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# GREEN NEWS

The latest news and events from Zero Carbon Shropshire

Amidst an Autumn of political turmoil, lots has been happening in Shropshire in the last few weeks, and a lot is about to happen.

This edition of Green News gives you a little peek into the world of Zero Carbon Shropshire's partners and volunteers who have been busy putting together workshops, talks, open days, fashion shows, film showings and charity events as well as organising to lobby powerful groups and individuals who really need to be acting faster on the Climate and Biodiversity Crises.

You can also read about COP27 which is happening in Egypt in mid- November - how is the world doing at averting disaster?

From Market Drayton in the North, through Shrewsbury and Telford in the middle to Ludlow in the South, Shropshire is certainly doing its bit!

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome - please email [admin@zerocarbonshropshire.org](mailto:admin@zerocarbonshropshire.org)



**Zero Carbon**  
**Shropshire**

## Be Carbon Literate: Save the Earth & Improve your Bottom Line!



9th November - full day workshop

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/be-carbon-literate-save-the-earth-improve-your-bottom-line-tickets-408008553567>

This summer the climate crisis made itself felt in Shropshire (with excessively hot days rather than flooding this time), the UK and around the globe. This affected Shropshire residents both at home and at work. And the bad news is it's not going away.

Some good news though: by acting now your business can identify and prepare for the challenges ahead. The Marches Growth Hub has organised a fully funded interactive workshop that will enable you and your teams to understand how carbon literacy can help you avoid risk and create benefits to your business enabling you to:

- Build resilience into your operations
- Improve efficiency
- Reduce waste
- Make financial savings
- Prepare for up-coming government guidelines and legislation impacting all sectors

## Students in Market Drayton show the way with sustainable fashion

On the day the House of Lords' climate change committee said, "The prime minister urgently needs to set out her vision of a country where low carbon choices and behaviours can flourish," students from Grove School gave her a good lead.

They put on a fashion show featuring only pre-worn clothes sourced from the Market Drayton Cancer Research shop.

Shocked by learning that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions, and that over 90 million tonnes of clothing are thrown away each year, the students used their fashion show to highlight an alternative to fast fashion. With cat-walk presentations featuring both formal wear and casual wear all the way from 'gangsta' to 'going to the races', they proved there was no shortage of choice from a second-hand shop on their own high street.

Year nine student Daniela Sirsnina said, "I like to buy used clothes and books too – and I use social media to encourage others to do the same."

Ambs Dewey said, "I use the town shop for shirts especially, but I'll go in looking for one thing and find others I like. They have such a huge range."

Evie Cook wanted to model 80's retro and ended up buying for herself most of the clothes she wore for the show. "I'll try and sell the rest to my friends," she said. "Giving clothes a second time around is a good way to raise awareness of sustainability."



## Using your Voice - Lobbying for Action on the Climate and Biodiversity Crises

Aside from taking action on climate change individually or as part of community groups, we can all influence others to take action too. Many of us will have signed petitions online, or contacted our political representatives, imploring them to support the changes needed.

Market Drayton Climate Action (MDCA) has been running a monthly lobbying activity for its supporters, often focussed on issues locally within Market Drayton, and targeting a range of influential stakeholders who are able to help. The group provides template emails and the details of the target stakeholders. Across the county, many other climate action groups are raising similar issues too.

We recognised that by pursuing similar themes at the same time across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, it should be possible to enhance the overall impact (on MPs, Councillors, etc) while sharing resources and good ideas. So, working with MDCA and South Shropshire Climate Action, we've now set-up a county wide network with representatives of most local climate groups. So far we've shared the MDCA actions, and also the #defendnature campaign (against the Government's threat to environmental protection) from one of our key partners, Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Anyone can access the materials and join in.

