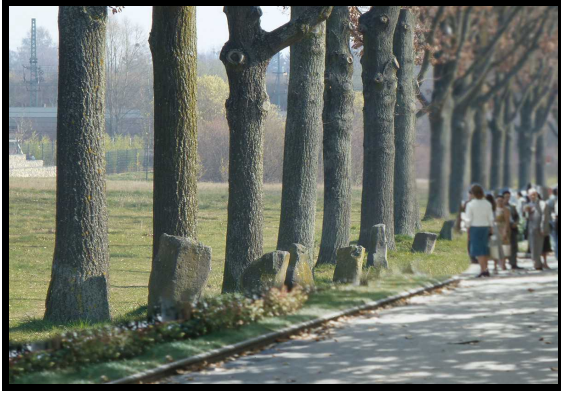


## ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 23



In 2017, the Greenhouse Trust began to design a participatory public art project entitled 7000+. This name reflects the project's aim to make direct connections with '7,000 Eichen' (Oaks) which was the last and most significant nature-based work created by the German conceptual artist Joseph Beuys. 7,000 Oaks brought together conceptual art with on-the-ground change, setting the scene for 'art-actions' during the 1980's, at the heart of the evolving European Green movement (Die Grunen).

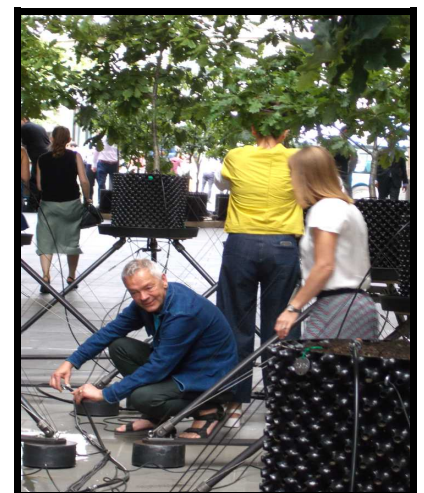
Joseph Beuys spoke often about being inspired by Jon Giono's story 'The Man Who Planted Trees'. Unlike the fictional story, in which trees were planted by Elzéard Bouffier to create a forest, Beuys planted 7,000 Eichen within a city. The installation continues to benefit the citizens of Kassel and inspire artists and activists around the world.

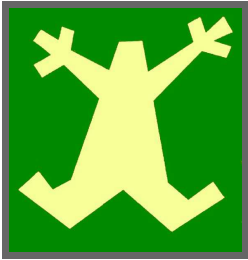
In 2013, a number of saplings, grown from acorns collected from Kassel by artists Heather Ackroyd and Dan Harvey, were displayed at the Sainsbury Centre. The installation formed part of an exhibition, '*Changing Landscapes*'.



Ackroyd and Harvey have toured and travelled around Europe, engaging audiences with science, nature and the role of art and artists - in the context of the Ecological and Climate Emergency. In December 2015 they created a large-scale intervention, '*Radical Action Reaction*' in Paris at the botanical gardens during 'COP21' of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Initially the Greenhouse Gallery's project sought to connect directly with the work of Heather Ackroyd and Dan Harvey and to bring a further set of 'Beuysian Oaks' to Norwich. However, the Covid 19 pandemic intervened and put a stop to developing the project beyond the building. With the biosecurity threat of processionary moth, necessitated that we grow locally sourced tree stock. The continuously evolving tree/climate change installation has been tended and overseen by our part-time member of staff and a small team of dedicated artists and volunteers.





Since the lockdowns ended, the Greenhouse Trust has held discussions with the local authority which has informed the Council's emerging 'Biodiversity Strategy' and has steered 7,000+ into the form of a multiple species art-action that seeks to assist in doubling the tree cover of Norwich by 2030.

The pandemic necessitated a major re-think on the use and services provided within the building, which had until the pandemic been open plan. The Greenhouse Gallery has been relocated to the ground-floor of the building and reopened on 1st October 2021 as part of Open Studios. We hosted an exhibition by four local artists alongside 100 oak tree saplings grown from locally sourced acorns.

