



Climate Action Stokesley and Villages update June 2022

Hello

Welcome, if you have recently signed up to receive our updates. We usually meet on the third Tuesday of the month, therefore our next meeting is **Tuesday 21st June, starting at 7:30pm** in **Stokesley Town Hall**.

Climate Action Stokesley and Villages group were formed in 2019 as a sub-group of the Stokesley and Villages Community Partnership but as the partnership was dissolved last year we have become an unincorporated association, supported by the Friends of the Earth Climate Action Network.

This July we are planning to hold our first **AGM**, in **Stokesley Town Hall on Thursday 21st July, starting at 7:30pm**. Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer for North Yorkshire County Council is coming to speak at the AGM about her work and the Council's climate action plans. We have also invited the new county councillors for Great Ayton, Hutton Rudby & Osmotherley, and Stokesley to join in the discussion on how we can work together most effectively given the need to increase the rate and depth of change to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies. We will send out a separate mailing to members in relation to the AGM at least 28 days before. At the AGM we will formally elect members to the steering group for a period of 3 years. If you are a member and are interested in joining the steering group then [get in touch](#).

Energy

George's open home and garden – 17 Riverslea, Stokesley
Group member, George Carter, opened his home and garden on **Sunday 5th June** to showcase the changes he has made. Read a [case study](#) about his energy related work.

Community Energy Fortnight (11th – 24th June)

CASaV are holding an Energy and Efficiency Event, as part of Community Energy Fortnight, at the Globe in Stokesley from 10am-12pm 18th June. Visit to learn about ways to improve the energy efficiency of your home and learn about Warm and Well support available from Citizens Advice.



If you fancy doing something practical, why not join [Whitby Esk Energy](#)'s working party at their community hydro site at Ruswarp on Tuesday 21st June, starting at 2:30pm. [Get in touch](#) with the team for further details.

Food

The food group are exploring the possibility of a [community fridge](#) in Great Ayton to share surplus food from shops, cafes and local growers to cut down on food waste. It will only be possible if we have a team of volunteers to help run it. If you are interested, please [get in touch](#).

The food group are also still looking for recipients of the surplus food from the local Co-op stores on a Wednesday and/or Saturday. If you know of any local group that would benefit please [get in touch](#).

The Byre Yard
Charity Plant Swap Day
Saturday 25th June 10.30am – 4pm



Bring your surplus flower and vegetable plants (label please) to swap. None to swap then buy.
All proceeds from plants, donations and refreshments for the
Institute of Transplantation - Freeman Hospital.
Whilst here have a look around our new lockdown garden - a work in progress.

The Byre Yard,
Tanton Hall Farm, Stokesley,
Middlesbrough, TS9 5JT

Nature

CASaV wildflower walks

To date we have had four wildflower walks, two from Kirkby led by Helen Herring and two from Bank Foot led by Anne Press. All walks have been very well attended and fortunately we have been very lucky with the weather. It has been very interesting to see the changes to wildflowers able to maintain a foothold as agriculture has become increasingly intensified and changes in land use have altered the soil and land management. We have also been shown how wildflowers are as much a part of the country's heritage as any building. Many of them have been used for food and/or medicines or dyes.

Leven Radio has accompanied Anne Press down the track at Bank Foot and you can listen to the [podcast](#).



Free Kids Bug Hunt
Sunday 19th June

Two sessions
11am and 2pm

Booking essential
Please contact 07795 463202 or bridgetholmstrom@hotmail.com to confirm your place

Map showing the location of the Bug Hunt in Stokesley.

Important Notice
All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

Bug Hunt

CASaV is also holding a Kids Bug Hunt, 11am and 2pm, on Sunday 19th June in Stokesley. The field is located between Neasham Lane and Fairfield Road. Free parking is available on the High Street. The Bug Hunt is free to attend but booking is essential, please email [Bridget](mailto:bridgetholmstrom@hotmail.com) or phone 07795 463202. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The other initiative ongoing is No Mow May. Stokesley Town Council have agreed to two months to facilitate more time for surveying. Bridget is excited to report that in one location in Stokesley we have found some pignut.

Floodplain meadow

The introductory wildflower and history walk took place on Sunday 29th May in the floodplain meadow in Great Ayton. Martin Allen, local expert botanist, pointed out some of the 123 species he has identified in the area. The list of species will be added to the [Floodplain Meadow project page](#) on CASaV's website along with the management plan.

Martin will lead a free advanced plant ID walk on Sunday 19th June, starting in Waterfall Park, Great Ayton at 2pm. No booking needed.

Transport

Transport event – 30th July

CASaV are planning an event for the 30th July, 9.30 to 1 pm, at Stokesley Town Hall and The Plain car park, with the focus on transport. The event will cover the role of public transport –bus and rail and recent developments in the local infrastructure.

Electric bikes and cars will be on display together with their enthusiastic owners to answer questions. The on-going Red Car project co-ordinated by George Carter will also be featured.

The role of the Endeavour Way in terms of a potentially safe transport route with significant impact for tourism and the local economy will be highlighted.



