



2G3S is short for Going Green in the Shelfords, Stapleford and Sawston. You can find out more about us and our aims on our [website](#).

2G3S Newsletter - Spring 2024

Upcoming 2G3S events

- 15th May Book Club - Breaking Together
- 20th May Discussion Evening- the Future of Personal Transport
- 21st May Planning Meeting
- 8-16 June Big Green Week - Display at Great Shelford Library
- 27th June Film Screening - Pure Clean Water
- 20th Aug Book Club - Ravenous
- 21st Sept Repair Cafe - Great Shelford Free Church

More details on each of these events follows, but check on our [website](#) nearer the event date for up to date details.

Book Club - Wednesday 15th May



We will be meeting on 15th May (a Wednesday instead of the normal Tuesday) to discuss “Breaking Together” by Jem Bendell.

The author came to prominence when his 2018 paper "Deep Adaptation: A Map for Navigating Climate Tragedy" was widely read online and was influential in the Extinction Rebellion movement. This paper proposed that near term social collapse due to climate disruption was already beginning and was inevitable.

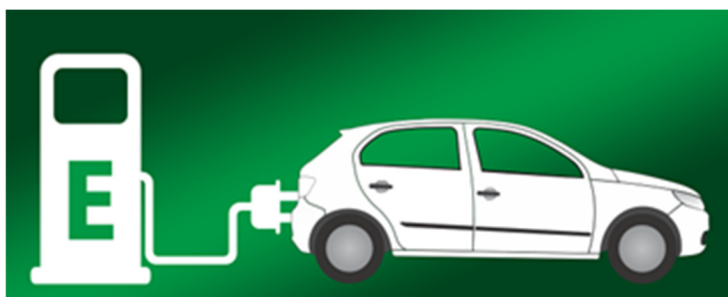
Breaking together was published in 2023, and revisits the theme of societal collapse. As well as paper and kindle editions it is [available online](#) free in PDF format.

Our next session after this will be on Tuesday 20th August, see below.

If you want to join us at Book Club please send an email to [2G3S](#) with “Book Club” in the title (so we can let you know of any changes and future events). We meet roughly every 3 months.

Venue: The Three Horseshoes, Stapleford, 8pm.

Discussion Evening - Monday 20th May



Perspectives on the Future of Personal Transport.

Cox's Close Community Centre, Stapleford CB22 5SP Monday 20th May, 8pm

If your next vehicle is likely to be an electric car this event could be for you. We aim to discuss a number of perspectives, from the practical, the local, how green the electrical vehicle revolution might be, relevant government policy, and, if time, some of the geopolitical implications.

Free event, all welcome.

2G3S Planning Meeting - Tuesday 21st May

Cox's Close Community Centre, Stapleford CB22 5SP Tuesday 21st May, 8pm

We meet every couple of months to discuss what initiatives we are supporting and to plan the timetable for our future events. Our next such meeting is at the community room on Cox's Close in Stapleford, on Tuesday 21st May starting at 8pm.

Newcomers are most welcome! If you would like to see the agenda in advance of the meeting please [email](#) us.

**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 

Big Green Week - 8th to 16th June

Great Shelford Library will have a display showcasing some of the books covering green issues that we have discussed at our 2G3S book club meetings since these started in 2022.

Film Screening at the Stapleford Weekend - 27th June

Pure Clean Water - A film about our endangered chalk streams

Thursday 27th June, 7:00pm In the Marquee on Stapleford Rec, CB22 5BQ

Please register in advance through StaplefordWeekend.com. Pay on the door.

Bar open 6:45 - 8:30 pm and Stone Baked Pizza on sale 4:30 - 7pm, so you can snack before you watch the film.



Pure Clean Water is a fascinating documentary film which examines the critical issues surrounding chalk streams, water availability and the growth of Greater Cambridge. This is an issue that is very much “on our doorstep”, with new build housing in Sawston and developments in Stapleford creating an even greater demand for water, the supply of which is already impacting the health of the river Granta less than a mile away.

