

Newsletter

September 2021

In September and October ChalCAN are running a full programme of events to link into the national Great Big Green Week (18th - 26th Sept) and the run-up to COP26 (31st Oct – 12th November). Please come along and get involved! Some events subject to confirmation. Please check our website or Facebook page for details.

Find out more about improving your home insulation and installing sustainable energy.

On **Saturday Sept 11th** ChalCAN are joining other local Climate Action Networks at the **Stroud Sub Rooms for the Stroud Retrofit Fair (9am-3pm)**. Solar PV, Heat Pumps, how insulation and sustainable heat needs can be modelled, MVHR and info on education and training opportunities. Warm and Well (home energy advice, grants and funding), and Severn Wye Energy Agency (surveys for energy efficiency and improvement) will also be there. Come and get inspired!

Thought about getting an electric car, but had too many questions?

Come along and meet local EV owners and their vehicles. We'll also have examples of items that can be repaired rather than thrown away and of course recycling and re-using. Plus courgettes galore and some exciting recipes. **Sunday 19th Sept from 10am – 1.00pm** Come and see us at the ChalCAN stall at the **Community Market at Chalford Sports and Social Club**.

Saving 1 ton of CO2...

What does this mean? What should we do? See our sculpture on the green by the bus stop in Chalford...from **18th September**.

Building your confidence and skills in cycling

On the ChalCAN Bikeability course will take place in September at a time to suit participants. *Get in touch if you are interested.*

'Tomorrow': do you think we need a new vision and some positive direction?

This documentary film showcases alternative and creative ways of viewing agriculture, economics, energy and education. We can find creative solutions to act locally to make a difference globally. View a trailer here. **Sunday 26th September 6.30 - 8.30pm** **France Lynch Church Rooms**

Would you like to find out more about Heat Pumps?

Come along to **Chalford Village Hall** on **Thurs 30th September 7.30-9.30 pm**. Local case studies on show, from 18th century cottages to new build!

Would you like to find out more about installing solar panels on your home?

You might be able to benefit from a local bulk purchase scheme if you come along to **France Lynch Church Rooms** on **Thursday 7th October 7.30-9.30 pm**

What role can wind energy play in meeting energy needs locally?

Find out about exciting possibilities in the 5 Valleys Area on **Thursday 28th October 7.30-9.30 pm** at the **Methodist Chapel, Midway, Chalford Hill**

Help to record and learn about nature

Using iNaturalist at Dark Lane, as part of the Bio-blitz European initiative **24-25th September** (TBC)

Celebrate our local wood and join Friends of Frith Wood:

Family fun on **Saturday 16th October 10.30-12.30 pm** Details on page 3

1 tonne of carbon dioxide: keep an eye open for the Chalford sculpture.....

An average Chalford household produces 20 tonnes of CO₂ per year, or about 8 tonnes per person. But what does that actually mean and what can we do about it? One tonne of carbon dioxide occupies the volume of a large house and is the emissions per person of a return flight to New York.

What harm does a tonne of CO₂ actually do?

- The world emits 1,500 tonnes of carbon dioxide per second. Each tonne stays in the atmosphere – causing increasing warming – for hundreds of years.
- According to a recent study 4,434 tonnes of CO₂ will cause the death of one person.
- If each person in Chalford reduced their annual emissions by one tonne per year (about 12%) we could save one life every eight months. A 20MW windfarm would save over 100 lives in total.



This is how long it takes to produce one tonne of carbon dioxide:

- Leave the TV on standby
2,900 years to produce 1 tonne
- Just breathing – one person
3 years to produce 1 tonne
- Commute 200 miles a week in a petrol car
6 months to produce 1 tonne
- One household using gas and electricity*
3 months to produce 1 tonne
- Food and drink for a non-vegan household
3 months to produce 1 tonne
- One average Chalford person
1.5 months to produce 1 tonne
- All of Chalford parish
10 minutes to produce 1 tonne

(*without sustainable energy or high-grade insulation)

On the other hand, this is how long it takes to save one tonne:

- Commute 200 miles a week by train instead of car
1 year to save 1 tonne
- Car-share commute with 1 other 200 miles a week
6 months to save 1 tonne
- Install 4kW of solar panels on the roof
5 months to save 1 tonne
- Manage an acre of maturing forest
3 months to save 1 tonne
- Live carefully and halve the household's emissions
5 weeks to save 1 tonne
- Install a large wind turbine in a decent location
2.5 hours to save 1 tonne



Enjoy a great local walk without leaving the area! Local walking routes published.

