

CAYNHAM NEWS

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www.caynham.eclipse.co.uk

December 2021

Produced and published monthly by Caynham Village Hall.
If you are organising anything and would like it to be listed here,
please contact David Faulkner at least one month in advance.

Season's Greetings to all our readers!!



ST MARY'S CHURCH CAYNHAM FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES

THEME "A CHRISTMAS SONG"

**SATURDAY 4th DECEMBER &
SUNDAY 5th DECEMBER
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days**

FREE ENTRY FREE PARKING EVERYONE WELCOME
HOT DRINKS, CAKES & MINCE PIES
CHRISTMAS STALL, PRESERVES, RAFFLE & TOMBOLA

EVENING CONCERT

SATURDAY 4th December at 7.30 p.m.

"LITTLE HEREFORD VOICES"

ADULTS £6 CHILDREN £3

TICKETS:- CHRIS KING 01584 876819

JILL BUFTON 01584 876900

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

SUNDAY 5th December at 3pm.

ALL WELCOME

PROCEEDS TO ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The environmental crisis and us – part 4: 'net zero'

greenwash (n) a specious overlay, or ineffectual display, of concern for the environment [Chambers Dictionary]; marketing that portrays an organisation's products, activities or policies as producing positive environmental outcomes when this is not the case [UK Financial Conduct Authority]

The COP26 meeting in Glasgow was disappointingly short on actions, but what it did have aplenty were pledges. Almost every country and, it seemed, every corporation is pledging to reach 'net zero' by some date, generally a few decades away. In many cases there is little indication of how 'net zero' is to be achieved, or any intermediate targets to monitor progress towards this distant goal.

'Net zero' means that any CO₂ emissions are balanced by an equal quantity of CO₂ removed from the atmosphere. This is known as carbon offsetting - you may already have used it yourself, for example to offset emissions from a flight. There are various types of offsetting available via the internet to individuals and larger scale schemes for companies. One of COP26's claimed successes was the agreement on a carbon trading scheme where companies can purchase 'carbon credits' as an additional form of offsetting. Most countries also include offsetting in their 'net zero' plans.

How valid are these schemes? Friends of the Earth (FoE, Oct 2021) argue that offsetting is a "dangerous distraction". Their essential point is that offsetting is only valid if emissions have already been reduced as far as possible - it's not a licence to keep on emitting as usual. However, if the cost of offsetting or buying credits is lower than that of reducing emissions, many companies will opt for offsetting. Carbon trading sets up a market, beloved by economists who have a naive faith in the efficiency of market forces and by the financial sector who see it as an opportunity to make money. Large corporations are, of course, expert in 'gaming' markets (exploiting profitable loopholes) and find a voluntary scheme far preferable to the dreadful alternatives of regulation and (horror!) a carbon tax. Thus, the danger is that these schemes will hide continuing high emissions behind the pretence of 'net zero' and do nothing to tackle the climate crisis - a classic example of greenwash.

[The effectiveness of offsetting also merits examination – see next month]

When a company pledges to reach 'net zero', with or without offsetting, it may not mean what you expect. Conventionally, a company's carbon emissions are categorised into three 'scopes'. Scope 1 covers direct emissions such as from



company vehicles or gas/oil burnt on company premises. Scope 2 includes emissions that occur elsewhere but are directly linked to company operation, from electricity and water supplies etc. These two scopes are relatively easy to quantify. Scope 3 is more complex and includes emissions from the supply chains used by the company (so involving emissions by other companies) and those related to the company's product once it has been sold. Often a 'net zero' pledge only covers scopes 1 and 2, the company's operational carbon footprint.

