2021

Hello

Welcome if you have recently joined our mailing list, we hope you find this update interesting. Our online meeting this month is **on Tuesday 15th June, starting at 7:30pm**, when we will hear from Judy Power about the work of Tees Rivers Trust on the River Leven

Here is the link for the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89523338066?pwd=MGtmbTc2WTZ2cmZGOEhraG9ZMmNXdz09>
or phone
0330 088 5830 / 0131 460 1196 / 0203 481 5237 / 0203 481 5240 / 0203 901 7895

Meeting ID: 895 2333 8066 Passcode: 905467

An update below on a few of things that have been going on recently and items of interest:

Energy

House renovation

Here is a link to the [presentation](#) that Simon put together for our meeting in March when he spoke about the renovation of their home in Swainby.

Hydrogen

Following Mark's [presentation](#) on hydrogen in February, Robert thought this [interview](#) with Joe Bamford on Hydrogen powered busses may be of interest to the group. "Joe is of course a maker of them but like his great grandfather (I think I have the generation right) who invented and developed the ubiquitous digger he is working hard in many areas on this and will doubtless succeed."

Community energy event

**Community
renewables in a
climate emergency**

Community Energy Forum **17 June 2021**
14:00 - 16:00

NORTHERN POWERGRID **regen** transforming energy **Community Energy England**

[Find out more.](#)

Nature

Mulch mats

Our group's new A-board and teardrop flag had their first outing recently when some of the group helped put mulch mats round the trees we planted at Howard's Court in late February. Most of the trees are doing well despite drought followed by lots of rain.

Tour of forest garden Saturday 12th June

Following the input Anne Press gave during our session on [growing and managing trees](#) last December, Anne has offered to take small groups round the forest garden she developed and helps manage at the old Nature's World. The first tour is planned for this coming Saturday 12th June, starting at 10:30am. There are few places available. To book a place or express interest in a tour another time please [get in touch](#).



Food

Seaspiracy

If you watched Netflix's Seaspiracy programme about fishing damaging the oceans, you might be interested in reading the [Fact Check](#) produced by the BBC.

Food Share

The Food group are working towards collecting the surplus fresh food from the three Co-ops in the area 6 days a week and taking it to local Food Banks. The Coop staff have been and continue to be very helpful and supportive.

Fairtrade

Here is a link to an article, shared by Eileen, looking at why [choosing fairtrade products supports farmers to adapt to a changing climate](#).

Waste

North Yorkshire Rotters

We had an interesting input from Jeff Coates of North Yorkshire Rotters at our last meeting and look forward to joint activities in the future. They now look at reducing all waste, not just composting. As restrictions allow, they will be going to lots of events with cookery demos (using left-over food), a bicycle that when pedalled works a smoothie maker, and a recycling game.

Hessian sack competition

Winners announced – 1st prize a rucksack, 2nd prize a bear and 3rd prize a wall hanging with useful pockets (for your various recyclable things?). It is hoped there will be an exhibition sometime at the Joe Cornish Gallery in Northallerton and perhaps Stokesley and Ayton libraries.



Zero carbon

Thanks to Pete Smith for his **Book Review of 'The Garden Jungle' by David Goulson**

"Professor David Goulson is an academic authority on bees who is also a vegetable gardener, chef and vegetarian (with the exception of roadkill and his own free range poultry). 'The Garden Jungle' is a very readable and entertaining account of how a climate change activist might bring a green approach to the productive cultivation (or non cultivation) of their patch and at the same time create an environment to support a diversity of insect and invertebrate life. He has many bugbears and two of these are the stripey, manicured and poisonous, chemical-infused lawn and The Garden Centre. Read the book to find out why you should shun them both!

He tackles the question of how to save the planet at the micro level of our individual gardening approach and food consumption and at the macro level of global food waste and slavish addiction to pesticides. To the former he brings a novel means of making up for the loss of small watery environments in rot holes in trees, vital for many breeding insects. Cut the top off plastic milk containers, fill them with a mixture of compost and rainwater and fix them in or above the ground. On the macro level he certainly points out the scale of the problem but lacks detail on what we can do about it. The USA wastes 50% of the food it produces or imports. If no food were wasted globally then an area of land the size of Australia and the USA could be rewilded. Yes but.....by what political, economic and social strategies are we going to get there? Maybe that is a subject for writers other than entomologists. The waste group has some excellent ideas and links to internet sources.

So, a highly recommended read but maybe then, like Voltaire's Candide, if you are too depressed simply retire to and 'cultiver votre jardin'. But do this with an eye to giving the much maligned earwig a leg up!"

Writing the Climate

If you fancy having a go at writing yourself then Amanda suggests that you have a look at [Writing the Climate](#).



Coop Congress – 25th June

Eileen thought some of you might be interested in the Coop Congress coming up soon. Joining Chris Packham, who will be presenting by video, is Actor and Co-Director of TripleC, Melissa Johns; Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham; Mayor of Sheffield City Region Dan Jarvis; Board Director, Co-op Group and Chair, Social Enterprise UK, Lord Victor Adebowale (also by video); CEO of Co-op Group Steve Murrells – and many more. [Book a free place](#) if you have a Coop card.

Climate Action Stokesley and Villages group

In the summer Rebecca McFarlane, who has been a valuable member of our steering group, will be moving to Scotland. We are pleased to announce that Simon Gibbon, who leads the Waste sub-group and lives in Swainby will be joining the steering group. We wish Rebecca and her family well and look forward to hearing about climate action activity in Gatehouse-of-Fleet in south-west Scotland.

As restrictions are eased, the steering group will be looking to see what activity, in addition to working with local councils, we can undertake to help promote the work of the group. Any ideas welcome.

Caryn Loftus, on behalf of the Climate Action Stokesley and Villages Steering Group