



HORSHAM ECO CHURCHES

JULY 2020 NEWS

www.facebook.com/HorshamEcoChurches/

HORSHAM ECO CHURCHES share ideas, encourage and inspire other churches on their Eco Church journey, using resources from A Rocha UK's award scheme. Silver Eco Church Award winning Brighton Road Baptist Church and St. Mark's Church, Holbrook, are now Going for Gold. Seven other HCT Churches have now registered with the Eco Church scheme.

Many thanks to Sussex Green Living for inviting us to talk at the Horsham Future Forum about Horsham Eco Churches. You can listen to the Podcast and view the PowerPoint slides here: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/learn-about-horshams-eco-churches/>

RADICAL PRESENCE - a project of Green Christian

A short programme of online purposeful conversations, discussing the Covid-19 pandemic, the questions it is raising and listening for God's word. Join with Green Christian via Zoom or run it with your church, network or organisation. Help our churches #BuildBackBetter <https://radicalpresence.org.uk/>



BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

A UK-wide survey aimed at helping us assess the health of our environment, simply by counting the amount and type of butterflies (and some day-flying moths). From 17 July to 9 August choose a place to spot butterflies and moths. Download an ID chart. Watch for 15 minutes. Record which species you see on the website or app. <https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>

A ROCHA UK'S WILD CHRISTIAN SCHEME

A community of families and individuals exploring the connections between our Christian faith, the natural environment, and how we live. Each month they email something to think about and some practical actions you can take to help you enjoy, nurture and protect nature. You can share your own stories, if you wish, to help generate ideas. <https://arocha.org.uk/wildchristian/>

WEBINARS ON GETTING TO NET ZERO CARBON

Choose topics from the one hour Zoom webinars, with 40-45 minutes of content and time for some questions, submitted through the 'chat' area. Book free places using Eventbrite.

- **Forming your team** - how to gather the right people within your working group, to help you develop and implement a 'net zero carbon' action plan.
- **Action planning** - for getting to net zero across all diocesan activities, including churches, schools and land.
- **A positive vision of a zero carbon church** - What practical changes can be made to buildings, to reduce the carbon emissions from heating, lighting, and running the buildings?
- **Defining and measuring net zero** - what we mean by net zero; what is in and out of scope. It also discusses ways we can start to measure net zero.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/webinars-getting-net-zero-carbon>

BIOBLITZ 15th AUGUST

Join Friends of Horsham Park and Keep Rookwood Green Alliance for a 'BioBlitz' at Boldings Brook (Rookwood), Millennium Bridge (behind Merryfield Drive). A family-friendly effort to record as many different species of plants, animals and fungi as you can find, all within a set location and time-period. Book to attend at a specific time: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/112975073486>. More information: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/help-keep-rookwood-green/>

GO CLEAN AND SAVE

Switch in minutes to a green electricity tariff. Move from non-renewable polluting fossil fuels to clean energy generated from renewable sources. More than 60% of UK homes are guaranteed to save money by switching to the cheapest clean tariff. So far, we've saved our members over £170 a year on average. <https://bigcleanswitch.org/SussexGreen/>

HORSHAM FUTURE FORUM & YOUTH ECO FORUM TUESDAYS 7PM - 8PM ON ZOOM *

The two meetings start and finish together but spilt into two 'breakout rooms' after a brief introduction to talk about how, post Covid-19, we can build back better, fairer and greener. Join Horsham community, environmental and faith groups, as we share information and encourage community collaboration. See the Green Blog for previous information: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/green-blog/>

- **Tuesday 21st July** - Guildford Community Hub / Climate Emergency Centre in the early stages of development, 12 different local organisations working together, their aim: education and engaging the wider population to drive behavioural change, and thereby try to reduce consumption emissions. Presented by Ben McCallan. Could we develop a community hub in Horsham District?
- **Tuesday 28th July** - Plan a programme for September and review environmental outreach initiatives and grants.
- **August** - No Horsham Future Forum meetings. The Youth Eco Forum will decide if they want to continue through August. Contact Catherine Sleeman on YEF@sussexgreenliving.co.uk
- **Tuesday 8th September** - Horsham Community Fridge, presented by Anita Rosser.

HORSHAM CLIMATE CAFE monthly on Saturday 2pm – 3.30pm on Zoom with a speaker followed by a question and answer session/discussions. *

- Sat 1st August - Energy- Power Down, Insulate Up & Green Up, presented by Eco Homes & Cambridge Carbon Footprint.
- Sat 5th September - Horsham Climate Cafe Environmentally Friendly Gardening, presented by Felicity Lewis from WOOL SHrED & Joanne Knowles.

* **Register for free tickets** for Horsham Future & Youth Eco Forums & Horsham Climate Café: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/sussex-green-livinghorsham-climate-cafe-30023845980>

SAFER CYCLING, HEALTHIER PEOPLE, LESS AIR POLLUTION & LESS CO2

The Government has announced a second round of funding for road/cycling infrastructure, please do write to the councillors to encourage them to apply for funding to introduce infrastructure to enable safe cycling and walking in our areas.

<https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/safer-cycling-healthier-people-less-air-pollution-less-co2/>

GREEN HOMES GRANTS

Brilliant news, new green home improvements grants for up to £5,000 have just been announced: <https://www.homebuilding.co.uk/advice/green-homes-grant-what-is-it>

ECO CHURCH DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Everything you need is available online, via phone calls and emails. The free Eco Church online survey and supporting resources, equip your church to express your care for God's world in your worship and teaching, management of buildings and land, community and global engagement and personal lifestyles. Actions taken count towards a prestigious Eco Church Award at Bronze, Silver or Gold level. Complete the Eco Survey to gauge where your church currently is, you may find you already qualify for an Eco Church Award! Our vision is for churches of all denominations to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully. Help us bring that vision to reality by participating in Eco Church. <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

HORSHAM ECO CHURCHES contact Karen Park for more information: karenpark365@gmail.com