

EarthMatters

Issue 103 • Spring 2022

**FARMING
WITH TREES**
A WIN-WIN
SOLUTION?
page 24



FIGHTING FOSSIL FUELS

Campaigning against
the climate wreckers



Friends of
the Earth

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If your gardens or window boxes are already buzzing with wildlife, why not consider gifting one or more Bee Saver Kits to friends, family, and neighbours. **Together, we can create a greener, safer future for bees.**

Welcome!



Our leaders know that the UK has a historic responsibility as one of the world's

biggest carbon emitters to act urgently on the climate crisis. But the UK government can't show climate leadership if it continues to support the fossil fuel industry.

This issue, we're featuring campaigns against the industry led by inspiring grassroots groups. From Mozambique to Whitehaven, I'm so proud that our work continues to place communities at the heart of our journey towards a cleaner, greener world.

We'll keep on campaigning for a transition to clean energy that benefits everyone in society, from decarbonising the UK heat sector and keeping homes warm to standing up for workers' rights. There's a lot to do, and a lot to be hopeful for.

JAMIE PETERS
Director of Campaigns

Earthmatters Friends of the Earth Limited (Reg. No. 1012357) is incorporated in England and Wales. Registered office: 1st Floor, The Printworks, 139 Clapham Road, London SW9 0HP T: 020 7490 1555. Friends of the Earth Limited ("Friends of the Earth") receives grants from Friends of the Earth Charitable Trust, a registered charity in England and Wales with charity number 281681. Advertising: Michael York T: 01865 403339. *Earthmatters* is published twice a year on behalf of Friends of the Earth by Think Publishing, 20 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JW. T: 020 3771 7200. Printing production by Seacourt Ltd, Pony Road, Horspath Road Industrial Estate, Oxford, OX4 2SE. T: 01865 770 140. Seacourt are the highest scoring B Corp printing company in the world and have a net positive impact for reducing climate change in their entire supply chain.

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Individual Giving Officer Ymani McKenzie

YOURIMPACT

Achievements from across the Friends of the Earth family

Davinson
Sánchez gets
stuck in



STAR POWER

It's not every day a football star joins you for tree planting. As part of their recent #GameZero project, Spurs and Sky donated trees to Tottenham and Wood Green Friends of the Earth. Star player Davinson Sánchez joined local schoolchildren to help plant the trees and help make their patch of north London that little bit greener. Keep up the good effort!

Campaign win

Thanks to the amazing campaigning of the people of Splott in Cardiff, plans for a new biomass power plant have been shelved. The decision will protect local residents from toxic emissions and air pollution.



Touching tribute

Matthew Clarke, artist and environmental campaigner, was working on an exhibition before his passing in 2020. His family, friends and colleagues came together to finish Matthew's project, which went on to raise an incredible £5,964 for environmental charities, of which £2,982 was generously donated to Friends of the Earth.

Further details about Matthew's art can be found on his website: matthewclarkeart.co.uk



Our groups show a united front

Challenging international issues

More than 20 groups across our network took part in a solidarity action against the mega-gas project in Mozambique. Events included local demonstrations and letter hand-ins to MPs. This united front shows our network's will to fight fossil fuel projects at home and abroad.



NO THANK YOU

Young Friends of the Earth Pontypridd received a good citizen award from Rhondda Cynon Taf Council for their climate campaigning – but didn't accept it. They felt their council was doing too little to tackle climate breakdown, so it would be hypocritical to accept. We applaud their integrity.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

When we called, you answered. Some 80,000 of you signed our petition against Cambo oil field plans. Hopefully, the (political) tide is turning on profiting from what's left of North Sea oil and gas.



