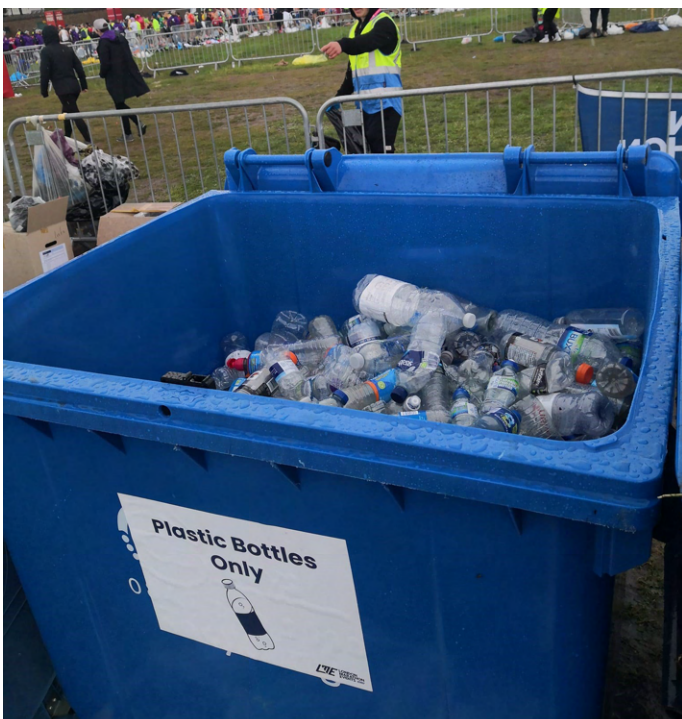




BROMLEY ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

April 2023



WELCOME!

Welcome to the March 2023 issue of the Bromley Environment Network newsletter.

The Bromley Environment Network affectionately known as the **BEN**

We are a group of local Bromley community groups and organisations that share a belief that a greener and cleaner borough is good for everyone.

We aren't all eco-ninjas - but we do all think that the best way forward is establishing a useful local network to share interesting, helpful information amongst groups in the borough of Bromley to help make it a nicer place to live.

If you have any information you would like to share in the next newsletter then please email by:

15 May 2023

Any events included should be for **01 June 2023** onwards.

Send to: bromleyenvironmentnetwork@gmail.com

INSIDE THIS MONTH

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We aim to ensure that articles are correct at the time of publication. However, we advise that you check with organisers prior to travelling to events.



BEN MEMBERS LIST

1230 The Women's Company

BLG Mind

Bromley Buzz

Bromley Cyclists

Bromley Friends Forum

Bromley Friends of the Earth (BFOE)

Bromley Living Streets

Bromley Rotary Club

Bromley Soroptimists'

Bromley YouthStrike4Climate

Chislehurst Eco Community

Copers Cope Area Residents Association

deafPLUS

Downham Celebrates

Eco Church Network Bromley

EnBro

Environmental Action Coney Hall (EACH)

Friends of Cator Park and Alexandra Rec Ground

Friends of Chislehurst Recreation Ground (FOCRG)

GoodGym Bromley

Greener and Cleaner

Greenwich Sustainability Hub

Hayes Life

Hayes Primary School PTA

Hayes School PTA

Kidical Mass

Knoll Residents Association

Lewisham Local

Orpington Baptist Church

Package Less

Park Langley Residents Association (PLRA)

Penge Street Friends

Ravensbourne Rotary Club

Ravensbourne Valley Residents

Rotary Club of Langley Park

RSPB Bromley Local Group

SELCE

St Mary of Nazereth Church, West Wickham

St Paul's Church, Beckenham

Start Up Bromley

Successful Mums

The Friends of Scadbury Park

Tubbenden Friends Association

West Beckenham Residents' Association

Woodland Mindfulness

SIGN UP FOR FREE!

www.membermojo.co.uk/ben

Share sustainability and environmental news
and help spread the word of the amazing work
by your organisation.

