

We are a group of local residents aiming to raise awareness, encourage discussion and stimulate practical action to ensure we develop into the future as a thriving and sustainable community that responds positively to the big environmental and social challenges facing us all.



Plastic Free July is a global movement to reduce single-use plastics by making simple changes to products we use every day and reduce plastic waste ending up in the environment.

If we all make small changes it will collectively make a huge difference to our communities. Choosing to refuse single-use plastics for July and beyond will help you to find great alternatives and develop new habits that reduce your waste, environmental impact and support more sustainable products and industries.

- Globally we have created 8.3 billion metric tonnes of plastic with production expected to double over the next 20 years.
- Single-use plastics make up half of global plastic and many of these are found in the environment causing serious issues for wildlife and habitats.

Follow this link to find out more about the campaign and how you can make a difference <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org>



For any single-use plastic you do use, there are more local schemes that enable you to divert it from landfill or incineration. Here are three:

- 1) Tesco in Yate have huge containers for you to deposit all clean soft plastic film and packaging
- 2) We still collect all crisp/snack packets at Country Stores
- 3) The Blister Pack recycling scheme is thriving, with a collection bin at the Doctors' surgery



Buy local! Despite the easy lure of Amazon, Ocado and the like, there are obvious sustainability arguments to buy things as locally as possible. The advert pages in *All Around Marshfield* offer a great source of information on local businesses. And we still retain a cluster of local shops, pubs, garages and a tearoom that can only survive and thrive if we all use them.

Please support a new initiative selling local produce. The Local Market will be taking place at the Community Centre from 10.30 to 12.00 on Saturday 24th July. If you are a producer and would like to participate, contact Mark Cannings on 07764 479356 or bondswoodfarm@gmail.com. If you are any sort of consumer, we'll see you there!



Compost collection Lots of residents came by for a chat and to pick up compost made available from the Community Centre during the Boules/Celebration Day on 4th July. Nearly £100 in donations will go to the Community Centre fundraising campaign. The compost is made in a 3-bin system using grass and green cuttings from the local area, including the Blue Heart verges. If you'd like some compost or are interested in helping to manage the system contact compost@sustainablemarshfield.org



Thank you to everyone who came to the song recital at St Mary's Church, Marshfield on 13th June as part of the Eco Church initiative. About 80 people attended the socially distanced event. £800 was donated to Send a Cow, the locally based international charity supporting sustainable agriculture projects in Africa.



Blue Hearts During July and August we are cutting back the Blue Heart verges, mainly by scything to minimise environmental impact. The cuttings will be composted and available as a soil conditioner for the community next year. This all helps reduce the fertility of the soil over time, enabling more wild flowers to thrive in future. We hope this will also be a spur to more local verge management responding to the biodiversity crisis we all face.

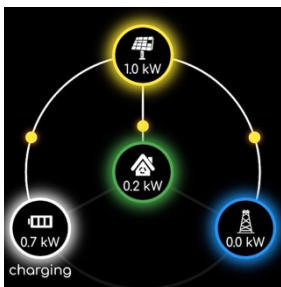


Weir Pool Working Party Can you help us remove the aquatic grasses in Weir Pool on **Saturday 10th July?** This planned management will provide areas of open water for amphibians and invertebrates. It will also reduce the nutrients in the pool and improve the look of this historic cart pull.

You will need your own wellies, gloves and be willing to get wet and muddy. We will meet at the Pool at 10am. The work is expected to take a few hours. The work will be supervised and social distancing will be followed. Please contact **Martin Smith** if you would like to help out martainius@gmail.com



The little characters hatched in a barn next to the Pool (snapped by Ellie Ratcliffe) will be grateful for all efforts at caring for this area, in tune with nature. Everything is linked!



Marshfield Solar Streets

The first Marshfield Solar Streets installation has now taken place in the village. Sustainable Marshfield has forged a partnership with IDDEA, to offer residents a significant price discount to install a solar array. For your free survey and quote contact info@iddea.co.uk

To find out more email: solarstreets@sustainablemarshfield.org



Local trees with a story to tell - Tulip tree *Nigel de Berker*

One of the more exotic trees to be seen growing in a private garden alongside Marshfield High Street, is a young Tulip tree. The species is within the Magnolia family and is native to USA, introduced to Britain from Virginia c.1650. Around May-June large primitive yellow-green tulip-like flowers develop, hidden amongst foliage - each leaf with a broad truncated tip. The species can reach considerable size and is a major timber producer in USA. Not far from Marshfield, there is a mature specimen over 30m tall on Mason's Hill, Bradford-on-Avon

Fancy helping to take forward Sustainable Marshfield?

We have a vacancy on our small organising committee. If you have a passion for sustainability, care about Marshfield and have some ideas and energy to help things to happen, then please contact Peter Woodward (Chair) for an informal chat (07973 157587).

Growing Sustainable Marshfield membership with your help.

We want to grow our free membership, connecting up households in and around Marshfield who are interested in taking local action for sustainability. Please encourage friends and neighbours to join.

Email your name, address and phone to: membership@sustainablemarshfield.org

All other correspondence to news@sustainablemarshfield.org

Join over 380 people on the **Sustainable Marshfield Group** on Facebook for updates and discussion.