

2G3S aims to promote a positive vision of a society that enhances, rather than degrades, the natural environment on which we all depend. We hold events in our constituent villages and spread information to raise awareness of green issues and to show how we can work together, both at an individual and at an organisational level, to make changes to our way of life that will lead to a more stable and sustainable future.

Contact us at greengroupssss@gmail.com. Website: <http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/2G3Sgroup/> & <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1707232106228495/>

2G3S NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2019

Hello everyone – and an especially warm welcome to all those receiving this newsletter for the first time. It comes out roughly quarterly; you can unsubscribe at any time by contacting us at greengroupssss@gmail.com

We have been quite active in commenting on various issues. As you know from the last issue of the newsletter, we drew attention to the **Sawston Greenways consultation** in the summer and urged you to respond; we also sent in a response from 2G3S as a whole. Separately our MP Heidi Allen asked us to send her ideas on **how to tackle climate change**. We invited your views via the newsletter and had a full discussion at our July meeting before sending her our report (available on our website); we then met Heidi at Shelford Deli in August. Of course, all this has been overtaken by events, but it was a useful exercise.

More recently we have responded to the **Greater Cambridge Partnership consultation on 'Cambridge South East Transport: Better Public Transport Project'** (catchy little title). Again, we shall post our report on the website. If you are reading this before midday on 4 November, do send in your views – online survey [here](#)

FUTURE 2G3S EVENTS

2G3S AGM and Social Monday 25 November at 8 pm

The Rose having closed for refurbishment, we are decamping to The Three Horseshoes for our meetings and have been made very welcome <https://www.threehorseshoes-pub.com/>. Our first event is our AGM: we shall review all the things we did in 2019, from putting on events (such as talks, nature walks, Repair Cafes, and the Apple Day), to sharing information and participating in policy formation. We shall go on to discuss what we shall be doing in 2020. Are we on the right track? Should we have more/fewer/different events? Should we spend more time discussing issues? We would love you to join us, whether it be as part of the publicity team, helping out at events, taking a turn at chairing or minuting meetings, or doing things from your computer at home.

If you have thought about finding out more about who we are and what we do, and would like some input into where we go from here, now is your chance to meet us. The AGM part of the evening will be kept fairly brief so that we all have a chance to get to know each other over a drink afterwards. This is our end-of-year social – you are most warmly invited!

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2019/20 Conversation Evenings: Climate Change
all at 8 pm in The Three Horseshoes, Stapleford

Tuesday 3 December: Fossil Fuel Divestment and why it matters



By the end of the last Parliament, over 300 cross-party MPs were calling on their pension fund to divest from fossil fuels. Is this enough? How many other organisations are following suit? Dr **James Smith**, Public Health Consultant, University of Cambridge, will lead our discussion on the importance of divestment and whether we are moving quickly enough to have a significant ameliorating effect on climate change. All welcome.

Other upcoming Conversation Evenings on this winter's subject of climate change

Monday 20 January: Are natural disasters our fault? Professor **Bob White**
Most deaths caused by so-called 'natural' disasters have human responsibility behind them. Floods kill more people every year than all other natural disasters. Yet it is clear that climate change, primarily caused by burning fossil fuels, greatly exacerbates the power of storms and floods, generates long-term droughts, and causes heat waves that lead to tens of thousands of early deaths. As always, it is the poor and disadvantaged who suffer most - particularly those in low-income countries who did not cause the problem in the first place.

Monday 24 February: Africa: Source of OR solution to Climate Change? Bill Powell

March– our last Conversation Evening for this winter; topic and date TBA

2G3S Repair Café

We are planning a Repair Café in Great Shelford, probably in February or early March 2020
Details will be posted in the usual places (website, village magazines, FaceBook, and of course [Circular Cambridge](#))

Other upcoming Repair Cafés

For more information go to <http://circularcambridge.org/repaircafe/> and follow the links.

Fulbourn Repair Café Saturday 9 November

2.00 - 5.00pm, The Townley Memorial Hall, Fulbourn, CB21 5BS

Barrington Repair Café Saturday 16 November

2.00 - 5.00pm, Barrington Village Hall, 55 High Street, Barrington, CB22 7QX

Cambourne's first Repair Café Saturday 7 December

11.00am - 2:00pm, The Hub, High Street, Cambourne, CB23 6GW

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PAST 2G3S EVENTS

2G3S Nature Walk, Dernford Reservoir, 14 September

In warm sunshine a dozen of us completed the walk around Dernford Reservoir, which was opened for public access last year following amelioration of the former gravel quarry. We saw several late-flowering plants including bright yellow Toadflax and purple Upright Vetch. A large dragonfly was seen skimming over the water. Over 50 gulls, including black-backed gulls, had congregated on the water, while a grebe took a series of dives to catch small fish and a cormorant flew low over the reservoir. One of the group spotted a common sandpiper on the shore and we shared binoculars to see it bobbing about on the shoreline. A group of dogs splashing in the water drove the wary birds to the other side of the reservoir, the owners ignoring the fencing and deep water warning signs.

