



# Newsletter

16 Edition

Welcome to the latest edition of the St Peter's Green Team Newsletter!!!

We aim to bring you news about what we have been doing, facts and information about climate change, advice on what you can do to help, fun facts and good news stories. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and we can help you to think global and act local!

## Liquid trees?!

By Callum Bailey

Now, you may be reading Liquid Trees and thinking that it sounds like something fresh out of the Lorax, but trust me, it's nothing like it beyond the fake trees bit. A company in Serbia has invented a liquid tree, it is a 600l tank of water containing single-celled freshwater algae native to Serbia, capable of surviving in a wide variety of temperatures.



It is as effective as two 10-year-old trees or 200m<sup>2</sup> of grass, utilising photosynthesis to convert CO<sub>2</sub> to Oxygen. As well as this, the micro-algae inside are 10 to 50 times more efficient than trees. Of course, the team behind it has no intention of using these tanks of green goop to replace trees, but they wish to use such tanks in urban areas where there is no space for planting trees or in conditions where a tree could not survive. The Liquid 3 above is located in Belgrade, Serbia. The head of the Department for Social Affairs and Development Projects said, "The photobioreactor is a completely new biotechnological solution for air purification and the production of oxygen. In an aquarium of six hundred litres of water, we have algae that bind carbon dioxide and produce pure oxygen through photosynthesis. The project is designed to be multifunctional. LIQUID3 is also a bench, it has chargers for mobile phones, as well as a solar panel, thanks to which the bench has lighting during the night. The municipality of Stari grad has decided to support this project which directly contributes to improving the quality of life of our fellow citizens, public health and cleaner environment through using smart and innovative solutions". It is quite clear that photobioreactors such as the Liquid 3 would be revolutionary as they convert a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> into Oxygen, offer street lighting, phone charging and a seat for people, meaning it would be very useful. If more cities globally start utilising such technology, urban quality of life could be greatly improved, as well as helping the environment even in places where it was considered impossible to do so.

## Timmy the Turtle's Termly Top tips!

By Paul Barski



**This term's top tips is all about Christmas!!!!**

**Quality not quantity:** Around half of UK adults say they have received gifts they don't want at Christmas<sup>1</sup>. When buying gifts, think *less but better*. Put time into picking a quality item that will last, and be loved, for a long time. This reduces the chances of gifts going to waste and will ensure that your gift lasts for many years to come. This could also be better for your wallet by purchasing one quality gift, rather than lots of cheaper, disposable or poor-quality items.

**Gift an experience:** Gifting an experience for your loved ones will help to reduce demand for physical resources, and avoids filling homes with unwanted presents. Bring people together by gifting your time, or with purchased experiences. There are lots of options to choose from that will reduce your Christmas footprint.

**Remove packaging:** Reduce waste even further by buying gifts with little or no packaging. Sometimes shopping local can help with this, especially if you have a local refill shop. If you must use or buy packaging, look for recycled or recyclable materials. Avoid plastics where possible, and don't forget your reusable bags to carry all your shopping home!

**Cut your food waste:** Food production is the biggest cause of tropical deforestation. Cut waste by planning ahead - be realistic about how much food you need and use up leftovers. Instead of clingfilm, use Tupperware (and reuse plastic food containers saved after takeaways), aluminium foil, and wax cloth covers to keep leftovers nice and fresh!

**Know your logos:** Search for sustainability certifications for the food and drink you're serving this festive season. If products contain palm oil, make sure it's RSPO-certified, if you're serving fish look for MSC-certified wild seafood, and ASC-certified farmed seafood. For tea, coffee, chocolate, and sugary items, look for Soil Association Organic or Fairtrade certifications.

**Table Manners:** Many Christmas crackers are not recyclable, and the toys inside are often made of plastic that is thrown away after use. Instead, look out for FSC-certified crackers which mean that the packaging is made from sustainably sourced paper and card. Always check what's inside a cracker to make sure you get something that people will reuse (and ask if you really need them in the first place) Reusable DIY crackers are another great option. Fill them yourself with sustainable options (like chocolates) and personalised festive favours.



# **FUN FACTS!!**

**By Ewan O'Loughlin**

One bolt of lightning can generate more energy than a typical house.



Coral reefs aren't plants but they are the earth's lungs as they take in the most of the earth's CO2



# **Frightening Fact**

**By Ewan O'Loughlin**

According to the IHME Global health Data Exchange Tool, "the yearly deaths caused by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria combined are not even a third of the yearly deaths caused by pollution.