MEMBER NEWS

FRIENDS OF CATOR PARK & ALEXANDRA RECREATION GROUND

Anyone seen our hedgerow?

Getting safely from one end of Alexandra Rec to the other is hard work if you are an insect or a small bird. The Friends of Cator Park & Alexandra Recreation Ground have just made it a little bit easier! With the help of hedge neighbours, volunteers, idverde - and funding from CPRE - we have planted the first 50m of our mixed hedgerow. Rowan, birch, hazel, hawthorn, alder, blackthorn, field maple and hornbeam saplings now march halfway down the west side of the park. When we started planting in January we used donated Christmas trees as dead hedge and added a split hazel fence to protect it from inquisitive dogs and enthusiastic footballs.

Neighbours in roads nearby have kindly kept us refreshed with tea, cakes and encouragement. Volunteers have put in over 140 hours of gardening and planted nearly 300 young trees.

Half of these were two-year old saplings, kindly donated by idverde with the remaining new whips from The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). With the arrival of spring we are excited to see those saplings greening up and blossoming.

Late autumn will see us continuing the hedge by planting a further 400+ young tree whips (generously donated by TCV). This will make the hedgerow a green route all the way from mature trees at the Penge end of the park to the younger trees on the Sydenham side.

Hedgerows, and the vital habitat they provide, are disappearing from our countryside, but deep in the heart of Penge a new hedgerow is rising. We'd love you to walk by and watch it grow. If you'd like to join us gardening in the park, or at one of our events, you'll be very welcome. Find dates and more information on our website: www.friendsofcatorandalexandra.com



Left: Some of our volunteers starting the planting in January 2023. Middle: It's all starting to leaf up now that April has arrived. Right: Planting and fencing finished for now – until we start again in October! Article by Gill Cawdron

ECO CHURCH NETWORK BROMLEY



The Eco Church Network Bromley was launched in March 2023 with the aim of bringing together churches across the borough who are signed up to, or interested in, the Eco Church programme run by the A Rocha Foundation. Having invited the 21 churches we knew were already signed up, it was a particular delight to see the network immediately expanded further with 2 new churches getting word of mouth and asking to come along.

A bit of explanation about Eco Church for those who know little or nothing about it. Eco Church is a programme for each local church to explore, addressing questions of sustainability and embedding good practice as, well, just how things are normally done. There's a detailed questionnaire covering 101 different items in total across 5 categories: worship & teaching; premises; land; community engagement; and lifestyle. It touches everything a church fellowship does – from examining and reducing its own carbon footprint from heating and lighting its own buildings, to promoting sustainability in the wider community.



The launch meeting of the network took place at Christchurch URC Petts Wood. Revd Nadene Snyman took us on an exciting and inspiring exploration of all the things they have adopted and gradually built up over several years. Amongst other things (and the list is far too long to put here), there's a labyrinth (popular with schoolchildren), a bug hotel (good for bio-diversity) and a book library (www.littlefreelibrary.com – great for commuters on their way to the train station!). Some years ago they succeeded in getting the Bronze Award (as have 6 other churches in Bromley), then the Silver Award (1 other church likewise) and now – tantalisingly close – they're working on the last bit to reach Gold. Well done Christchurch!

Fun fact: there are just over 6,000 churches registered for Eco Church across Great Britain. And just 32 of those have reached Gold. Wouldn't it be great if Christchurch could be the next!

Looking at each other's premises will naturally spark new ideas of how to do things, so the monthly meetings are a moving fast with a different church hosting each time. Another important part of the network is sharing ideas, getting help, and generally encouraging each other. As well as the 2 new churches already on board, there's also been a clear re-invigoration of efforts in some of the other churches where progress might have stalled.

You don't have to be registered with Eco Church, you could just be thinking about it. And although the programme is explicitly about church, we

would warmly welcome other faith groups with a similar interest.

So if you're interested in finding out more, do please contact Ian Moore at:

ecochurchnetworkbromley@gmail.com.

