

# Stretton Climate Care

## Reducing CO2 in the Strettons

### MARK LYNAS

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Make a note in your diaries, as Stretton Climate Care is pleased to announce that international environmentalist, Mark Lynas, will be giving a talk on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April, at 7:30 at Church Stretton Secondary School.

Mark has been a world leader on climate change issues for over ten years and in 2007 he was placed on "The Independent's" Green List number at 7, along with Sir David Attenborough and Al Gore.

Recently the National Geographic not only published his book "Six Degrees: Our

future on a hotter planet", but they also produced a television documentary which has been broadcast globally.

According to the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) six degrees celsius is the projected increase in temperature in the next century. In his book, Mark progresses through each degree increase and describes the possible futures which we could face and definitely would not be looking forward to.

Mark is sure to be a compelling speaker and we invite you to

attend. Following his talk there will be an interval and wine and cheese will be available. After this Mark will take questions from the floor.

For more information on Mark go to: [www.marklynas.org](http://www.marklynas.org)



Mark Lynas

**Our Aims ( a selection)**

- To encourage a culture of climate care
- To encourage waste reduction and increase recycling
- To raise awareness of climate change

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do."  
Helen Keller

### SAVINGS FOR FREE

Top tips from the BBC for saving energy (and money) that won't cost you a penny.

- Turn off lights when you leave a room
- Only boil the amount of water you need in your kettle
- Turn off televisions, videos, stereos and computers when they are not in use - they can use between 10 and 60% of the power they use when on

- Don't leave fridge doors open for longer than necessary, let food cool down fully before putting in the fridge or freezer, defrost regularly and keep at the right temperature
- Close curtains at dusk to keep in heat
- Let your clothes dry naturally rather than using a tumble drier
- Turning down the thermostat for your

- heating by 1 degree could cut your heating bill by 10%
- Set your water thermostat for 60 degrees - this is plenty warm enough for bathing and washing
- Use economy programmes on dishwashers or washing machines
- Where possible don't stand cookers and fridges/freezers next to each other





Mike Bourke

## THE 30 SECOND INTERVIEW - MIKE BOURKE

### 1. How long have you lived in the Strettons?

Liz and I retired to Little Stretton at the end of 2006, having known the area for about 10 years.

### 2. What is your role in the SCC?

I'm a Trustee, and a member of the Publicity and Campaigns

Committee. I'm keen to help with the Carbon Reduction Sessions and Home Energy Surveys

### 3. What do you think is the greatest challenge we face?

I think our greatest challenge is changing public attitudes, and overcoming the resistance in ourselves - in all of us, including me! - to changes in our lifestyles. We all pay lipservice to the need for change, but expect someone else to do it - the Government, industry, Chelsea tractor drivers. The really challenging thing is that

we can all do something about it. The Carbon Reduction Sessions are very helpful in identifying practical steps. The remarkable thing is that it saves us money, so there's a direct personal benefit as well as perhaps an initial inconvenience.

Is the biggest problem connected with our culture's widespread loss of religious faith? If there's nothing outside this life, then we feel we have got to enjoy everything there is to be had here and now. If there's no real heaven, then we have to create a heaven on earth for

ourselves by consuming as much as possible, and travelling as far as possible in search of an earthly paradise. The trouble is, of course, that if everybody does the same, it's the surest way to wreck the planet and turn heaven into hell. The challenge is the ancient one of being content with what we have, instead of always craving for more.

### 4. What's your number one tip for keeping green?

We fitted a solar water heater last year, which works very well. Also, cultivate that spirit of contentment!

### Web resources:

[www.breathingearth.net](http://www.breathingearth.net) - fascinating portrayal of Earth in real time by David Bleja

[news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/portal/climate\\_change/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/portal/climate_change/default.stm) - news and comment from the Beeb

## LOCAL HEROES LOCAL ACTION

Clee Hill Electronics have generously assisted in the development of our first Light Bulb Library. Before you go to the shops and are confronted by racks of light bulbs that all look the same (but are slightly different), you will be able to use the LB Library to do an immediate comparison.

This will ensure you buy the light bulbs which best suit your needs.

Children in the Four Parishes of Rushbury, Cardington, Eaton and Hope Bowler, are invited to take part in the Save Energy competition. Prizes will be awarded for designing posters and stickers for ages 5-7 and 8-11. There will be

a display at 2 pm April 5th, at Rushbury Hall. Call Mrs. Pat Stokes-Smith on 01694 723 189 if you have any further questions.

Church Stretton Secondary School are involved in designing a T-shirt for SCC and they are running a tag line competition. So keep your eyes open for our new look!

## CARBON FOOTPRINT SESSIONS



Measuring your Carbon Footprint at the Library

Our Carbon Footprint Sessions at the Library have proven both fun and informative. In just over an hour, you can find out what your carbon footprint is and get a personalised report.

It's informal and Stretton Climate Care volunteers are on-hand to help you complete

the online questionnaire and explain your report. To date our lowest carbon score is 3.91.

We're pleased to announce that now we have evening sessions at the Mayfair. The first Tuesday of every month from 7-8:30 pm, starting April 1st.

Afternoon sessions are

still running every at the Library, Monday from 2 - 3:30. If you are interested please call Wally Blake on 724 040 or Jon Cooke on 723 205.