For the monthly MDCA lobbying see:  
<https://mdclimateaction.uk/lobbying-2/>

For the #defendnature campaign from Shropshire Wildlife Trust, see: <https://www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/defend-nature>



### Eco Grant Available in Telford

Recently Telford Council have announced a newly repackaged eco grant supporting residents and businesses during the cost of living crisis. The eco grant is one of a number of grants available to high street businesses through the Council's "Pride in Our High Street" programme and is split into two main offerings. The first element offers grants of up to £1,500 to help businesses purchase energy saving products while the second provides grants of up to £5,000 towards the cost of ceiling or wall insulation to help businesses keep energy costs down. If you know of any businesses who may be interested you can find out more about the eco grant here:  
[https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20715/pride\\_in\\_our\\_high\\_street/4043/grants](https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20715/pride_in_our_high_street/4043/grants)



November sees the next big international conference on climate change, COP27. This will follow up on the commitments made at COP26 last year in Glasgow, and will be hosted by Egypt in Sharm-El-Sheikh. COP27 will enable governments to confirm their progress against their climate commitments made in the Paris agreement of 2015, and reaffirmed at COP26 in Glasgow last year.

Sadly, the progress made since COP26 has been disappointing, and these talks are being held at a very difficult time. The war is raging in Ukraine, while there is open conflict and disputes between key emitters including the US, China, India and Russia.

So, what hope is there for progress at the COP conference? The conference will bring together many people and organisations that are committed to addressing climate change. It is likely there will be a greater focus on climate justice, including how finance can be provided to developing countries to support the transition away from fossil fuels and adaptation. In terms of impacts, these countries are on the front line. Climate change is leading to unprecedented weather patterns resulting in the devastating floods in Pakistan, the extensive drought in the Horn of Africa, and sea level rise is affecting many Pacific Islands. They need help from the wealthy countries that caused the problem.

COP27 also provides an opportunity to hold governments to account. Our own government, which still holds the chair of COP from last year and promotes itself as a leader on climate solutions, is issuing further licenses for oil and gas exploration, and encouraging fracking for shale gas. These activities are incompatible with the UK's commitments to achieve net zero, and are likely to undermine what little influence the UK might have on the international stage.

So, now is a great time to remind our elected representatives of the importance of taking action on climate change, eliminating the use of fossil fuels, and playing a leading role in influencing other governments at COP27. We too can set the right example to others in how we heat our homes, travel, and what we eat. Many of us can make choices about which bank we use, where our pension is invested, and what we buy. We can be the change we want to see.

On Tuesday 8th November there will be two showings at 2.30pm and 7pm of the award winning documentary "All That Breathes". Described as a "soaring visual masterpiece" is a documentary set in New Delhi where amongst the city's toxic air and escalating violence two brothers, Nadeem Shehzad and Mohammad Saud, devote their lives to protect one casualty of the turbulent times: the bird known as the Black Kite". Climate Action Hub Telford and XR Telford are sponsoring these showings.

During the day there will also be an information stand with information from local Telford and Wrekin green groups outside the cinema so people can find out how to get more involved in local climate, wildlife and environmental activities and actions.

**As world leaders meet in Egypt for COP27 two films are being shown at Wellington Orbit to highlight the climate & ecological emergency we face**

**Tuesday 8th November  
2.30pm & 7pm**

**Book tickets: 01952 743 377/online/in person**  
 Film sponsored by CAHT & XR Telford

**At both film showings donations will be collected in aid of Pakistan's devastating floods caused by the climate crisis**

**Friday 11th November 7pm  
at Wellington Orbit**

**Book tickets: 01952 743 377/online/  
or in person at Wellington Orbit Box Office**

On Friday 11th November 2022 at 7pm Wellington Orbit will be showing the documentary "Before the Flood" which looks at how climate change affects our environment and what society can do to prevent the demise of endangered species, ecosystems, and indigenous communities across the planet. The film features Leonardo DiCaprio, Elon Musk, Pope Francis, Ban Ki-Moon, Bill Clinton, John Kerry, Barack Obama among others.

