



We Don't Need Perfect Activists



***'We don't need 100 perfect activists, but millions of imperfect ones.'* ***

We live in a world that is deeply flawed, marked by inequality, injustice, misinformation, and escalating environmental crises. These are not small cracks in the system, they are deep fractures that shape the lives of millions. And yet, despite the clear imperfections all around us, we are constantly surrounded by images of 'perfection'.

Everywhere we turn, we are sold the promise of a perfect life. Products claim to perfect our appearance, our homes, our gardens, even our personalities. Social media relentlessly portrays flawless lives. The workplace demands ever higher standards of efficiency and output, leaving little space for failure or imperfection. The pressure to appear perfect is in every corner of our daily existence.

Perfection has become a lucrative industry, our desire to live a perfect life is driving consumerism by convincing us that we are not enough as we are. Even the self-help world has carved out a niche, based on teaching us how to let go of perfection, often by selling us yet another version of *'the right way'* to live.

There is something deeply contradictory in all of this. In our pursuit of perfection, we risk losing the essence of what makes us human, our vulnerability, our messiness, our capacity to learn through mistakes.

Worse still, the idea of perfection is now being used as a means to silence. In a world that urgently needs courageous voices to speak out against what is happening, the narrative of *'if your life isn't perfectly aligned, if you've ever been inconsistent, if you've ever fallen short you have no right to speak'* prevails.

This is a silencing tactic, designed to paralyse people with guilt and self-doubt rather than inspire collective progress. The culture of perfection has become a weapon to distract, to discredit, and to silence. At PEAT we believe that all of our imperfect efforts can bring about a greener, fairer, future matter. In the words of Leonard Cohen, *'There's a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.'* What would it be like if we accept more of our own imperfections and less of the imperfections we see in the world?

Come and join us and take action with what you have, where you are, doing what you can, at peatmessages@gmail.com