On the topic "What we learnt from hosting a green hustings"

Some of you may remember that St Pauls hosted Bromley's only climate hustings in March 2022 ahead of the London borough elections. All four parties were quizzed on their proposed policies. Speakers from St Pauls will tell us more about how this came about and where it goes next.



Wednesday 10th May 2023 : 7.30pm

St Paul's Church, Beckenham, BR3 1RB

"What we learnt from hosting a green hustings" Paul Kunert

Wednesday 31st May 2023

Emmanuel URC, West Wickham, BR4 9JS

"How it all started" Revd David Pickering

South East London Community Energy (SELCE)



The South East London Community Energy co-operative (SELCE) was formed in 2014 by a group of local volunteers who were concerned about the escalating pace of climate change and wanted to do something about it in a local setting.

If you would like help managing your energy bills, access to grants and discounts for home improvements then you can speak to SELCE advisors.

SELCE's retrofit coordinators are able to assist with your home retrofit projects. Get 1-1 advice and support to invest in greening your property.

Access a funded energy audit for your business or get renewable energy in your school, community centre or commercial building.

Sign up to the SELCE energy advice newsletter – with up to date, local and funding information for homeowners and organisations.

Join here <http://eepurl.com/hWfu9b>

GOODGYM BROMLEY



We're a group of local residents who run, walk, or cycle to help out community projects and older people across the borough of Bromley

Goodgym currently have availability on the following evenings in May so get in touch as they'd love to give you a helping hand.

May availability dates:

Tues 2nd, Mon 15th, Tues 30th

The GoodGym Environmental Working Group are currently developing some online training so that all GoodGymers know how they are benefitting our surroundings and how to spot animal habitats and invasive plant species which should hopefully be useful for increasing biodiversity.

Cycling Sessions

Do you know any cyclists?! As we live in a huge borough and get requests for support from all over, this month GoodGym Bromley are trialling some Cycle Sessions to work on a couple of really fun projects near Biggin Hill. If you know anyone who might join us or an organisation a cycle ride away, please forward our details.

100 Days of Action

A lot of our GoodGym tasks are in green spaces so the GoodGym central team are highlighting different planet-friendly tasks we're doing every day over the next 3 months. Check out GoodGym's main social media channels and you may end up seeing our Bromley team popping up now and then!

CONTACT GOODGYM BROMLEY

Website: www.goodgym.org/bromley

Contact Tel: 07963 081967

www.facebook.com/goodgym

www.twitter.com/goodgym

www.instagram.com/goodgym



THE CHISLEHURST SOCIETY

BURSARY FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Chislehurst Golf Club, Chislehurst Rotary, Visit Chislehurst and The Chislehurst Society have come together to offer up to **£8,000** in bursary funding for a **young person living or studying in BR7** to undertake a course or apprenticeship in environmental related studies. This is to celebrate the Coronation and we felt it was in line with His Majesty's vision for a sustainable legacy.

Details can be found at www.chislehurst-society.org.uk



APPLICATIONS CLOSE

31 MAY 2023

Automobile Club Chislehurst Electric Trials



In Chislehurst, we were recently thrilled to learn that battery powered cars are not a new thing. The Electric Vehicle Endurance Trial was staged here in November 1900.

The starting point was the Bull's Head Hotel, and the batteries of those cars entered were charged at the "Chislehurst Electric Light Station". The current was taken from the power station in Bromley.

Thirteen cars were entered for the trial, but only seven actually took part. It was difficult for the cars to get from London to Chislehurst due to bad weather so the competition didn't begin

until Tuesday 6th of November and the programme was shortened by one day.

Broadly speaking the routes varied from day to day invariably going through local villages and towns, such as the Crays, Sidcup, Orpington, Farningham etc. In the main they were up to 30 miles in distance. The most successful car managed to do 65 miles in one day. The electricity came from the Bromley Generating Station, 3 miles distance at 2000 Volts. This was transformed at Chislehurst down to 440 Volts.