Turn to page 15 for more on the Cambo win

ACTION AT COP26

WE MOBILISED THE ENTIRE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NETWORK DURING THE UN CLIMATE TALKS TO CALL FOR URGENT JUSTICE-LED SOLUTIONS TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

100+

groups joined 150,000 people to march through Glasgow

37,000

of you signed our petition demanding world leaders take meaningful action

8,000

people visited our exhibition with Friends of the Earth International

UKNEWS

Round-up of environmental stories

UNDERWATER RENEWABLE ENERGY

A 450-mile undersea electricity cable – the longest in the world – has been completed. The most powerful section was laid across the North Sea, allowing the UK and Norway to share renewable energy. Norway will be able to take advantage of energy from the UK's wind farms, while the UK will be able to reap benefits from Norway's hydropower. The carbon emissions saved from this exchange are equivalent to taking 2 million cars off the road by 2030.



An offshore wind farm on England's north-east coast



Farmland will be part of a nature recovery scheme

Rewilding England's countryside

A new nature recovery scheme will see England's farmers and landowners being paid to rewild their land and create a more nature-friendly countryside. Bids for grants worth thousands of pounds will be invited to help restore natural habitats and protect species at risk. This ambitious project covers bids to promote more sustainable farming through to long-term schemes like restoring peatlands and establishing woodland.

New case against government

Earlier this year, we filed a court claim against the UK government over 2 of its climate strategies – the Net

Zero Strategy (NZS) and the Heat and Buildings Strategy (HBS). The NZS lacks detail on how its policies will deliver the emissions reductions

required by the Climate Change Act, while the HBS doesn't consider its impact on vulnerable groups. Find out more: foe.uk/em103-nzs

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*In early 2022, these courses will be undergoing a review and subject to revalidation by University of East London.



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WORLDNEWS

The global stories that matter to you

Protests
in Serbia

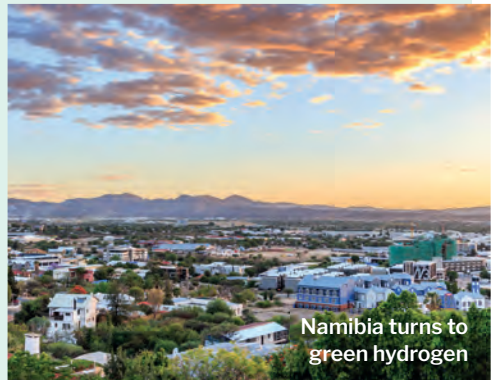


FIGHTING AGAINST LITHIUM MINES

Thousands of Serbians have blocked the roads of the capital Belgrade in a series of protests against a lithium mining project. The demonstrators have demanded the Serbian government abolish all plans for lithium mining due to the huge damage it poses to the local environment.

Green revolution

Namibia is aiming to be a hydrogen superpower, taking advantage of its sunny, windy weather to produce and export hydrogen. Production for this project is set to start in 2026 by preferred bidder Hyphen Hydrogen Energy. The project will produce 300,000 tonnes of green hydrogen yearly and create thousands of new jobs for locals.



Namibia turns to
green hydrogen

Reducing single-use plastics in France

France has made a welcome step in the fight against single-use plastics. A new law banning plastic packaging on most fruit and vegetables has been introduced.

This is an important step in reducing plastic waste in France, following its 2021 ban of plastic straws, cups and takeaway boxes.



Plastic-free progress in French supermarkets



Himalayan glaciers

Himalayan glaciers melting at “exceptional” rate

So says a study conducted by the University of Leeds. Worryingly, over the past few decades the glaciers have lost 10 times more ice compared to previous decades. Even worse, they’re melting faster than other glaciers around the world.

NORWEGIAN BANK THREATENS BEEF GIANT

Norway’s Norges Bank, which manages the Government Pension Fund of Norway, is threatening to divest from Marfrig, a Brazilian beef producer, over its links to deforestation. At COP26, Marfrig signed a statement stating it had a “shared commitment to halting forest loss associated with agricultural commodity production and trade”, but its business model is linked to extensive destruction of rainforests – including illegal



Cattle farming on deforested land

deforestation. The bank’s threat sends a strong message as the pension fund – one of the largest in the world – controls over US\$1.2 trillion in assets.

Blame game

China's and India's carbon emissions are often used to dodge questions and distract people from looking at those of the western world. How fair is it to lay blame at their doors?



Have you ever heard: “We’re not as bad as China or India, have you seen their emissions?”