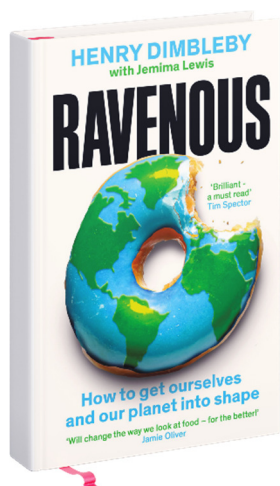
Pumping from underground chalk aquifers brings us potable water at great convenience, but in the process springs are drying up and precious chalk streams are disappearing. Water companies, regulators, businesses, land owners, consumers and government have overseen a developing groundwater emergency. Can these groups come together to ensure that Cambridge has a reliable water supply without further damaging the environment?

Resolving this issue is not easy and will require each of us to pay much more attention to water (see note about a water use survey further on in this newsletter).

For more about the film, see the article on our screening in Sawston in February [here....](#) and the film website [here](#).

The film will be screened as part of the Stapleford Weekend, 7pm on the evening of Thursday 27th June.

Book Club - 20th August



The author, Henry Dimbleby, is a restaurant founder and an adviser to government, helping to formulate the National Food Strategy (which unfortunately has largely been left unadopted so far). The book is a very readable summary of a situation that is hard to digest: the fact that we are all damaged directly or indirectly by a food system that is responsible for an epidemic of obesity, contributes to the destruction of the natural world, and is a major contributory factor in the climate emergency. The book identifies what the author believes government can and must do to address this crisis, but there is plenty of food for thought here for everyone.

You can read a review of the book here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2023/mar/15/ravenous-by-henry-dimbleby-review-rage-against-the-food-machine>

Meet at 8pm, venue as for May meeting - see above.

Repair Cafe at Great Shelford Free Church - 21st September



Great Shelford Free Church, Ashen Green, Great Shelford CB22 5EY

Saturday 21st September 2pm - 5pm

Our next repair cafe is not until September, but if you have something needing repair, you do not need to wait until then! There is now a [regular monthly repair cafe](#) in Fitzroy Street in Cambridge, as well as a packed schedule of events in the villages in the area. You can see the calendar of upcoming Repair Cafes on the Cambridge Carbon Footprint website – [here](#).

For these as well as our own Repair Cafes, the arrangements are the same: Bring along your broken item and a skilled volunteer will help you fix it! We can tackle a wide variety of repairs typically including jewellery, clothes and fabrics, electrical items, electronics and other items. (Please note that we will not be able to replace cracked screens on phones or tablets.) The repairers are brilliant and can fix a lot of things but there are no guarantees.

Booking is highly recommended to avoid a long wait on the day, and to make things fair we politely request only one item per person. We ask all repairers to read and sign our repair agreement as we are all volunteers.

Bookings for our Great Shelford Repair Cafe on 21st September will open about 3 weeks in advance of the repair cafe itself - details will appear on [our website](#) and on the [CCF website](#) in due course.

It's a free event but donations are very welcome. Tea and cake will be available of course!

If you have any questions, please email 2G3Srepaircafes@gmail.com

Dr Bike Stapleford - Tuesdays 3pm - 5:30pm



The volunteer-run weekly Bike Repair workshops continue at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford which is on Church Street near the Three Horseshoes pub. The workshop is open from 3 pm – 5:30 pm every Tuesday.

We offer a free 23-point check, and we can do minor repairs for a donation (just to help us maintain a stock of commonly used spares).

Children are welcome but must bring a responsible adult with them as well as their bike. We can't work on hydraulics or e-Bike electrics.

If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, or have any questions on Dr Bike, get in touch using drbikestapleford@gmail.com.

