

## **CARBON CENTURIONS**

## How youth in cricket will Carbon Balance 100 cricket clubs this summer.

If you think there's not much you can do to prevent climate change in sport, then think again. A grassroots project that appeals to the young people most affected by climate change launches today. Called 'Carbon Centurions' it aims to help 100 cricket clubs become Carbon Balanced.

The idea started in 2013, when a tiny cricket club in North Essex – Eight Ash Green – decided to do something about climate change and became the world's first Carbon Balanced cricket club. Carbon Balancing has three steps: measuring carbon emissions, reducing them and then offsetting what's left. Eight Ash Green did this with World Land Trust who secure the natural assets that absorb the club's carbon.



England's Reece Topley celebrates EAGCC becoming the world's first Carbon Balanced cricket club in 2014.

Nearly a decade later 'The Green' are still offsetting through WLT's Carbon Balanced programme, and now they're helping others do it too. With support from club sponsor Neutral Territory, they are spearheading a project to help another 100 cricket clubs become Carbon Balanced this summer.



EAGCC youth players Matt Parker, Ollie Stovell, Steve Nunn and Luke Keeble invited to Lord's in 2015.

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## **PRESS RELEASE**



"In that time, we aim to recruit, train and support 100 carbon champions to measure and offset their cricket club's carbon emissions," explained Sam Docherty, a second year Environmental Science student from University of East Anglia. As Neutral Territory's Project Intern, it's Sam's job to share the simple techniques the club has honed over the years.



World Land Trust Carbon Balanced Certificate.

Also helping is Sam Collins from EAGCC. "We've got it down to a fine art now, and our Carbon Champions assemble the measurements World Land Trust need in under an hour." To get the message across a '20:30 NOT 2030!' slogan helps people understand they can take positive action by half past eight in the evening, not some vague date in the future.



Practice that works, not theory that might. You'll be finished in time for Strictly!

The project uses social media to encourage and support young players to take action at grassroots level. The reason is simple: they are the people who will bear the brunt of the climate crisis. "Cricket is possibly the most weather-dependent sport you can get," Sam Docherty added, "If we don't take action NOW then the covers really will be staying on village cricket in years to come."

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## **Further information**

Neutral Territory for project plan and background, high res images, social media links. Richard Parker, Project Manager. W: Neutral Territory. E: richard@neutralterritory.com P: 07971 464279.

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