

ECO CHURCH : ECO COMMUNITY

TICEHURST & FLIMWELL

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

18TH – 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

A WEEK OF EVENTS TO CELEBRATE WHAT
WE'RE DOING IN TICEHURST AND FLIMWELL
TO CREATE A BETTER WORLD

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

ST MARY'S
ECO CHURCH
GROUP

THE
CLIMATE
COALITION



WWW.GREATBIGGREENWEEK.COM

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

Join us for the Great Big Green Week, which is taking place in communities across the UK and aims to celebrate what we're doing to help nature and take action on climate change.

In Ticehurst and Flimwell, St Mary's Church Eco Group have invited community groups and businesses to celebrate the Great Big Green Week with a range of events, which are set out in this programme.

This week is the perfect opportunity to show decision makers in the lead up to COP26 (the major climate summit hosted by the UK in November) how much we care about our environment and how important we think it is to take action on climate change.

Taking place across the week

MY HOPES BOARD: You will find this inside St Mary's Church during the festival. As part of the week, we invite you to add messages, poems, photos or drawings to express what you love about our green spaces, our planet, and the actions you'd like from our leaders to help protect it. Our local MP, Huw Merriman, will be joining us on the Friday of this week, and so we have the perfect opportunity to share our hopes with a member of the government who is involved in preparations for COP26. The 'My Hopes Board' will be in the church all week for you to add your thoughts and your hopes. Adults and children are equally welcome to add to the board.

SUGGESTIONS BOX: there will also be a suggestions box in St Mary's Church. Please post any ideas of ways in which we could enhance our community and its green spaces and how we could work together as a community to achieve this.

LOCAL SHOPS: please take a look at local shops, as some are putting on special promotions and displays for this week.

Thank you

This festival is possible because of the hard work of volunteers, consisting of a small number of our Eco Church members at St Mary's Church, Ticehurst. We have been greatly encouraged by the very positive support we have received from the wider community: local groups who have participated by putting on events; shops for their displays and promotions; local businesses and other groups for sharing publicity on social media networks; and individuals who have generously offered sponsorship.

WI - SALE OF CAKES AND PRESERVES

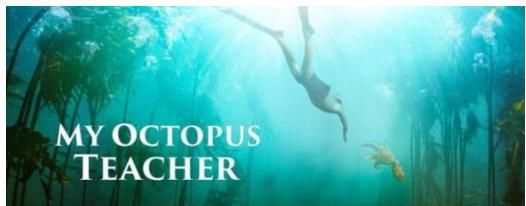
Buy delicious home-made cakes and cookies at this stall, along with a range of preserves, run by our local Women's Institute. Includes handouts on reducing food waste.



Time: Saturday 18th September, 10am-12noon

Location: Ticehurst Village Square

Info: All proceeds will go towards funding tree planting next Saturday (see below for details of this event)



FILM: MY OCTOPUS TEACHER

A gentle, profound and beautifully filmed nature film about the extraordinary bonds that connect us to the natural world, and that have the power to heal our souls.

Time: Saturday 18th September, 4.00 – 5.30pm

Location: St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

Info: This event is free. Children and adults welcome.

FOREST CHURCH

Church for people who feel closer to God outside amongst the birds and the trees. Not just for Christians - a space for all to come together to share questions about life.



Time: Sunday 19th September, 3pm-3.45pm

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: This event is free. Suitable for all ages, children and adults.
Wear suitable clothes if it's raining!

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HANDS OF HOPE: CONNECTING NATURE AND COMMUNITY

Discover more about this very local community charity which is restoring Hope Farm Garden, a neglected walled kitchen garden & 22 acres of AONB in Hawkhurst, with a vision to create healthier communities through growing, eating and sharing. Talk by Head Grower, Guy Pullen. www.hohcharity.co.uk



Time: **Monday 20th September, 7.30 - 9.00pm**

Location: St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

Info: This event is free



AN EXPLORATION IN PLANT MEDICINE

How we can help ourselves in health, whilst also developing a better relationship with the natural world. Explore what lies in your back garden with this fascinating interactive talk by Katie Wise, a herbalist who works for Hambley's in Wadhurst. Includes a chance to savour some herbal teas! www.hambleyshealth.co.uk

Time: **Tuesday 21st September, 6pm – 7.30pm**

Location: St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

Info: Suggested donation - £5.

