

Transition Marlborough - Helping the Marlborough Area step up to the Climate Change Challenge

Transition Marlborough is into its 9th year with 2020. For those who don't know we grew out of Marlborough Climate Pledge, which began raising public awareness of issues around climate change since 2005. The idea for a new, more participatory Transition initiative was put to the Town Council in August 2011, and came properly into being on 12th September 2011, to address public concern over the impact of Climate Change and impact on our community.

Over the last 18 months there has been an increased awareness of the climate emergency that is facing this planet. As Greta Thornburg points out we risk delivering a legacy of a ruined planet to our children. Extinction Rebellion (XR) has done a great deal to raise awareness of this problem. However, it is Transition Towns that presents an opportunity for everyone to be involved in making a contribution towards net zero carbon.

Our theme for this year is:- DO LESS – BETTER. So, rather than engaging all the problems of the Climate Emergency, (which can feel overwhelming) we want to show how EVERYONE can contribute with focus on two areas.

The Bee Roadzz Project – We would like to do a short presentation (Say 15 minutes at the NEXT area board on this project)



The response to the Bee-Roadzz project has been very positive and very much inline with the National Pollinator Strategy and the B- Line initiative from the Buglife charity (https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/). TM was involved in mapping the 3 Km-wide pollinator-friendly corridors for Wiltshire that are linking into their national network. Marlborough now sits on a crossroads between a north-south corridor running from Swindon to Salisbury and



another East-West across the county. This puts us in a very strong position to make a significant contribution to this national project, joining up existing areas of good pollinator habitat to create a continuous national network.

As part of this program we convened a meeting on the 16th of January in the Green Dragon,



there was a very good response from the community – The Allotments Association, Action for the River Kennet (Ark) and people concerned about the management strategy for Marlborough Common attended with ideas shared about how pollinators can be helped with planting of the right flora throughout the year.

To help raise awareness we are planning to host a Bee trail with the Local retailers along the lines of the Ladybird trail last

year, with grateful thanks to Jonathan Conning and Henry George Estate agents for sponsoring the event.

The project continues to partner with the Space for Nature farmers on the Marlborough Downs and has inspired similar action in other areas of Wiltshire and beyond. We also plan to produce a "Beestop" planting leaflet campaign to provide planting suggestions for gardens and public areas showing how to have "Bee food" in gardens all year round.

TM's 9th Practical Permaculture for Transition Course

This is a 12-session, <u>not-for-profit</u>, 'hands-on' course which aims to improve self-reliance, including food security – based on the use of sustainable, renewable, natural resources and the elimination of waste. It is run by members of Transition Marlborough's Permaculture Group – which you can join at the end of the course.

2020 Course Programme

(All sessions run on Saturday mornings between 09:30 and 12:30)

14 March	Introductions, Ethics and Transition	Marlborough
4 April	Getting to grips with the Principles	Manton
18 April	Trying out Design Tools	Marlborough
2 May	Soil is a living system	Froxfield
16 May	Transformation of waste and the art of Composting	Marlborough



30 May	Understanding energy and renewables	Froxfield
13 June	Permaculture your life, work, family and wellbeing	Mildenhall
27 June	The Bee Roadzz – landscapes for life	Marlborough Downs
25 July	Biodiversity – let nature do the work	Marlborough
05 Sept	Low Energy Living	Kennet & Avon Canal
19 Sept	Forest Gardening and chickens	Froxfield
17 Oct	Celebration lunch and next steps	Marlborough

Core Facilitators:

Milly Carmichael did the Permaculture Design Certificate (PDC) in 2014 with Sector 39 in Wales and is a facilitator of Looby Macnamara's 'People and Permaculture', (loobymacnamara.com). Milly also runs Sarah Spencer's permaculture-based 'Think Like A Tree' course.

Gerald Payne trained with Aranya and Patrick Whitefield at Gloucester PDC.

Rachel and Barney Rosedale are both graduates of Bristol PDC.

Jeremy Dawes, Alexandra Wax and Debs Schofield have completed this course and continue their own self-directed permaculture learning and development.

Dr Sam Page originally designed this course

How do I join the course?

For More information and to sign up to the course please email permaculture@transitionmarlborough.org

How can I engage with Transition Marlborough?

The Transition Marlborough Hub meeting takes place on the second Thursday of the Month in the Green Dragon on Marlborough High street, the next meeting being Thursday the 13th of February.

We also have a Facebook page and another for the Bee Roadzz project.

Thank you

Milly Carmichael

chair@transitionmarlborough.org



https://www.transitionmarlborough.org/

For General information please email info@transitionmarlborough.org

Transition Marlborough was formed in September 2011 and is part of the <u>Transition Network</u>. https://transitioninitiative.org/initiatives/marlborough/