The ChalCAN Transport group has been busy mapping some great walks around the area, and all are available on our website as pdf downloads that can be printed. Alternatively if you've got navigation apps using GIS/GPS software (e.g. such as ArcGIS, Komoot, All Trails) you can download the route onto your phone.

Also, join us on 26th September 10am CSSC for a family friendly 3-mile walk.

Good Bus News: from 61 to 67!

As you may have heard there is a new, improved bus service for our community. The 67 bus has replaced the old 61, and runs from Bussage to Cashes Green. There is a half hourly service from Monday to Friday and Saturday and every 90 mins on Sundays. 67 bus timetables available here and from the Parish Centre.

Ticketing details are here. One local resident and her son did some maths; by using the public bus to get to and from school he saves 2590 (diesel) car miles in one year, equating to 0.7 tonnes of CO₂. Anyone with children going to Marling, High School or Archway, or people working in Stroud might find this helpful to work out the benefits of bus travel.

FRITH WOOD TREE OF THANKS
SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER 10:30



DECORATE THE TREE!

f FRIENDS OF FRITH WOOD 07973 529603

Frith Wood Bussage

This wood has meant so much to so many through Covid 19. On Saturday October 16th the community is invited to decorate a beech tree with messages of thanks and memories, to celebrate the wood and to remember people and things important to us, as we creep out of Covid's shadow.

On the day, we will also launch a new charity, the Friends of Frith Wood, so we can look after the Parish Council's part of the wood into the future. So many people walking through the wood have told the Friends' volunteers that they want it to be covered in bluebells again. Now is the time, with climate change putting stress on nature, to give love back to 'the cathedral of Bussage'.

Everyone is invited to add a small decoration or message to the tree. There will be music, cake and games!



To find out more, go to the Friends of Frith Wood Facebook page, or ring Sophie on 07973 529603.

The event is a partnership between the Friends of Frith Wood and Frith Youth Centre, with support from Chalford Parish Council and ChalCAN.

The Bike Drop, Brimscombe

"Helping our planet, improving our health and building our community one bike ride at a time" is the strap line of The Bike Drop based in Brimscombe.

This exciting community interest company was started by a group of young people during the pandemic to provide a delivery service by bike in the Stroud area, whilst also giving riders a reason to keep active. Books, bread and beer are just some of the items that can be ordered online from local companies and delivered on an electric bike to your doorstep. This new service will not just reduce emissions and help Stroud District achieve its aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 but also help grow the local economy, encouraging people to sell and shop locally. Just recently the Bike Drop has also linked up with the Five Valleys Shopping Centre and the GoodSixty project to enable home delivery from Tuesdays-Saturdays from traders at the Centre.

The focus has grown from just making deliveries to making bikes the transport option of choice not just for businesses and consumers but for commuters and for leisure whilst at the same time encouraging a healthier lifestyle. So, to help facilitate and promote bike use, the Bike Drop includes a bike servicing and repair workshop where you can opt for a gold, silver or bronze level service or even just a clean-up! Recognising that a green economy needs well trained, skilled technicians the Brimscombe workshop offers training and employment advice to young people interested in working with bikes and cycling.

To find out more, enquire about getting your products delivered by bike, or to book a delivery: <https://www.thebikedrop.co.uk/>



Hedgehog Highways

Hedgehogs in Britain are in decline and need our help. They need neighbourhoods of linked up gardens to survive. Chalford Biodiversity Action will be launching a campaign in September to encourage householders to make holes in fences and hedges between gardens to give them freedom to roam and avoid

dangers such as roads: watch out for our leaflets, posters and information on our website's news page and on Facebook. Information will be available from Hedgehog Street encouraging good practice such as not being too tidy, leaving leaf piles and wild areas, being aware when lighting bonfires and strimming. This year there will be a concentration on the area around our lovely Frith Wood where there have been sightings this year.

A huge thank you to France Lynch and Chalford Open Gardens Trail for their recent wonderfully generous donation to further develop our newly established Biodiversity Trail. The money will be used to waymark the Trail, making it even easier for everyone to explore the natural richness of our Parish, and the ways in which ChalCAN is working to further enhance local biodiversity.

If you would like to get involved with ChalCAN or be put in touch with one of the action groups (Biodiversity, Food & Waste, Energy or Transport) please contact Penny at info@chalcan.org.uk Do browse our website chalcan.org.uk, follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram @chalford.can PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS AND FAMILY