After the United Nations COP26 deal in Glasgow was reportedly “betrayed” by these nations, China and India once again became scapegoats. But can we simply pin (most) global emissions on two rapidly industrialising countries?

“THE STATS DON’T LIE”

But they sure can skew the truth.

Media stories covering carbon emissions typically compare them by nation instead of per capita – meaning per person. This

skews the picture by presenting each country’s use of polluting practices as equal. For example, providing electricity to an entire nation, by burning fossil fuels or otherwise, is not the same-sized task for the UK (around 30 million homes) as it is for China (around 660 million homes).

So, when countries like China and India are blamed for higher national emissions rates than the United States or European Union countries, all that’s telling you is their countries are bigger, with more people relying on emissions-producing practices.

A closer look at the data shows a person in India or China contributes far less



Emissions impact air quality for local people and contribute to rising global temperatures

emissions than the average US or EU citizen. And that's just the most recent snapshot in the timeline of emitting carbon. Historically, the United States and many European countries have contributed many more tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) – and therefore contributed far more to climate breakdown – than China or India.

The United States is responsible for emitting around 400 billion tonnes of CO₂ since 1751 – a quarter of all global historical emissions. This means the United States has emitted more CO₂ than any country to date and twice as much as China. Countries like the UK aren't far behind in

terms of historical emissions, and it's even worse if you consider per capita emissions.

“IF THEY'RE NOT CLEANING UP THEIR ACT, WHY SHOULD I?”

This way of thinking derails and suppresses conversations about climate action.

We need to remember how we're all connected in this crisis. Yes, places like India and China have polluting factories that add to climate breakdown, and they need to move towards cleaner production methods too. But these factories produce goods that are imported and consumed by countries like the UK and the United States, so a lot of the time their pollution is, in fact, our pollution, which is supporting our lifestyles. That's why we need a global solution to the climate emergency.

And a global solution simply won't happen if countries like the UK don't face up to their responsibilities and take urgent and ambitious climate action.

“DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE TO BLAME FOR THE CLIMATE CRISIS”

It's often developing countries that suffer the most from the climate crisis. A new report by UNICEF revealed that 1 billion children are at extremely high risk of the impacts of the climate crisis, which threatens their health, water access, education and lives. Many of these at-risk children are from poorer countries that haven't contributed to the climate crisis. The poorest are hit first and hit hardest.

These countries need relief from the effects of climate breakdown, like food shortages caused by flooding or drought,



and transitioning their energy sources to renewables can be expensive. Poorer countries need help if we all want to bring down global emissions – the UK and other rich countries must pay their fair share.

And on the topic of wealthy countries, the data shows the richest 10% of people are responsible for 50% of pollution right now, never mind the historical emissions that made us rich in the first place. The UK and other wealthy countries have a historical responsibility and the capacity to act on climate.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

Those working on the ground to take climate action in countries like China and India are often left out of success stories, and the wider climate conversation.

Disha Ravi is a courageous example. The young activist is the founder of the Indian branch of global youth climate movement Fridays for Future. Ravi has felt the direct impact of climate change – her house floods when it rains, and her hometown is

due to run out of water in a few years. In February 2021 she was arrested and charged with sedition and criminal conspiracy for protesting new agricultural laws, which farmers say will leave them at the mercy of big corporations. Despite her arrest and the repeal of these laws, Ravi continues to defend the environment.

Don't be distracted by the emissions blame game – everyone can make a difference regardless of nationality, and that's what we should be focusing on.

FAST FACTS

- The United States is responsible for emitting a quarter of all global emissions since 1751
- The richest 10% of people are responsible for 50% of all current emissions
- 1 billion children are at high risk of the impacts of the climate crisis

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Cambo protesters have forced the project to be put on hold

Against fossil fuels

5 Friends of the Earth cases toppling dirty industry

In 2021, and for the very first time, fossil fuels made the agenda of the United Nations climate conference (COP26). While the resulting Glasgow Climate Pact wasn't nearly ambitious enough to tackle the climate crisis, there were some wins. For example, more than 20 countries committed to ending public financing of fossil fuels by the end of 2022. Resistance against the fossil fuel industry is stronger than ever, making it harder for our leaders to ignore the obvious: the production of fossil fuels must stop if we're to avoid irreparable damage to our planet.

