

A



UK

ROCHA

Caring for God's Earth

ECO



CHURCH

AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

1. Why have we set up an eco group at Emmanuel?



About Us ▼

Sunday Worship ▼

What's on ▼

Get Involved ▼

Contact ▼

ECO Group

Emmanuel Church South Croydon, in response to God's love for the whole creation, revealed in the Bible and personally in Jesus Christ, commit ourselves to becoming better curators of God's creation, both corporately and individually.



<https://www.emmanuelcroydon.org.uk/whats-on/eco-group/>

Our Aims

Eco Group

- 1) To work to achieve reduced year-on-year emissions (in line with the Church of England Synod Resolutions A17.05 and A17.06)
- 2) To urgently examine what would be required to reach net zero emissions by 2030 in order that a plan of action can be drawn up to achieve that target (in line with the Church of England Synod Resolutions A17.05 and A17.06)
- 3) To be mindful in our use and acquisition of the world's resources, aiming to reduce waste at all times and to use environmentally friendly and ethical products wherever possible (e.g. considering fairly-traded, organic, free-range, local, recycled, reused, re-useable, etc.)
- 4) To model and promote the positive use of, interaction with and management of nature on our own church grounds and beyond through policy, practise and design that is beneficial and non-harmful to plants, animals and people
- 5) To be a church that encourages leaders, individuals and the wider community to reflect on their place and role in God's creation by equipping, educating and resourcing them with environmentally focussed worship, prayer, corporate actions and individual decisions.



Why is this so important right now?

2

2018 UN IPCC Report:
one decade left

2019 UK Government:
declares emergency

**Climate &
Ecological
Emergency**

2019 Southwark: Eco
Diocese

2020 Church of England
goal: Carbon Net Zero by
2030

2. What is the eco group doing?

November 2020

<u>2nd November</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Possible</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Worship and teaching	40	110	36%
Buildings	247	510	48%
Land	10	155	6%
Community Engagement	36	230	16%
Lifestyle	22	160	14%
	355	1165	30%



Category:Worship and Teaching

Current Score: 40/110

Bronze



Category:Buildings

Current Score: 247/510

Bronze



Category:Land

Current Score: 10/155

No Award



Category:Community and Global Engagement

Current Score: 36/230

No Award



Category:Lifestyle

Current Score: 22/160

No Award



November 2020



Category:Worship and Teaching

Current Score: 40/110

Bronze



Category:Buildings

Current Score: 247/510

Bronze



Category:Land

Current Score: 10/155

No Award



Category:Community and Global Engagement

Current Score: 36/230

No Award



Category:Lifestyle

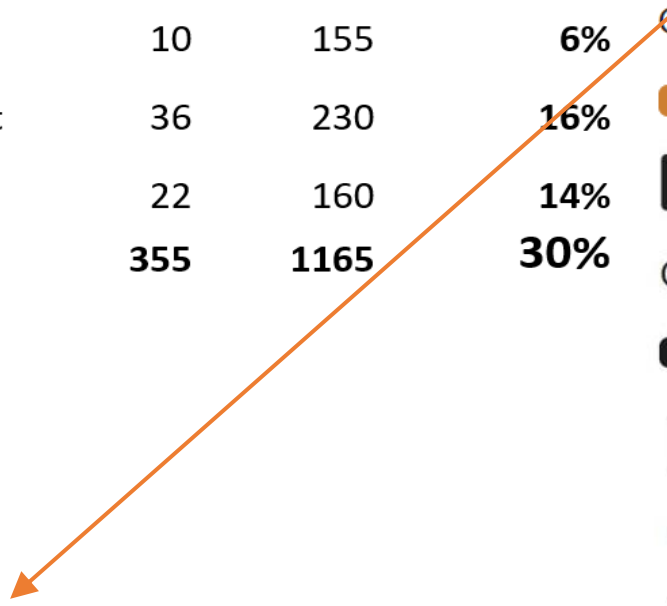
Current Score: 22/160

No Award



2nd November


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On sections/questions about specific buildings

19.3%	36.1%	30.9%	37.5%
Main Church	Centre/Hall	Offices/Watney	Houses
No award	Bronze	Bronze	Bronze


May 2021

 Category:Worship and Teaching

Current Score: 63/110 **+ 23**

Silver

The leadership have made a formal commitment to improving the environmental credentials of our church by endorsing the undertaking of work towards an Eco Church Award:

 Category:Buildings

Current Score: 227/510

Bronze

Plans to improve this include:

- *Installing water butts*
- *Updating main church lights to more energy-efficient ones*
- *Finding ways to measure energy use and set carbon reducing targets and strategies*

 Category:Land

Current Score: 15/155 **+ 5**

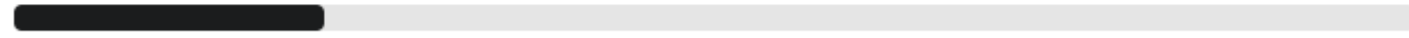
No Award

- *Bird boxes installed*
- *Plans to improve church grounds with more native flower species and more space useable by church members and community*

May 2021

 Category:Community and Global Engagement

Current Score: 51/230 **+ 15**



No Award

- *Earth Hour*
- *GMC supporting A Rocha*

 Category:Lifestyle

Current Score: 35/160 **+ 13**



No Award

- *Eco section of website created*
- *Ethical and environmental suppliers lists (on Eco Page of website)*
- *Looking into further ways to encourage and facilitate church members reducing, reusing and recycling the Earth's resources*

Good for the planet, and us - a new list of recommendations for our Emmanuel Community

Still a very long journey ahead....

3. How can people join in/find out more?

- Check regularly for resources and updates on the **Eco Group section** of the Emmanuel website
- Talk to any of the members of the church Eco Group (*Helen Squires, Vaughan Pomeroy, Magdalena Zajackowska, Ben Jones, Clare Buchanan and Rachel Smith*)
- **Sign up** to receive regular emails with news and prayer points from **Environment Christian organisations** such as A Rocha, Green Christian, Tearfund, Operation Noah, Hope for the Future, etc.
- Consider what **changes** – either one-offs or continuous – you could make personally or as a family to lessen your negative impact on God’s creation and other people and increase your positive impact instead.

Here are a few suggestions from Southwark Diocese



Ongoing pledges:



Reduce food waste



Change transport



Eat less meat



Buy less stuff



One-off pledges:



Switch to renewable energy



Green your pension

4. How can we pray?

- **For those in our world whose lives are already effected by pollution and climate change**, e.g. flooding, drought, damage to local food production and eco-systems – for protection, help, and solutions.
- **For the world leaders meeting at the G7 in June and COP26 in November** – for wisdom to make decisions that benefit the environment and prevent further pollution, climate change or irreversible damage to our world.
- **For the Eco Group, PCC and leadership at Emmanuel** as they seek to make decisions and find ways forward that enable our church to protect and enhance God's creation and use resources wisely.
- **For members of our congregation** as we prayerfully consider our own on-going and 'one off' pledges for environmentally positive changes.