



# Green Ixworth

## Newsletter

Mid-October 2023

[www.greenixworth.org](http://www.greenixworth.org)

As winter beckons, we need to look at our energy use. The first article shows what needs to be done for the environment the subsequent pieces show how we can help ourselves with financial help from Government, local councils and Green Ixworth. So, no depression at the government's failure to act but celebrate **what we can do** in spite of them.

### Britain leads the world?

Recent government claims that Britain leads the world in decarbonising are misleading to say the least. Much of our reduction is due to having many fossil fuel power stations. Whilst we have a good record in the past few years by increasing our sustainable power systems what has made the big difference is reducing coal to near zero. France already generated much of its electricity from nuclear power stations, so it had fewer emissions to cut in this area. In 1990, France's emissions were 393.42mt, which was significantly lower than the UK; by 2021, it was down 22% to 305.96mt, still lower than the UK.

Per capita, France's emissions were 6.06 tonnes per person in 2021; the UK's emissions were 6.26 tonnes per person, so by that measure we are not a leader in the G7 or the world.

Furthermore, our impressive-sounding emissions reduction relates to production-based emissions, largely from fossil fuels and industrial processes. We have effectively outsourced many of those emissions, by shrinking our 'dirty' industries and importing goods from overseas instead. The UK's consumption-based emissions, which do account for emissions from imported goods, have reduced by a more modest 30% since 1990.

The EU is currently over achieving on its 55% reduction target by 2030. The UK Climate Change committee, the body which holds Government to account believes that the UK target was falling behind but is now catastrophically so.

The UK currently has the 17th highest emissions out of 195 countries.

Looking at historical emissions – all cumulative emissions since 1750 – the UK is fifth highest, after only the USA, China, Russia and Germany. On that basis, we have a responsibility to clean up after ourselves.

Sources: Which -October 2023; European Movement 17/10/23.

### Is solar energy worthwhile?

[https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/myths-about-solar/?utm\\_source=meta&utm\\_medium=paid&utm\\_campaign=retargeting&fbclid=IwAR1BL\\_Fv-vFWzINRbXC4JOOI72OWrrjnVhD6QLquvZfN33MICBlfshfBJz8](https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/myths-about-solar/?utm_source=meta&utm_medium=paid&utm_campaign=retargeting&fbclid=IwAR1BL_Fv-vFWzINRbXC4JOOI72OWrrjnVhD6QLquvZfN33MICBlfshfBJz8)

### **How big is your carbon footprint?**

Your carbon footprint can be measured by completing a questionnaire. The best one which is not confined to the USA is <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>. Try to compare yours to the average.

### **Government advice on help available for residents.**

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-great-british-insulation-scheme?fbclid=IwAR0QzT4Lw0l3gXTgame8ad4mCDxj4RT5L5e8vjSiDmjgh4ntzleDTzlltT0ls>

### **Financial help to insulate homes in West Suffolk.**

Two local schemes are available.

1). Homes with under £31,000 household income can benefit from the Warm Homes Scheme which covers all the costs of reducing your energy bills. Contact:

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/reduce-your-impact/domestic-energy-efficiency-funding.cfm>

Do bear in mind that a recent Government announcement increased the subsidy for the Boiler Replacement Scheme from £5,000 to £7,500.

2). For under £45,000 household income, Green Ixworth can supply insulation products from a list which is already lower in price than most suppliers plus you get a 50% subsidy. Travis Perkins deliver the products, directly to your home for you or a tradesperson to fit. Order through Green Ixworth who can help with the selection if you wish.

If you are uncertain how effective your insulation is, Green Ixworth is offering to conduct a **heat survey of your home** to indicate where heat is leaking and thus where more insulation is needed.

For the subsidised insulation and the heat survey contact Green Ixworth by emailing:

[ginocarbon@hotmail.com](mailto:ginocarbon@hotmail.com)

### **How is our waste recycled?**

The Suffolk recycling facility, at Great Blakenham, arranges regular visits, so we may see how they separate the materials. Green Ixworth are seeking to arrange one for our supporters. If you would be interested, please let us know on [ginocarbon@hotmail.com](mailto:ginocarbon@hotmail.com)

### **How big is your footprint?**

Your carbon footprint can be measured by completing a questionnaire. The best one which is not confined to the USA is <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

Try to compare yours to the average.

### **Good news from Anglian Water**

They are working on the borehole off Bailey Pool Lane, Ixworth this autumn to pump direct into the Black Bourn.

### **Green Ixworth on display**

We shall be exhibiting at the West Suffolk Green Community Networking get together at the Unitarian Hall in BSE on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/west-suffolk-community-networking-event-tickets-706021799207?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Also at the Eastern Colleges Group 6<sup>th</sup> Form careers conference on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. Samanta Scrivenère, GI's Social Media Officer, will be presenting her experience of the route from school to running her own

waste management business in Indonesia and now a project manager in an innovative waste management company in the UK.

2<sup>nd</sup> December we shall have a stall at the Ixworth Christmas Fair in Ixworth High Street. Do join us.



## Fascinating Fungi



*Fly Agaric, Hinderclay Fen © Nick Lingwood*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**10.30am to 12.30pm**

Join LOHP for a gentle 2.8 mile (4.5 km) circular stroll around the fens, looking for fascinating fungi.

Meeting on Parkers Piece, Mill Road, Thelnetham, Suffolk (IP22 1JU) (near Thelnetham Windmill)  
(What3Words: drilling.sport.iteration)

*Suggested donation £4 non-members, £3 members*

[enquiries@lohp.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lohp.org.uk)

07919 912045

We thought you would like to know about this event organised by our friends at the **Little Ouse Headwaters Project**.