To book tickets for any of the showings contact the Wellington Orbit Box Office on 01952 743377 or book online <https://wellingtonorbit.co.uk/> or turn up in person. Wellington Orbit cinema is situated at 1 Station Road, Wellington TF1 1BY and is right next to Wellington Station and Bus Station if you are travelling from further afield.

**Come along to an Upcycling workshop to learn new skills**

Wednesday 26th October  
 10-12pm: workshop for 12-14 yrs  
 1.30-4pm: workshop for 15-18 yrs  
 St. Peter's Hall, Henley Road Ludlow, SY8 1QZ

10 places for each session available  
 Tickets £3 per pair  
 For more info or to book please email:  
[ssca@mea.org.uk](mailto:ssca@mea.org.uk)

Materials, equipment & help provided

## Repair, Recycle, Swap & Share Event

Saturday 29th October: 10am-2pm  
 Brookside Community Centre,  
 Bembridge, Telford TF3 1LP



Join our Swap & Giveaway:  
 Swap for free or take any  
 Toys, Books, CDs, Clothes,  
 Household Items, DVDs for  
 a pay as you can donation



Telford Repair Cafe will fix anything broken: electrical, IT, clothing, jewellery, household items & do PAT testing

Pop-up collection point for Terracycle Telford's recycling group. New members welcome, see more details on Facebook.

## Themed Walk opens in Ludlow

South Shropshire Climate Action and Shropshire Wildlife Trust (Ludlow Branch) have produced a lovely Green Walks in Ludlow leaflet [[click here to see it](#)]. The leaflet promotes Ludlow's Green Spaces as a themed walk which connects people to nature and biodiversity in local woodlands, riverbanks, flower beds, churchyards etc.

South Shropshire Climate Action would like this to be the first in a series of leaflets for different locations and are seeking funding to develop more walks. If you are interested in developing a walk for your area please contact Fiona at [SSCA@mea.org.uk](mailto:ssca@mea.org.uk)

## Clang for COP27

Ironbridge, Saturday 12th November 11am - 12noon

On 12 November Deep Water will be arranging another Global Day of Action to raise the alarm across the UK as world leaders meet in Egypt for COP27.

Started last year for COP26, Clang for COP is fast becoming an annual event. Let's make sure COP27 hears us when we Call the Alarm. It is becoming clearer by the day that climate breakdown is not waiting for our world leaders, businesses and financial and insurance institutions to get their act together to fully commit to getting to net zero as soon as possible. The evidence that we are currently way off target has been mounting over the past 12 months:

- Global CO2 and Methane emissions have increased.
- Flooding has increased with a third of Pakistan underwater.
- The UK recorded its highest ever temperature.
- The UK Government has put Fracking back on the agenda and is still granting new fossil fuel licences.
- Water companies have continued to pump tonnes of sewage and pollution into our waterways.

More people are realising we're in a Climate and Ecological Emergency and waking up to the greenwashing but still, world leaders fail us with their inaction.

*"The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it." ~ Albert Einstein*

**It's up to us. We are the only ones who can make a difference.**

So, come along, bring and bang drums, saucepans, bells - anything you can to help raise the alarm.



**Monday 31 October**

### **Living with an Air Source Heat Pump**

Home energy professional Dave Green had an air source heat pump installed in his 1930's semi in May 2021 as part of a staged home retrofit project. He's been monitoring his home's energy performance since its installation and shares his findings to help answer questions like:

- What is it actually like to live with?
- What improvements were made to the property first?
- What has electricity consumption been – and how much have the solar panels helped?
- What has been the reduction in carbon emissions?

Online meeting - all welcome - free Eventbrite tickets [HERE](#)



# Upcoming Events

**Wed, 26 October 2022**

South Shropshire Climate Action Upcycling Workshop - see above

**Sat, 29 October 2022**

Climate Action Hub Telford's Repair, Recycle, Swap and Share event - see above

**Sat, 29 October 2022 10am - 12noon**

Ludlow holds a repair cafe on a quarterly basis, on the last Saturday of Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct. For the latest details see: [Ludlow Repair Cafe](#)

**Mon, 31 October 2022 1pm – 2.30pm**

This is a second webinar on Air Source Heat Pumps this time from a homeowner (Dave Green) who lives with one and pays the bills! - see left

**6 - 18 November 2022**

**COP27 in Egypt**

Watch out for national news on this, if we're lucky...

**Tues, 8 November 2022**

Showing of "All That Breathes" (film) at Wellington Orbit - Climate Action Hub Telford fundraising for Pakistan. See above for more details

**Wed, 9 November 2022**

Be Carbon Literate: Save the Earth & Improve your Bottom Line! See above for more details

**Fri, 11 November 2022**

Showing of "Before the Flood" (film) at Wellington Orbit - Climate Action Hub Telford fundraising for Pakistan. See above for more details

**Sat, 12 November 2022 10am - 12.15pm**

**Church Stretton Repair Cafe**

Come along to Stretton Climate Care's repair cafe, 2nd Sat of every month at the Scout Hut, Church Street.

**Sat, 12 November 2022 11am - 12noon**

Clang for COP in Ironbridge - see above for more information

**Sat, 19 November 2022 10am - 2pm**

**Shrewsbury Repair Cafe, URC, nr English Bridge**

Got something that's broken? Maybe it can be mended. Bring it along and see if it can be given a new lease of life by our resident experts.



# Meet our October Zero Hero

**Our Zero Hero this month is Pascale Bodevin, who works at CREST at the University Centre, Shrewsbury**



## Why did you get involved with Zero Carbon Shropshire?

Having spent a good part of my career working with farmers in many countries and witnessed the devastating effects of climate change on the productivity of their land and income, I was very keen to find a way I could do something at a local level. The work of ZCS is informative, but it also allows people to take action and make an impact at a local level.

## What have you done since joining?

I am part of the Communications and Engagement Group. I bring a background in environmental science; a global voice to the effects of climate change through previous work understanding how pest and disease pressures increasingly affect farmers; a connection between individuals, businesses, government and NGOs to understand how we are all working towards a common goal.

## What do you do outside of Zero Carbon Shropshire?

My work at CREST focuses around

supporting local SMEs that want to become more sustainable through innovation. I am currently working with a tech start-up that maps and models tree disease and is helping Colombian farmers become more resilient as the effects of climate change force them to find alternative crops to coffee.

## What do you do to reduce your carbon footprint?

Every action counts. I walk when distance and time allows and take public transport when available. I have reviewed my habits as a consumer: I grow microgreens and herbs, make my own kefir, source local products when possible and support the circular economy by giving away items when not needed, purchasing items only when truly needed and of good quality so they will last.

## Have you noticed changes in the natural world since you were younger?

The most dramatic change I have seen was experiencing the Atacama Desert as a child. The Camanchaca, a dense fog that moves above the desert, used to be the only source of moisture the area received. However, move forward 30 years and as I was delivering a conference on climate change we had torrential rain and hail. Otherwise, working with growers and hearing their stories on how climate change has affected the viability of growing crops that had previously sustained generations of farmers in their region highlights the urgency of the climate crisis.

## What's the most important thing people can do to reduce their impact on the natural world?

Consumer habits have a huge impact on the natural world and humans. Supply chains are complicated and as a general rule of thumb the longer the supply chain the more negative impact it will have (both for the environment and people working to support it). Question every choice and think about the effect it will have on the environment.

## What's on your mind at the moment?

The impact of our consumer habits on the environment, how our disregard for the environment is often linked to social injustice and bad working conditions and how we can get government investment to support natural and social capital.

# Join the movement

Zero Carbon Shropshire is part of a co-ordinated and collaborative response to the climate and ecological crisis at a local level.

Please help us by encouraging your friends and family to sign the pledge [on our website](#) and connecting on social media.



**Could you be our next Zero Hero? Don't be shy - email [admin@zerocarbonshopshire.org](mailto:admin@zerocarbonshopshire.org) with your answers & a picture and next month it could be YOU!**