



Tackling
climate change
together
and building
local resilience

Part of **Sopwell Residents Association**

sopwell.org.uk/sopwell-eco-stars

23rd Jan 2023

Groups I help run



Moving on the narrative

- Hyper-local level



**'Net Zero'
sustainability
groups**



**Hertfordshire
Enabling and
Adapting for
Resilience
Together**

Mitigation

Adaptation and Resilience

Supporting each other to
other to
tread lightly,
adapt and
stay strong
in the face of an
uncertain future





The need for resilience



Everyone has a part to play in the Race for Resilience

“I would like to see us launch a race for resilience.

We have a **race for zero** that's been launched in association with the COP, where we're getting businesses and organizations and community groups and local authorities all signing up to say they're going to get to net zero.

I would like to see businesses and local authorities and community groups all signing up to say that we're going to be **prepared** for the changes that the climate is going to be bring.”

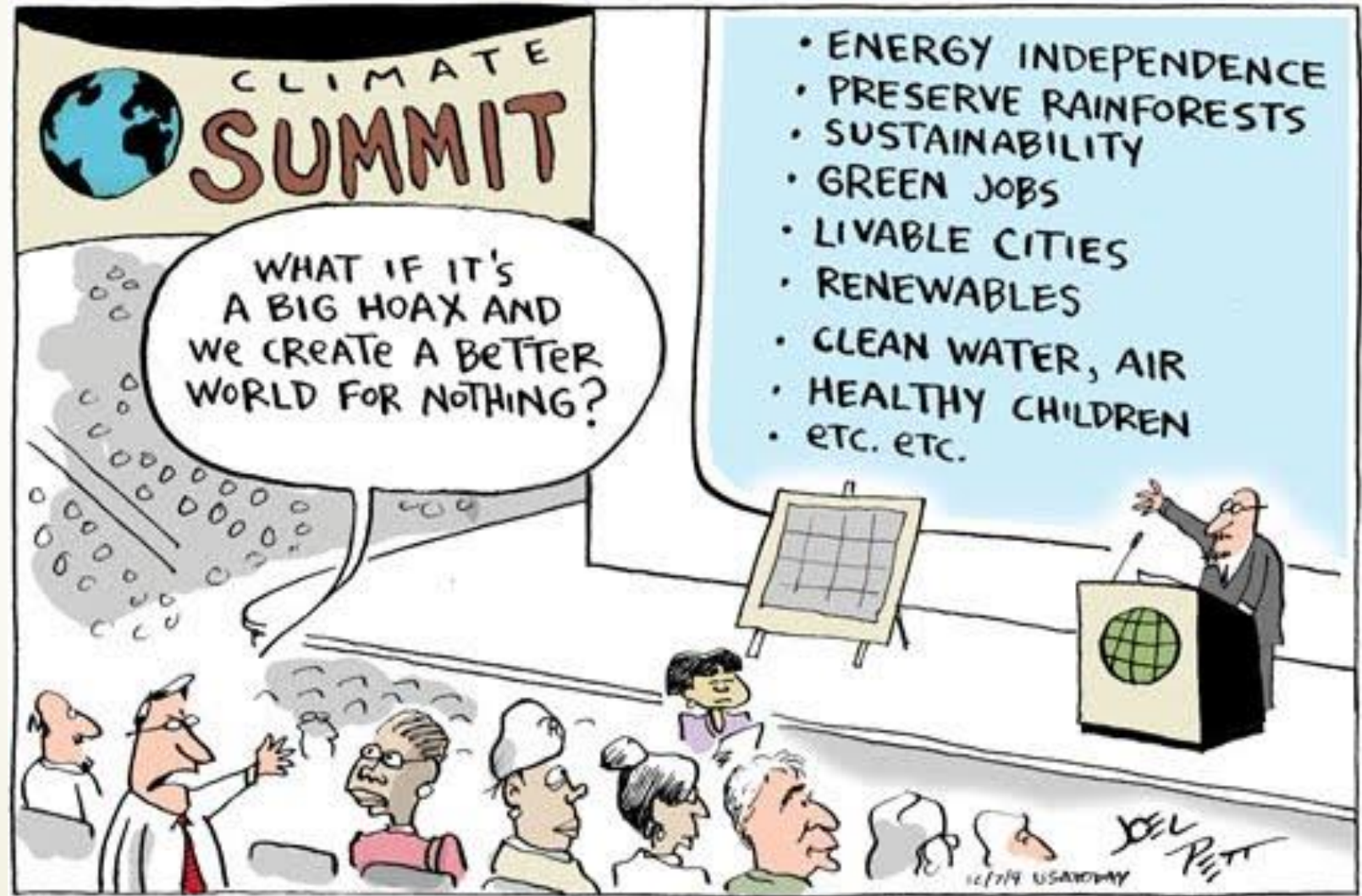
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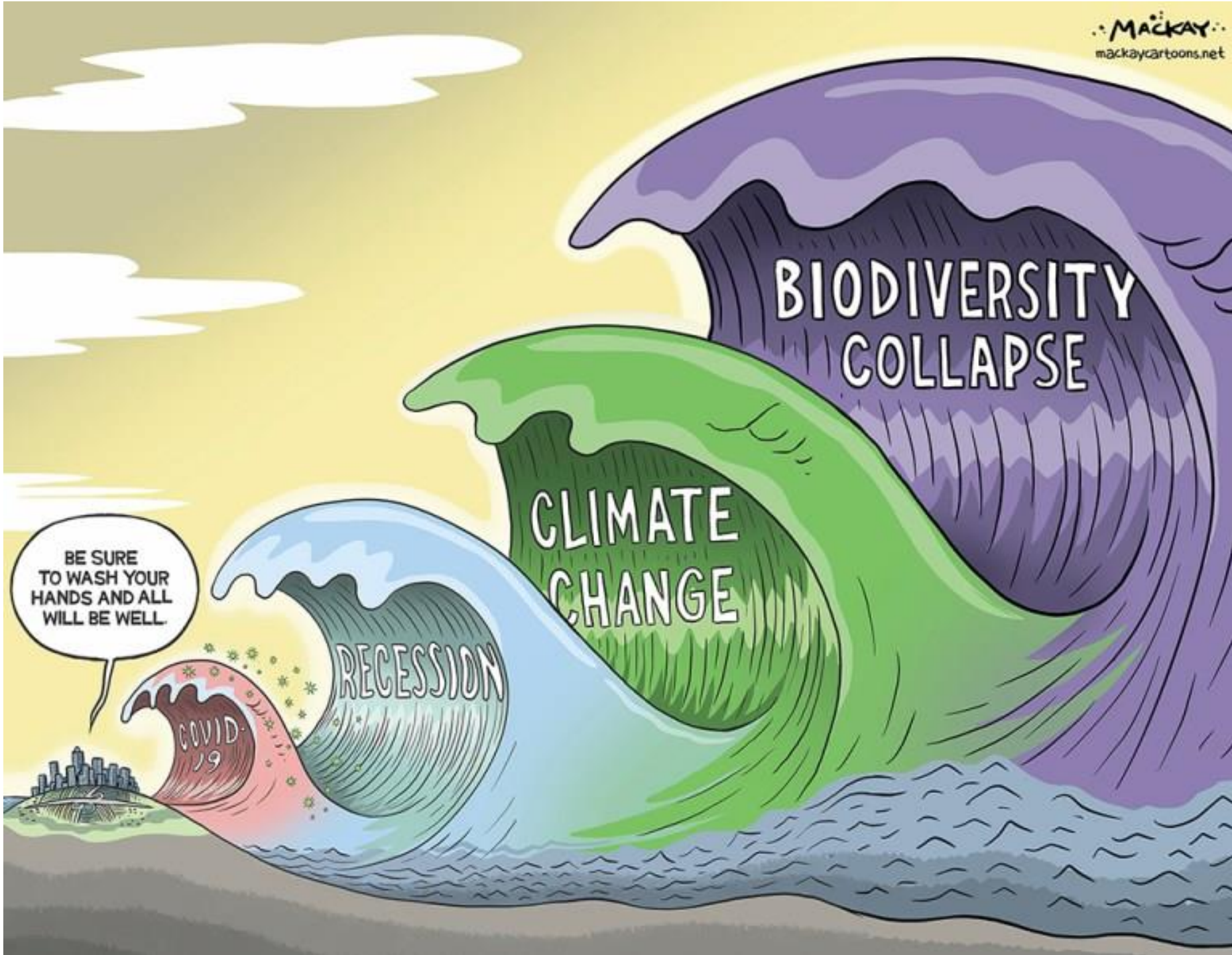
Deputy Chair of the Climate Change Committee. Oct 2020