Other News



Zero Hour: the Climate and Nature Bill Petition

The Climate and Nature Bill - formerly the CE Bill and the CEE Bill – is a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate and nature crisis. The Bill is the only proposed legislation before the UK Parliament that ensures a comprehensive and joined-up approach to the emergency. The campaign to promote this legislation is led by a group called Zero Hour. You can add your name to the petition and find out more about the campaign here:

<https://www.zerohour.uk/climate-and-nature-bill/>



Cook With Me - Friday 10th May; Online event

Climate-Friendly Cook With Me is [an interactive online cooking event](#) on Friday 10 May 2024, 7:30-9:00pm, organised by South Cambs Zero Carbon Communities:

“Join us for a presentation from Let’s Cook Project on their work around avoidable food waste, followed by a live cooking demonstration from Cllr Shrobona Bhattacharya, district councillor for Cambourne. Shrobona will be sharing how to assemble a traditional Indian thali – a plate of naturally plant-based dishes.

You’re welcome to cook along with the presenter*, or just sit back and enjoy the event! Sign up here to receive the Zoom link: [Zero Carbon Communities: Climate Friendly Cook With Me Tickets, Fri, May 10, 2024 at 7:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)”

*Recipe and cook-along instructions available [here](#).

South Cambs Organic Gardeners

South Cambs Organic Gardeners meet out on location in the summer. The next meeting is on 24 June at 7pm, more details from helen.harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk.

The Big Plastic Count 2024

In the last newsletter we mentioned the Big Plastic Count which gave all of us a chance to check how much plastic packaging was being used for the food and other items we purchase, and share our findings. The results of this year’s survey are now online: <https://thebigplasticcount.com/>.

Survey on water use

Transition Cambridge’s water group is investigating what water saving measures we can promote to help alleviate the problem of water shortage. Fill in their short [survey](#) and be in with a chance of winning £30 of shopping vouchers.

News from Zero Carbon Communities

There are some interesting news items in the [recent newsletter](#) from South Cambs’s Zero Carbon Communities, including a survey finding that many people think that sorting their rubbish into the right colour bin is the single most helpful thing they can do to protect the environment (*spoiler alert* -

although that's important, there are many much more important steps we all can take!). There is also news of a fresh round of grant funding intended for parish councils, charities and community groups, for projects that will lock up carbon or help promote community engagement on topics of sustainability and the impacts of climate change.

Situations Vacant

We are *still* looking for a volunteer to take charge of our Facebook page - if you are interested, please get in touch: email 2G3S.

Reports on Recent 2G3S Events

2G3S Book Club - 20th February

We enjoyed 'Factfulness' by Hans Rosling and thought it was an important book. It encourages us to look at data (facts, even!) and not be swayed by ten factors to which Rosling devotes a chapter each. They include our instincts (evolved for good reasons relating to survival but not always appropriate in today's world), assumptions, fear, and misinterpretation of trends, all of which responses often being reinforced by media promotion of dramatic stories.

Great Shelford Repair Cafe - 24th February



Our repair cafes in Great Shelford always seem to be the busiest, and this event was no exception. Our repairers were presented with a variety of challenges ranging from a wind-up mantelpiece clock to a misbehaving DVD player, torn jackets to broken chair legs, and a non-functioning cycle light to a tangled necklace. We did not fix everything that was brought in but we fixed all those!

As ever the proceedings were fuelled by a stream of hot beverages, cakes and cookies, and the feedback we received was unanimously positive about the repairers and the catering.

Our next repair cafe will also be in Great Shelford, in the same venue, on 21st September (see above). We are grateful to the Great Shelford Free Church for the use of their premises for these events.

The editor welcomes ideas and copy by email, for inclusion in future newsletters. The next edition will be due in August 2024 - please send contributions to the editor before the end of July.

We encourage you to let us know what you think about this newsletter- send your comments to the editor via 2g3snewsletter@gmail.com.

The [email address for general enquiries to 2G3S](mailto:mail2G3S@gmail.com) is now “mail2G3S@gmail.com”.



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