

TREASURE, SAFEGUARD & CARE FOR CREATION

A Rocha UK & Eco Church

Karen Park - A Rocha UK Speaker Eco Church Champion, St. Mark's Church

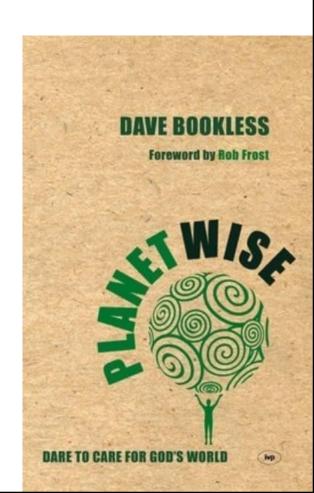




A Rocha

- A Rocha in Portuguese means 'the rock'
- 1983 Anglican minister and his wife, Peter and Miranda Harris
- Christian wildlife study centre in Portugal
- 2001 A Rocha UK co-founded by Dave and Ann Bookless
- A local West London restoration project Wolf Fields





A Rocha UK

Growing global environmental crisis, in 2016 mission changed:

To equip Christians and Churches to care for the environment –

for God, for nature and all people.

Wolf Fields & Foxearth Meadows



Partners In Action



Christian Environmental Leaders







Eco Church

- For all denominations
- Free online survey records what already doing
- Bronze, Silver and Gold Eco Church Awards
- Eco Diocese, Eco Circuit, Eco District and Eco Synod Awards

Free resources inform decisions on further steps in 5 key areas:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community & global engagement
- Personal lifestyle



Eco Church - Survey

Find an Eco Church Champion, watch sign up video and register

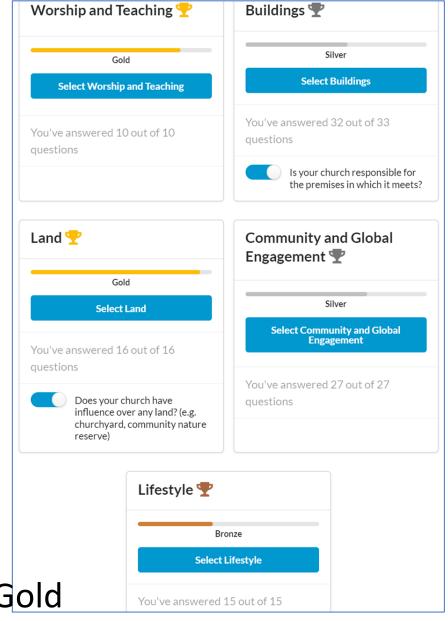
- > Church name, address and denomination
- > Number of worshippers, date church built and if listed building
- Contact name, email and password

Start a survey, update and complete any time

- Additional information via the 'More' buttons
- Automatically saved with every entry
- Help FAQs and contact form
- Inform your congregation, recruit an Eco Team
- Link with other churches and organisations
- Your church might already qualify for an award!

Eco Church - Award Points

- Lines change as points accumulate, reflecting award level achieved
- Must reach the required standard in each area
- Start new test surveys 'Going for Bronze'
- Fill in current responses, alter to see impacts
- Set goals, share meaningful information
- Keep an eco diary and photos, an Assessor visits for Gold Awards to see and hear all you've done
- Award thresholds: 25% Bronze, 50% Silver, 75% Gold





- Correspond to Eco Church survey questions
- Quickly explore why and how to undertake recommended actions
- Longer reads and case studies



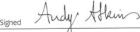
Silver Eco Church Award Certificate

This is to certify that

St Mark's Church, Holbrook

has won a Silver Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts to care for God's earth in each of the following areas (as applicable):

> Worship and Teaching Management of Buildings and Land Community and Global Engagement Lifestyle















ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

Eco Church - Awards

- Apply for awards online
- Free certificate
- Optional purchase a wooden plaque



Eco Church - Step by Step





- Eco Church Champion
- Register with Eco Church
- Fairtrade Church
- Eco Church Team
- Standard agenda item
- Use Climate Emergency Toolkit
- Net Zero Carbon webinars
- Animal Friendly Church

https://www.aswa.org.uk/our-work/animal-friendly/



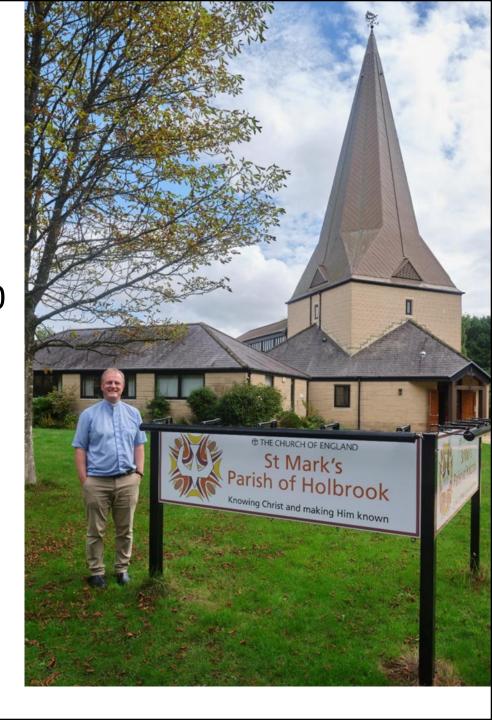


St Mark's Church, Holbrook

- Built in 1990
- Registered with Eco Church in June 2018
- Silver Eco Church Award in October 2018
- 2020 take St. Mark's to net zero carbon by 2030
- 2021 recognised the current Climate and Ecological Emergency
- 2022 registered as a Warm Welcome Space







Warm Welcome Campaign

- Community response to the cost-of-living crisis
- Register as a Warm Welcome Space
- Each warm welcome space will be open at least once a week



https://www.warmwelcome.uk



Burning Down the House - How the Church Could Lose Young People Over Climate Inaction

Tearfund & the Youthscape Centre for Research.

