



Dear Resident,

It doesn't seem a year ago, that a few like-minded residents met to discuss the possibility of how we could be involved in reducing the effects that are causing Climate change and making Ermington as self-sustainable as possible.

So during the last year, Ermington Environmentals have:-

- **Worked alongside other local groups in the area** with guidance from the Sustainable South Hams organisation, attending over 100 meetings and gatherings - sharing and gaining ideas and making very useful contacts.
- **Explored the possibilities of the production of different forms of Renewable Energy** in the village. So far, the use of solar energy has been the main focus but hydro and wind are also on the agenda. Supported residents with a presentation by South Dartmoor Community Energy who offered advice and practical help with home insulation to help in reducing energy usage. Several members of EE generously donated thermal blankets to residents over the winter period.
- We have obtained the use of a **Thermal Imaging Camera** which will be available during the autumn (when the weather is cooler) to find those sneaky draughts – So please contact us if you would like to have this survey done for free at your property.
- **Encouraged Biodiversity.** We hear about the reduction in the number of both fauna and flora species and are seeking to address this issue through the various Churchyard Wildlife activities; Litter picking and the Bee friendly project through the distribution of wild flower seeds to all school children.




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**SOME MOTHS RECORDED AT THE
ERMINGTON CHURCH SURVEY, 9 JUNE 2023**

A few of the 58 species of moths seen on the survey.

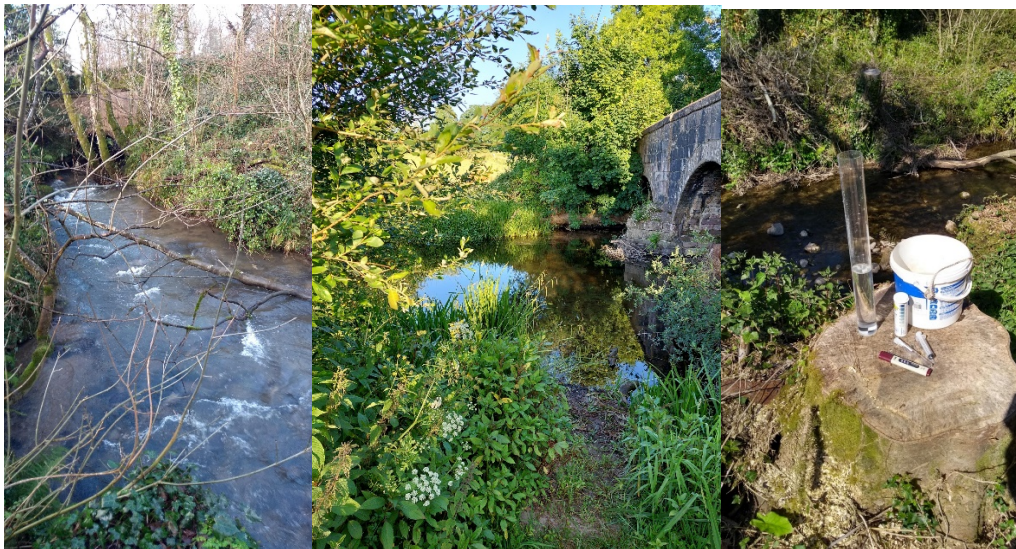
 White Ermine	 Peppered Moth
 Alder Moth	 Common Swift
 Miller	 Pale Tussock
	 Silver Y (a migrant)

Karen Williams, June 2023

- **Explored how we can reduce the disastrous effects on our environment of fossil fuels.** We are looking to improve the provision of public transport for the village and the control and reduction of the amount

of traffic using the village with the Parish Council. We have set up a Speedwatch group to monitor traffic at various locations in the village.

- **Forged closer contacts with the local Schools** by inviting them to create our fabulous Logo and hope they will become more involved in our activities. Ermington Environmentals through kind donations from individuals purchased equipment for pupils to use in the classroom to develop their understanding of renewable energies. The future of our planet is in their hands!
- **Created a 'Wild about the Erme' Project** which is vital if we are to protect our river from the pollution it already suffers. A number of talks to update residents have taken place with more planned. Ongoing testing of the river continues including E.coli testing courtesy of Surfers Against Sewage. Again more volunteers to do this important work are needed please!



- **Held monthly open meetings** that everyone is welcome to attend. However, the success and effectiveness of our activities is dependent upon as many residents in the local community that take part. **So we need your opinions and ideas please!**
- **As well as continuing the above activities watch this space for future activities** - Development of a Nature trail?, Communal garden? Making compost bins from old brown wheelie bins? Regular monitoring of the River Erme and river clean ups and talks on environmental issues.

Finally, a **Big Thank You** to all of you who have supported our activities so far, BUT we always need more hands. To protect our environment for the future of young people we ask you to help us. For more details and information follow our Facebook site or contact us at:-

ermingtong@googlegroups.com

Roger Sharples (Chair)Ermington Environmentals