Disclaimer!

Uncertainty

- Locations
- Timing
- Severity





BE SURE
TO WASH YOUR
HANDS AND ALL
WILL BE WELL.

COVID-19

RECESSION

CLIMATE
CHANGE

BIODIVERSITY
COLLAPSE



Climate change is part of a polycrisis

- ❖ Climate change
- ❖ Economic fragility
- ❖ Profits over people and planet
- ❖ Divisive politics
- ❖ Increasing social injustice
- ❖ Resource depletion
- ❖ Collapse of biodiversity and eco-systems



➤ Not on track to meet Net Zero targets by 2050

➤ Nowhere near resilient to cope with the additional warming that is inevitable in the coming decades



UK Climate Policy Dashboard

Tracking government progress to deliver net zero



7/10

Power
Sector



5/10

Transport
Sector



4/10

Manufacturing
and Construction



4/10

Agriculture
and Land Use



5/10

Buildings
Sector



2/10

Waste
Sector



4/10

Adaptation
Area

The IPCC says

Action on climate change is urgent



We also need to
build resilience and adapt
to a changing climate

*Even if emissions stop tomorrow, there is
still more warming 'baked in'*

Climate change

will increasingly affect all of society and the environment; our soils, water, wildlife, food supply, health, infrastructure, businesses, the economy, and security



St Albans City and District Council
August 10 · 🌍



NEWS

Extreme heat warning issued



Three-day
heatwave
46.6-49.6°C
June 2021



Canadian inferno: northern heat exceeds worst-case climate models

Scientists fear heat domes in North America and Siberia indicate a new dimension to the global crisis