One of the successful cars that entered the race was owned by 25 year old Ferdinand Porsche who personally came to Chislehurst to race his car. Le Toujours Contente suffered tyre failures on its 34 miles with Porsche at the wheel.

One competitor stated, "there were inches of mud on the floors; rain came through the roof; the sheds were doorless and the cars and

attendants were nightly exposed to the full force of wind and rain." Other electric vehicle entrants managed only 7 miles distance through the muddy, rutted course. Ferdinand Porsche caught a severe cold, contributing to his vehicle's elimination from further competition.

We have discovered that the charging station is now Royal Dry Cleaners on Royal Parade.



BROMLEY FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

2nd May 2023 7:30pm

BFoE Monthly Meeting

**The Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley, on the corner of Ringer's Road.
Speaker Cecilia Willatt on Fair Trade.**

On 25th March twelve of us met at Bromley Library gardens for our litter pick to support The Great British Spring Clean organised by Keep Britain Tidy. Thank you to all who were able to come along and make the litter pick a very worthwhile event! Ann Garrett had the important job of giving out leaflets to the public that explained the problems of litter and also single use plastics. We managed to gather 12 bags of litter from the surrounding areas and placed them ready to be collected that evening. We were also very pleased to be joined by Jeff Royce, chairman of the Friends of the Library gardens. I registered our collection on the website and saw that more than 400,000 bags had been collected country wide. Amazing! If you have a moment, please go to the Great British Spring Clean website¹ to complete their

short feedback form. In 2022, 74% agreed that taking part helped their mood and 85% agreed that they felt more pride in their local area.

Article by Annette Rose



Find out about BFoE at <https://groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/groups/bromley-friends-of-the-earth>

¹ www.keepbritaintidy.org

ROTARY CLUB OF LANGLEY PARK



With the help of another 3 Bromley clubs, Langley Park Rotary Club planted 120 Hazel whips on West Wickham Common on Saturday 25th of March, under the direction of the Ranger Kieran .

This is managed by the City of London Parks Dept and supports much needed biodiversity.

It is an ancient woodland with some 600 year oak trees and part heath land. There are also remnants of a possible Iron Age Fort circa 600 BC.



You can read more about the history of the Langley Park area and view more of their images on their website here:

www.langleyparkrotary.uk/history-langley-park-area

START UP BROMLEY

sustainable businesses about what makes them eco-friendly, and why is it important for a businesses to be more environmentally conscious – as well as ample time to network!

For more details and to book go to the Eventbrite page:-

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/networking-evening-celebrating-sustainable-business-tickets-608670017407>

Website:-

www.better.org.uk/library/london/bromley/bromley-central-library/start-up-bromley

Networking Evening 4th May 2023

Celebrating Sustainable Businesses

Large Hall (4th Floor), Bromley Central Library,
BR1 1EX Businesses

Business support
for aspiring and
early stage
entrepreneurs

Join Start Up Bromley for a Networking Evening on Thursday **4th May** which is celebrating Green Businesses, it is open to all & **FREE** to attend.

We will be celebrating sustainable & eco-friendly business, with talks from a variety of

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CONEY HALL (EACH)

We have had a very busy April to date. We took part in the Great British Spring Clean over two weekends – covering the whole of Coney Hall. We planted another two trees in the community orchard and in addition, a disease resistant elm courtesy of the wonderful scheme, 'Elms for London'. The 400 bulbs we planted have been a source of joy and the fruit trees in the orchard are just starting to blossom. It's a wonderful sight. After a lot of hard work, our nature trail is now in situ in the park. This trail includes rubbing plaques for children.



Environmental Action Coney Hall

Each one of us can make a difference

stopped...we survived the Easter holidays anyway! We will not give in to them.

