

MESS news

Marple, Mellor & Marple Bridge Energy Saving Strategy No. 14 Summer 2018

"An opportunity to face and plan, together as a community, the challenges that Climate Change brings"



MESS has recently done a survey of most of the coffee shops, cafes and drinking places in Marple and Marple Bridge to see if they would fit in with the 'Refill' Scheme. To save on the use of single use plastics people are encouraged to keep refilling their own water bottle and shops are encouraged to refill these bottles on request.

Window stickers have been applied for to identify those taking part in the scheme. The following are happy to refill:

- 'All things Nice'
- 'Red Pepper'
- 'Golden Plate'
- 'Cloudberry'
- 'Costa'
- 'La Dolce Vita'
- 'Asda'
- 'Foragin'
- 'Samuel Oldknow'
- 'Beer Traders'
- 'Dutsons'

Please tell us if you know of others

MESS MEETINGS

MESS meets every month at 7pm in the Community Room at **Marple Fire Station**, Hollins Lane, Marple SK6 8AL

Next meetings are: **2018**

10 September, 8 October,
12 November, 10 December.
and every 2nd Monday of the month

Contacts

Email: marplemess@gmail.com
www.marplemess.org.uk



0161 663 0402
116 Longhurst Lane
Mellor SK6 5PG



Since the TV documentary Blue Planet II was shown some months ago the whole attitude to Climate Change has changed. At last people are accepting of the facts that some of us have been trying to get across for many years, but the brilliance of the programme and its photography have convinced even those who were disinterested or sceptical that perhaps there is something that we could all be doing to adapt to the present situation.

The sight of all the plastic in the oceans has horrified us and finding litter on our own seaside environments shows us how close to home these problems are. MESS is one of the many organisations that has done a litter-pick in and around Marple precinct. Only a week after a previous one we still collected nine sacks of rubbish. We should be ashamed of this amount of littering. Wouldn't it be good to have a clean shopping area and town centre?

In the strange weather of this year which saw us suffer from 'Storm Brian', the 'Beast from the East' and at last the glorious weather of this summer many of us have finally believed that the pattern of our climate is changing.

MM

CLIMATE CHANGE; do we, should we care?

As ever, it's usually the case that unless a damaging event affects you personally, the majority of people tend not to take these dangerous events seriously. Take for example the unprecedented floods taking place in parts of the world while serious droughts affect others, the increase in violent storms hitting many regions, the increase in damaging heat-waves. Of course, there have always been floods, storms and droughts but now more rain can fall because a hotter atmosphere can hold more moisture, storms are more violent because there is more energy to power them and drought can be more severe because water is evaporating faster.

So what is the current state of the world's atmosphere and climate? Well, carbon dioxide levels have risen again, CO2 levels in December measured in Mauna Loa levels were 404.94ppm in fact this century, levels have applied to mean fact 2017 was the hottest EL Niño, thanks to global mean temperature rise reached 1.1°C above may not seem too trend that we should all quote Christine Lagarde,



The International Monetary fund, "The science is sobering- the global temperatures throughout this century are among the hottest since records began in 1880. Make no mistake: without concerted action, the very future of our planet is in peril."

So what should we do? Ignore President Trump, believe in the science and believe that it is possible to take action which will effectively and significantly alter the path that the world's climate is currently on.

Secondly we must promote and elect politicians who believe that (a) climate change is a serious threat to the planet and (b) are willing to promote, as a matter of urgency, strategies which must be followed to reverse the trend in CO2 emissions and move us to energy generation based on renewable sources.

We must not be complacent about climate change any longer.

GMK

MARPLE BUSINESSES TACKLE PLASTIC WASTE

We know of several local businesses who are taking big steps to reduce waste and packaging, and we hope you will recognise this by using their services when you can.

Marple Health has for some time used cellophane, a plant based material, instead of plastic for in-house packaging, and their suppliers are good at taking back cardboard and insulated boxes as well as plastic film which Stockport does not recycle. They also avoid stocking items from companies who over-package their goods.

Cloudberry Café has a policy of asking people to bring reusable mugs for take away drinks, and gives a discount. They use cardboard boxes for take away meals. They are now using paper straws and are doing their best to minimise food waste.

Littlewoods Butchers have gone over to waxed paper for wrapping, and though they already use biodegradable carrier bags, they intend their next supply will be paper carriers. They are also looking at biodegradable boxes for their ready meals.

