

# Eco Church Award Points



## 1 Worship and Teaching

We think this is an area of strength for us: our location, the 'gathered' nature of our community, the opportunity to reach a large number of people who visit our site for a wide range of purposes, and our long history of developing creative liturgy all make for conditions where communal worship and conversation are enhanced.

### Q1 Special Sundays

We celebrate these both within our main 11.00am Eucharist, and in other liturgies. For example:

- Harvest is the 'hinge' of our eco-year, and we regularly have special services, events and meals to celebrate harvest. In recent years these have included Eco Fun Palaces involving outdoor liturgy, science and arts in an ecological context  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco\\_fun\\_palace\\_2017\\_public\\_programme.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco_fun_palace_2017_public_programme.pdf)
- Monthly, lay-led, eco-contemplative liturgies in our garden (whatever the weather!) which encourage participants to be present to their surroundings. An example is here:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar\\_eco\\_contemplative\\_garden\\_liturgy\\_26-08-18.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar_eco_contemplative_garden_liturgy_26-08-18.pdf)
- Earth Day outdoor liturgy followed by reflections and prayers written on 'leaves' in the 11.00am eucharist  
<http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/earth-day-22-april-2018-our-hopes-and-prayers>
- Rogation Sunday liturgy – including making seed bombs:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/rogation\\_sunday\\_liturgy\\_2018.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/rogation_sunday_liturgy_2018.pdf)
- Collaboration with our Creative Spirit programme, including a recent Creation Time liturgy based on listening to nature: [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/creation\\_time\\_creative\\_spirit\\_sep\\_2018.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/creation_time_creative_spirit_sep_2018.pdf)
- Animal blessing services:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_animal\\_blessing\\_service\\_2017\\_lm\\_6\\_.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_animal_blessing_service_2017_lm_6_.pdf)
- Blessing of cyclists <http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/blessing-of-cyclists>
- Patronal festivals with awareness-raising lunch based on LOAF principles:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/patronal\\_bbq\\_2016\\_loaf\\_data.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/patronal_bbq_2016_loaf_data.pdf)

### Q2 Hymns

These regularly have a creation theme. For example, we use the work of June Boyce-Tillman <https://juneboycetillman.wordpress.com/> who has strong links to St James's. We are working with our Director of Music to look at other sources of music we haven't previously used.

### Q3 Prayer for environmental issues

For example:

- These are a regular feature of our 11.00am Sunday Eucharist where intercessory prayers are led by members of the community.
- Prayers left on our prayer board are also prayed by the Julian group, a prayer group meeting regularly in our tower room.
- Our monthly eco-contemplative liturgy explicitly focusses on prayer for the earth.
- Art installations encourage contemplation of environmental concerns. For example, this striking ice melt designed by a member of our community was installed in the church during advent 2015 in the run up to COP21 in Paris <http://www.sjp.org.uk/ice-melt-2015.html>
- This Earth Day we gathered the prayers of our congregation which were written on 'leaves' during the service into this wordle for use in further reflection: <http://www.sjp.org.uk/ecolibrary.html>

#### *Q4 Preaching*

Sermons reference ecological themes on special days such as harvest, as well as at other times, and sometimes explicitly make reference to Eco Church. Sermons are available on our website. For example:

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/khovacs\\_sermon\\_harvest\\_8\\_oct\\_2017.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/khovacs_sermon_harvest_8_oct_2017.pdf)

Our Sustainability Champion has also been invited to speak about Eco Church at other churches. For example:

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sermon\\_given\\_by\\_deborah\\_colvin\\_at\\_st\\_pauls\\_rossmore\\_rd\\_london\\_11.12.2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sermon_given_by_deborah_colvin_at_st_pauls_rossmore_rd_london_11.12.2016.pdf)

#### *Q5 Christian guest speakers*

We host a regular programme which includes both Christian and other speakers and tries to cover a spectrum of environmental concerns, including engagement with science, activism and theology. For example:

- we heard recently from Prof Ursula King on Earth Literacy, Ecology and Spirituality
- earlier this year Peter and Miranda Harris spoke about the work of A Rocha internationally
- this autumn Diarmuid O' Murchu will speak on Incarnation, including God's revelation throughout the whole creation

This year's programme of events is here:

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco\\_events\\_leaflet\\_2018.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco_events_leaflet_2018.pdf)

#### *Q6 Youth work*

Two members of our 20s and 30s group are on our Eco Church steering group, ensuring that young people are fully involved and informed. They have taken a lead in developing our outdoor eco-contemplative liturgies, and in collaborating on a special Creation Time event.

