## OUR GRANDCHILDREN'S CLIMATE. NEWSLETTER NO.1 JUNE 2025



Welcome to our first Newsletter; it's good to have you with us on our exciting venture. You'll find detailed information about us on our website <a href="www.ourgrandchildrensclimate.org">www.ourgrandchildrensclimate.org</a>, which is regularly updated. If you would like to continue receiving future Newsletters (unless you have already done so) make

sure to complete the application form on our website, under CONTACT. This will guarantee that your details are compliant with Data Protection regulations, although you can also read our Newsletters on the website. We are very keen to build up a large group of Friends of OGC across the UK; we do not make a charge, but are dependent on and grateful for donations.

We started small last summer, and are gradually building up an organization that aims to help seniors/elders **1.** With relevant information about climate change, **2.** Join in lobbying powerful public and private bodies to bring about change in policies and practices relating to climate collapse, and **3.** Work with other existing environmental groups, in the UK and abroad, that are working along similar lines to our own. So far we have two working groups that are focusing on how to help children (see below), and an actions group that are planning future public actions. Once our numbers have increased we will develop other working groups, as well as set up regional groups.

**Our actions so far**: In January we joined protestors against the imprisonment of climate activists outside the Appeal Court in London. In May, one of us asked a question and spoke at the AGM of Barclays Bank, the bank that has by far the worst record in relation to fossil fuels in Europe. We have also written to the General Medical Council about their policy regarding the imprisonment of a climate activist, and to the Government about the plans to develop the Rosebank oil field.

**Forthcoming Actions**: We will be joining 60 other organizations in a lobby of MPs at Westminster, organized by The Climate Coalition on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July from midday. If you'd like



to join us, please register at Act Now, Change Forever - The Climate Coalition. It's important that you state on the form that you are with <a href="https://www.ourgrandchildrensclimate.org">www.ourgrandchildrensclimate.org</a> so that we can make a maximum impact on the day. We will be carrying our banner. The timing and exact details of the day haven't yet been finalized, so our

default meeting point is by the entrance to Queen Elizabeth II conference Centre near Parliament Square (SW1P 3EE) at 12 noon. Do email us if you are planning to come, at <a href="mailto:info@ourgrandchildrensclimate.org">info@ourgrandchildrensclimate.org</a> so that we can look out for you. It's going to be big!

**24**<sup>th</sup> **June 12 midday**: In preparation for this event, ShareAction are hosting a free <u>online workshop</u> <u>at 12pm on 24th June</u> to outline our asks around the Government's new *Pensions Schemes Bill* and equip individuals to meet their MPs (or simply to write to them), particularly if it's new to them. Book a place at this workshop by clicking on the link above.

Future Meetings of OGC: We plan to meet online (Zoom link from <a href="mainto-meet">info@ourgrandchildrensclimate.org</a>) on the first Wednesday of each month (except August)

between 5 and 6.30 pm. Meetings start with a half-hour talk about a current topic of concern to us, followed by questions and answers.



Next meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> July: Meg O'Neill, Head of Movement Building, The COALITION Climate Coalition (<u>www.theclimatecoalition.org</u>). Lobbying MPs, especially around the stalled Climate and Nature Bill, is a major issue. Contact us for Zoom link.

3<sup>rd</sup> September: The European Connection; Sigurd Reimers (OGC Board member). We are members of European Grandparents for Climate www.grandparentsforclimate.eu. There are nine other European climate grandparent groups, many with a long history,



PosiCorn: Climate collapse is a topic that can feel overwhelming and makes many people feel hopeless. The Newsletter's POSItive CORNer is intended to provide realistic hope in seeing that there is a lot that can be done, often in small ways, to help adapt to and mitigate the climate changes that are already occurring. Most Local Authorities declared a climate emergency six years ago; most devised plans for tackling the threats from storms, droughts, and flooding. These are often published on the Council websites and in their Newsletters. Their elected members can be supported and challenged by letters and Council questions at meetings www.writetothem.com). You can even compare how your Council is performing on the road to Net Zero with other Local Authorities by checking with Council Climate Action: Council Climate Action Scorecards | Climate Emergency UK. Prepare to be impressed, or disappointed.

The **Children's Working group** aims to liaise with schools, parents' and other groups; to promote conversations with children on sensitive subjects, and to request a meeting with the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Ed Miliband with adults and children

## Other climate issues to keep an eye on:

Will Drax be closed down? Will Net Zero plans be slowed down? Will restrictions on public protest be eased? Tell us what climate questions are concerning you at the moment. info@ourchildrensclimate.org

and a lot to teach us. Their conference in Oslo at the end of August will offer some warnings and a lot of inspiration;

1<sup>st</sup> October: Marine Conservation; Chris Gorell-Barnes, Co-founder of Blue Marine Foundation

5<sup>th</sup> November: The UN Climate Summit (COP 30) and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Paris Climate Agreement;

3<sup>rd</sup> December: Supporting children and their schools in handling climate change. We also hope to create or join some actions that relate to some of the topics.

"Just One Thing": Taking the title from the late Michael Mosley's popular radio series on tips for helping us care for our health, we will make some suggestions for how we, as individuals, can exercise influence in bringing about change. This can include writing to our MPs, changing our bank, lobbying our pensions providers, or joining some of the large existing environmental pressure groups. You will find useful website links under the section on our website headed RESOURCES.

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