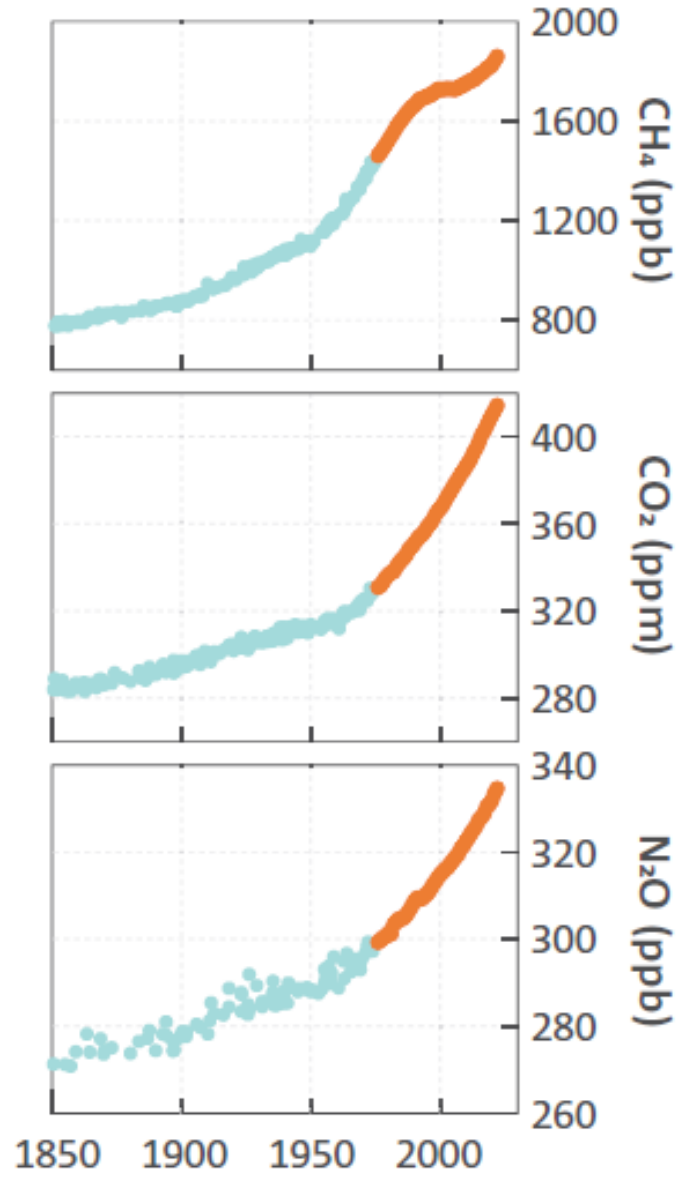
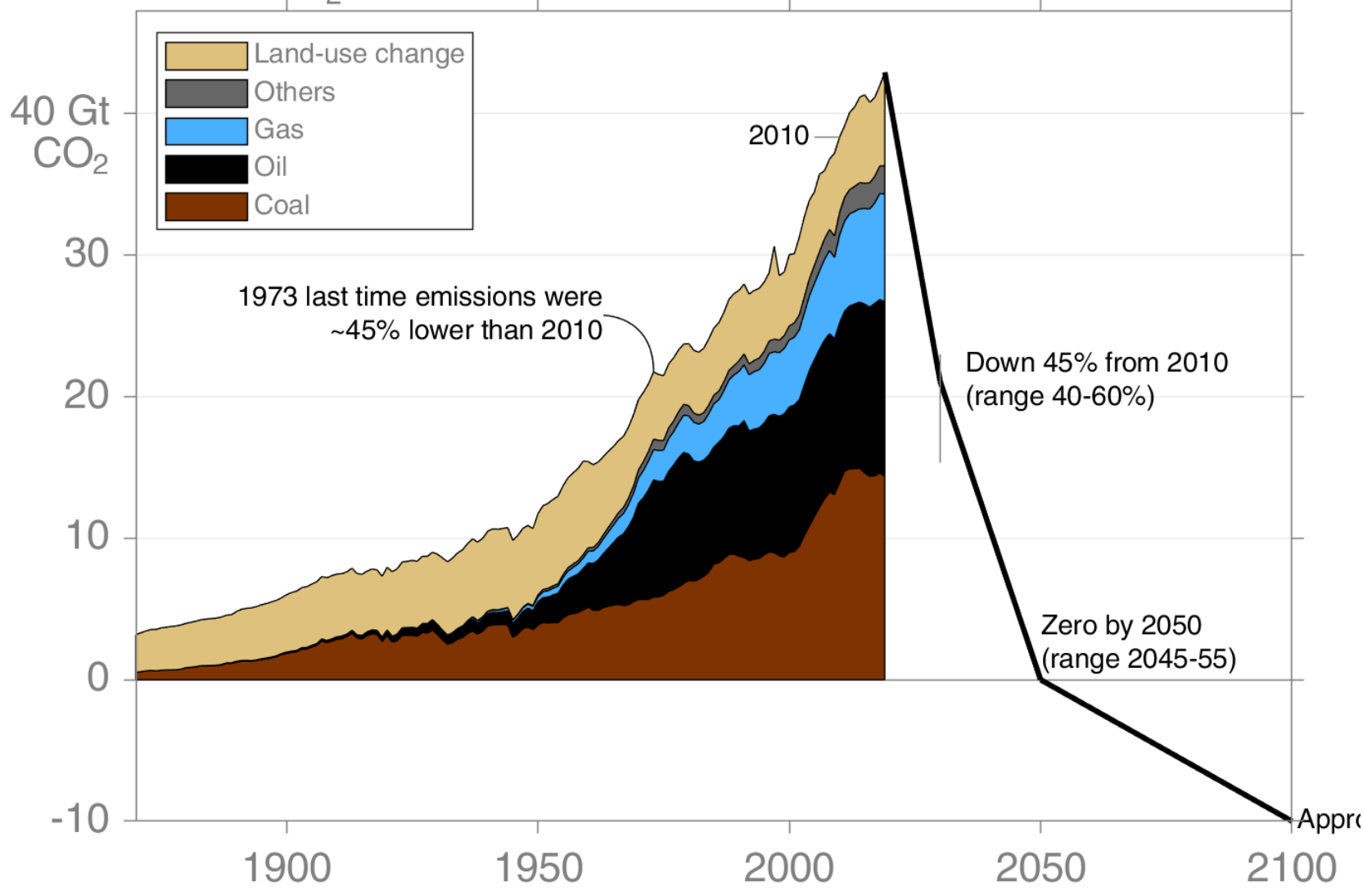
▲ A wildfire burning on a mountainside in Lytton, British Columbia, on Thursday. Photograph: Canadian Press/Rex/Shutterstock

Warning of unprecedented heatwaves as El Niño set to return in 2023

Scientists say phenomenon coupled with growing climate crisis likely to push global temperatures 'off the chart'



Global CO₂ emissions



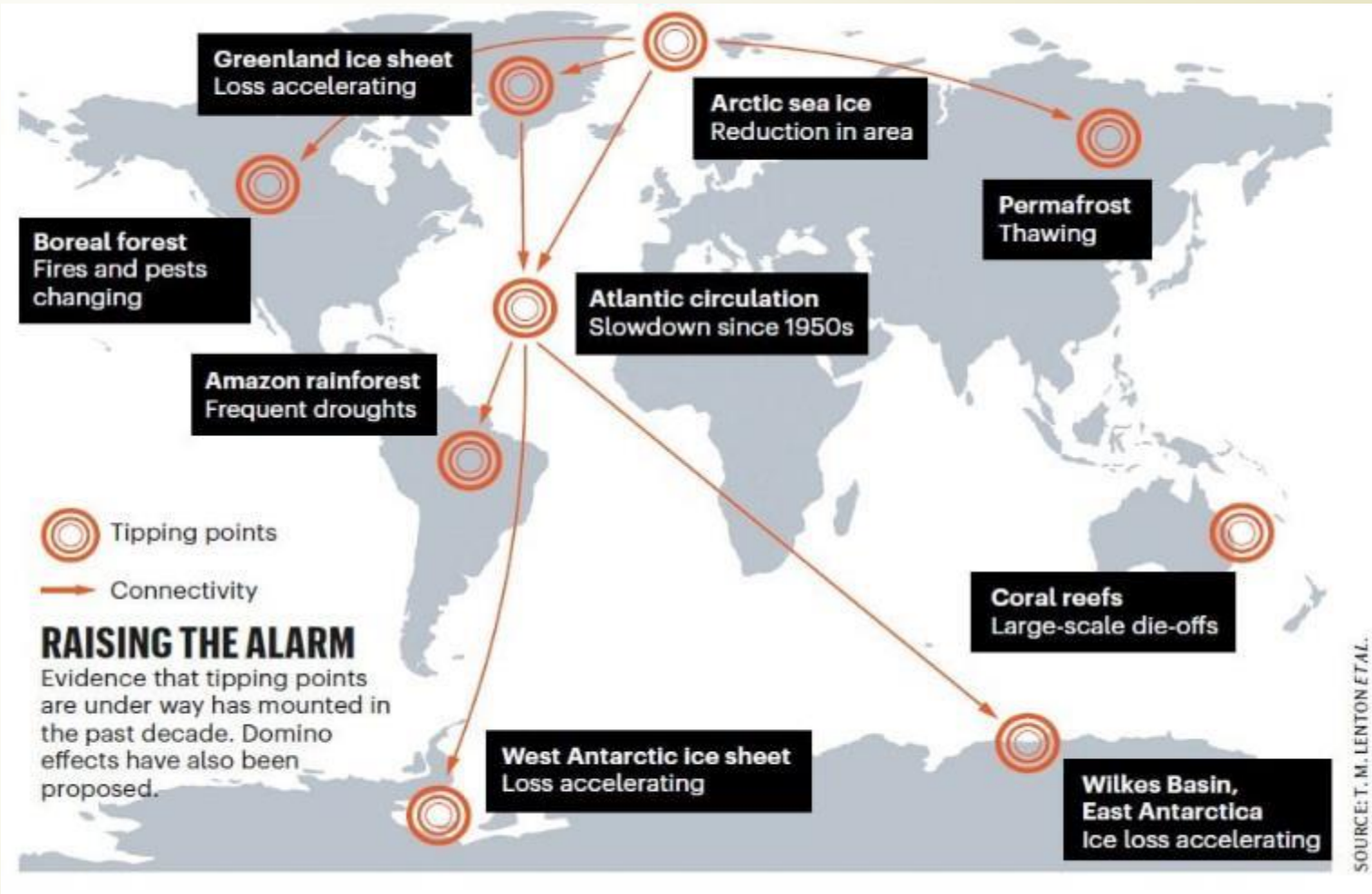
Nine climate tipping points now 'active'

"A decade ago we identified a suite of potential tipping points in the Earth system, now we see evidence that over half of them have been activated.

The growing threat of rapid, irreversible changes means it is no longer responsible to wait and see.

The situation is urgent and we need an emergency response."

Professor Tim Lenton, Nov '19





Eight highest priorities

For UK adaptation in the next two years

- All risks are expected to worsen under warming of 2°C
- Key risks to the UK such as **flooding** and **water scarcity** also remain significant, but **well-developed policies** are in place



Top 10 Risks

“Please estimate the likely impact (severity) of the following risks over a 2-year and 10-year period”

2 years



10 years



Risk categories

■ Economic
 ■ Environmental
 ■ Geopolitical
 ■ Societal
 ■ Technological

We need action
at all levels



if we wait for the government
it will be too late...

...if we act as individuals
it will be too little...



...if we act as communities it might just
be enough...



QUOTE BY ROB HOPKINS IN 'FROM WHAT IS TO WHAT IF' @brenna-quinlan

Why hyper-local?

From 20 minute-neighbourhoods to societal collapse...

- We were built for it!
- Agency
- Connections: trust, working together, compassion
- Tailor to community needs
- Emissions & sustainability
- Emergency preparedness
- Funding!





What's our approach?

