

## Wyre Forest Green Alliance – Forthcoming events and news

Weekend 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January RSPB [Big Garden Birdwatch](#)

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 10.0 am. [Tree Nursery Working Party](#)

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February. [Transition Kidderminster Repair Café](#)

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February. [Green Drinks. 8.0 pm.](#)

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. [Dropping Wells Farm Project. To book 7.30 pm](#)

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 7.15 – 9.0pm [A Climate Conversation”](#)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 1.0 – 4.0 pm [Cost of Living event at Kidderminster Library](#)

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 10.0 – 2.0 [Transition Bewdley Repair Café](#)

**Save the date** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April. [Unite to Survive.](#)

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**Weekend 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January RSPB [Big Garden Birdwatch](#)**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 10.0 am. Tree Nursery Working Party**

After several delays due to the ground being too wet to work, we have arranged another working party to continue the construction of the small tree nursery at Hawkbatch Farm.

We will be constructing more raised beds, putting up the fencing around the nursery and digging in any saplings that have been donated.

Please let John Rhymer know if you are able to come and I will send you more details.

[john.rhymer50@gmail.com](mailto:john.rhymer50@gmail.com)

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February. Transition Kidderminster Repair Café 10am. Last check-in 1 pm.**

This popular free local service is here again ready to carry out all manner of repairs, sewing and tool sharpening.

Enjoy a free coffee and cake while you wait (any donations welcome)

At Youth House, Bromsgrove Street, Kidderminster. DY10 1PF.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Green Drinks. 8.0 pm.**

All are invited to join us upstairs in The Great Western on the Stourport Road in Bewdley.

The starting theme this month will be **Food security**, ranging from the importance of community supported agriculture, local food production and the potential of growing our own food at home. As usual these are just a starting point. discussions will range widely, head off in different directions and often end in surprising places! We chat over a pint or two or maybe coffee or tea if you prefer.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Dropping Wells Farm Project. 7.30 pm**

***A WFGA zoom meeting. All welcome.***

Beccy Somers will be presenting this exciting Worcestershire Wildlife Trust project to restore lowland heathland. Dropping Well Farm sits in the middle of the Wildlife Trust reserves of [The Devil's Spittleful and Blackstone Farm Fields](#) nature reserves and Wyre Forest District Council's Rifle Range and Burlish Top nature reserves. Saving this block of land will connect over 300 acres of wonderful heathland habitat (600 acres of mixed habitat altogether). The long-term vision is to restore what is currently farmland at Dropping Well and give wildlife a tremendous boost. From pantaloon bees and hornet robber-flies to common lizards and yellowhammers, this is a once in a generation opportunity to make a huge difference for our wildlife. Join the meeting to learn more and discuss the plans with Beccy. [To book](#)

## **Monday 13th February 7.15 – 9.0pm A ClimateConversation”**

hosted by Wyre Forest XR on behalf of WFGA. All welcome.

at St George's Social Club, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster DY10 2ES.

OUR CHANGING CLIMATE - WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER? Are you worried about living in a hothouse? Maybe you are concerned about water shortages or river pollution? Or perhaps you are aware of the devastation of our ecological systems?

2022 is a year in which we are really learning first-hand about the effects of climate change in the UK. And we know climate change is not going away. But there are things we can do; and we would love to meet you to discuss ideas.

## **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 1.0 – 4.0 pm Cost of Living event at Kidderminster Library**

From making your home energy-efficient to support with your wellbeing, Worcestershire Libraries are here to help you this winter. [Info on this Link](#)

## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 10.0 – 2.0 Transition Bewdley Repair Café in St Georges Hall**

Bring along your items in need of repair. Our volunteers will advise and attempt to fix anything from kitchen appliances to table lamps and clocks to laptops. Last entries 1.0 pm. No need to book EXCEPT for bikes. To book those contact [john.rhymer50@gmail.com](mailto:john.rhymer50@gmail.com) or ring 01299 403424

## **Save the date Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Unite to Survive.** Nature is under threat like never before.