The Chaat Cart Indian restaurant now only uses biodegradable cartons for its takeaway food.

Stationery Supplies not only stocks 'Cool Earth' file paper but also sells 'Eco Eco' products — recycled products. Folders, display pockets etc

SVC Lighting continues to offer energy saving advice, and a wide range of LED lights and fittings.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL, SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES!

Let us know of others

HB

IS IT TIME TO BUY AN ELECTRIC CAR?

If you think electric cars are small, slow, expensive and don't go very far – think again. Our second hand Nissan Leaf is a standard sized family hatchback with a reasonable boot. It is quick off the mark, will do over 70mph, and can go nearly 100 miles between charges – enough for a full day's local driving. It is 2½ years old and cost us less than £10k, which included 2½ years warranty remaining on the battery and one year's manufacturer's warranty on the rest of the car. The price also included 2 years servicing, three years membership of the RAC and a free charge point at home.

It has all the usual gizmos – keyless entry and ignition, satnav, bluetooth, climate control, reversing camera, cruise control, etc., etc. It drives like a normal automatic – but quietly. You can charge it up at home overnight (especially if you are on economy 7), during the afternoon if you have solar panels, or charge to 80% in 20 minutes with a fast charger while you are out. We found one at the new Lidl in Stockport and they are at nearly all the motorway service stations courtesy of Ecotricity (half price for Ecotricity customers). If you need to take the car on a long journey, the journey planner will take you via any necessary charging points. It comes with a portable charger that will plug into an ordinary 3 pin socket if needed.

The real-world fuel costs seem to be about 5p per mile but should fall to 4p per mile in summer. The bits I like (as well as the 5p per mile) are that you can turn the heater on using your smart phone before you leave the house and when you are going downhill, it charges up the battery. You can't do either of those with a petrol or diesel car!

GT

ARE YOU RECYCLING CORRECTLY?

We pay our council to deal with our waste. To minimise that cost, much of our waste is recycled. We can all help maximise the recycling income by recycling correctly. The three commonest problems encountered by our recycling centre are:

- 1) Finding polystyrene packaging left in cardboard boxes. Please remove the polystyrene and dispose of it in the non-recycling black bin.
- 2) The brown bin must only have tins, plastic and glass bottles and aluminium foil and cans placed in it. Bottle tops and other metal or plastic items should be placed in the black bin. Metals placed in the black bin are reclaimed from this waste and recycled. Anything combustible in the black bins is incinerated to generate electricity - so very little of what you throw away



- correctly is wasted.
- 3) The value of the items for recycling is reduced if they are dirty so please rinse or wash the items placed in the brown bin. This will also help make the working environment of our recycling workforce less unpleasant. We can all help the environment by reducing the amount of waste we produce by re-using bags, not buying food or goods that are over-packaged and giving to charity shops those things that are still working or in reasonable condition.

CB

MESS RAN A SCIENCE FAIR IN NEW MILLS

for children and parents at which they enjoyed themselves seeing and playing with MESS's school eco-science packs. We demonstrated how to generate electricity using a water wheel and from sunlight. The children were able to discover how the height the water fell and how much water fell influenced the amount of electricity that could be generated by the water wheel. They also investigated how the angle of the sun and any shadows affected the amount of electricity solar panels could generate.

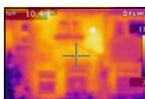


Our thermal camera provided the children with much entertainment as they looked at heat based images of themselves with red cheeks and blue noses! The adults also saw how MESS could use the thermal camera to show where buildings lose heat and the benefits of insulation. MESS can provide a thermal camera survey to Marple area residents that can inform them of where their home is losing heat and provide basic advice as to the best actions they can take to reduce their fuel bills..

CB

Thermal Imaging

MESS is again offering to do a Thermal Image of your home so you can see where there may be heat loss and other problems that could be corrected. If you wish to book a survey contact MESS to arrange on: marplemess@gmail.com or 0161 663 0402



MESS meets monthly to discuss environmental issues and matters arising and to plan the way ahead. If you would like to be part of the group and / or keep in touch with the group & other issues of Carbon Reduction in the area please complete this form and send to: MESS, 116 Longhurst Lane, Mellor, SK6 5PG
Email: marplemess@gmail.com

YOUR DETAILS

NAME:
 ADDRESS:
 POST CODE: TEL.NO:
 Email:

