



ECO CHURCH
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ECO  **CHURCH**
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

You and Your Energy

www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

You and Your Energy

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Energy is always in the news. And it costs us more than just our fuel bills.

Coal, oil and natural gas produce carbon dioxide when burned. In 2013 the world produced a record 36 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide from human sources – with China, USA and the EU being the major contributors.

Carbon dioxide is a major cause of climate change and ocean acidification which also impacts on biodiversity. By choosing a green energy provider and reducing domestic energy consumption, we can save both planet and pounds.

do



Use a home energy check

Find out how you can achieve lower energy bills and a more comfortable home. Take away a report with details of cost-effective improvement measures recommended for your home, based on the information you provide.

weblink



HOME ENERGY CHECK

hec.est.org.uk

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Keep oil in the soil and coal in the hole

That's the message from the Keep It In The Ground movement. The idea is that while there might be plenty of oil, gas and coal reserves, that doesn't mean we should harvest the earth endlessly of these buried treasures. The only reason we get them out of the ground is to burn them – and that's bad for the environment. Check out the campaign and the argument behind it.

Insulation, insulation, insulation

That's the most important thing to bear in mind before considering how to best heat your home. Home insulation reduces the amount of heat that escapes from a building in the winter – and protects it from getting too warm in the summer. Read these pages for further guidance.

Remember that home isn't just where the heart is

Home is also where the quest begins to live lightly. A Rocha UK's Living Lightly initiative encourages us all to look at how we can boost our home comforts while reducing pressure on the environment.

Take a tour through a virtual home

Answer quick and easy questions to find out how much water and energy your household uses. Download a bespoke report and start making savings on your energy bills.

Join in the Big Church Switch and choose a green energy provider

This leading green electricity company has launched a campaign with A Rocha UK to help householders and churches plug in to alternative power – and boost conservation at the same time. Ecotricity will donate £50 per electricity meter to A Rocha UK for every church that signs up. They will give £40 for every household that switches to their electricity and £20 for each household turning onto their gas supply.

THE GUARDIAN CLIMATE CHANGE CAMPAIGN

www.theguardian.com/environment/ng-interactive/2015/mar/16/keep-it-in-the-ground-guardian-climate-change-campaign

THINK INSULATION

www.thinkinsulation.co.uk

RENEWABLE ENERGY HUB'S GUIDE TO INSULATION

www.renewableenergyhub.co.uk/types-of-insulation.html

SUPERHOMES' GUIDE TO INSULATION

www.superhomes.org.uk/resources/whats-best-insulation-material

A ROCHA UK'S ENERGY PAGE

arocha.org.uk/our-activities/living-lightly-take-action/home-2/energy

ENERGY SAVING TRUST'S WATER ENERGY CALCULATOR

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/water-energy-calculator

BIG CHURCH SWITCH

www.bigchurchswitch.org.uk

ECOTRICITY

arocha.org.uk/green-power-to-help-a-rocha-uk

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Explore the variety of ways to heat your home using renewable energy

Electrical heating giant Dimplex offer some short useful explanations of how some of these systems work – solar thermal, air source and ground source pumps.

Read the latest information on renewable energy

This is generated from natural resources such as the sun, wind, and water, using technology which ensures that the energy stores are naturally replenished. Instead of buying all of your energy from suppliers, you can install renewables technology to generate your own.

Find out further ways of heating your home

Heating accounts for most of the energy demand in the household, says the Centre for Alternative Technology. They claim that using renewable energy for heating plays an important role in reducing our energy consumption. Useful information is offered on their website.

Find out how the electricity you pay for is generated

Make an informed choice about whether to buy nuclear power, renewable energy, or electricity from coal or gas power stations. The data on this website helps you to discover what types of electricity generation you are supporting.

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DIMPLEX'S GUIDE TO RENEWABLES IN THE HOME

[www.dimplex.co.uk/products/
renewable_solutions/renewables_at_
home/renewables_in_the_home.htm](http://www.dimplex.co.uk/products/renewable_solutions/renewables_at_home/renewables_in_the_home.htm)

ENERGY SAVING TRUST

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/
domestic/content/renewables](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/content/renewables)

CENTRE FOR ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY

[info.cat.org.uk/questions/biomass/how-can-
i-heat-my-home-renewable-energy](http://info.cat.org.uk/questions/biomass/how-can-i-heat-my-home-renewable-energy)

ELECTRICITY INFO

www.electricityinfo.org

do more



Read consumer information on the energy market

News, comment and analysis are provided from a number of organisations and campaign groups working on these issues. The Big Six energy companies still dominate the UK energy market, holding a massive amount of power over us as a result. But smaller independent firms have emerged, offering alternative energy sources.

Consider installing solar panels

For the latest information on what is happening with solar power, read the updated articles on the Energy Saving Trust pages.

See if you're saving as much energy as possible

We're all responsible for the energy we use in our homes. Whether you're a homeowner, private or social renter, student, or you live at home with your parents, there are many things you can do to reduce how much energy you use and how much is spent. Take a look at these quick tips from the Energy Saving Trust.

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ETHICAL CONSUMER'S ENERGY INDUSTRY SECTOR REPORT

[www.ethicalconsumer.org/ethicalreports/
energyindustrysectorreport.aspx](http://www.ethicalconsumer.org/ethicalreports/energyindustrysectorreport.aspx)

ENERGY SAVING TRUST'S GUIDE TO SOLAR

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/search/solar

ENERGY SAVING TRUST'S QUICK WIN GUIDE

[http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/
domestic/energy-saving-quick-wins](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/energy-saving-quick-wins)