

September 2024

Thank you for all that you and your teams are doing as Eco Champions in Caring for Creation.

This newsletter provides you with helpful information and updates celebrating the eco progress of our churches, details of the small grants fund, key dates for your diary, and much more.

Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) 91% Completion

91% of our churches (271) have completed the Energy Footprint Tool this year. This is significantly up from the 79% in 2023, and reaches the 90% target set out in the Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Action Plan.

There were even 3 deaneries in our diocese that reached 100% completion rates.

Thank you to all who have made this happen, especially Parish Treasurers and Deanery Administrators.

This may seem technical but it is an important step on our NZC journey and Caring For Creation and is an enabler for reducing our carbon footprint.

The national Church of England Carbon Report, analysing data from the EFT should be published in the autumn.



New ARocha Eco Church Surveys

ARocha have announced that they have refreshed their Eco survey that enables churches to assess their eco progress. This is the survey covering the five key areas of church life, Worship & Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community & Global Engagement and Lifestyle.

Churches just starting out on their eco journey or churches starting a new survey will automatically use the new version of the survey.

Churches who are part the way through a survey have until the end of 2024 to complete it and submit using the original version of the survey. After that they will need to start again in 2025 with the new version.

So make sure that you complete your current survey and submit for your next award before the end of December.

For support in getting to the next level contact robert.cleave@southwell.anglican.org



Silver Eco Cathedral Award for Southwell Minster

Southwell Minster is delighted to have achieved the Silver Eco Cathedral award.

The Minster now joins Southwell's Holy Trinity and Jubilee House, as well as many other churches across the county in formally demonstrating a higher level of engagement.

The Minster is noted for its' sustainable land management. Both in its' grounds and palace garden and also Potwell Dyke Grasslands a designated Site of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC).

Southwell Minster is a Partner in Action with A Rocha.

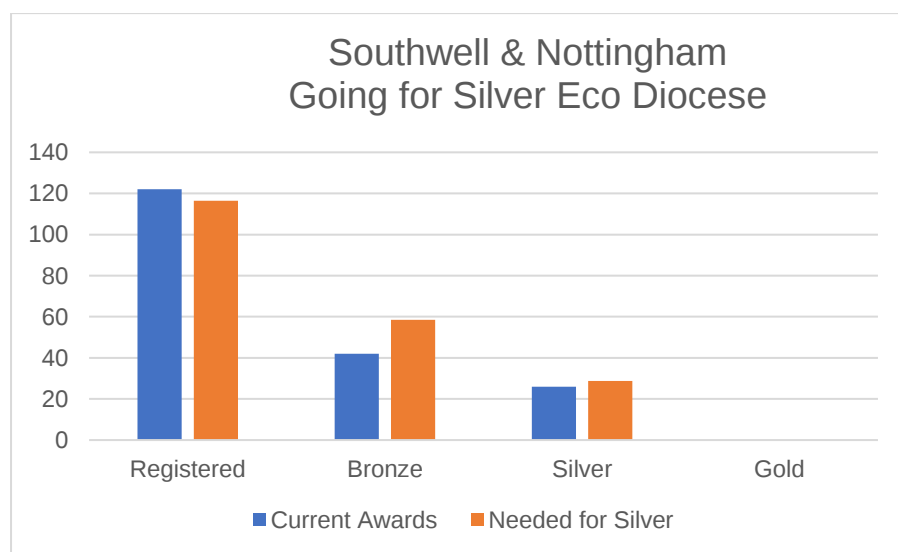


Working Towards Silver Eco Diocese

Currently Southwell and Nottingham is a Bronze Eco Diocese. We achieved this award in June 2022 and are working hard to become a Silver Eco Diocese.

The number of Eco Churches across the diocese continues to grow. There are currently 122 of which 26 have Silver and 42 Bronze awards

To become a Silver Eco Diocese we need, **3** more Silver and **16** more Bronze churches.



Can your church progress to the next level?

Would your church like support getting to your next award?

Contact robert.cleave@southwell.anglican.org

Can you encourage neighbouring churches to register with ARocha and make a start on their eco journey, following your lead?

Let's encourage one another in Caring for God's Creation.

New Eco Church Awards

Congratulations to the following churches who have received an Eco Church award since the last Newsletter.



Silver Eco Churches	Deanery
All Saint's Church, Mattersey	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
Holy Trinity Church, Everton	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Helena's Church, Austerfield	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St John the Baptist Church, Misson	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Lawrence Church, Gotham	West Bingham
St Mary's Church, Car Colston	East Bingham
St Mary's Church, Greasley	Newstead
St Nicholas' Church, Bawtry	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Peter & St Paul Parish Church, Warsop	Mansfield
St Peter's Church, Clayworth	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
The Cathedral and Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Southwell	Newark & Southwell

Bronze Eco Churches	Deanery
Church of the Holy Rood, Edwalton	East Bingham
St Mary the Blessed Virgin's Church, West Stockwith	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Paul's Daybrook	Gedling
St Peter and St. Paul's Church, Sturton-le-Steeple	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Peter's Church, Awsworth	Nottingham North
St Stephen with St Paul's Church, Hyson Green	Nottingham South

Caring for Creation Small Grants Fund

There are a few Caring for Creation Small Grants still available. Parishes can apply for a one-off grant up to £250 on a match funded basis. Churches must be registered as Eco churches to receive funding. Churches that are striving to reach the next AROCHA award level are particularly encouraged to apply.

Contact Robert Cleave, DEO, for further details at:
robert.cleave@southwell.anglican.org



Caring for Creation Online Courses

Caring for Creation courses are available on our Learning Hub. You don't have to reinvent the wheel, others have prepared a path for you to follow and learn from.

SOUTHWELL & NOTTINGHAM Learning Hub

For everyone who would like to reflect on a Christian response to environmental challenges and embed "Creation-Care" in their life of faith. A 2-hour online, self-paced course and can be completed individually or as a group [Caring For Creation](#).

Helping your church progress to the next award level. 1 hour. [From Bronze to Silver](#)

Getting started with Eco Church. 1 hour. [Introduction to Eco Church](#)

Diocesan Website

There is a wealth of information about [Caring for Creation](#) on our Diocesan website. Do regularly look at it for updates.



Upcoming Key Dates

1st Sept – 4th Oct - Harvest, Creationtide or the [Season of Creation](#) is the period in the annual church calendar dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.

9th – 22nd Sept – [Fairtrade Fortnight 2024](#) When you choose Fairtrade, you contribute to a fairer, more sustainable future for food production.

11th – 22nd Nov 2024 - UN Climate Change Conference, [COP29](#) Baku, Azerbaijan

Environment bulletin



From the Church of England Environment Programme

A new-look Church of England Environment Bulletin is out - it's packed full of the latest news from around the country, celebrating churches and schools making a difference in their communities through eco projects.

Read the latest [Environment Bulletin](#).

Sign up here for the monthly newsletter:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/sign-our-environment-newsletter>

Get monthly news, webinar listings, resources and stories to help inspire you to take action to care for God's creation.