The reservoir is becoming a more popular walking venue and provides a useful local wildlife asset. It will be interesting to see how it develops over the next few years. Note the reservoir is in Sawston Parish, one of the 2G3S villages. *John O'Boyle*

(John has offered to lead more nature walks in 2020)

Eco Festival, Saturday 28 September 2019

Great Shelford Free Church, Ashen Green

Great Shelford Free Church held their first Eco Festival this September. 2G3S had an information stand and ran a 'walk-up' Repair Café. Thanks to the church for inviting us!

Apple Day, Wandlebury, Saturday afternoon 5 October 2019



We held a successful Apple Day with Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CPPF) and Orchards East at Wandlebury on Saturday 5 October. The weather was kind to us on the day, but unfortunately the season hadn't been a good one for apples and the juicers got off to a rather slow start. However there were plenty of other activities, including guided walks around the Wandlebury Orchard, fruit and nut identification, archery, soft archery and other activities for children, and information about local environmental and gardening groups, from 2G3S ourselves to the Magog Trust and the Cambridge Beekeepers Association. 2G3S member Jane Chisholm gave a fascinating talk about using apples in cookery – with samples! – and there were also talks on cider making and the care of fruit trees. Later on someone turned up with a load of apples to juice – so all in all a very enjoyable afternoon!

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Conversation Evening, 22 October, The Rose Can South Cambridgeshire reach Zero Carbon by 2050?

This was the first of this year's Conversation Evenings, which this winter will be on the subject of climate change. District Councillor Pippa Heylings, who is chair of SCDC Climate and Environment Advisory Committee and who had been due to lead the conversation, was alas unable to be present, but the vice-chair Martin Cahn kindly came in her place. During a wide-ranging conversation covering topics from solar panels to tree planting, Martin talked to us about the work of the committee in trying to realise their zero-carbon ambition and described some of the financial and governmental constraints they face.

OTHER NEWS

There are plans to install **solar panels at Babraham Park & Ride** which will generate renewable electricity to power the site, electric vehicle charging points, and also local businesses. Find out more at an exhibition at Great Shelford Memorial Hall on Tuesday 19 November, 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

Alas, this clashes with another event:

Tuesday 19 November 6.30 pm: Film: 'Waterlight'

England's precious and unique chalk streams are under threat; very much in the news at present. 'Waterlight' is a project inspired by a Cambridgeshire chalk stream - the river Mel, a tributary of the Cam. Moving downstream, the film follows the story of the Mel and human impacts on it over time. Cam Valley Forum and Cambridge Conservation Initiative are showing the film along with discussion and music at the David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge. More details [here](#)

And something that may interest you from the Cambridge Literary Festival:

Saturday 30 November: Talk by Rob Hopkins: 'Creating the future we want'

11:30-12:30, Old Divinity School, St Johns Street, Cambridge CB2 1TP

Permaculture designer Rob Hopkins founded the Transition Town network in Totnes in 2006. It's now a global movement - including a thriving Cambridge branch. In his new book 'From What is to What if?' he challenges us to unleash our collective imagination to create rapid change for the better. Through stories of individuals and communities around the world who are 'doing stuff', Rob reveals new hope for a sustainable future.

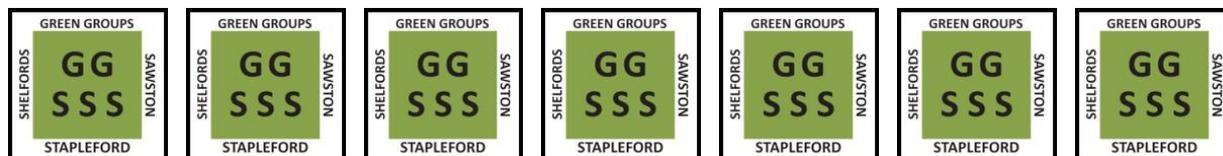
More info and book tickets (£11/£9) [here](#).

This event is supported by Transition Cambridge.

Finally, I am delighted to report that **Stapleford Spar** has started getting fresh veg again – you can choose good quality produce and put it in a ****paper**** bag! Do support them!

Linda Whitebread

For Green Groups in the Shelfords, Stapleford and Sawston



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