



Watlington Climate Action Newsletter June 2021

Welcome to everything you need to know about what's going on this month for WCAG.

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- **Chiltern Conservation Board Walking Festival**
 - *Bushcraft at the Chalk Pits and last few places remaining for Nature Walk*

WCAG Dates for your Diary

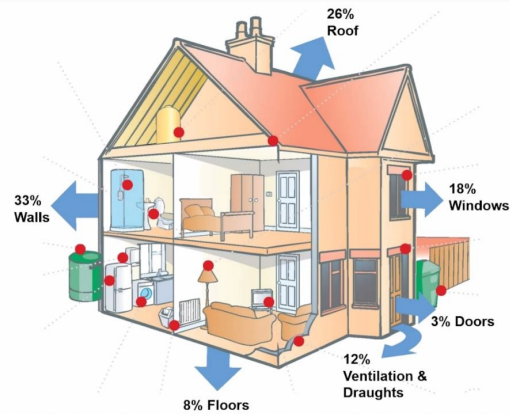
- 7th July 7.45 for 8pm What's Happening With Water talk by Thames

Please register on our Events page for events to get the zoom details

[Click here for our Events page](#)

Homes & Energy

SOURCES OF HEAT LOSS IN HOMES



Source: <https://www.thegreenage.co.uk/>

Kate packed several hours of content from her lectures into just one hour so it's extremely informative. And Tom gave a great overview of the projects we plan to run in this area.

For a quick overview of the event, check out Lawrence's blog covering the key points

For the full event, check out the recording on our Youtube channel - please note that due to technical issues, on the night Tom went first but in this recording we've edited so he's after Kate as per original plan.

Finally, we'd love to hear your thoughts! Whether you came on the night, or caught up by watching the recording it would be great if you could fill in this very short questionnaire

[Lawrence's blog](#)

[View the recording](#)

[Fill in the short questionnaire](#)

Water Talk

We are very lucky to have a clean and plentiful water supply literally "on tap" - something we often take for granted. But will the climate and other pressures change all that? What actions can we take to reduce the carbon footprint and ecological impact of our water supply? We've asked Andrew Tucker of Thames Water to come and tell us what's happening with water...

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH WATER?



CLIMATE AND OUR WATER SUPPLY - HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

*Is water supply really an issue?
What challenges do we face?
What can we do about them?*

*Andrew Tucker of Thames Water will
answer your questions!*

7.45 for 8 pm Wednesday 7th July on Zoom
For your FREE ticket register at:
www.watlingtonclimateaction.org.uk/events



HELPING WATLINGTON TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

REGISTER HERE

Can you help get the word out? Print out the attached poster and put in your window!

Plastic Free Watlington - Phase 2

Last month we celebrated accreditation as a Plastic Free Community, but the story does not end there, as clearly there is still plenty more single use plastic in Watlington!. We have new targets to work towards, with businesses, community groups and awareness raising events.

Can **YOU** help us take Watlington to the next level?

We are looking for people to fill the following roles:

Plastic Free Businesses - 1 - 2 people. This is something that can be done independently or with others, as you prefer. It involves talking to businesses and working through the simple checklist from Surfers Against Sewage. Full handover and guidance will be provided by Nicola Schafer

Team Member - Community Allies - 1 - 2 people working with different community groups. Join other team members to engage new groups/organisations/schools to pledge to reduce 3 items of single use plastic (these can be already not used by the group)

Team Member - Events - we are looking for 2 - 3 people to work together

on awareness raising events. Joining existing team members.

Or help out on a combination of the above!

Only 4 team meetings a year so suitable for people with limited time available but want to help make a difference. Email us at plasticfreewatlington@gmail.com if interested!

