

Forum Report March26 - Climate Solutions group

With the convenor and other members of the group on holiday, the March meeting was very informal and sociable. We continue to be delighted with the success of Sue's 'blister pack' recycling campaign, and are very grateful for the donations given by people bringing empty blister packs for recycling; Sue is filling the Terracycle bin faster each month. Please bring your used packets to the monthly meeting and please remember to make a donation to enable us to continue with this very worthwhile recycling campaign.

Those of you who signed up to take part in the 'Big Plastic Count' this month will hopefully have realised how hard it is to avoid plastic waste. *"When counting you might feel like the plastics crisis is your fault. It's not. Only governments and companies can provide accessible alternatives."* Plastic waste is effectively being forced upon us as we shop at the supermarket - I discovered that plastic packaging for fruit, vegetables and other foods made up 91% of my count. The Big Plastic Count website advises that 67% plastic waste is being incinerated, 10% is sent to landfill, 12% exported and only 11% is being recycled in the UK.

Tipping Points: In November 2025 the London School of Economics published a European research blog that defined positive tipping points as *"moments when small actions trigger rapid self-sustaining shifts towards sustainability."* They describe the exponential growth of solar and wind power, electric vehicles and plant-based proteins - as costs fall and policies align. *"Each breakthrough accelerates others: cheaper batteries stabilise renewable grids, clean power drives industrial decarbonisation, and social norms shift towards more sustainable consumption."*

For general information - if you would like to find out more about the ways the climate is changing, and the risks to wildlife ...

The UN website - <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/what-is-climate-change> provides an introduction to the global issues, essential facts and possible solutions;

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@nebriefing> - carries a series of scientific briefings on subjects such as nature, weather extremes, food security and health; the introduction from Professor Mike Berners-Lee provides an informative summary.