

Welcome to another packed edition! Thank you to everyone who has contributed. Please get in touch if you have any comments about the newsletter or anything you would like to be included for next month.

Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill

Many thanks to Kris Welch from the CEE Bill Alliance for an informative talk at this month's Green Drinks on the 21st March.

This was followed on Friday 26th March, the day when the bill should have had its second reading in parliament, with a nationwide day of action which saw many local people being photographed with a banner outside the Conservative Party office on Broad Street in Ludlow, calling on Ludlow MP Philip Dunne to support it in parliament. The bill now has the support of over 100 MPs. If you missed the day of action, you can still write to Philip Dunne to ask him to support the bill. More information at <https://www.cebill.uk/writetoyourmp>



SATURDAY 22 MAY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

South Shropshire
CLIMATE ACTION

To launch our Climate Action Plan for the Ludlow Constituency to reach Net-Zero by 2030

Land & Biodiversity | Transport | Buildings & Energy | Communities & Education

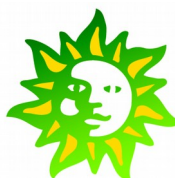
'Next steps'

ZOOM CONFERENCE
0900 to 1300hrs

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW AT
[SOUTHSHROPSHIRECLIMATEACTION.ORG](https://www.southshropshireclimateaction.org)



Great Green Festival news!



LUDLOW GREEN FESTIVAL
THE REGION'S BIG GREEN EVENT

It has been decided that this year's Ludlow Green Festival will go ahead on Sunday 11th July (subject to the restrictions in place at the time.) The theme will be 'Build Back Greener'. Get the date in your diaries! More details coming soon.

Don't forget your edibles!

The Incredible Edible Ludlow no-contact seed and plant swap is ongoing – find out more here: <https://bit.ly/ludlowseedswap>



Get in touch with Ludlow 21:

web: www.ludlow21.org.uk

email: secretary@ludlow21.org.uk

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ludlow21>

Bird of the Month

For the whole of recorded time the Teme has followed a route from the hills of mid-Wales to the Severn, probably quite similar to today. In that time, the stretch of the river that was eventually settled by the earliest Ludlovians will have had dippers, *Cinclus cinclus*, present the whole time. These attractive, dumpy little birds live exclusively on fast flowing streams and rivers with stony beds. They are resident year round and depend entirely on the river for everything. They can be seen almost anywhere on the stretch round the edge of the town where the river is conveniently divided into sections by the weirs.



In Ludlow, we are fortunate that the topography of the river is ideal dipper habitat, fast flowing, generally clear water, with stony and rocky beds. The river provides abundant insects either as adults or larvae as well as small fish, all of which form the dipper's diet. Stand on either of the bridges in spring or anywhere where you can see the river and the chances are you will hear a high-pitched sharp 'chink' note, not to be confused with the higher pitched kingfisher, and a small, fast flying brown bird will dash up the river close to the surface. When it lands on a rock or low branch it will 'dip' up and down. As they turn, the pure-white chest shows up clearly against any dark background. Then, as you watch, they walk or fly into the water and disappear beneath the surface. They swim using their wings or walk gripping the bottom but are completely submerged, catching their food. They also have a lovely song, often difficult to hear over the water noise.

They build a domed nest of grass and moss, lined with oak leaves, often overhanging the water but well camouflaged and will often raise 2 broods a year starting in early spring. Over the last few decades, dedicated field workers have monitored dipper numbers and have provided a large number of nestboxes on the Teme, Clun, Onny and other rivers. These have helped the numbers recover somewhat. However, like kingfishers, dippers depend on clear water and the kind of river levels we have had in recent months are not helpful.



Photographs © Gareth Thomas FRPS

The Lost Art of Kitchen Management



For Food Waste Action Week at the beginning of March we produced a comprehensive guide to reducing your food waste. Households account for over half of the 88 million tonnes of food wasted every year in Europe, far more than any other part of the food system. For that to change, we don't just need to challenge wasteful attitudes, but also rediscover the lost art of kitchen management.