We were thrilled to see that the Kent Gateway entrance to Coney Hall has been selected for Bromley's wild flower verges pilot scheme. As part of our aim to make Coney Hall a pollinating village, we have been asking for some long verges for six years! One stretch is a start. Of course, we are hearing about some opposition to the scheme but we are addressing the issue and opening the debate on local social media and in the local primary school magazine. Hopefully, the

recent spate of 'Wild Britain' programmes on the television will help our residents to understand the importance of wild areas. We are encouraging as many people as we can to

Sadly, we have experienced some mindless vandalism – our native hedgerow was slashed down and several areas of the park and the village have been blighted by graffiti. However, following some evidence to suggest where the culprits are from, I contacted a local secondary school and was most impressed by the response. The school addressed the issue of anti-social behaviour with students and so far, it seems to have



take part in Plantlife's 'No Mow May' which may serve to highlight an alarming trend pertaining to people concreting over their front gardens and worse still, installing the dreaded astroturf in Coney Hall.

Article by Sarah Chant



GREENER AND CLEANER

Despite a break for the Easter holidays, April was all go at Greener and Cleaner! We launched a recruitment campaign for a paid volunteer manager and new Trustees to help lead us in to the future. It's been a busy time planning events suitable for the coronation and helping everyone with greener ways to celebrate.

Parisa and John held a very successful Waste Reduction Clinic for ISS in honour of World Earth Day at Lewisham and Queen Elizabeth hospital sites. Over 100 different people stopped for a chat and a quiz or two!

They chatted about waste reduction in terms of:

Recycling

Reuse and upcycling

Making and mending

Borrowing and lending

Reducing energy, food and fuel waste

And of course, all the amazing advice and workshops available at The Hub from Greener & Cleaner and Library of Things in The Glades.

For an advice stall like this, lunch & learns, talks, workshops or away days for your staff (or



clients) do get in touch. These activities help fund our work, including our awesome free community workshops and local projects. Email Info@greenerandcleaner.co.uk for more.

Greener and Cleaner were also selected for the Big Give, green match fund, running 20-27th April. Up to £2,500 could be raised and then doubled with match funding. With three days to spare, Greener and Cleaner supporters raised more than the target! We're humbled by the support and generosity everyone has shown Greener and Cleaner in this campaign - thank you to anyone who donated as part of it.



TCS LONDON MARATHON



A large crew of volunteers headed to the TCS London Marathon on Sunday 23rd April to help with waste management at the event. With over 44 thousand runners taking part that was a lot of rubbish to manage! The team had an early start, but in good spirits despite some rain, they manned 6 waste management points in the blue start area. Volunteer Liz said: "Great fun, very exciting to combine my love of the marathon with my love of bins! It's quite emotional helping the runners." The efforts of the volunteers massively reduce the negative environmental impact of the event. Sign up is open for 2024 waste management volunteers with Greener and Cleaner, so if you'd like to be at the 2024 London Marathon sign up here: <https://forms.gle/noJRFk98ngAqhRYx9>

And in more marathon news, Rachel completed the marathon in 4:51:53. Fundraising for Greener and Cleaner she helped to raise nearly £800 on a dedicated sponsorship page and then switched to contribute to the total raised during the Big Give green match fund that took place 20-27th April. She said "The day was incredible! I volunteered at the waste management stations before my start and it was a nice timely reminder of why I was running. The Greener and Cleaner volunteers were fantastic and the support out on the course was amazing too.



I'm so proud of myself for running sub-five hours, but it was easy to do when I'm surrounded by such amazing and positive people at Greener and Cleaner".

Well done Rachel!



All hail the King!

Red, White and Blue . . . and Green Coronation Celebrations

Well! The coronation is almost upon us. This historic event will be celebrated across the country. Can you make it personally historical though? If you don't already, could you celebrate with a greener theme in mind? All those tempting red, white and blue party accessories and decorations could be homemade rather than shop bought, they could be made from upcycled materials, they could be made to be reused... and here's how!

Bunting

- Use fabric scraps to tie across string to make a rag-based bunting

- Use old red white and blue clothes as the fabric for triangular bunting.

By re-using clothes that you don't want, wear or haven't got around to donating you can reduce their environmental impact by up to 30% depending on the item and material it's made from.

Rag bunting looks pretty and takes minutes - quicker and more environmentally friendly than a drive to the shops too!



