

# DBC Eco Church Newsletter

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January 2022

Welcome to our Newsletter.

## **New Year's Resolutions**

Do you make a New Year's Resolution? I used to but they never lasted more than a few days!! Maybe this year though we could all resolve to reduce our carbon footprint.

You may not know that the biggest way you can reduce your carbon footprint is by changing to a green energy company. We have been with Good Energy for 4 years and they recently sent an email telling us that since December 2017 we have saved 3,184kg in carbon emissions. That's the same as driving 20,154 miles in a car or about the same as a return flight from London to New York. In 2020 alone Good Energy customers saved 110,171 tonnes of carbon. So it may be time to check out your energy supplier and move to a green energy company as your New Year's Resolution.

## **How to Save Energy this Winter**

With the cost of energy soaring recently and set to continue how can we save energy and money this winter.

**If you haven't already got one, get a smart meter installed.** Not only does it ensure your bills are accurate but you can also monitor how much energy you are actually using.

**Heat only what you need.** By installing thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) it means you can control the heating in individual rooms, meaning you only need to heat the rooms you use most often, keeping the others cooler, thus saving energy. The best

temperature is between 18-22 degrees for a healthy adult.

**Stop heat escaping.** When we switch the heating on, around a quarter of that energy will escape through the roof, and a third through walls and gaps around doors and windows. Loft and wall insulation is the most significant thing you can do to keep heat in. Quicker fixes include having thick, thermal curtains and closing them as soon as the sun goes down. You can also plug gaps around doors and windows with draft excluders.

**Save water.** In a typical home, hot water accounts for over 10% of your energy bill. Which means that saving on hot water isn't just good for the planet, it's better for your bills.

The Energy Saving Trust estimates that an 8-minute shower can cost from 11p-20p a time depending on whether you have a standard or power shower. For a family of four, that adds up to a couple of hundred pounds a year. Cutting your shower by just a minute or two could cut up to £10 per person, per year from your bill.

## **Be smarter with appliances**

It isn't just heating that you can save on. Here are some ways you can reduce how much electricity you use as well:

- Swap light bulbs for LEDs.
- Reduce how often you use appliances such as tumble driers.
- Batch cook meals to make the most of having the oven on. Cook

using the hob or microwave more often than the main oven.

- Fill up your fridge and freezer to reduce how much electricity they take to run. You could fill gaps with bottles of water
- Turn things off at the plug rather than keeping them on standby.

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**Article from BBC News Website by Matt McGrath**

### **Climate change: Huge toll of extreme weather disasters in 2021.**

Weather events, linked to a changing climate, brought misery to millions around the world in 2021 according to a new report.

The study, from the charity Christian Aid, identified 10 extreme events that each caused more than \$1.5bn of damage.

The biggest financial impacts were from Hurricane Ida, which hit the US in August, and flooding in Europe in July.

In many poorer regions, floods and storms caused mass displacements of people and severe suffering. Not every extreme weather event is caused by or linked to climate change, although scientists have become bolder in exploring the connections.

One leading researcher tweeted earlier this year that every heatwave happening in the world now is “made more likely and more intense” by human induced climate change.

In relation to hurricanes and tropical cyclones, the authors said they had “high confidence” that the evidence of human influence has strengthened.

“The proportion of intense tropical cyclones, average peak tropical cyclone

wind speeds, and peak wind speeds of the most intense tropical cyclones will increase on the global scale with increasing global warming”, the study said.

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**Arctic heat record is like Mediterranean** – The highest temperature ever recorded in the Arctic, 38C (100F) has been officially confirmed, sounding “alarm bells” over Earths changing climate. This was recorded in the Siberian town of Verkhoyansk on 20 June last year. This was 18C higher than the area’s average daily maximum for June.

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### **DRONFIELD BAPTIST FREECYCLE**

Three lamp, circular spotlight bar with LED bulbs, all working. Contact Ed Tomlinson - edtomlinson@outlook.com



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