[Read our Plastic Free Watlington blog](#)

Green Plan

Check out our latest blog covering

- **No Mow May** - were you inspired to give the lawnmower a rest? Let us know the results!
- **Protecting and enhancing biodiversity on the new developments**
- **Hedgerow Project** - Our survey is continuing and we plan to do some hedge planting and management during winter 2021-2022 and would welcome support from additional volunteers. Contact us at watlingtonclimateaction@gmail.com If you are already on our list, you haven't been forgotten, we will be in touch!
- **National Hedgerow Week** - was launched on the 29th May to highlight the immense contribution these unsung heroes of the natural world make in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss and to raise awareness of the threats they face.

[Read the full update](#)

[National Hedgerow Week](#)

Wildlife Gardening



Following on from all the articles on wildlife gardening published over the last year in Watlington Times, and WEG and WCAG newsletters and blogs, a model of a wildlife garden is going to be on display in the High Street from when the school term starts. Hopefully, this will inspire families to think about

how they can help wildlife. It will be in the house front window where the 'meerkat' and other displays can often be seen - near Calnans and opposite the Orange Bakery.

Recipe of the Month

Thanks again to Rowan Price for this tasty recipe for June

Watlington Climate Action Group Recipes

Potato Puttanesca

Serves: 4

Total Time: 30 Minutes

Ingredients

750g new potatoes

1 shallot

3 garlic cloves

50g pitted Kalamata olives

1 tsp olive oil

1/2 tsp fennel seeds

1/4 tsp dried mixed herbs

1/2 tsp chilli flakes

1 tsp tomato purée

50ml red wine

400g passata

125g fresh spinach leaves

salt and black pepper

15g fresh basil leaves, to serve



Method

1. First, cook the potatoes. Cover with cold water, place over a high heat and bring to the boil. Cook the potatoes for 12-15 minutes until tender. Drain and set aside.

2. Now, start the puttanesca sauce. Peel and finely chop the shallot. Peel and grate the garlic cloves. Roughly chop the olives.

3. Heat the olive oil in a pan over a medium heat. Add the shallot and a pinch of salt and stir for 1 minute. Add the garlic, fennel seeds, mixed herbs and chilli flakes and cook, stirring for 1 minute. Add the tomato purée and stir for 30 seconds. Add the red wine, stir and simmer for 3-4 minutes, until most of the liquid has evaporated.

4. Add the passata to the pan, stir through and simmer for 7-8 minutes until thickened. Add the new potatoes and gently fold them into the sauce. Add the spinach and stir until wilted. Add the olives. Taste the sauce, season to perfection with salt and pepper (and more chilli if you like) and serve with a garnish of basil leaves.

This is from the BOSH boys - check out their website (www.bosh.tv) for more veg filled dishes!

Rowan Price



Watlington ArtWeeks



So great to see many of our members taking part in this event, including our very own Satnam Bains, Anne Arlidge, and many others.

Of particular note is the work being done by Jules Bishop, which ties in with our Hedgerow Project. Jules is using hedgerow plants to create different pigments that are then used to create art pieces. It's fascinating to see the range of different colours that are produced by the different plants!

It was also noticeable the amount of repurposing in many of the art works, including the wonderful textile work by Karen Higgs, and the nature inspired work, such as the beautiful pottery by Andrea Brewer and cyanotype collages by Jaine McCormack.

Congratulations to the ArtWeeks team on another successful event!

Great Watlington Spring Clean

Watlington In Bloom are running this event from 1pm on June the 5th to help keep Watlington Tidy! You will be supplied with litter picking equipment, you just need to bring gloves. For more details please click on the link:

[Great Watlington Spring Clean](#)

Chilterns Walking Festival



Thanks to the Chilterns Conservation Board and to Sophie Nelson for supporting three events in Watlington. The Bushcraft event was a great way of connecting with nature, and we were very lucky to have it on our doorstep - some attendees had driven over an hour to get there. The children tried their hand at bead making and leaf printing, and I may have tried out the hammock... well someone had to!

Still a few places left on the Watlington Nature Walk Thur 3rd June. You can book your place and see all the events that are part of the festival on the link below

[Sign up here...](#)

Thanks for reading!

Watlington Climate Action Group



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