THE FIGHTS WE'VE WON

Cambo oil field

If approved, the Cambo oil field located off the coast of Shetland would see up to 800 million barrels of oil extracted.

But Cambo's toxic future has been exposed, thanks to campaigning and support from dozens of grassroots groups and non-governmental organisations (not least our pals in Friends of the Earth Scotland), and the 80,000 people who signed a petition.

Collectively, we had such a big impact that even fossil fuel giant Shell was forced to abandon it. Since then, the remaining company behind Cambo has put the entire project on hold.

At Friends of the Earth, we work together with our supporters, community groups and other organisations to campaign against climate-wrecking projects. In some cases, we support those campaigns with our legal expertise.

Defeating such projects in the courts can strengthen the legal arguments against similar destructive plans, helping to pave the way for a greener future that's not dependent on fossil fuels.

Find out about 5 legal cases that, with your help, we've worked on.

Druridge Bay opencast coal mine

Druridge Bay, a beautiful 7-mile stretch of white-sand beaches on England's north-east coast, was under threat from an opencast coal mine.

In energy terms, burning coal is one of the biggest contributors to climate breakdown. It also causes air pollution and is linked to health concerns like asthma. Mining leads to habitat and wildlife loss and mars landscapes.

Initially, the government rejected the proposed mine on climate change grounds. But the mining company challenged the decision – forcing the government to reconsider.

Over 10,000 people supported a campaign by Friends of the Earth and community group Save Druridge, pressuring the government to act. And it did – then communities secretary Robert Jenrick refused planning permission for the mine.



THE BATTLES WE'RE STILL FIGHTING



Mozambique protesters outside the courts

Mozambique mega gas project

The UK government has provided funding of US\$1 billion (around £750 million) to support a liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Mozambique.

This LNG project will drill for gas on the seabed, transport it to an onshore facility where it's liquefied and then ship it to buyers. The liquefaction process is incredibly energy intensive, making it even worse for the environment than natural gas drilling.

The potential climate impacts of the project are huge, so our network

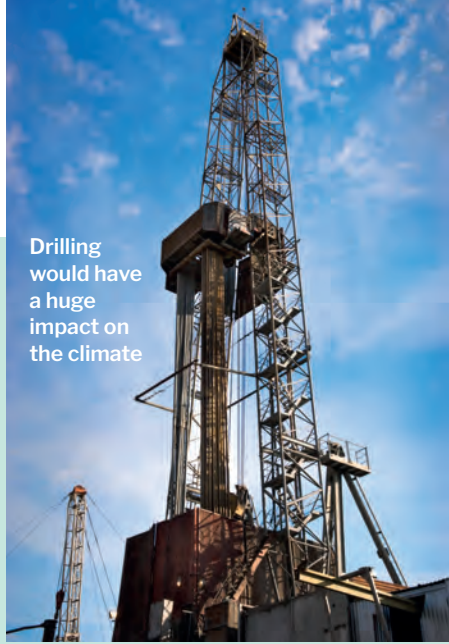
has been campaigning for months against the government's decision to back it. Grassroots groups have staged demos, 45,000 of you signed a petition asking the PM to stop supporting the project, and in December 2021 we launched a legal challenge against the government. We argued that the decision didn't properly assess climate, environmental or human rights impacts, and was incompatible with the Paris Agreement. We expect a judgment soon.

Horse Hill: drilling for oil in Surrey

Back in 2019 Surrey County Council declared a climate emergency. Mere months later it gave the green light to allow oil drilling in greenbelt countryside. It's estimated that this could lead to the equivalent of more than 10 million tonnes of carbon dioxide being released when the oil is ultimately burned.

Friends of the Earth took part in a legal challenge brought by campaigner Sarah Finch on behalf of Weald Action Group. In December 2020 the judge ruled that the council didn't have to consider the emissions from the end use of the oil, just those from its production. This sets a dangerous legal

Drilling would have a huge impact on the climate



precedent that could allow similar developments without consideration of their full climate impacts.