An important component of scope 3 is 'use of product'. So where does that leave fossil fuel companies, the use of whose products is responsible for most of the world's emissions? Fear not! Those clever people who brought you the carbon footprint (to make you feel guilty) now present 'carbon intensity' (to make them appear virtuous). They didn't actually invent the term, merely appropriated it. Carbon intensity is the amount of CO₂ emitted by a fuel in order to produce a given amount of energy, so it's a measure of how 'dirty' a fuel is: the carbon intensity (in grams of CO₂ per kWh) for coal is 955, for oil 893 and for natural gas 599 (source: Wikipedia). Shell has announced it wants to reduce the carbon intensity of its products by 20% by 2030. It could do this by investing in renewables (good) or simply by increasing the proportion of natural gas to oil (bad). In fact, Shell plans a 20% increase in gas production while investing \$12bn a year in fossil fuels but less than \$3bn in renewable energy. **Greenwash!!**

<https://climateactiontracker.org/> has a robust analysis of pledges by countries;
<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate/dangerous-distraction-why-offsetting-will-worsen-climate-and-nature-emergencies> is the full text of the FoE article.

Events in December and January (Caynham Village Hall unless noted)

Sat/Sun 4/5 th Dec	Christmas Tree Festival St Mary's Church, 10am – 4pm (3pm Sun)
Sat 4 th Dec	Concert, Little Hereford Voices, St Mary's Church 7.30pm
Sun 5 th Dec	Christingle service, St Mary's Church 3pm
Weds 8 th Dec	WI: Christmas Lunch & Conjuror 12.30pm (Ashford Carbonel VH)
Sat 11 th Dec	Caynham Walkers – details from organiser
Mon 13 th Dec	Caynham Book Exchange 10.30am
Sat 8 th Jan	Caynham Walkers – details from organiser
Tues 11 ^h Jan	Gardening Society: to be announced [note date; 2 nd Tuesday]
Mon 10 th Jan	Caynham Book Exchange 10.30am
Weds 12 th Jan	WI: talk "Missing" by Many Stokes 7.30pm (Ashford Carbonel VH)

Contact details (area code 01584 except where noted)

Caynham Ashford Women's Institute (<https://sites.google.com/site/caynhamashfordwi/>)

Meets monthly 7.30pm 2nd Wednesday at Caynham or Ashford Carbonell village halls

President	Mrs Christine King	876819
Secretary	Mrs Jane van Duijvenvoorde	891396 janevanduij@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mrs Ann Morris	831692

Caynham & District Gardening Society (<http://caynhamgardening.blogspot.co.uk>)

Meets monthly 7.30pm 1st Tuesday Caynham Village Hall

Chairman	Mrs Christine King	876819
Secretary	Mrs Jean Faulkner	879515 jeanmfaulkner@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Mrs Ann Morris	831692

Caynham Book Exchange

Meets monthly 11am 2nd Monday Caynham Village Hall

Contact	Mrs Paula Spencer	875419
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Ashford & Caynham Butterflies Pre-school Playgroup

Every weekday in term time, 9am to 3pm Bishop Hooper CE Primary School

Committee Chair	Ms Julia Harmen	
Leader	Ms Leigh Turner	07779171674

Caynham Parish Council (<http://www.caynhampc.org.uk>)

Meets bimonthly 7pm 1st Monday usually Knowbury Memorial Hall, occasionally Caynham or Clee Hill Village Hall

Caynham Councillor	Mrs Barbara Ashford (Chairman)	874402
County Councillor	Mr Richard Huffer	891215 richard.huffer@shropshire.gov.uk
Clerk	Mr Eric Williams	874661 cewilliams1@btinternet.com

Caynham Walking Group

Meets monthly 2nd Saturday: walks are 4 to 6 miles starting about 10am. For details please contact Catherine Newcombe (891225 or cathnewcombe@btinternet.com).

Caynham Village Hall Committee (<http://www.caynham.eclipse.co.uk/vhall.html>)

Chairman	Dr David Faulkner	879515 davidjfaulkner@btinternet.com
Hall Bookings	Mrs Jean Faulkner	879515 jeanmfaulkner@btinternet.com

St Mary's Church Caynham

Rector	Revd Lynn Money	831203 ashfordsrector@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Mrs Ann Reid	875519
	Mr Stephen Ashford	874402 sjashford@hotmail.com

Friends of Bishop Hooper CE Primary School

Contact	Mrs Anna Gittins (Headmistress)	831110
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