

OPINION

# Climate Action

Submitted by Harborough Climate Action

## Let's tackle climate crisis together

**E**very day I hear news about global warming and the life-threatening catastrophe that awaits if we don't stop the rise in atmospheric temperatures by limiting the emissions of deadly greenhouse gases\*.

I see graphic images of forest fires, melting ice caps and flooding caused by this phenomenon, as verified by leading scientists.

I worry about the future, especially for my children, but I feel powerless.

What can I do?

Welcome to the first Climate Action column, a regular column that we hope will help you answer that question.

The column is being compiled by Harborough Climate Action, a group set up in July

2021, as part of the Sustainable Harborough Community.

The group's overriding purpose is to encourage and help local residents, businesses, community groups, public bodies and politicians tackle the climate crisis and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero.

The term 'net zero' means achieving a balance between the greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere, and those removed from it.

Tim Claydon, chair of Harborough Climate Action, said: "Our team is here to help and provide support.

"The climate crisis is a global challenge, but local actions can make a really important contribution to tackling the problem.

"We want people in the



Harborough area to be as fully informed as possible about the nature and causes of the crisis; how it affects them and what they can do to stop it from spiralling out of control.

"We also aim to encourage and support people in adapting their lifestyles to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to join volunteer groups to help with projects such as tree planting and maintenance.

**Dr Tim Claydon says local actions can play a big part in tackling the climate crisis**

"Finally, we know that the big players – politicians and business – must do much more, so we are a campaigning group as well.

"We are always looking for new members to help us achieve our goals.

"If you want to find out more about us, about the climate crisis and what you can do about it, please visit our website."

Each month, this column will be looking at a specific area of everyday life that causes greenhouse gas emissions (eg. household heating, transport, food and drink), giving readers some facts and figures relating to the topic.

Then, most importantly, we'll be giving you suggestions about how you can adapt your life to reduce emissions.

For more information about Harborough Climate Action, the ideas mentioned in this article or about the Sustainable Harborough Community, please visit our website [www.sustainableharboroughcommunity.co.uk/hca](http://www.sustainableharboroughcommunity.co.uk/hca)

*\*Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. These harmful gases are largely created by the burning of fossil fuels.*

**'The big players must do more to help'**