Plates and cutlery

Re-use your own and ask friends to bring theirs too.

England uses 2.7 billion items of single-use cutlery each year - enough to wrap around the earth 8 and a half times! And that's without a proud nation celebrating the King's coronation. Two of the three key things to being greener are to reduce and reuse. If you're having party food that needs a plate by re-using your own and others already existing plates and cutlery you'll cut down on single-use plastic and paper massively.

Napkins

Single-use tissues contribute to deforestation and baby wipes take 100 years to break down

into microplastics. A greener option would be to use a wet flannel, or provide a bowl and hand soap, or simply rinse under the garden hose if you're at a street party! (Remember to turn the hose off though and don't leave a tap dripping).



Tidy up time

Pitch in and show willing to help at clean up time. It builds a greater sense of community and deeper connections with your neighbours and friends because you haven't partied and left. If you have recycling bins and find rubbish, try and make sure it heads in the right one.

Greener and Cleaner have litter pickers and sack holders that can be borrowed from The Hub in return for a small donation to help with your clean up efforts too.

King for a day

Try and reuse crowns for children, or buy them second-hand. Do you have one from world book day that you've forgotten about? Does a friend have one you can borrow or that an older child has outgrown? The Hub are running lots of events themed around finger-knitted crowns, making bunting and more sustainable parties. You can check their events at www.greenerandcleaner.co.uk/events.

If a sustainable party isn't something you have done before, the coronation is an ideal time to try. From one historical event to another.

NETWORK &
CONNECT

GAIN WORK
EXPERIENCE

ENHANCE
YOUR CV

SENSE OF
PURPOSE

BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

Don't forget if you know anyone who would be a great Trustee of Greener and Cleaner, we're recruiting now. We also have a wide range of volunteering opportunities available, both at The Hub in The Glades shopping centre or behind the scenes (in person or remotely). Great for meeting new people, helping your local community, teaching or learning more about sustainability skills, building confidence and people skills, or getting professional experience and sustainability training. More info at www.greenerandcleaner.co.uk/get-involved/volunteer

MAKE
FRIENDS

LEARN NEW
SKILLS

BUILD
CONFIDENCE

HELP THE
COMMUNITY

CARBON LITERACY TRAINING

Every day is a school day

Greener and Cleaner have released a new date for Carbon Literacy Training. What's that? I hear you ask. Suitable for businesses and individuals, Carbon Literacy training dramatically opens up the discussion around why it's so important and what it really means. A full day of training to help us understand (in simpler terms than normal) what is causing the climate crisis, how we can act to tackle it, and what you can do to help.

It will leave participants feeling empowered with the first easy steps they can take to reduce their carbon footprint both at home and in the workplace. The course also comes with external certification.

You can either book a place on this fab and eye-opening course on 17th May with spaces still available now:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/carbon-literacy-training-tickets-594878797497>

If you would like to make a group booking or have us come to you and facilitate a group of people at your organisation costs vary depending on the number of participants and we do offer a charity rate. Please email info@greenerandcleaner.co.uk with Carbon Literacy in the subject line.

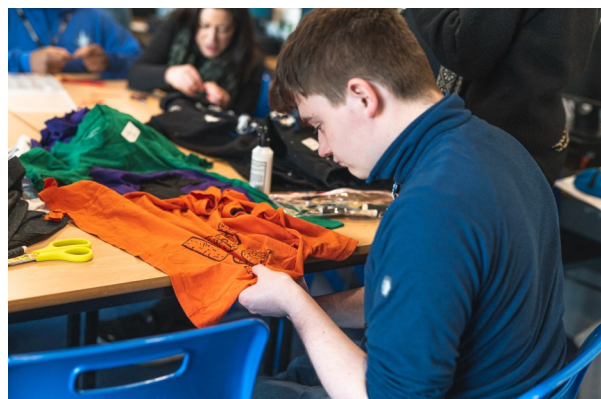
For more bespoke offerings for your organisation please get in touch. We offer a whole range of options. From an advice stall, or lunch & learns, to talks, workshops or away days for your staff or clients. Email info@greenerandcleaner.co.uk to get started.