We supported Sarah's appeal, which went to the Court of Appeal in November 2021. We're currently awaiting the judgment.

Whitehaven deep coal mine

West Cumbria Mining is trying to build the UK's first deep coal mine in 30 years. This would start producing millions of

tonnes of coal at a time when scientists have just delivered the starkest warning yet about the climate crisis.

The mine would increase global carbon emissions and contribute to the climate crisis, which is already impacting the UK, with extreme weather events like floods and

heatwaves becoming more frequent.

Under intense pressure from local campaigning and the threat of a legal challenge, the mine proposal was "called in" by the Secretary of State. We took part in the subsequent public inquiry in September 2021 and await the final decision.



The proposed mine

Local power

Councils can play a vital role in improving home heating and eliminating fuel poverty



The headlines are saturated with the news of increasing energy prices. It's a trend we've been seeing over the past few years.

This impacts us all, but some of us are pushed into fuel poverty.

WHAT EXACTLY IS FUEL POVERTY?

You'd think the definition of fuel poverty was simply struggling to afford energy bills or insulation to keep your house warm. But in England the government defines fuel poverty as:

- households having less than £1,495 disposable income left each month after paying gas and electricity bills* and
- living in a home with a low energy-efficiency rating, which costs more to heat.

The definition, updated this year, has its limitations. The government accepts the term won't cover everyone who can't afford to heat their homes, like those living in poverty but in well-insulated homes.

WHO IS AFFECTED BY FUEL POVERTY?

Fuel poverty is causing harm to the poorest in society: pensioners, people of colour, young people, and people with health and disability challenges.

Our analysis shows that people of colour are twice as likely to live in neighbourhoods with the worst energy-efficiency ratings as white people (39% compared to 18%). This is broadly in line with the difference in poverty levels (40% compared to 19%).

Neighbourhoods with a high proportion of disabled people also tend to have a high proportion of households in fuel poverty.

WHAT POWERS DOES MY COUNCIL HAVE?

Local authorities play an important role in eliminating fuel poverty. Some of the actions they can take include:

- improving energy efficiency and insulation in their own council homes

“My income is very much affected by my disability. I can't work full-time. Energy prices keep rising and it's put a lot of extra pressure on me. It's a worry how I'll afford to keep my home warm – a 28-year-old really shouldn't have that at the top of their agenda” Jess

*This is 60% of median disposable income, which will change over time.



- enforcing energy-efficiency and property standards for private rented homes and houses in multiple occupation
- ensuring communities are aware of their rights and support is in place to access the correct welfare benefits and heating grants.

HOW ONE COUNCIL IS TACKLING FUEL POVERTY

Your local council can use its budget to tackle fuel poverty. That's exactly what North East Derbyshire District Council is

doing. The council has 324 social housing properties it views as "hard to treat" in terms of boosting energy efficiency and the people living there being at high risk of fuel poverty. So it's working with partners to install external wall insulation on these council-owned homes.

The council expects residents will have lower energy bills, saving an average of £286 per household. By prioritising hard-to-heat homes, the council is also protecting people's health and wellbeing, reducing residents' health risks from living in cold homes.

"I am really pleased with the work. The house used to be difficult to keep warm and the minute you turned the heating off it went back cold very quickly"

Social housing tenant in Dronfield, North East Derbyshire

HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Installing wall insulation
would stop heat escaping,
improve energy efficiency
and reduce bills

HOW MUCH FUEL POVERTY IS IN YOUR LOCAL AREA?

While government data on fuel poverty is only available for England, there are clear regional differences. Some 41% of neighbourhoods in the West Midlands are rated worst for fuel poverty in comparison to just 1% in the South East.

Take a deeper look into our fuel poverty map (see box, below) and find out the level of fuel poverty where you live. Remember, your council has the power to allocate funds to tackle fuel poverty in your area.