Whether your concern is plastic or water pollution, loss of woodland or green belt, use of pesticides or animal depletion, we need to do more to stop the attack on nature and our health. But 570 environmental laws are under threat. We hear that several national organisations and movements will be gathering in London to demand a fair society, an end to the fossil fuel era and protection for our natural environment. Perhaps your organisation will join them.

Join the peaceful demo in London.

**Watch this space!**

## **Job Opportunity**

**SustFest Wyre Forest 2023 29<sup>th</sup> April – 14<sup>th</sup> May** *Greener·Happier·Healthier*

### **Part-time SustFest 2023 Coordinator**

Fixed term contract [320 hours @ £20 per hour]

Following a successful pilot scheme in 2022, we are looking for a freelance part-time Coordinator to work with the Wyre Forest Green Alliance SustFest Planning Group to run a Sustainability Festival over two weeks from 29 April – 14 May. You will have experience of organising, marketing and promoting local events. SustFest involves WFGA member groups and others in local communities to run a range of events which build on the strengths of communities to develop more sustainable ways of living.

WFGA was formed in March 2021 and currently comprises 42 member groups with a combined membership of 6500 members. Its aims are to make our local communities less reliant on fossil fuels, more sustainable and resilient.

For the **Job Specification** please click [here](#)

Please reply with a letter of application to Peter Miller, SustFest Planning Group Coordinator at [peterimiller10@gmail.com](mailto:peterimiller10@gmail.com) by the end of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February.



- new initiative for Worcestershire

### **Registrations now open for new solar panel and battery storage scheme.**

A new scheme has launched in Worcestershire, aimed at making the switch to clean energy as cost effective and hassle free as possible. Solar Together helps Worcestershire residents, community buildings and small/medium sized businesses come together to invest in renewables, through a group-buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage. Residents and businesses are able to register their interest up until Friday 10 March. There will then be an auction for pre-approved installers to submit their bids for the work, with notifications sent out to people later in March, detailing the cost and specification of the work. It's then up to individuals if they want to go-ahead, there's no obligation to continue with the installation. Worcestershire County Council is working with local district councils, including Wyre Forest District Council, and iChoose to offer the Solar Together group-buying scheme, which aims to offer a straightforward way to make an informed decision and to access a competitive offer from a trusted, vetted provider. Solar Together offers solar panels with optional battery storage and EV charge points, as well as retrofit battery storage for anyone who has already invested in solar panels and are looking to get more from the renewable energy they generate as well as increase their independence from the grid. To find out more visit [Solar Together](#) | [Solar Together](#) | [Worcestershire County Council](#)

**Vegetarian School Lunches.** This BBC "Inside Science" programme explores how school meals and other public sector catering can make a significant contribution to net zero by going meat-free for 3 days a week. If you ever doubted that young people do not care about the planet and do not understand the issues, just listen to the pupils from Barrowfield Primary School! [link](#)



### **10 Heat Pump Facts: [Link](#)**

Neil Kitching writes interesting blogs on many aspects of energy and de-carbonising His website is <http://www.carbonchoices.uk/>

### **De-carbonising Steel.**

With the debate around the Government approval of a new coal mine in Cumbria being predicated on the coal that will be produced being needed for steel production, I found this article very informative. Although intended for chemistry and science teachers I think many of us will find it a useful contribution to the debate.

With funding from the steel industry, NAEF has produced a freely-available resource for chemistry and science teachers which explores what steel-makers across the globe are doing to find low-carbon and zero-carbon routes to steel in the face of global warming and climate change.

Currently, the global steel industry uses 8% of the world's energy and generates 7% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (2020 data). Manufacturing steel without huge CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – to produce 'green steel' – is an important industrial priority and a great challenge if we are to reach net zero.

You can access the resource [here](#)