#### *Q7 Children's work*

We have very few children! Nevertheless, we have run several environment-focussed sessions with children, including an exploration of the 'green' spirituality of Hildegard of Bingen. Children have also been involved in our bug and bird surveys (see Land section)

#### *Q8 Small Group study*

As per Q5, we have ongoing programmes of events and opportunities for learning. These include both bespoke eco-programmes, and contributions to other aspects of our work. For example:

- Lent course focussed on 'Love for the Future: Being at Home on the Earth' which came about through our church partnership with Living Spirituality  
[http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1536578901.0861349105834960937500](http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/?doing_wp_cron=1536578901.0861349105834960937500)
- A parish weekend away on an environmental theme:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/parish\\_weekend\\_2016\\_eco-faith\\_eco-church\\_eco-us.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/parish_weekend_2016_eco-faith_eco-church_eco-us.pdf)

- An eco-pilgrimage programme where we visit places and events together. For example, RSPB Rainham Marshes; University of Winchester Human and Earth Flourishing conference; Royal Society climate change lecture by Nicholas Stern; Universe Story event; and 'The Ancestor's Trail' walk led by Central London Humanists who specifically invited people of faith to join <https://ancestorstrail.org.uk/>  
Some exemplar eco-pilgrimage feedback is here  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/rainham\\_marshes\\_may\\_2017\\_feedback.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/rainham_marshes_may_2017_feedback.pdf)
- A session for our spiritual discussion group 'Vagabonds'  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/beyond\\_lightbulbs\\_vagabonds\\_talk\\_sept\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/beyond_lightbulbs_vagabonds_talk_sept_2016.pdf)
- Our Eco Fun Palaces provide many opportunities for learning  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco\\_fun\\_palace\\_2017\\_public\\_programme.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco_fun_palace_2017_public_programme.pdf)
- 'Journeying Together' hosted by Living Spirituality is a monthly group mainly attended by people from the St James's community. JT has explored the work of Thomas Berry and the relationship between spirituality and the earth; and held a discussion about the book **Spiritual Ecology**, which includes chapters by Wendell Berry, Richard Rohr and Thomas Berry. Acknowledgment of our place within the web of life is one of the group's aims.

### *Q9 Communications*

- A dedicated noticeboard in the south lobby of the church is under construction
- A dedicated section of our website is also under construction <http://www.sjp.org.uk/ecochurch.html>
- We have a regular (approx. fortnightly) eco newsletter with a distribution list of about 50. This is used for both learning and information, and includes a digest of relevant articles from the Church Times, lifestyle tips, and information about events and activities. A recent example is here:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar\\_eco-group\\_mailing\\_aug-18.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar_eco-group_mailing_aug-18.pdf)
- Articles are included in our parish magazine 197 Piccadilly - for example
  - an article on the Westminster Green Corridor by our gardener is here  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/197\\_winter\\_for\\_web.compressed2.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/197_winter_for_web.compressed2.pdf)
  - and Fun Palace reflection here <http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/197winter2016-4web.compressed.pdf>
- We use our Twitter feed for promoting activities @StJPiccadilly
- Beyond our immediate community we have
  - contributed to an Eco Church podcast <http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/eco-church>
  - hosted the first Eco Church southern national conference <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/eco-church-conference/>

### *Q10 Leadership commitment*

We have had a Sustainability Champion in post for about 8 years. Part of this role has been to embed the work of Shrinking the Footprint and Eco Church in the leadership and management structures of the church, to ensure the work is not 'siloed'. This includes:

- development of formal Environment, Sustainability, Procurement and Biodiversity policies, agreed by the PCC and available here:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/environment\\_policy\\_june\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/environment_policy_june_2016.pdf)  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sustainability\\_policy\\_june\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sustainability_policy_june_2016.pdf)  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_procurement\\_policy\\_sept\\_2017.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_procurement_policy_sept_2017.pdf)  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/biodiversity\\_policy\\_june\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/biodiversity_policy_june_2016.pdf)
- training for staff in eco and ethical procurement:  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/procurement\\_staff\\_training\\_nov\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/procurement_staff_training_nov_2016.pdf)
- regular reporting to the PCC on progress, and mapping against our strategic plan

## **2. Buildings**

### *2. Energy use and carbon footprint*

We have been engaged with the Church of England's Shrinking the Footprint programme for 10 years, and have reduced our overall annual energy consumption by about 50% over that period. StF uses a bench-marking model which takes into account the church's activities when calculating energy efficiency. On this model, the church has moved from Band C in 2008

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_energy\\_benchmarking\\_certificate\\_2008.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_energy_benchmarking_certificate_2008.pdf)

to Band A++ in 2015

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_energy\\_benchmarking\\_certificate\\_2015.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_energy_benchmarking_certificate_2015.pdf)

NB Our actual energy use is still very large: last year about 35 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e was produced from non-renewable sources. See data here [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/energy\\_use\\_summary\\_to\\_2017.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/energy_use_summary_to_2017.pdf)

However, we are open every day and welcome around 12,000 people each week, so the figure per person-hour is very small.

### *3. Targets for reduction*

In line with Shrinking the Footprint and national targets, we are committed to a carbon reduction target of 80% by 2050. We have already achieved the interim target of 42% by 2020, but it gets more difficult from here on! Our proposed site redevelopment will have sustainability at its heart and will make significant contributions to reduction of our footprint.

### *4. Carbon offset*

Until 2016 we chose to re-invest money saved through reduction in energy bills to buy LEDs etc.