CHECK OUT THE MAP
foe.uk/em103-fuelpoverty

WHAT A WASTE



A third of heat escapes through the walls of our homes. Solutions include cavity wall insulation and external insulation. Heat also escapes through draughty windows, doors and floorboards, and through the roof.

CHOSEN BY YOU

Each issue, we feature recommendations from staff and supporters we think may interest you

Check to see what can be recycled before throwing away DIY items



RECYCLING

Rubbish tips

With every lockdown comes a surge of optimistic DIYers. But where do you take the old floorboards, the stained carpet or the used paint cans when you're done?

To save sending waste to landfill, councils are under mounting pressure to recycle more – and many have updated their waste policies. So double-check your council's website: what will they collect at the roadside now? And check your council's recycling centre guidelines to see if more materials have been added to their recycling lists – you might be surprised what they accept.



Local recycling centres may now collect more materials

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Rebugging the Planet



The planet is facing a catastrophic global decline in insects and other invertebrates. This uplifting book from

Vicki Hird brings us the antidote.

Rebugging the Planet starts with a challenge – how to adjust our attitudes to these unsung heroes, both personally and as a society. The book is full of fascinating stories about what humble bees, spiders and beetles do for us and what they can teach us as they quietly go about their business propping up life on this incredible planet.

Hird also shows us what we can all do to play our part in building a rebugged planet and why it matters – from making our gardens and communities more insect-friendly to joining campaigns calling for systemic changes to food and farming systems.

You will never look at a spider the same way again.

CLARE OXBORROW,
SENIOR SUSTAINABILITY ANALYST,
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH



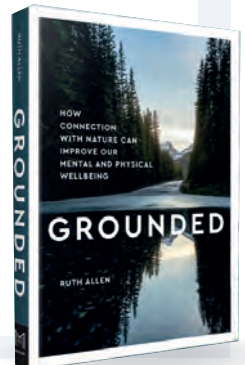
Discover how ladybirds and other beetles are integral to life on Earth

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Grounded

This book by Ruth Allen combines beauty and wellbeing effortlessly, and reading it is a nourishing experience. It's filled with beautiful photography and calming words. Whether you're an experienced rambler or like the odd walk, *Grounded* contains useful tips and exercises to help you make the most of your time outdoors. It makes you want to get out and experience the world.

SHAISTA HUSSAIN,
WEBSITE AND
EDITORIAL OFFICER,
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH



Agroforestry advantages

COMBINING AGRICULTURE AND TREES IS A WIN-WIN SOLUTION

Trees play a vital role in combating pollution by removing carbon dioxide emissions from the air. Put simply, if we're going to tackle climate breakdown, we need more trees.

With 72% of UK land used for food production, farmers need to be part of the solution. By opting for agroforestry, farmers can help remove carbon from the atmosphere as well as making their farms more sustainable and profitable.

Agroforestry is the practice of combining trees with current farming systems. Farmers can grow trees on their land in hedgerows and perimeters, but also among their wheat, barley and vegetable crops and on grazing land. This is already common across countries including Spain and Portugal and is being championed in France, which has a national plan for agroforestry development.

As trees shed their leaves, they release nutrients back into the topsoil



Productive and sustainable farming

Introducing trees increases the productivity of farmland. Trees' deep roots can access nutrients and water far below the surface. Then, as they shed their leaves, nutrients are released back into the topsoil.