COFFEE and CONVERSATION

Coffee morning with optional discussion starters to help stimulate conversation on green issues.



Time: **Wednesday 22nd September, 10am-12noon**

Location: St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

Info: Donations to the Woodland Trust

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SWAP SHOP and PLANT SWAP

Bring good quality items that you no longer want. Take items away that you do want! All for free. Even if you haven't got anything to bring you're welcome to take items. Please – no electrical goods and no books, and photos only of larger items such as furniture.

PLEASE SEE POSTERS FOR MORE DETAILS.

Time: Thursday 23rd September, 10am-12noon

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: Free – no money is exchanged! For full details see the poster.

PAINTING IN THE CHURCHYARD

Get creative and join Tim Burnham for a session painting the local flora in the churchyard. All ability levels welcome.



Time: Thursday 23rd September, 1.30pm-4.00pm

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: This event is free. Subject to weather.

Bring watercolours, watercolour paper sized A4 or larger, and a water supply.



YOGA IN THE COMMUNITY WITH BEANIE

Explore your body and mind in the sun (we hope!) Wear loose comfortable clothing. Bring a mat if you have one, water, a blanket and a smile!

www.beaniemacdonald.com.

Time: Friday, 24th September, 10am-11.30am

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: Donations to fund St Mary's Eco Church projects. This event is subject to weather.

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DISCUSSION WITH HUW MERRIMAN, MP

Come and discuss the green agenda with your MP, Huw Merriman. The conversation will be kickstarted by Huw speaking about Green Transport, followed by Q & A session.



Time: Friday, 24th September, 4.30pm-6.00pm

Location: Ticehurst Village Hall

Info: This event is free

GET CREATIVE – ANIMAL AND INSECT SCULPTURES



Make animal sculptures out of hand-made paper. Believe it or not, if you leave them in your garden, they'll sprout wild flowers in the spring!

Time: Friday, 24th September, 5.00pm - 6.30pm

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: This event is free. Run by the scout Beaver group.
Open to children of all ages.

TREE PLANTING

Take part in St Mary's plan to increase biodiversity on church land, by planting five trees on churchyard land in St Mary's Lane. All trees have been chosen to attract wildlife: crab apple, plum, apple, pear and rowan.



Time: Saturday 25th September, 10am-12noon

Location: St Mary's Lane (abutting the church wall), Ticehurst

Info: This event is free. Suitable for all ages.

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HARVEST FESTIVAL

Join St Mary's Church to celebrate the end of the Great Big Green Week at our annual Harvest Festival. Invited speaker - Gareth Martin, A Rocha, reflecting on climate change and agriculture and God's call to take action.

Time: **Sunday 26th September, 11am-12noon**

Location: St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

Info: Donations of foodstuffs welcome at the service.

Collection to be divided between local foodbanks and Tree Aid

PICNIC IN THE CHURCHYARD

Meet your neighbours and get to know new ones, by gathering in the churchyard for this final event of The Great Big Green Week.

The challenge - make your picnic plastic-free!



Time: **Sunday 26th September, 12.30 – 3.00pm**

Location: St Mary's Churchyard, Ticehurst

Info: Bring your own food, a rug to sit on, and a chair if you need one.

This festival of events takes place in the year that the UK hosts COP26, the climate change talks in Glasgow this November. We have been so encouraged by the support we have received from shops, businesses and community groups. Our planet needs us to urgently tackle the climate and ecological crisis and this festival is one thing we can do together.

Looking ahead, we can continue to support each other as well as our planet in our local villages, which in so many ways demonstrate a spirit of caring and support.

Please take time to do one further action and sign the Climate Coalition Declaration. This is addressed to the Prime Minister and asks for a healthier, cleaner, greener and fairer future. You can find it by using the following link:

<https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/declaration>



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