If you can help in advance and/or on the day please [get in touch](#).

Waste

Repair Café

We held our second Repair Cafe on Saturday 14th May in Swainby Village Hall, over 40 items were examined from computers to salt dishes, from shirts to toasters, with lots of successful repairs – [photo gallery](#). Here all about the work of the Repair Café in a recent Leven Online [podcast](#).

The third Repair Cafe will be held on Saturday 25th June in Swainby Village Hall from 10am-12pm. So bring along your broken things and our volunteer repairers will work with you to fix them. If you would like to publicise the Stokesley Repair Cafe locally then please use the poster for our cafe – [pdf](#), thank you.

Zero carbon Climate Column

We hope you liked the third of our monthly Climate Columns in the Darlington and Stockton Times looking at Nature. The June column will focus on Energy and should be in the edition printed on Friday 17th June.

REPAIR
swainby.org.uk

CAFE
Saturday 25th June 2022

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH?
a computer that's slow?
a phone that won't charge?
clothes that need mending?
broken crockery and ornaments?

REPAIR CAFE IS
repairing broken items together, professional advice,
encounters and inspiration

COSTS?
A voluntary contribution

WHERE?
Location: Swainby Village Hall <https://swainby.org.uk>
Address: 30 High Street
Place: Swainby, DL6 3EG

WHEN?
Date: Saturday 25th June 2022
From: 10am to 12pm

CLOTHES • FURNITURE • ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES • TOYS • BICYCLES • ETCETERA
swainby.org.uk repaircafe.org/en

36 FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022 WEEKEND [dst.co.uk](#) DARLINGTON & STOCKTON TIMES

Working on climate and nature together

Climate Action Stokesley and Villages provides practical tips on how to make a difference

A HEALTHY natural environment is of vital importance to the planet and to the wellbeing of humanity. The natural environment provides jobs, food, clean air and water. All these things we take for granted. If these ecosystems upon which we depend were to fail, "the cost to humanity would be astronomical" (Brian O'Connell Campaign for Nature). Despite the importance of the natural world, globally about one million species are facing extinction as a direct consequence of human activity. The most recent State of Nature report (2019) shows that the UK is one of the most nature depleted nations in the world, having lost almost 50 per cent of its wildlife. Specific examples include hedgehogs that have declined by 95 per cent since 1950, turtle doves that have declined by 98 per cent and the common toad by 63 per cent. These numbers are shocking and continue unabated. The report also highlights that climate change is driving widespread changes in the abundance, distribution and ecology of England's wildlife. Therefore, to help ecosystems and biodiversity, Climate Action Stokesley and Villages (CASA) are working with several local councils on projects to improve the biodiversity of the area. Stokesley is participating in the No Mow May initiative. The town council has extended No Mow May to include the Let it Bloom June. This is most welcome as it will provide a great opportunity for plants to establish and set seed before being mown. In addition, the flowers that are allowed to bloom will help to provide food for the pollinators. Great Ayton Parish Council, in conjunction with its Brighten Up Great Ayton group, are working on a project to create a floodplain meadow on riverside land behind the old Friends School. Following the development of a Pollinator Plan for Great Ayton in 2019, the field itself has been identified as a potential floodplain meadow – a habitat with a nationally rare plant community. Now plans are underway to protect and improve the area. Local expert botanist Markin Allen will guide the parish council in the appropriate management of the area, removing invasive non-native weeds, and adding other interesting and rare varieties of planting to extend the flowering season through working with the local community. He will lead a walk looking at plant ID and the history of the site on Sunday, May 29, starting at 2pm in Waterfall Park followed by an advanced plant ID walk on Sunday, June 19. In addition to the walks in Great Ayton, CASA are also running wildflower walks from Bank Foot, Ingleby Greenhow 10.30am on June 7 and Kirkby Lane in Kirkby-in-Cleveland, 10.30am on May 16 and 6pm on May 25. Individuals can contribute enormously to securing biodiversity by leaving a wild area in the garden and to give a "Mohican" cut to the lawn, leaving an area uncut and cutting the rest every month. This will provide habitat to a wider range of wildlife. Find out more on Plantlife's website www.plantlife.org.uk.

'Festival Of Youth' - Saturday 25th June

supported by Stokesley School & Stokesley Rotary.

There will be events throughout the town, including music & performances on The Plain & in the Churches, as well as Photography & Art Exhibitions & Workshops in the Globe. Check with the library for timings. CASA will be seeing how we can have a presence on the day.

In The Air exhibition

Visiting London this summer? The work of various artists is being exhibited in the Wellcome Collection. The artists, including Jan Hunter's daughter and son-in-law who call themselves, Matterlurgy, have collaborated with scientists and environmentalists on air pollution. Read the [review](#) in The Guardian.

Hope to see you at the meeting on the 21st June.

Caryn Loftus,
on behalf of the Climate Action Stokesley and Villages Steering Group Steering group:
Bridget Holmstrom, Caryn Loftus, Jack Turton, Ron Kirk and Simon Gibbon