Many crops grow from late autumn through winter with a growth spurt in

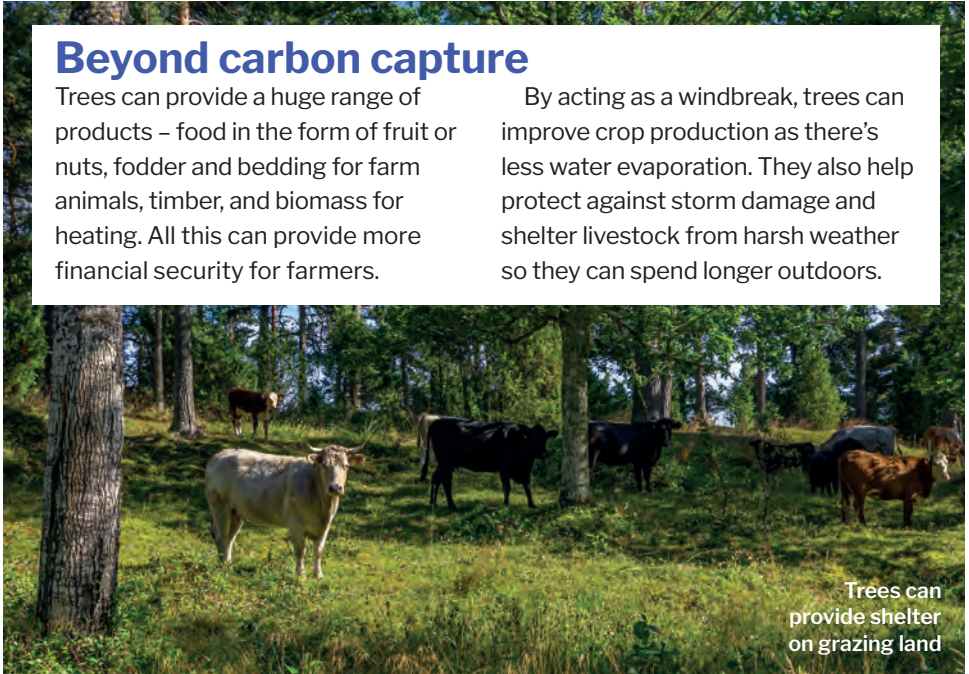
spring, but trees don't come fully into leaf until May or June and continue with a full canopy well after many crops have been harvested.

This means they can co-exist and capture sunlight at different times of year without competing with the crops, harvesting more of the sun's energy.

Beyond carbon capture

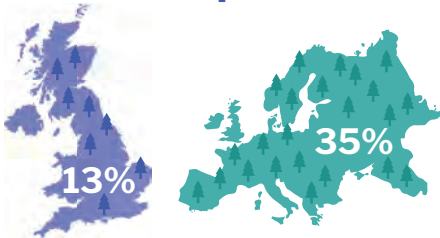
Trees can provide a huge range of products – food in the form of fruit or nuts, fodder and bedding for farm animals, timber, and biomass for heating. All this can provide more financial security for farmers.

By acting as a windbreak, trees can improve crop production as there's less water evaporation. They also help protect against storm damage and shelter livestock from harsh weather so they can spend longer outdoors.



Trees can provide shelter on grazing land

UK vs Europe



- Just 13% of UK land is covered with trees, compared to 35% of land in Europe.
- 72% of UK land is currently used for food production.
- A 2016 study showed that only 3.3% of the UK's agricultural area is devoted to agroforestry, compared to 9% in Europe.

We need trees

Thanks to supporters like you, we've been campaigning for a doubling of UK tree cover to tackle climate breakdown. Trees also improve biodiversity, help in flood prevention, clean up our rivers and encourage natural pest control.

The Climate Change Committee has advised the government to aim for agroforestry on 10% of cropland and grassland. But it could be even more ambitious. We need to work with farmers and ensure that the government provides support to reimagine the way we use our land.

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Spreading the words

As our Corporate Partnerships Manager Adam Scott explains, O'Mara Books inspires people to tackle the climate crisis

Books inform, inspire and encourage imaginative thinking, key components that help overcome the challenges we all face. Our new partner, Michael O'Mara Books, is committed to using its position as a publisher to help drive climate action, so we're excited to be working with them.

O'Mara Books works with bestselling authors who are also environmentalists to publish titles that appeal to a wide range of interests and ages. For instance, *Fragile World* is a colouring book featuring endangered species, *Go Toxic Free* is for those keen on making more considerate lifestyle choices, and *Green Rebel* is aimed at children wanting to make a difference.

The company is a founding signatory of Publishing Declares, a pledge of net-zero and sustainability commitments it is working towards and encouraging others in the sector to do as well. It's also a generous supporter of several



organisations including ClientEarth, Mind and Amnesty International.