- 9 out of 10 Christian teenagers surveyed are concerned about climate change
- 1 in 10 surveyed believe their church is doing enough to respond to the climate crisis
- Young people are calling on their church leaders to listen, learn alongside them and act with integrity on the issue of climate change
- Tearfund launched the Climate Emergency Toolkit to help

wearetearfund.org/burning-down-the-house



Prepare by starting the conversation about the climate emergency and beginning to plan your response

Declare or recognise an emergency in a way that engages your community and amplifies the need for leaders everywhere to act

Impact widely by partnering with your local community and speak up for change together

A helpful route map for your church or organisation to respond to the climate emergency

<u>climateemergencytoolkit.com</u>

Journey to **Net Zero** Carbon Church

7% of churches are already net zero carbon

Sample very-high energy using buildings indicates all can achieve net zero carbon

https://www.churchofengland.org/resourc es/churchcare/net-zero-carbon-church



maintained

renewable

less

not gas/oil

more

the rest



Fairtrade and Climate Justice



'What does the Lord require of us: to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God' Micah 6:8

- Fairtrade certification workers' rights, safer working conditions and fairer pay, high quality, ethically produced products.
- Over 6,000 Fairtrade products including: bananas, biscuits, chocolate, coffee, clothes, flowers, gold, oil, sugar, tea, wine, beauty and wellness.
- Churches commit or re-commit to Fairtrade status online.

 https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get-involved/In-your-community/Faith-Groups/Fairtrade-Churches/



 Climate change hits those in low-income countries the hardest.

 Increasingly extreme, unpredictable weather destroying bananas, coffee & cocoa crops.

 Even less for essentials such as education, medical treatment and even food.

Demand climate justice choose Fairtrade.

• Press for a fair deal on climate.

Global Engagement - Petitioning

To bring about climate justice, we need change at all levels

- Fairtrade Sow Your Solidarity
- Tearfund Time to Deliver Petition
- Christian Aid Loss and Damage Petition







Community Engagement

 Recycle in church - candles, ink cartridges, bras, pens, stamps, postcards, greeting cards & milk bottle tops

Recycle single use plastics - by church car park

Recycle food waste - Hotbin Trial

Foodbank donations

Horsham Community Fridge





SUSSEX



Community Engagement

Churches Count on Nature

Joint venture by Caring for God's Acre, A Rocha UK, the Church of England and the Church of Wales





The Great Big Green Week

Run by the Climate Coalition







Monthly eNews Facebook

horshamct.org.uk/eco-churches

Set up by Horsham Churches Together to encourage and inspire others caring for God's world.

Monthly stand last Saturday month 10am – 4pm at Sussex Green Hub in the United Reformed Church, Horsham, with children's eco craft activities.





HABITATS

Target 25

- Join Partners in Action working to help 25 target places and species struggling with the effects of climate change, habitat loss and pollution.
- Eg: bees, butterflies, common swifts, hedgehogs, native wildflowers and threatened habitats.
- Information packs monitoring, recording and practical actions
- https://arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/target-25/



Hedgehogs





How far do they roam?





Hedgehogs can walk up to 2 km per night.

That's 20 football pitches long!

















- In one night roam up to 2km, 1.25 miles!
- Make Hedgehog Holes under garden fences
- 13cm by 13cm, too small for most pets
- Shallow bowls of water
- Create wild areas

www.hedgehogstreet.org

Work in Partnership To Make a Difference

Churches, groups, schools, councils, businesses and individuals.











GREEN HUB

HOLBROOK

SPRINGFIELD RD-HORSHAM

ST MARK'S CHURCH

RH12 2RG

RH12 5PU

LAST SATURDAY

OF THE MONTH

22ND OCTOBER

23RD APRIL

23RD JULY

The Climate Coalition - Show the Love

Kinder Living Home Show - Hearts and a letter for our MP, Jeremy Quin, calling for leadership and real rapid action to tackle the climate and nature crisis







Together We Can Rethink Repair Recover

Climate change can seem overwhelming but together we can do simple things to help our planet & reduce our bills.

Use Together We Can leaflet.

Lifestyle: It's a Challenge!

Household and personal actions do make a difference.

Wild Christian

Monthly emails, something to think about and practical actions



Creation Care

Free online questionnaire and resources.

Register your church and award Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. creationcare.org.uk



Reduce, Reuse, Repair & Recycle

- Refuse packaging take bags & boxes
- Charity Shops
- Clothes, tools etc, swap / loan
- Community Freebay and Freecycle pages
- Community Fridge
- Recycle council and charity schemes
- Repair Café
- Men's Shed
- Insulation

St Mary's, Ticehurst, East Sussex

- 16th Century Church, grade 2 listed building
- 2022 first Gold Award Eco Church in Chichester Diocese
- Animal Friendly Church of the Year Award in 2020
- PCC agreed Environmental Policy
- Launched an outdoor Forest Church
- Using Tearfund's Climate Emergency Toolkit
- Produced a Churchyard Management Plan
- Host a small flock of sheep





Any Questions?





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www.stmarksholbrook.org.uk/ecochurch