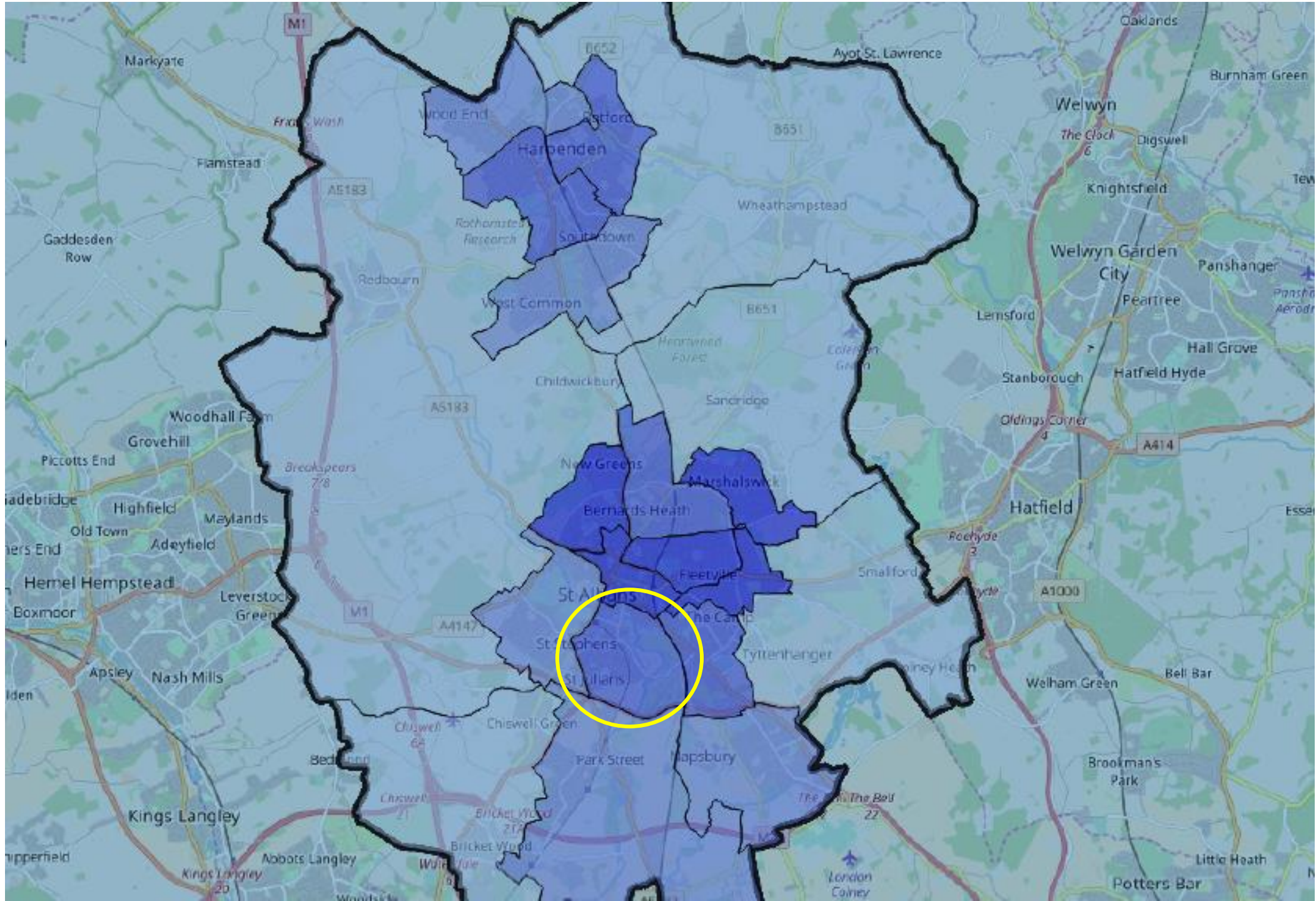


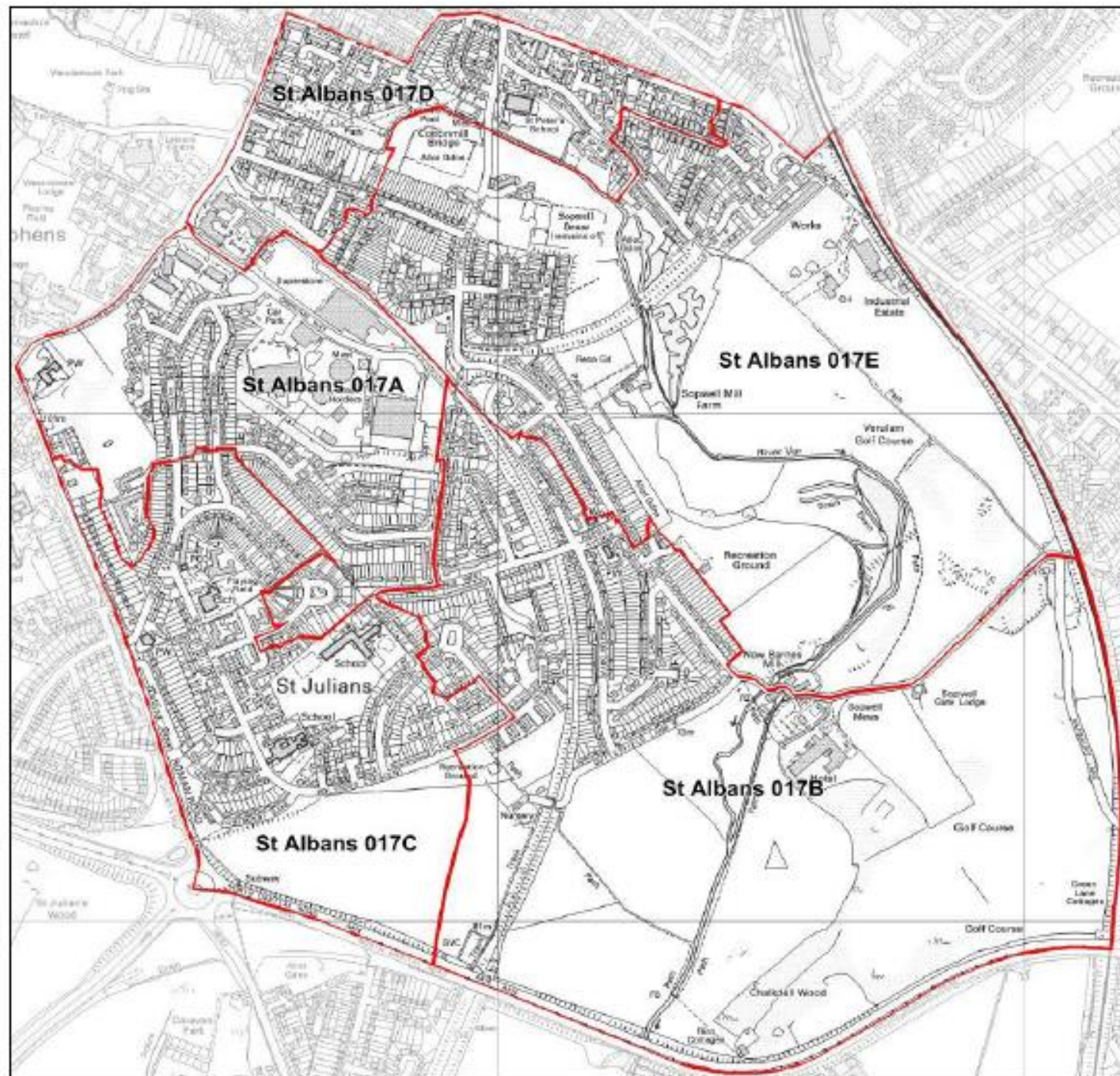
Mitigation

**Community
Resilience**

Adaptation

Social
Justice,
Connection
& Upskilling



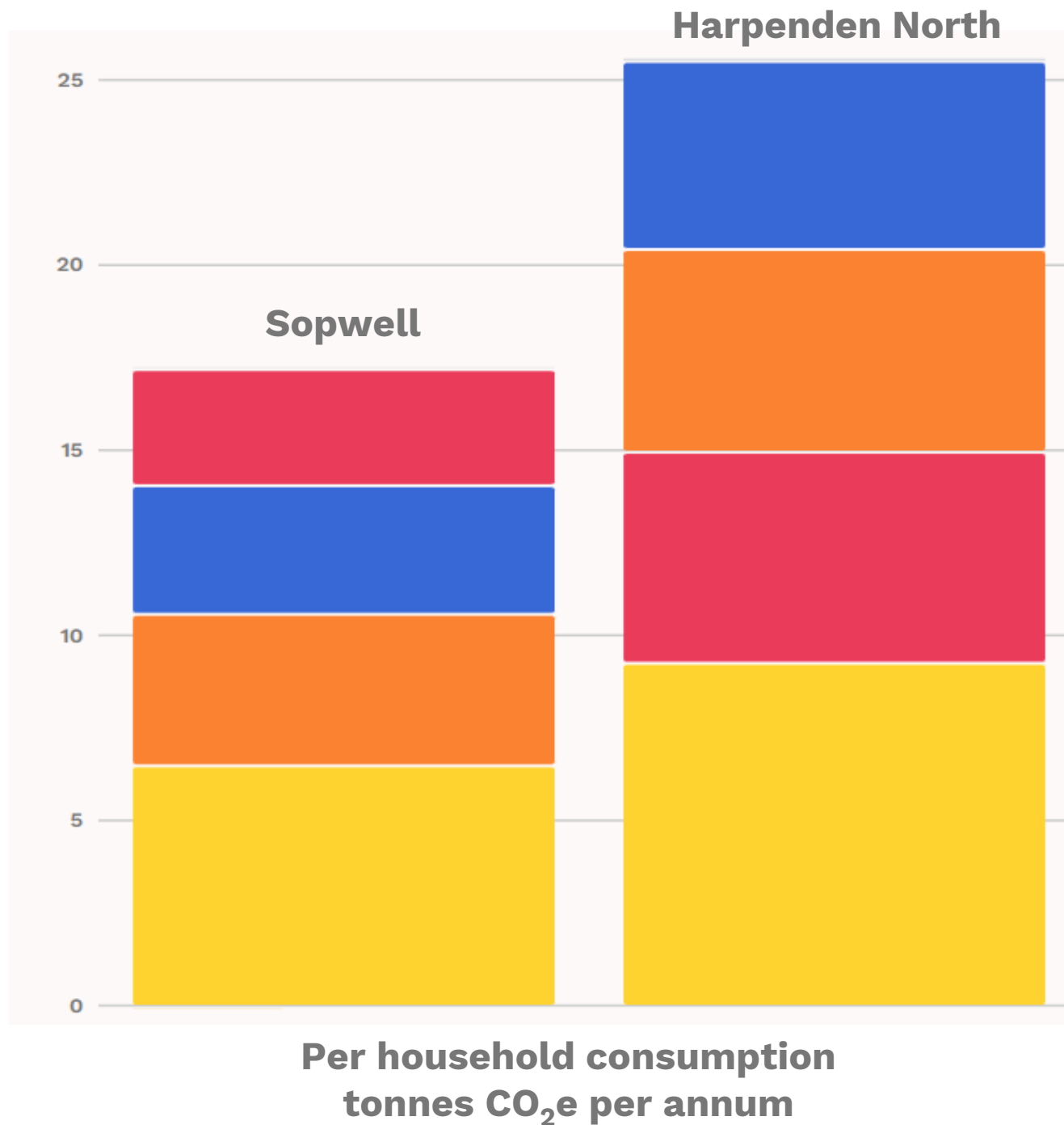


Know your community...strengths and weaknesses

<u>Deprivation rank</u> (CLG 2010)	St Albans 017A (E01023737)	St Albans 017B (E01023738)	St Albans 017C (E01023739)	St Albans 017D (E01023740)	St Albans 017E (E01023741)