Barry Taylor

## BALI CLIMATE CONFERENCE - WHY IT MATTERS

In December 2007, delegates from almost 190 countries met in Bali to discuss climate change. They were there to decide what the "roadmap" would be as the targets for cutting carbon emissions set by the Kyoto Protocol expire in 2012.

Kyoto was the first stage which asked countries to sign up to

cutting their carbon emissions by 5% from 1990 levels by 2008-2012. Without a successor agreement to Kyoto there isn't anything committing countries to further reduce their emissions.

The necessity for countries to sign up to a new protocol is imperative as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

Change have assessed that deeper cuts are needed. These actions are vital as leading scientist believe that emissions should peak and start to fall within in the next 10-15 years.

The EU is leading the way by asking for targets from developing nations to be 25-40% by 2020.



Horses on the Long Mynd

The development of this new "roadmap" continues with an international meeting in Poland in 2008.

### EVENTS LIST

**Carbon Footprint Evening Session** - April 1, 7:00 pm, Mayfair

**An Evening with Mark Lynas** - April 19, 7:30 pm, Church Stretton Secondary School

**First Annual Stretton Climate Care Duck Races** - May 24, 11:00 - 4:00, Carding Valley, National Trust

**Carbon Footprint Sessions Afternoon** - Every Monday, 2:00 pm, the Library

## THE COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE

No one said dealing with climate change would be easy, but that doesn't mean it has to be expensive. As we change to new ways of using energy and change our energy sources, industries will have to adapt. Economically we can become more creative, including making more jobs rather than less.

Other good news is, that as we invest in new technologies we

become less dependent on expensive imports. We're also become less reliant on fossil fuels so don't need to worry about what happens when they run out.

For example, insurance is a major industry adversely effected by climate change. Since 1998 the cost of repairs due to extreme weather has increased by 60%. By spending money now on preventing climate change we can avoid the worst of these costs in the future.

### Non Web Resources:

Mark Lynas - [Carbon Calculator](#) pocket book

[The Rough Guide to Climate Change](#) - Popular travel/reference series tackles climate change

[An Inconvenient Truth](#) - Al Gore - an award winning documentary based on a politician's Power Point presentation

## THANKS TO MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEER NEWS

The good news is, Stretton Climate Care is growing. We now have over 80 members, roll on 100!

Once again many thanks for all your support and all donations - large and small. Your generosity enables us to continue, to improve and even to expand on our work, helping you take on the

climate change challenge.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our first Quiz Night. We raised £120. We hope everyone had a great time and we hope to run another quiz night soon. As always we couldn't run these types of events without our volunteers who ensured the evening was

entertaining, fun and that lots of food and drink was on-hand to feed those hungry minds.

We're always on the search for new volunteers. If you would like to be a part of a growing and enthusiastic team, we'd love to hear from you. Be assured there is no need to worry about your



The winning team - Striplights

knowledge of green issues as training and help is always available. There are lots of opportunities for all skills and talents. We are grateful to you for spending your extra time helping us.

Our mission is to advance environmental protection and improvement by reducing the carbon emissions of the local area.



**Polymer Laboratories**

Now a part of Varian, Inc.

**Chair: Jon Cooke**  
**Penwardine**  
**Shrewsbury Road**  
**All Stretton**  
**Church Stretton**  
**SY6 6HE**  
**Tel: 01694 723 205**  
**mail: jonann.cooke6@btinternet.com**



www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk  
 email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk



**Newsletter Editor and Photographer: Julie Mellors**

Please email your contributions to: [newsletter@strettonclimatecare.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@strettonclimatecare.org.uk) Or post them to:  
 16 Ascot Close  
 Church Stretton  
 SY6 6AR



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ENERGY PRICE HIKES MAKE INVESTMENTS IN ENERGY REDUCTION MEASURES MORE WORTHWHILE

Nobody likes paying more for their bills than they have to, but one good by-product of the seemingly endless energy price rises is that investments in energy saving measures begin to look increasingly attractive.

On 15th January, EDF Energy announced increases in its domestic gas and electricity prices of 13% and 8%, effective from Friday 18 January. These rises meant that their gas and electricity prices have risen by 95% and 66%, respectively, just since 2003. The EDF announcement followed hard on the heels of Npower's rise announcement, which will take their tariffs to 92% higher than 2003 (gas), and 76%

(electricity). Average bills of households with the 2 companies are shown in our chart, below:

Householders using heating oil are even worse off, with many now paying three times what they were paying in 2003 for a 1,000 litre fill. Just in the last year, the average cost per litre has risen from around 28p per litre to around 44p per litre, a rise of 57% (Source: BoilerJuice.com) Energy Saving Trust statistics show that homeowners could be losing as much as 15 per cent of their heating through their roofs, if they do not have roof insulation, so those with average bills of say, £1,000 per year could save £150 a

year, and get back an investment of £500 in roof insulation in not much more than 3 years. As energy prices continue to rise, so the payback periods will shorten.

This applies not only to roof insulation but also to the benefits from reducing your energy use in other ways, from low energy light

turning down your heating a degree, to installing double-glazing.

So come on – get yourselves down to our CO2 classes, or book a home energy survey, and learn how you can cut down your energy usage, save some money and help save our planet!

Geoff Hamby

