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EMAIL BULLETINS

Romantic gifts, historic homes and toads on roads – Green Steps

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TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRAL

Romantic gifts, historic homes and toads on roads

Welcome to the February edition of Green Steps! This month we've got ideas for sustainable Valentine's gifts, making your historic home more energy efficient and helping local toads to cross roads. Enjoy!



Pic from the Oxfam website

Show love for the environment this Valentine's Day

This Valentine's Day, why not show your love by buying eco-friendly gifts that minimise your impact on the environment?

You could buy:

- Pre-loved jewellery, clothes or accessories from a charity shop, vintage shop or website
- Pre-loved books from second-hand bookshops or library sales
- Wildflower seed packs to sow in your garden rather than cut flowers

Still stuck for ideas? Oxfam has a blog on a [sustainable and ethical Valentine's Day](#) with more gifts they'll love.

[Read the Oxfam blog](#)



“I live in a beautiful, historic home. How can I make it more energy efficient?”

Love your historic home

6.30-7.30pm, Tuesday 17 February on Zoom

The Environment Centre has arranged a webinar for people living in historic homes with an opportunity to talk to experts about making their houses more energy efficient.

This free webinar will open with a short overview of practical retrofit strategies. Daniel Ayre, Historic Environment Team Leader at Winchester City Council, will then explore how traditional buildings were constructed, and what that means for upgrades, retrofitting and planning considerations today.

The heart of the webinar will be an open, interactive Q&A with Stuart Mills, lead retrofit adviser at Winchester Action on the Climate Crisis (WinACC).

[Book your place on Zoom](#)



Picture from the Woodland Trust website

Help a toad find love

This time of year, [toads](#) are making the sometimes-treacherous journey to ancestral ponds to breed.

Unfortunately, this primal urge doesn't stop when they reach a road, and many toads do not make it to the other side. That's where you could help.

There are patrolled and unpatrolled toad crossings around East Hampshire – you can [find them on the froglife.org website](#). If there's an area near you that often has toads crossing, you could set one up.

[Find out more about the Toads on Roads project](#)



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