Income	Within 25% most deprived	Within 25% most deprived	Within 50% most deprived		
Employment	Within 50% most deprived	Within 35% most deprived			
Health and Disability		Within 50% most deprived			
Education Skills and Training	Within 45% most deprived	Within 30% most deprived			

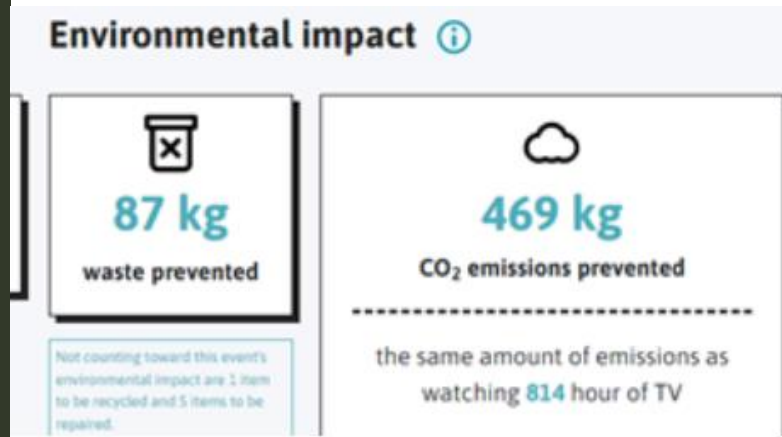


...For a tailored approach



Community Events

- Repair fairs
- Seasonal cooking for less
- Saving energy, cutting bills
- Clothes swaps/collections
- Emotional resilience
- Film nights



