



The Eco Echo

Caring for God's creation. Caring for Oldham & Ashton.



Daniel 9:17-18

Now, our God, hear the
prayers and petitions of
your servant... Give ear, our
God, and hear;

Congratulations to St Anne's in Royton on their recent Bronze Award! Thanks to those who have contacted me about taking steps towards providing warm spaces, encouraging older youth to become eco champions and those wanting to find out more about Eco Church. These are very encouraging developments and thank you for bearing with me while I try to gather the info to help.

I also want to encourage you to think beyond the usual Buildings and Land sections of the Eco Church survey. My wife, Yvonne, recently sent a letter to our local MP (Jonathan Reynolds) regarding the energy crisis and the impact on charities, churches and community groups. It was a pleasant surprise to get a considered response, including from Jacob Rees-Mogg. Keep the climate on the political agenda - letter writing is one of the weapons in the arsenal of the public.

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Wallet Watchers

I recently watched the Martin Lewis Money Show, which had a special focus on energy saving tips for around the house. Consider sharing advice with your congregations & working out how some of those tips might be applied in churches and halls too.

Greg Jackson, the owner of Octopus Energy (who have recently taken on Bulb customers), gave an interesting fact in his interview with Martin: October energy consumption is down 37% since last year. The unseasonably warm autumn will account for some of that (another clear indication of climate change). However, energy price hikes are also kicking in and I expect some of the reduction comes from people choosing to be more energy efficient.

It often has to hit our wallets before we take notice, but change is possible and therefore carbon reduction is achievable. Keep trying everyone!



Gold Eco Church Visit

Do you need inspiration for how to start your eco journey? Have you made progress, but need a push for Silver? Are you striving for Gold? This could be a field trip for you!

The Diocese Environment Working Group have arranged a trip to Christ Church Toxteth, one of the very few Gold Eco Churches in the UK (just over 20 at time of writing).

Sign up on Eventbrite for a free ticket, join us in Liverpool on Saturday November 26th from 1-4.30pm. Feel free to bring a packed lunch with you, but the church requests it should be vegetarian only:

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<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/going-for-gold-an-eco-church-fieldtrip-tickets-450419265147>

Quick Wins

The Diocese has a webpage full of webinars that can help us understand how to progress as Eco Churches:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/webinars-getting-net-zero-carbon#na>

There are some new webinars in November about Energy-saving quick wins. Book for the interactive sessions, or see the above web page for a video from 2021:

Nov 14, 4-5pm https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gHb8Wb6dQv-yoOcGZ3gh7w

Nov 28, 4-5pm https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cK_8oIjpR-u3b4JIhJ2WVA

A **Grow Free** food sharing cart for residents to exchange food they have grown with each other for free. It has the simple rule, take what you need, give what you can.
Adelaide, Australia



Sharing produce

This is a great idea (shared from somebody's Facebook post): share extra home-grown produce with your community. "Take what you need, give what you can."



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