O'Mara demonstrates that companies can operate in more considerate ways and play an active role in the environmental movement. If we're to see progress across all sectors at the pace required to tackle the climate crisis, leaders such as O'Mara will be vital.

So, if you work for a business that could do more, or you're in a position to make those decisions, do. We need a lot more companies to be following O'Mara's lead.

Check out [mombooks.com](https://www.mombooks.com)

OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

To create a better world we need allies. That's why Friends of the Earth works with responsible, purpose-led businesses that are committed to making a positive contribution.

“Social and climate justice are deeply connected”

Individual Giving Officer Ymani McKenzie has already made a great impact since joining us in 2021



I joined the Individual Giving Team at Friends of the Earth last year on a government Kickstart Scheme, before being promoted to a permanent role.

Our team focuses on donor recruitment and retention, aiming to maximise fundraising through our social media channels, mailings and email communications. We also work with colleagues, including campaigners and our Supporter Relations Team, to see how we can make supporters’ experiences as positive as possible in alignment with our fundraising and campaign targets.

I get the opportunity to work on everything from scripting social media videos to writing copy for emails and letters. I love the creativity of the role, and it’s much easier to advocate for a message you truly believe in.

My climate justice campaign includes a focus on the UK’s responsibility in terms of historical contributions to the climate crisis, as well as looking at environmental

racism and a just transition to clean energy and more green jobs. The pandemic and the COP26 conference have helped to highlight how certain groups are disproportionately impacted by aspects of the climate crisis, including those in the global south who are impacted most severely by increases in extreme weather events. I think it is really important to highlight the intersections between social justice and climate action, while also showing that it’s a global issue and everyone will be impacted in some way.

I thought Friends of the Earth would be a great organisation to work with, but it has met my expectations and more. This job is so fulfilling and exciting. What I particularly love about working in this sector is that most people are driven by a belief in the causes and campaigns, and by helping people and the environment. It’s great to be around and to be inspired by those people on a daily basis.

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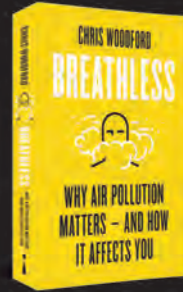
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(WHO estimated death toll Jan-Dec 2020)



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AN INDEPENDENT PICK OF THE MONTH, MARCH 2021

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YOUR VIEWS

Tell us what you think – we love hearing from you

Message from Aleanna, Supporter Relations Manager

About a year ago we launched our Craft for the Planet Campaign. As a keen (but terrible) knitter, I was thrilled to see so many of you come up with imaginative ways to raise money. To say thank you and maybe even encourage others to use their talents to help us in 2022, I wanted to raise my crochet hooks to some of my favourites: Jane's crochet dolls, Julie's cat-themed tote bags and Jennifer's adorable clay penguins. If you'd like to fundraise for us, please do get in touch.



ETHICAL BANKING

Thanks for your sustainable new year tips. Which green bank do you recommend @friends_earth?

MARY, VIA INSTAGRAM

○ We've partnered with Triodos and think they're a great option for ethical banking, but you can also check out *Ethical Consumer* magazine for suggestions.



IT ALL ADDS UP

It's rare that finance teams get thanked. Recently I encountered the people that look after your donations – what a professional, efficient team they are, so I thought I'd give them a shout-out.

LEESA, VIA TWITTER

○ This tweet made our day! They're not the team that are seen in the media, but they're beavering away behind the scenes with the spreadsheets and calculators to make sure your generous donations are looked after.

Penguins
by Jennifer
at Quite
Contrary
Pottery



CREATING A BUZZ

Thank you for your lovely Bee Saver Kit. I'm now letting nature take over the space around our old building. Last summer I noticed some insects had taken up residence in the gable wall I rebuilt a few years ago, leaving chambers inside for the birds to nest. This time the bees have it.

GAVIN, MID WALES

○ Aw, diolch Gavin. Our Bee Saver Kits are very popular and it's great to see they're still encouraging people to make space for nature.



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Miriam Turner

Co-Executive Director, Friends of the Earth

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