Wanted

Black school shoes

any size

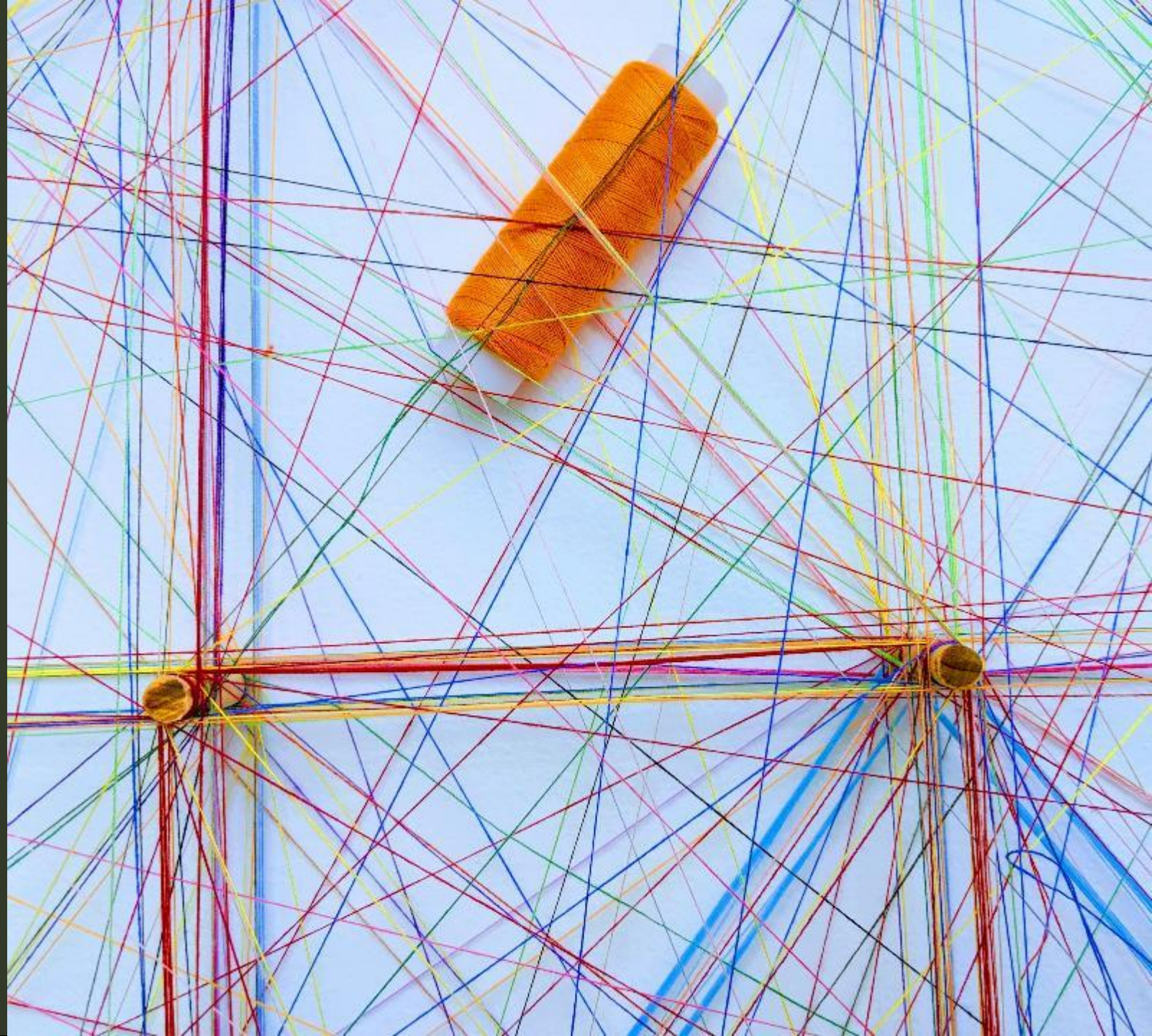
In good, clean condition please.
Drop off in the crate at
71 Leyland Avenue





Success factors

- ▶ Local environmental groups & awareness
- ▶ Strong community spirit
- ▶ Connections
 - ▶ Schools, faith & community groups, local gov and community stars
- ▶ Communications
 - ▶ Twice-yearly printed newsletter to every household
 - ▶ Website & electronic mailing list
 - ▶ Other groups' newsletters
 - ▶ Local community and street-level Facebook and WhatsApp groups
 - ▶ Community noticeboards



How to Save Energy and Cut Bills at Home

<https://SaveEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk>

Join Us
Sat 4 Feb
2-4pm



At the
Cottonmill Centre
AL1 2EF



How to Save Energy and Cut Bills at Home

- Quick wins around the home
- Talk on retro-fitting a local house
- Talk on installing a heat pump
- Opportunity to use a Thermal Imaging Camera in your home
- Refreshments

Info and book
<https://SaveEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk>



Conversation with Rupert Read

- <https://moderateflank.org/>
- <https://Rupert-Read-9-Feb.eventbrite.co.uk>

Adapting for an Uncertain Future Interview Series



A conversation with

Rupert Read

All free to attend
Thursday 9 February
11am UTC / UK time



Extinction Rebellion – The Big One

<https://extinctionrebellion.uk/next-uk-rebellion/>

THE BIG ONE

**From 21 April 2023 100,000 people will gather at the
Houses of Parliament.**

Thanks to our partners and sponsors



FoodPals



Waitrose



Thank you!

► PayPal donate: <https://sopwell.org.uk/>



Sopwell Residents Association
MAKING SOPWELL A BETTER PLACE

Want to help support our activities?

