

MARNHULL GREEN T·E·A·M·S

Taking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously

Marnhull Green Teams was founded in early 2020, after a village 'Eco Day' the previous autumn. Membership is free, and open to anyone from the Marnhull area. The TEAMS part of our name, given to us by local schoolchildren, is both an acronym for what we do and a description of how we do it - small teams of people working on environmental projects that particularly interest them.

Although the COVID-19 emergency has postponed further village hall events like the original Eco Day, we have still been able to make progress.

- One and a half plots at the village allotment site have been taken over as a community allotment, open to anyone to grow vegetables and flowers.
- Another plot has become a community orchard, with traditional varieties of apple and pear trees planted on a wildflower-rich sward. Village schoolchildren have helped us here.
- We have published a *Recycling Guide for the Marnhull Area*, available as a pdf and in hard copy, and we run a recycling centre taking in waste that the Council cannot accept.
- We have acquired and sold on a substantial number of saplings, mostly oaks, which would otherwise have been destroyed.
- An organic gardening group has been meeting.
- We are encouraging the juicing of surplus apples into tasty pasteurised apple juice, using a local farmer's facilities.
- We have monthly online meetings, sometimes with guest speakers, and we publish a one-page monthly newsletter, plus articles in local publications such as the *Marnhull Messenger* and the *Blackmore Vale Magazine*.
- And now we are working hard on developing a day of Eco Trails, scheduled for Saturday 12 June 2021. The Trails will be walking- and cycle-friendly routes around the village, linking volunteers willing to chat about their experience with solar panels, batteries, ground- and air-source heating, electric cars & bikes, meadows & wilding, eco-dying & printing, wildlife gardening, composting, apple juicing, tree-planting, beekeeping, litter-picking, recycled glass art, and recycling in general. The Trails map will also include 'nature spots' focussing on particular trees and hedgerows, animal habitats, and the differences between ecologically friendly and less friendly local environments. An identification app (iNaturalist) will be recommended, encouraging people following the Trails to focus on their natural surroundings, and to report what they find at the Trails' focal point, the village hall, where additional displays and refreshments will be available.



Find out more on the Marnhull Green TEAMS Facebook page, or email marnhullgreen@outlook.com or phone 01258 268714.