We are extremely grateful for grants from The Paul Bassham and The Geoffrey Watling Trusts, who made small but significant and timely grants which enabled the redesign of the former cafe space into additional exhibition and meeting/work space. A new partition and doors separate the ground-floor from the first floor which creates a room from which the Trust can organise 7,000+. It also provides space for managing stock for online sales, enabling us to successfully replace the small income previously generated by the former cafe and bookshop. We have also continued to promote outdoor wine tasting events in conjunction with a local business, 'Substrata', <https://www.substratawines.com/> who promote organic wine production. This work is not yet complete, with only one part-time member of staff, the focus has been the maintenance and development of the building, at the expense of our ability to promote the Greenhouse and provide on-line educational resources as we did before the pandemic. The Trust's website was redesigned as a simple signpost to our building and 7000+.



Generous gift aid donations along with very large donations of second-hand books, CD's and pictures continue to provide the Trust with funds to keep the Greenhouse growing. It would be hard to overstate our gratitude to the Trustees and small team of volunteers who have kept the online sales systems running during this year, despite the personal impact of the pandemic on their health and welfare.

Thank you all and everyone who supports the Greenhouse. Onwards.

Margaret Charnley - Chair of Trustees  
on Behalf of the Board of Trustees

**“Optimism is not soft, it is gritty”.**

Christina Figueres

Former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

# THE GREENHOUSE operates

from an award winning grade II\* listed building, which is owned by the Trust. Major renovation and conversion of the site continues to showcase how old buildings can be upgraded to meet the challenges of climate change. The building is insulated with low embodied energy insulation materials (recycled paper, wool and cork) within an internal, recycled timber frame. The building is equipped with triple glazing, solar hot water technology, photovoltaic (electricity generating) panels and 3.5 tonnes of rainwater storage capacity. These materials and technologies significantly reduce the carbon footprint and running costs of the property. The Greenhouse Trust Fund was among the first UK educational trusts to be created with Climate Change science and policy at the heart of this charities educational objectives.



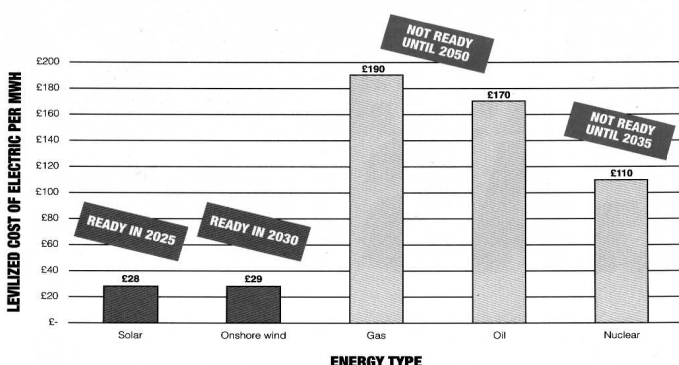
Whilst it acknowledged across the political spectrum that prioritising energy efficiency would cut and estimated £14 - 20 billion from UK energy bills, the abject failure of both central and local government to engage with transformation of our homes and cities cannot be overstated. It is estimated that 80% of buildings standing today will still exist in 2050. and yet close to nothing has been done to address the fact that the majority of building in Norwich will continue to waste both heat and energy, continuing to generate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and trap households in fuel poverty.

*"It's a pity that this has never been addressed, but it is not a science question. Climate science is concerned with gases. From the very outset the climate change narrative has been divorced from energy demand, use, waste, efficiency, lifestyle and impacts".*

**Sir John Houghton:**

the founding chair of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Scientific Assessment Working Group commenting on the fact that the IPCC panel has not remit to produce and publish data on fossil fuels.

## THE SOLUTION TO OUR ENERGY CRISIS IS CLEAR. RENEWABLES: THE CHEAPEST AND QUICKEST ENERGY SOLUTION.



According to the [Building Research Establishment](#), by installing solar photovoltaics on all south-facing commercial roof space approximately 50% of the UK's electricity demand could be met'. In addition fitting solar panels on all houses could significantly help achieve 100% renewable energy.

Source Greenpeace