



Eco Champions Briefing: November 2021

Thanks to all who've sent over events and news to share with the wider network. If you have anything you'd like to include in the next briefing, [please email me](#).

NEWS

COP 26 roundup

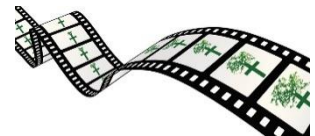
Perhaps predictably COP 26 produced a compromise; while there was progress in some areas, the text is flawed in others. Beth John, from Holy Trinity Hotwells, was at the summit and [shares her view as a Christian observer of the talks](#).

On the youth stage at COP, Vanessa Nakete, a Christian Ugandan climate activist, spoke powerfully about her vision for the future: "The world is green again. Nature has been restored, the planet and creation is respected. Another world is necessary. Another world is possible. And this is just a glimpse of it." You can listen to her speech [here](#).



Hazelnut Community Farm recognised in Green Church Showcase

As mentioned in the last briefing, Hazelnut Community Farm – of this Diocese - was included in the Green Church Showcase film that was launched at COP26. If you didn't catch the event live you can view the recording [here](#).



New Eco Church awards for our churches

Congratulations to St Andrew's Chippenham for receiving their Silver Eco Church award this month, and to St Nick's in Bristol and St Giles Tytherton Lucas who have both achieved their Bronze award. Dick Spencer, Eco Champion at St Andrew's, writes: "A couple of years ago we wouldn't have qualified for any award at all, so you can see what progress we've made!". You can find out more and register [here](#).



Church of England Net Zero Roadmap consultation

The national church has realised a draft of their *Roadmap to Net Zero*, and it is open for consultation until February. While they are encouraging responses primarily from Dioceses, individual churches or deaneries can put in a response. Go [here](#) to read the draft roadmap and feed in your views.

Sustainable Christmas trees?

Is your church getting a Christmas tree this year? If so, maybe think outside the box to make it as [environmentally-friendly as possible](#). Some Christmas tree farms offer to 'lease' you a tree, and collect and replant it after Christmas. Alternatively, you might want to make an alternative 'tree', like the one pictured in St Martin's Knowle. Or [replant your tree in the church grounds to be used again next year](#). Let us know what solutions you come up with!



EVENTS

Upcoming National Church Net Zero Webinars

The National Church's programme of webinars on getting to Net zero continues into November and December. Coming up:

Finding the balance: Assessing embodied carbon in retrofit projects Tues 30th Nov, 12-1pm [BOOK HERE](#)

[Find dates, details, and all past recordings here.](#)

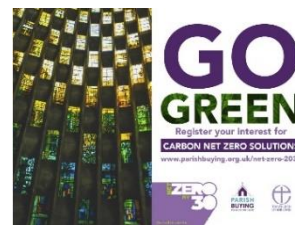
[Sustaining Conversations programme – online sessions](#)

Following on from the Sustaining Church conference, are monthly 'Sustaining Conversations'. The next one is on Church Land and it's Conservation, on Tuesday 23rd November. See [here](#) for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES

[Still open! Subsidised Church Energy Audits: Save £200](#)

An Energy Audit helps your church to see where you can make energy savings and reduce your carbon footprint. Dozens of churches across the diocese have already received these audits in the last round. There are 100 available now – so be quick! Qualifying churches will receive a subsidy of £200, making the price £245 + VAT. [Details here](#).



[Plant Some Trees!](#)

To mark her Platinum Jubilee next year, the Queen is inviting people across the UK to plant trees. The objective of the [Queen's Green Canopy initiative](#) is to plant as many sustainable trees as possible in 2022. Why not order a pack of free trees from the [Woodland Trust](#) or the [Forest of Avon trust](#), and distribute them across your local community?



[Green European Christian Environmental Network Grants](#)

The European Christian Environmental Network have grants available for environmental projects of up to €2000. This includes the UK and they've recently extended the deadline for applications. Go [here](#) for more information on criteria and how to apply.

[Christian Aid and Tearfund Christmas appeals](#)

Both [Christian Aid](#) and [Tearfund](#)'s Christmas appeals focus on the climate crisis and as well as fundraising resources have worship and campaign materials as part of the appeal. If you want to include the climate crisis in your advent journey these are some great places to start.



RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

[C of E Climate Podcast](#)

The national church has started a climate podcast! You can listen [here](#).

[Architectural Heritage Fund Case Studies](#)

On the Architectural Heritage Fund's [website](#) you can find some case studies on how various different heritage buildings have been adapting sustainability goals.



[Updated Eco Church resources](#)

A Rocha has been busy updating all of their resources to support the Eco Church programme, you can check them out [here](#). If your church isn't yet working towards your Eco Church award now is a great time to sign up, or if you've got your Bronze, start planning for Silver!



[The Big Church Read: A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues](#)

The Big Church Read has a new suite of resources to go alongside 'A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues.' Find out where to buy the book and have a look at the resources [here](#).

[Caring for God's Acre: New Resources](#)

A Caring for God's Acre have updated their resources, including some new materials on veteran trees which may be of interest. Please go [here](#) to find those.

Greening the Lectionary

Greening the Lectionary have a fantastic set of liturgical and theological resources, including a lot of reflections for different seasons. You can see those [here](#).

Bristol One City short films

Bristol One City have created some short videos to celebrate climate action that individuals all across Bristol are taking to inspire behaviour change among their communities. You can find the videos [here](#).

And finally...

We are excited to share the news that Helen Parker-Jervis, known as PJ, started in post last month as Stewardship Support Officer. She will be supporting churches' environmental and financial stewardship, and her post has been generously funded by a grant from the National Church.



Thank you to everyone who's shared news about your church's activities over the past month. Wonderfully, there's too much to share here, but look out for [the monthly Parish update on the Diocese website too](#). If you have anything to share please do let us know, and include pictures as well if possible

Thanks for reading, and I pray for every blessing as you continue to work to protect God's earth.