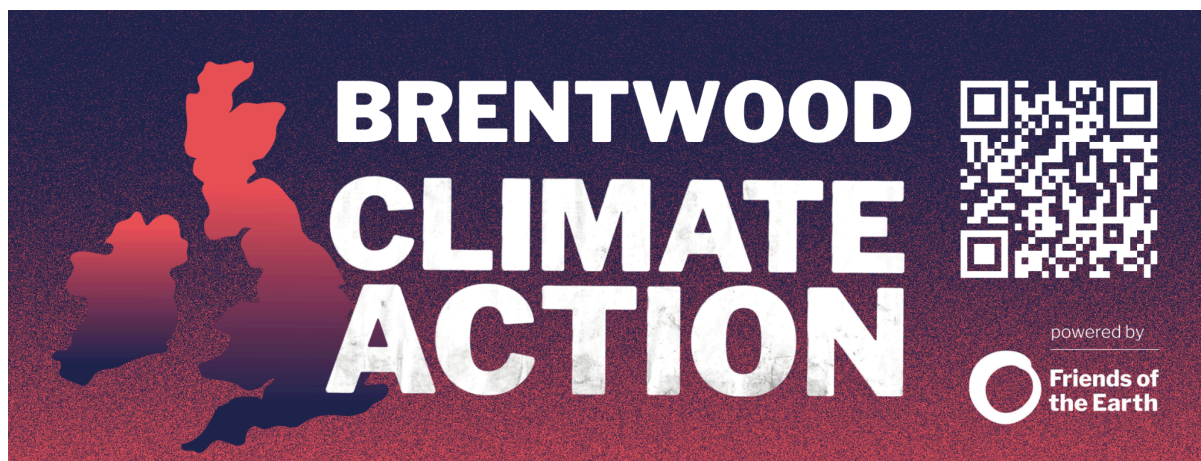




April 2026

The Newsletter of Brentwood Climate Action

Welcome to the April issue of the BCA Newsletter. “So,” said the doctor, in summing up, “you feel powerless, insignificant, dejected and unmotivated...”. Then, turning away from the mirror, he put on his coat and left for work.... These same feelings are also felt by many about climate change. We often feel we are at the mercy of retail giants, huge corporations and big business with their unnecessary use of disposables and garbage products all at super-cut-prices, economically giving us very limited choices in how to buy what we need. However in recent years we have seen, for example, more independent green grocers in our high streets and town centres, at the very least, giving us a choice to vote with our feet...

News

The last Saturday of February (28th) saw the Climate Cafe with the return of guest speaker Louise McDonald, presenting an illustrated talk about all the issues surrounding our dependence on plastics: entitled, ‘Plastics - the Good, the Bad and the Ugly’, followed by a lively debate around all our concerns about plastic usage and how we can curb our dependences on it.

On the surrounding Friday and Saturday afternoons, Nuri, the resident artist at The Community Hub, ran a workshop for children, inviting members of BCA to assist with. Nuri’s project was making flowers out of single-use plastic bottles, showing what beautiful objects could be made out of plastics that would otherwise be disposed of. This tied in nicely with Louise’s talk at the Climate Cafe, as it was suggested that ‘upcycling’ can be far better than simply recycling. Food for thought...

In other news, Essex County Council has launched a brand new website entitled ‘Sustainable Essex’ showcasing the many projects that our council has set up in light of the climate crises. Please visit the Essex County Council website, or via social media: @sustainableessexuk

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Thursday 7th May: Local Elections:- HAVE YOUR SAY!

20th April is the last day to register. Photo ID is needed to vote. If you do not have required ID, the council runs a scheme to apply for a ‘Voter Authority Certificate’. It is free and you can apply online at: www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate, or call the council’s helpline: 01277 312708 or 312500. The closing date for applications is: Tuesday 28th April.

Wednesday 22nd April:

Our biggest event yet!
Brentwood Climate Action
Presents

Earth Day Gala Evening

We are proud to be presenting an evening of performances in conjunction with the global movement, Earth Day. Make sure to book your tickets and avoid disappointment.

Brentwood Theatre, Shenfield Road, Brentwood. 7.30pm

Don’t miss out!

Tickets available from the Theatre Box Office 01277 200305

£22.00 or £23.50 including programme. Under 16s £12.

Saturday 25th April: BCA Climate Cafe.

We are very honoured to be hosting a talk presented by **Professor Jules Pretty OBE**, entitled:

'Story for Climate and Nature Recovery'

Jules Pretty writes: 'Story is a simple device common to every human culture. It has some 50,000 years of history, yet has often come to be both misunderstood and misused in the modern era.

Put simply, the patterns of good story match the shapes of our lives. When stories are told, we learn something true about the world, about our inner selves too.

Through story, we can practice for life itself. Today, ice turns to water, summers to fire, gentle rain to storm, the healed to broken. How about too, passivity to hope, bitter to sweet, fear to courage?

Story tells us all about these things. It contains instruction and moral guidance, it sets out the differences between right and wrong.

Climate and nature recovery starts to happen when we're able to turn anxiety to agency. We spell words, sentences, stories. Story can be a spell, a magic charm.

Story changes everything.'

PLEASE NOTE we are very privileged to be hosting such a distinguished and well respected expert in his field. Please come and hear him. Open to all. The Community Hub, 7 Crown Street, Brentwood. CM14 4BA 11.00am

Advanced Notice

Friday 19th June: BCA are collaborating with EcoChurches to screen the 'National Emergency Briefing' film. More details to follow in due course.

Forthcoming Events (non-BCA)

The South Weald Flower Festival is introducing a new Environmental Support Initiative. For more details please visit www.southwealdfestival.co.uk

Who's Who in the BCA

Steering Group Committee:

<u>Chair:</u>	Meryl
<u>Secretary:</u>	Jacqueline
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Kat
<u>Members Secretary:</u>	Bridget
<u>General Members:</u>	Richard, Philip, Susan & Frances

Vacant Roles:

The post of **Publicity** is currently vacant. Anyone who may have experience, or indeed, would like to broaden their skills would be warmly welcomed. Here at BCA we understand that time and commitment can be greatly restricted by all our busy lives, so any help would be very appreciated.

Over to You: BCA now has a permanent display area at the Climate Cafe. We would like to create a Library of Resources. We are asking if anyone has books, magazines, flyers/leaflets/factsheets etc they would like to donate. If so, please bring along to the Climate Cafe. Your donations will be gratefully received. We also, now, have a Comments Book too and your feedback will also be greatly appreciated.



And Finally...

Members from BCA joined Thames Chase and Brentwood Borough Council in planting trees at Bishops Hall Park. This is an ongoing project and dates and times may vary. BCA will try to keep our members up to date, but in the meantime ...From left to right: Susan, Jaqueline and Kat enjoying the great outdoors at Bishops Hall Park!

Contact Us: Please Note: BCA is currently updating its membership joining form to include contact options and preferences on information sent by BCA. These options and preferences

can then be, in retrospect, applied to all our existing members.

Email: brentwood.climate.action@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BrentwoodClimateAction/>

Or in person at one of our Climate Cafes/events.