



## CAG Network Update

Friday 15th January, 2021

This is the CAG Network Update - an internal round-up of activities and opportunities sent out to CAG groups and associates.

### News from the CAG network

#### KidsCAN: engaging with children on climate change



[KidsCAN](#) have been successful in their bid to [Westmill Solar Co-operative's](#) first round of community grants to fund the creation of a guide for concerned adults wishing to engage with children about climate change in a safe and empowering way. It will also enable them to promote their existing KidsCAN materials to schools and other extra-curricular groups in a strategic way. They are keen to hear from CAGs and others with existing contact with schools across Oxfordshire in order to approach as many schools as possible. If you can help, please [get in touch](#).

#### A warm welcome to Hook Norton Community Land Trust

A big welcome to our newest member, [Hook Norton Community Land Trust](#) (HNCLT). Community Land Trusts have become an increasingly popular example of local people taking control and transforming the future of their communities. They are set up by the community for the community and can provide a creative and innovative solution to the growing housing crisis where rapidly increasing house prices far exceed what is affordable for local people. You can keep up to date with the work and progress of HNCLT [here](#).



#### Volunteering during lockdown








With all of us thrown into a third national lockdown, many groups have been wondering if volunteer activities are possible and how they can be organised safely. You'll find the most up to date government guidance for volunteering during the lockdown [here](#). The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) has also produced a handy 'decision tree' for helping you decide whether to continue volunteering during the lockdown. Check it out [here](#).

## CAG Annual Survey

Thanks to everyone who filled out our annual survey. We got 40 responses and a lot of information to go on to make the network work better for more of you. A fantastic 70% of those who responded are in groups who already collaborate with other CAGs - we hope for continued collaboration in the next year, even more so once activities can pick up speed again. When asked about what the groups have energy for in the next year the answers that stood out were: tree planting and rewilding, the exhibition, and repair cafes! Someone also mentioned "keeping going" which we loved. Keep doing the amazing work CAGs!

We are also very pleased to announce the winners of the prize draw...drum roll.....drum roll.....

-  Chris Skepper, Oxford Conservation Volunteers
-  Jeanette Wooster, Watlington CAG
-  Clare Crombie, East Oxford Farmers Market
-  Martin Fairfax-Cholmeley, Sustainability Duns Tew
-  Helen Gavin, GreenTEA

## Opportunities & Resources

### Naturescape Oxford

Flo's: The Place in the Park has begun work on their new [Naturescape project](#), which will transform the old mini golf site into an outdoor space for the community. The site is ready for its first stage of development and Flo's are looking for pairs of volunteers to help plant the trees and hedges, as well as lay the turf on site. If you would be interested in signing up for a one-hour volunteer slot please visit the Eventbrite links for [turf laying](#) or [tree/hedge planting](#).

### Your Community Your Choice

[Sovereign Housing](#) have chosen Abingdon as one of two sites to pilot an a new initiative known as participatory budgeting – a process where local residents in Abingdon can decide how to allocate £20k funding for environmental projects. The campaign will operate from now until March 2021, with projects chosen being worked on for the rest of the year. Outline ideas must be submitted by January 31st. More information [here](#).

### Take a virtual tour of Westmill Wind Farm and Solar Park

Lockdown may be upon us once more but you can still learn more about locally produced clean, green energy on a virtual tour of the [Westmill Wind Farm and Solar Park](#). Tours are led by one of their experienced guides and offer an informative and engaging peek behind the scenes at Westmill. Dates for these virtual guided tours can be viewed and booked [here](#).

## Climate Storytelling Toolkit

Wondering how you can improve your climate action communications this year? Campaign group [350.org](https://350.org) has come up with a handy digital storytelling toolkit to help you do just that. No need for a fancy camera or special skills. This guide will help you to identify, create and share your story and has lots of great tips for CAGs taking part in our [20 Stories](#) project this year! You'll find the toolkit [here](#).

## Women's Voices

[Media Trust](#) is offering 30 charities that support, campaign and advocate for women, girls and those who identify as female, the opportunity to work with their own team of media and creative industry volunteers. Each team will have the combined skills to help their charity build an effective, impactful and compelling communications action plan to take forward. Apply [here](#). Deadline 25th January.

## CAG Oxfordshire's Resources for Community Groups

A quick reminder that the CAG team has compiled a [list of resources for community groups](#) across a range of themes. Please comment directly on the document with additional resources, or email the CAG staff team: [info@cagoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:info@cagoxfordshire.org.uk)

The [CAG Handbook](#) is the place to go for any questions and queries you might have about making the most of the CAG network. This comprehensive guide is updated regularly so please refer to the live document for the most up-to-date information.

## Training & Workshops

### Making the most of local media in your communications

Do you want to understand how you can simply and effectively use local media to support the work of your community organisation in Oxfordshire? Come and join us on January 18th to find out how. We'll be covering the essentials of getting local media coverage for your organisation, project or community campaign with the help of Kate Parrinder of [Oxfordshire Community Foundation](#). Register [here](#).

### Alternative leadership models for social enterprises

Join us on February 3rd as we meet other social impact organisations to explore the topic of alternative leadership models for social enterprises. The workshop is a chance to explore different models of governance and ways of working, share experiences, and figure out what would help your social enterprise function better. The workshop is being run by Henry Owen, Lead Coordinator at [CAG Oxfordshire](#), and Annie Davy, Strategy Adviser at [Flo's: The Place in the Park](#), as part of the [eScalate](#) programme. Sign up [here](#).

### Fossil Free University

Looking for a climate activism bootcamp to kickstart your year of climate action? The free 12-week 'Fossil Free University' is taking applications now and offers the chance to learn about everything from the science of the climate crisis to the tenets of being an effective activist in the free . Find out more [here](#).

## We want to hear from you!

As always, the CAG staff team is here if you need support. Email [info@cagoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:info@cagoxfordshire.org.uk) or ring 07367 877727.

We'd love to share your group's updates with the rest of the network. To **submit content for the CAG Network Update** please contact [comms@cagoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:comms@cagoxfordshire.org.uk)

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