[Donate](#)

SRA FACEBOOK GROUP



The image is a screenshot of the Sopwell Residents Association website. At the top, the title 'Sopwell Residents Association' is displayed in a green serif font, with the tagline 'MAKING SOPWELL A BETTER PLACE' in a smaller, black sans-serif font below it. The main content area features a photograph of two women smiling; the woman on the left is holding a white sign that says 'FIXED!' in black marker. To the right of the photo, the text 'Want to help support our activities?' is followed by a yellow 'Donate' button. Below this, there is a section for the 'SRA FACEBOOK GROUP' with a corresponding logo at the bottom right.



Appendix

Adaptation

Imagine a car racing toward a brick wall, too fast to stop in time.

The driver has two primary tools - the brakes, which will slow the car down and the airbags, which will cushion the passengers when they crash.

Mitigation is the brakes—it will slow climate change and reduce the overall magnitude of change.

Adaptation is the airbags—it will protect and cushion people and nature as climate change progresses.

We need both

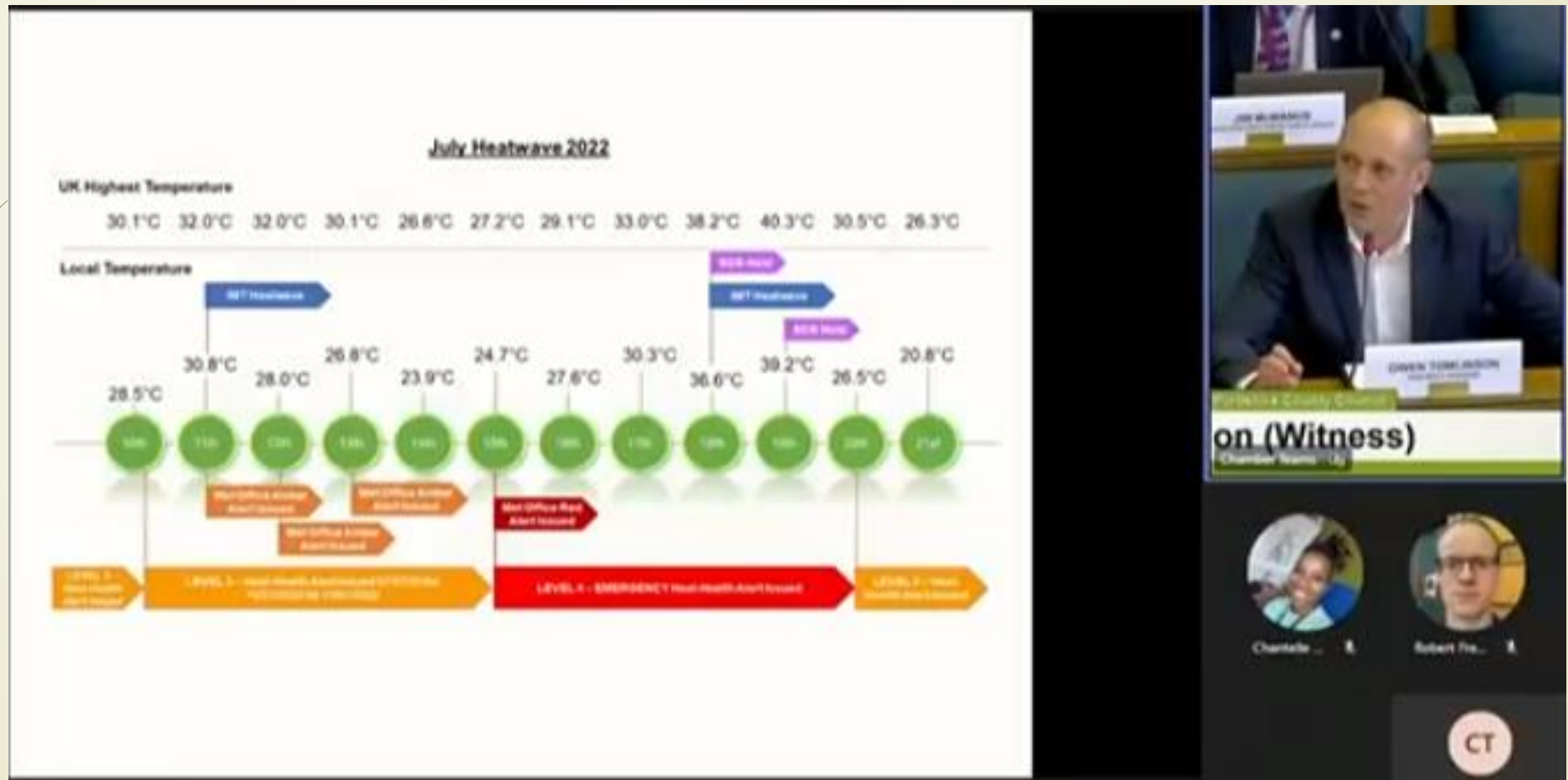


RESILIENCE

- Hyper-local access – water, food, energy, waste management
- Growing food
- Feeding others, eating together
- Ownership of Local Energy
- Community swapshops – see for example www.buynothingproject.org
- Doughnut Economics
<https://www.kateraworth.com/doughnut/>
- Citizens' Assemblies at community level
- Shelter (see tiny house initiative)
- Hand-made life, eco-village style living
- Changing how we educate children (so they learn the skills they'll need in a different future)
- Protecting what we build
- Conflict Resolution and Non-Violent Communication
- Finding and developing local people with talents, including facilitation and community-building
- Hygge (Danish concept for a feeling of cozy contentment and well-being through enjoying the simple things in life)
- Consciousness raising and re-connecting people with inner wisdom, meditation, spiritual practices, martial arts, yoga, prayer, silence, rituals, celebrations
- Storytelling
- Art, Poetry, Singing, Music and Dancing
- Restoring old crafts
- Elders, teachers, guides, mentors

HCC Adaptation & Resilience Topic Group

Summary: <https://heartcommunitygroup.org/275458-2/>





Transformative Adaptation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdcozYMUvm8&t=537s>

Creating a Community-Resilient Future Now



Guest Speaker

Rupert Read

HEART public Event: 25 June 2022



The Moderate Flank

<https://youtu.be/txs32W-IHXg>