"Some of the most important training I've ever done ... I thought I knew about climate change, carbon reduction, and sustainability, I thought we were doing our bit, and then I went on a Carbon Literacy course. One day out of a busy diary, but boy did it make a massive difference. I was wrong on so many things that I thought I knew about". Alice Webb, Director of BBC North

YOUTH OUTREACH TEAM

Greener and Cleaner's Youth Outreach Team have piloted the Sustainable Fashion Project in six schools across Bromley and Greenwich (Bullers Wood, Coopers, Eltham Hill, Glebe, Langley Park, Ravensbourne). A student from Ravensbourne said that **"As a result of the Sustainable Fashion Project I feel a lot more confident and will definitely do more upcycling at home now."** Overall, 94% of participants feel more confident to upcycle their clothes and buy pre-loved. Greener and Cleaner is looking forward to celebrating the project with a fashion show hosted by Coopers School at the end of May.

Photo Credit: Donna Ford Photography



The Hub from Greener and Cleaner

Your community-powered space offers support with greener and cleaner more sustainable living.

Opening times

10am - 6pm: Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

11am - 5pm: Sunday.

Pop in for a chat with our volunteers, more ideas and to see what activities are on.

www.facebook.com/TheHubGreenerCleaner



Join an event at the Hub!

Event	Date
Knitting and Crochet Group	Every Monday 12-14:00
Mending Clinic	Every Saturday 12-14:00
Knit and Crochet Social Community Group	Forth Thursday every month 18:30-20:00 Including 25 May
Stitch it don't ditch it - Social Mending Session	Last Sunday of the Month, including 28 May, 14:00
Become a volunteer and make a difference!	4, 8, 18 May and 1, 12, 15 and 25 June. See Events Page for times.
Kids Crochet Workshop	Second Thursday of the Month, including 11 May 16:00
Kids Knitting Workshop	Last Thursday of the Month, including 25 May 16:00
Get Ready for the Coronation - Bunting Workshop	Saturday 6 May 14:00
Grow Your Own Salad	Friday 12 May 16:00
Less is more—decluttering workshop	Saturday 13 May 11:00
Bee Feeder Workshop	Saturday 13 May 2023 14:00 and 15:00
Carbon Literacy Training	Wednesday 17 May, 10:00
Sustainable Fashion Show	Thursday 25 May 18:00
Reusable Nappies Workshop and More!	Thursday 8 June 2023

Check www.greenerandcleaner.co.uk/events for up to date info and to book.

All events are free unless stated otherwise but a voluntary donation is always welcome!

USEFUL INFORMATION

JOIN THE NETWORK

The Bromley Environment network brings together community groups from across Bromley Borough.

We aim to share information, inspire and support local people, fellow community groups, and the Council to make our borough a greener, healthier and more sustainable place to live, both now and in the future. Join us for FREE online:-

<https://membermojo.co.uk/ben>



Do make sure you hit this final button to ensure your sign up is complete.

Payment

No payment is required

Click **Free Checkout** to complete this purchase.

Free Checkout

DOWNLOAD PAST NEWSLETTERS

This newsletter as well as previous copies, can be downloaded from a Google folder – you can access this using the shortened link: <https://tinyurl.com/bromleyenvir>

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

We would love to hear what network members have been up to.

Please email your articles by **15 May 2023**. Any events included should be for **01 June 2023** onwards.

