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## 2023 Earthshot Awards offer hope for the planet

Based around five '[Earthshots](#)', this global competition awards £1 million to each winner to scale up their innovative solutions to repair and regenerate our planet. This year's [winners](#) include a community initiative safeguarding Andean forests, a scheme helping farmers to cut food waste, a firm making EV batteries using easier-to-recycle components, a marine programme strengthening ocean conservation, and a company rewarding farmers for sustainable land management practices.

With record high temperatures and extreme weather events, the Earthshot Awards are a reminder that we can all play a role in working towards a repaired and regenerated planet. Take a look at [ZCH's website](#) which contains links and ideas to help you reduce your [carbon footprint](#).

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## ZCH News...

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### Peer Advisory Sustainability Board Launch

We were delighted to present this new [initiative](#) at [Harrogate Chamber's](#) Net Zero event which will bring businesses together within a supportive forum to share practical advice about how to reduce carbon emissions. If you are a local business and would like to know more, please register your interest [here](#).



## White Rose Forest 1000 Tree Challenge

As a member of the White Rose Forest (WRF) Partnership, ZCH has a say in how our community forest develops. WRF's [1000 Tree Challenge](#) initiative involves local people which encourages a sense of community ownership, helps volunteers to re-connect with nature, and inspires people to pursue a career in nature recovery. Once our ZCH volunteers have completed the training, we will announce future tree planting days. If you would like to be involved, please [email](#) to register your interest.

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## River Nidd Bathing Water Status

As part of [Nidd Action Group's](#) campaign for Bathing Water Status at the Lido in Knaresborough, ZCH has written to the Secretary of State for the Environment, highlighting our support and the need for catchment wide improvements to ecosystems along each of the tributaries of the river. Read our letter [here](#).

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## Join us at our Christmas Social!

If you haven't done so already, please [let us know](#) if you are able to join us for a glass of mulled wine and mince pie on **Thursday 14th December, 7-9pm at The Old Bell, Harrogate**. We look forward to sharing some festive cheer with our members, supporters and volunteers.

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## Businesses benefit from Commuter Club

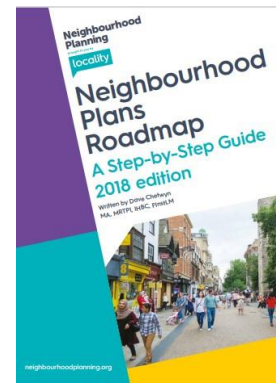
As part of [Car Free Friday](#) and the popular [2-for-1 travel deal](#), [Harrogate Bus Company](#) is reminding local businesses of the environmental and financial benefits from joining their [Commuter Club](#). The scheme offers employee discounts on bus travel across the network, and flexible discounted ticket options for both full and part-time staff.

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## A Neighbourhood Plan for Harrogate

ZCH is delighted to be working with [Harrogate Civic Society](#) to take the initial step towards developing a local planning framework known as a [Neighbourhood Plan](#). This provides the opportunity to set out a positive community wide vision for the area, which will build in climate resilience. Read more [here](#).



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## News from North Yorkshire Council

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### Small Business Grants

A new funding programme has opened to increase business growth, productivity, investment and sustainability. To qualify, works need to be completed and invoiced by 31st March 2024. Details, including the Business Sustainability Grants, can be found [here](#).



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### Draft Housing Strategy Consultation

Closing on 11th December, share [your views](#) about proposals to tackle homelessness, meet the needs of the ageing population, increase the supply of affordable homes, reduce fuel poverty, decarbonise homes and bring empty properties back into use. We strongly encourage our supporters to respond to this survey and have prepared a briefing note [here](#). ZCH's full response will be published nearer the closing date.



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### Let's Talk Climate - the results are in!

ZCH would like to thank everyone who responded to the Let's Talk Climate consultation. The Council has published the key findings [here](#).



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### Let's Talk Money Survey 2023

Closing on 18th December, NYC wants to hear [your feedback](#) to inform the 2024/25 budget and 2024-28 Council Plan. ZCH believes that the Council's current commitment to - and therefore its spending on -



addressing climate change is totally inadequate. This is a great opportunity to register your personal views. You can skip questions that are difficult to answer.

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## Volunteering Opportunities

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### ZCH Events Manager

We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer who can put together an events programme to help us raise our profile and engage with the community. Please contact [hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org) to find out more.



## Energy Efficiency & Retrofit

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### Passivhaus Open Day at Holly Garth

This was once again very well attended, including by two people for whom this was their second ZCH event of the week, having been to the Building Ventilation session. Timber-frame [Passivhaus](#) is gradually becoming the only show in town for new build. It's cheaper (over the life of the building), it has a light carbon footprint in both construction and use, and delivers affordable, luxurious living. To register for future events, [contact us](#) or join Tim and Marilyn on their five minute [online tour](#) .



### Save Energy at Home

As the colder months approach, take a look at [ZCH's website](#) for tips and advice about saving money on your energy bills.

## Other News...

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## Walled Garden Volunteer Day - Fri 24th Nov

Huge progress has been made at [Living Potential Community Garden](#), including a compost toilet! If you would like to volunteer, [get in touch](#). Jobs include painting, sanding, digging, wheelbarrowing woodchip, and moving brush. Home-grown/home-made soup will be served and volunteers can say hello to the resident pigs and goats!

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## People, Planet, Pint - Sustainability Meetup

Hosted by [Paul Haslam](#), the next Harrogate Sustainability Meetup is on **Thursday 14th December** 5.30-8pm at Cold Bath Brewing Co. Reserve your spot [here](#).



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