



# Green Ixworth

## News

### June 2023

#### **Recycling**

What can we do to get better at it, will be addressed at our next public meeting on 15th June 7.00pm at the Methodist Church, High Street, Ixworth, when the Community Liaison Officer for the Suffolk waste plant at Great Blakenham, Siobhan O'Dell. She will be explaining the system operated by Suffolk County Council, answering any questions you have and how we might improve the already impressive Suffolk recycling effort. No longer will you have to ask the question, "Which bin does this go into?"

#### **Green Ixworth at the Bury Folk Festival.**

Green Ixworth will be exhibiting our stall at the Bury St Edmunds Folk Festival on Saturday 24th June from 10.30am to 9.00pm. We should welcome your help staffing the stall but do come along anyway. It is organised by our own Tony Phillips. Please let me know if you are able to help. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tickets and details are available from <https://www.buryfolkfestival.co.uk/>

#### **Save our Swifts**

What a treat you missed. A superb illustrated presentation on the life of swifts, by Simon Hooton, on why they are under threat and how we can help them recover. We would heartily recommend any other groups to invite Simon and Eddie along. They also supply nest boxes and plenty of information on the practice of luring swifts into your community. We have a Swift advice centre on our website with sources of boxes and callers. We are waiting clearance for the establishment of a tower block of nest boxes in St Mary's, Ixworth, church tower.

#### **Wild Isles**

The BBC series showed the breadth and depth of nature in the British Isles. And was a treat. The final episode was Saving the Wild Isles, only available on iPlayer. We presume some of the content was seen as too critical of government. It was funded by RSPB, WWF and the National Trust with narration by David Attenborough.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p0fd45w7/wild-isles-saving-our-wild-isles?seriesId=p0f0t5dp-unindexed>

The film is both fearful and hopeful showing the damage done to our natural environment but also widespread interest and action in recovery. Many of our farmers are contributing to these beneficial programs of work including local farmers. Dairy Farms in Ixworth are exploring and implementing techniques to recover soil quality and natural approach to land management and cropping and boosting biodiversity

E.J.Barker & Sons of Westhorpe are a leading member of the Nature Friendly Farming Network who feature in the film. Their experience is written up in this brief document.  
<https://www.nffn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Lodge-Farm-case-study.pdf>

You will have seen the report on 2022 from S W Cross (Ixworth) who are practising regenerative agriculture, rewilding and reviving and planting extensive new woodland.

### **Insulation Subsidy**

**If your household income is under £31,000.**

<https://applyforleap.org.uk/>; provides advice and support including funding for insulation and low energy heating.

**If household income is between £31,000 and £45,000**

Green Ixworth at [ginocarbon@hotmail.com](mailto:ginocarbon@hotmail.com) can supply half price insulation materials for you to fit. We are sorry but we are still waiting for a list and details of dimensions and prices of the products. Do contact us to show your interest.

### **What can we do with our grey water.**

**Not** put it into the sewers and waste it, adding to storm overflows. Good news from San Francisco where new laws insist that greywater from flats, houses, offices, etc be cleaned and whilst cannot be drunk, can be used, with inhouse treatment, for washing machines and flushing toilets. These are the biggest household users of drinking water. A newly developed machine takes out pollutants, soap, detergent, etc. making use of greywater from showers, laundry and bathroom sinks in a 40-story San Francisco apartment building. The company, Epic, is running the first approved greywater recycling system in San Francisco, where buildings erected after 1 January 2022 are required to install onsite water reuse systems.

Epic said “We’re going into these buildings, which globally use 14% of all water, and almost none of them reuse that water. And we are helping these recycling projects reuse up to 95% of their water,” CEO Tartakovsky said.

In Britain we have “encouragement” for developers to make use of grey water.

### **Sharpe practice in Planning Changes**

Having failed to push through Parliament its changes to the planning system, government is now seeking to do the same by stealth. More than eight out of 10 councillors fear local democracy will be eroded unless MPs and peers heed their warnings and amend the government’s Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which is close to completing its passage through Parliament. This opposition is cross party. <https://www.cpre.org.uk/news/local-democracy-threatened-by-bills-key-measures-warns-cpre/>

The proposals seek to give the Secretary of State, power to make rules, without going before Parliament, which can bind local planning authorities to follow government wishes.

### **LEZs are working**

Local Emission Zones are working. So shows recent research looking at LEZs from several cities. This good news comes as other research indicates significant and life threatening, cardiac problems derive from inhaling the PM2.5s which are the main component of vehicle emissions.

### **Suffolk Green Cluster**

Green Ixworth have recently joined with other groups close by to strengthen our influence and activity. The Suffolk Green Cluster is now established and we are offering our Insulation

scheme to the other group members as well. Full details will be available in the next issue of this Newsletter.