MAKE A DONATION

We hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter. If you were interested in making a donation to help fund future issues, then please contact us at bromleyenvironmentnetwork@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



NO MOW MAY



1st-31st May: Plantlife's #NoMowMay asks you to lock up your lawnmowers starting 1st May 2023

Free the wildflowers in your lawn so they can grow wild and provide a feast for pollinators (like bees), tackle pollution, and help lock away atmospheric carbon below ground

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

1st-31st May: No Meat May

<https://www.nomeatmay.org/> If you're accepting the challenge of eating no meat this month you may find your veganuary resources good for this month too: <https://veganuary.com/>

2nd May: Bromley Friends of the Earth Monthly Meeting 7.30pm. (See Page 9)

4th May: Start Up Bromley Networking Evening . (See Page 10)

4th, 8th, 18th May: The Hub Workshop - Become a Volunteer and make a difference! (See Page 17)

6th May: The Hub Workshop - Get Ready for the Coronation—Bunting Workshop 14:00

(See Page 17)

7th May: Friends of Chislehurst Rec Ground Environment and Biodiversity Group

7th-13th May: International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW)

<https://www.compostfoundation.org/ICAW/ICAW-Home> The awareness week includes poster and video contests, and activities and events. You can also pop in to The Hub for advice on composting from the volunteers there too.

10th May: 7.30pm Eco Church Event— St Paul's Church Beckenham "What we learnt from hosting a green hustings" . (See Page 6)

11th May: The Hub Workshop - Kids Crochet Workshop 16:00 (See Page 17)

11th-14th May: RHS Malvern Spring Festival

12th May: The Hub Workshop - Grow Your Own Salad 16:00 (See Page 17)

13th May: The Hub Workshop - Less is more - decluttering workshop - 11:00 (See Page 17)

13th May: The Hub Workshop - Bee Feeder 14:00 and 15:00 (See Page 17)

15th-19th May: National Walking Month and Walk To School Week

Sustrans five-day walking challenge is a celebration of the walk to school. Through this challenge, children will be well on their way to reaching their recommended 60 minutes minimum of physical activity per day (and so will you!) Walking has so many health benefits but also reduces carbon emissions from car journeys given up in favour of walking. Perhaps you can instigate your own workplace walking challenge this month, or how about a competitive step count?

17th May: The Hub - Carbon Literacy Training - 10am (See Page 17)

20th May: World Bee Day

Of over 20,000 species of Bees they provide

- ◆ pollination,
- ◆ apitherapy (an alternative therapy that uses products made by honeybees for medicinal purposes),
- ◆ apitourism (a travel concept that combines bees and beekeeping with memorable journeys for the whole family to enjoy),
- ◆ environmental monitoring.

Safeguarding bees, safeguards biodiversity: <https://www.fao.org/world-bee-day/en/>

22nd May: International Day for Biological Diversity

The United Nations calls for the global community to re-examine our relationship to the natural world.
www.un.org/en/observances/biological-diversity-day

23rd– 27th May: RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Visit the RHS Chelsea Flower Show for amazing garden designs, floral displays and shopping.
<https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-chelsea-flower-show>

25th May: The Hub Workshop - Kids Knitting Workshop 16:00 (See Page 17)

25th May: The Hub - Sustainable Fashion Show 18:00 (See Page 17)

25th May: The Hub Workshop - Knit and Crochet Social Community Group - 18:30 (See Page 17)

27th May-4th June: National Children's Gardening Week

National Children's Gardening Week celebrates the fun that gardens hold for kids.

More info: <https://www.childrensgardeningweek.co.uk/>

28th May: The Hub Workshop - Stitch it don't ditch it—Social Mending Session 14:00 (See Page 17)

31st May: Eco Church Event— Emmanuel URC West Wickham 'How it all started'

(See Page 6)

31st May: The Chislehurst Society BR7 Young Person Bursary Funding DEADLINE. (See Page 8)

1st, 12th, 15th and 25th June: The Hub Workshop - Become a Volunteer and make a difference! (See Page 17)

8th June: The Hub Workshop - Reusable Nappies Workshop and More! 10:30 (See Page 17)

8th June: The Hub Workshop - Kids Crochet Workshop 16:00 (See Page 17)

22nd June: The Hub Workshop - Kids Knitting Workshop 16:00 (See Page 17)

25th June: The Hub Workshop - Stitch it don't ditch it—Social Mending Session 14:00 (See Page 17)