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East & Old Green Team Eco Newsletter

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Your Planet Needs You!

- Handy hints of the month
- Litter Pick Up dates
- Events hosted by the Green Team
- News from Other Church Committees about their Eco events

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Your Planet Needs You



Over the coming months the Green Team will be posting a number of editions of the Green Team Eco Newsletter on the teams pages on the East & Old Church website at <http://www.thebigkirk.co.uk/church-information/green-committee/>

These articles are aimed at helping to promote the use of Green Eco-Friendly measures that will help you save money as well as save &/or enhance your natural environment.

What is a carbon footprint?

Carbon Footprint Special

Your carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide you produce during your daily life. This does not only relate to how much electricity and/or gas you use to heat your house and cook your food, but also how much you drive your car, where and how you go on holiday and the amount used in the growing of your food.

Household Electricity and Gas Consumption.

The amount of electricity and gas you use in a year can be calculated from the amount of units used according to your gas and/or electricity meters. If you want to know your carbon footprint for this, write to your gas and/or electricity company, provide them with details of your account numbers, and request the amount of gas and/or electricity you have used in the past year.

You can use the following calculation to work out your carbon footprint:

Amount of electricity kilowatt hours used multiplied by 0.537 equals the amount of kilos of CO₂ you have used.

Amount of gas kilowatt hours used multiplied by 0.185 equals the amount of kilos of CO₂ you have used.

You then add these figures together to discover your household or building CO₂ emissions for that particular year.

The example overleaf shows how much the church and church hall have used from 2012 to 2015:

Summary:

| Over all readings | year | amount |
|-------------------|---------|-----------|
| | 2012-13 | 48420.872 |
| | 2013-14 | 48046.38 |
| | 2014-15 | 45727.195 |

Although our electricity readings are up due to the usage of the hall, our installation of new gas radiators has caused our gas consumption to fall and therefore our carbon footprint to fall overall

Car Emissions

When you drive your car, the engine burns fuel, and this fuel creates CO₂. The amount of CO₂ you create depends upon the amount of fuel you burn over the distance you drive. Remember that this includes all of your daily usage over a complete year.

A petrol car emits 10.4 kilos of CO₂ per 1 gallon of fuel whilst a diesel car emits 12.2 kilos of CO₂ per 1 gallon of fuel. It is therefore kinder to the environment to use a petrol fuelled car. The next time you buy a new car, please take this into consideration.

Holidays

Travelling by bus a distance of 6.5 to 7 miles adds 1 kilo of CO₂ to your carbon footprint. Travelling by car over a distance of 15 miles adds 4 kilos of CO₂ to your carbon footprint. When travelling by aeroplane, you add 100 kilos of CO₂ to your carbon footprint for every 137.5 miles you travel. Indeed the best possible journey you can take holiday wise is to go on a walking or bicycle tour. Should you wish to go abroad, try travelling by ship and going on foot or bicycle whenever the ship docks as this would also contribute to the green holiday you are enjoying.

Understanding and changing how your carbon footprint contributes to the overall "Global Warming" effects can be a good way of contributing to the "Save the Planet" movement.

Graveyard Changes

As promised we have added a number of photographs of the new graveyard barrel tabs which can be found at the bottom of the churchyard, courtesy of Graham Scattergood.