PEAT Activities/asks

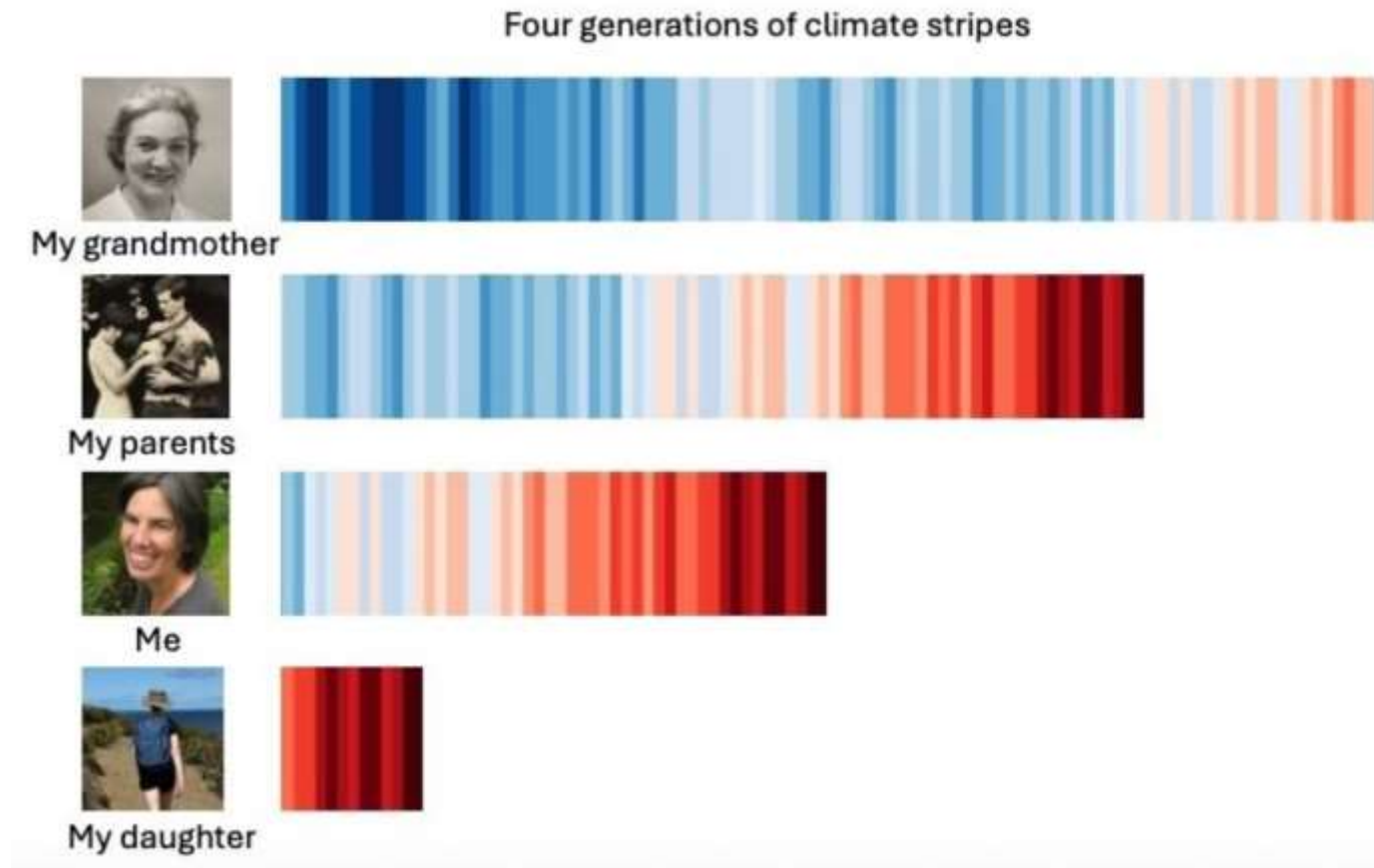
- On that note our **Let's Talk 'The Future of Transport and Travel on the Cartmel Peninsula'** is well underway, we have been out and about with our 'pop up' events talking with people in the villages and in Grange. We have had some great conversations and ideas. It's not too late to get involved, we are distributing leaflets to venues, shops and cafes on the peninsula, there's still time to complete our survey <https://pol.is/4wrreh9fnm>
- **'Community Fun Day On the Move - Past Present and Future' August 9th 11-3pm Victoria Hall Grange over Sands** in conjunction with Morecambe Bay Partnership, and Deliberate CIC . It's the culmination of **Let's Talk : The Future of Transport and Travel on the Cartmel Peninsula - join in with art activities, pedal powered fun, vintage local photographs, ideas workshops, bike repairs, refreshments, hear the findings and much more! More information will follow soon. We will need help on the day - please get in touch**
- **Sunday 20th July - visit to Piper Hole Goat Farm Ravenstonedale - 1.30pm for 2pm.** First organic goat farm in UK and SSSI meadow land that is covered by an agri-environment scheme to help enhance and protect the plant diversity. <https://www.piperholegoatfarm.co.uk/> Get in touch with madeline.bod@btinternet.com - to book, places are limited. £5 donation to the farm for the visit. Let Madeline know if you want to car share.
- **A Community Emergency Plan for Grange?** If you are worried about the possible effects of climate change on our community in Grange, one way to take positive action is to help create an official Plan for how we would best support each other in the face of floods, wildfires, power cuts or communication breakdowns. The Plan would be lodged with the Council and would also help statutory bodies assist us effectively. If you are interested in being involved, please have a look at our website <https://grangeresiliencegroup.weebly.com/> or email us on GOSCEP@proton.me from Steve Trevillion, Claire Entwistle and Sue Tompkins/Grange Resilience Group



Bits and pieces for this month!

- <https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/#jump=westmorland-and-furness-council> - some interesting results here in our locality - see how we compare, as the saying goes 'could do better' but in some areas we are way ahead
- <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/apr/22/spiral-of-silence-climate-action-very-popular-why-dont-people-realise> - the illusion that climate action is not popular is global. So imagine dispelling that myth: such a shift, experts say, could be a game changer, pushing the world over a social tipping point into unstoppable climate progress.

- https://youtu.be/ratQlft_G5c - Big Yellow Taxi - Joni Mitchell '*Don't it always seem to go. That you don't know what you got 'til it's gone? They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.*'
- This picture has been put together by Chloe Lucas - a climate communicator showing the way that the climate has changed in four generations of her family with the increasingly heating up of climate, through coloured warming stripes. Our children will experience seven times more extreme events than our grandparents. What stories come to you of the disappearing world you are living through?



- * Clover Hogan - Climate Activist Founder of Force of Nature

Kindest regards Annette - Chair of PEAT

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