See the full article on our website here:

<http://www.ludlow21.org.uk/the-lost-art-of-kitchen-management/>

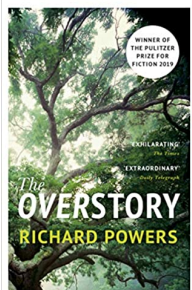
Object to the Shrewsbury North West Road

The planning application for the proposed Shrewsbury North West Road is now live. Objections must be submitted by the closing date of 27th April 2021.

BeST (Better Shrewsbury Transport) have been busy going through the planning application documents and produced lots of information to help you object. A separate email has been sent to Ludlow 21 members and supporters with all the details, or see <https://www.bettershrewsburytransport.org/scc-consultation-on-nw-road-march-2020/> for more information

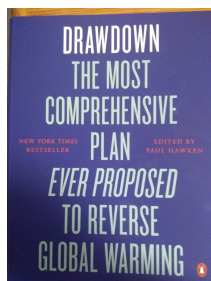
Our Favourite Green Books

Thursday 4th March was World Book Day. To celebrate, the Ludlow 21 Board and secretary chose their favourite books on a sustainable theme. Here are their choices and a little bit written by each person about their recommendation. Some Ludlow 21 funds have been set aside to donate a collection of 'green' books to Ludlow Library, so ***please let us know if you have a suggestion for a book or books to include*** by emailing secretary@ludlow21.org.uk. Suggestions for adults' and childrens' books are very welcome.



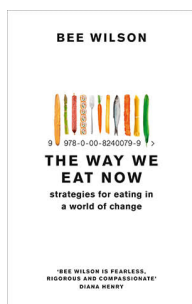
"'The Overstory' by Richard Powers is a powerful and fascinating novel about trees, forests, the complex relationships between trees, and the even more complex relationships between trees and people. A truly rare gem of a book whose story keeps the reader spellbound while whittling away at their perception of the real world and humanity's place in it."

~ Kim



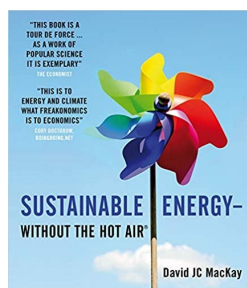
"'Drawdown', edited by Paul Hawken, presents a comprehensive collection of practical ways of tackling the climate crisis, providing a route map out of the mess that we are in."

~ Ian

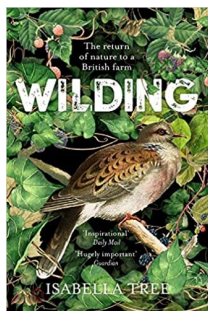


"A good read, thoroughly well researched investigation into modern food, covering many aspects of this extremely complex topic."

~ Tish

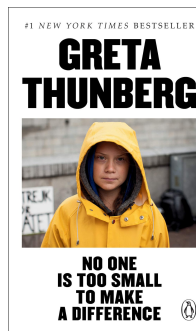


Chris chose this book to complement his work with L21's Energy group.



"An inspirational read showing how things could be with a different kind of land management. Isabella Tree writes passionately about nature, science and farming."

~ Megan



"Less IS more and Greta Thunberg's little book is a shining example of that maxim. 68 pages, 11 transcripts of her bold and passionate speeches to the Goliaths of her changing and damaging world. It's a quick read but its message, and her courage, resonates."

~ Di

Green Drinks



Don't forget Green Drinks at 7.30pm on the 21st of each month, a chance to socialise and catch up on all the latest green issues. Hopefully we can get back to in person meetings in the not too distant future, but in the meantime Green Drinks is being held over Zoom. Invitations are sent out a few days before each event to the Ludlow 21 members and supporters mailing list. If you are not already subscribed to our emails, you can [subscribe by following this link](#).