For 2017 we decided to offset 35.65 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emitted due to consumption of non-renewable gas. We planned to make a £642 donation to the Woodland Trust's Woodland Carbon Project

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/mediafile/100390345/A-guide-to-woodland-carbon-for-business.pdf> as recommended by Shrinking the Footprint. This scheme is certified under the [Woodland Carbon Code](#) the UK's first ever government approved carbon certification scheme. However, we have very recently been informed that this scheme is in abeyance due to high demand and consequent lack of land to plant more forest – the Woodland Trust is focussing on buying more land. We have been referred to [www.forestcarbon.co.uk](http://www.forestcarbon.co.uk) and anticipate joining their scheme in the near future.

### *5. Renewable electricity*

All our electricity is produced renewably, either by our own solar PV, or purchased from Ecotricity.

We plan to renew our solar PV array in the future to increase generation to around 25% of our consumption (current capacity is about 10% of consumption).

### *6. Renewable gas*

We purchase our gas from Ecotricity. 12% of their supply is currently generated renewably. Gas for heating is the single biggest contributor to our carbon footprint.

### *7. Boiler ratings*

We have 3 boilers, all A rated. Replacing our main boiler in 2011 had a large effect. Data is here:

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/boiler\\_ratings\\_june\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/boiler_ratings_june_2016.pdf)

### *8. Insulation*

The main church roof was insulated in 2010 to significant effect. The rectory ceiling is insulated but the building as a whole is very leaky. Our site development plans include substantial redevelopment of the rectory.

### *9. Double glazing*

We have ticked 'not applicable' as the church is grade 1 listed. However, there are precedents for installation of secondary glazing in grade 1 listed churches which we will investigate further in future.

Most of the rectory building has secondary glazing. As above, the whole building will undergo significant development should our proposed site development go ahead.

#### *10. Lighting*

All lighting in the rectory has been LED for some time. Following the renewal of electrical wiring in the church this summer, all light fittings in the Church are now 100% LED and this has allowed us to reduce the electrical capacity to the boards.

The biggest reduction in energy use from lighting came from converting our 40 market stalls from 500W halogens to LED. This took considerable negotiation and required changes to contracts such that the church now has control of all lighting on site.

#### *11. Floodlighting and security lighting policy*

This comes under our general Environment and Sustainability policies. We are currently developing a plan for external feature lighting of our tower and spire which is a significant landmark.

#### *12. Water meter*

Our water use is not currently metered and we don't plan to install a meter. For the size of the site and number of visitors, our water footprint is very low. There are only 5 public toilets, 2 rectory toilets, one kitchen and one kitchenette in the rectory, and the café kitchen. Watering in the garden is by a highly efficient and well-maintained trickle irrigation system.

#### *13. Rainwater collection*

We have a small-scale and very visible model to demonstrate this – the caravan in the courtyard has a water butt which collects water for use in watering herbs which are used to make tea for users of the caravan. This highlights our commitment to being a site which educates and demonstrates.

#### *14. Toilet cisterns*

We are installing dual flush models as and when toilets need replacing – two new ones were installed earlier this year. Saving the embodied energy of the hardware outweighs water use in this case. Our Victorian drainage system does not permit use of toilet hippos and the like.

#### *15. Eco toilets*

Many new toilets are planned for our site redevelopment! They will be state of the art insofar as the drains permit.

#### *16 Recycled toilet paper*

Toilet paper is either recycled or from certified sources.

#### *17. Cleaning products*

We use certified environmentally / animal friendly products in the rectory. The public toilets in the church are very heavily used and require robust cleaning. This is a live issue for us and research is underway into effectiveness of products in our circumstances.

#### *18. Disposables*

We host a wide range of catered events, including coffee for 80-100 people after our main service, community lunches, receptions, Winter Shelter meals and International Group breakfasts. Where possible, reusable crockery and cutlery is used. All disposables (cups, plates, cutlery) are fully compostable

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/bio\\_greenate\\_carbon\\_certificate\\_2018.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/bio_greenate_carbon_certificate_2018.pdf)

Currently we use compostable cups for coffee on Sundays. We are planning to establish a washing-up rota and move to reusable cups. This has become more feasible as many people now bring their own reusable cups following the successful sale of these to the community by our Fair Trade stall.

#### *19. Paper use*

Double sided printing and narrow margins is routine. We have upgraded our photocopier – we now use less ink, and are able to print A5 booklets etc. PCC members have the option to receive printed or electronic copies of papers.

#### *20. Use of recycled paper*

All paper used for printing and copying is from recycled stock following the upgrading of our photocopier. Our parish magazine (currently in abeyance) is produced by Seacourt printers <http://www.seacourt.net/> which has won many sustainability and circular economy awards.

#### *21. BREEAM*

BREEAM accreditation will be central to our future site development

#### *22. Cycle racks*

We do not have space for cycle racks, but there are several public racks very close by and we have a friendly approach to use of our railings. On a week day there are up to 25 bikes chained there.

#### *23. Recycling facilities*

These are clearly labelled across the site. Keeping waste for recycling separate is challenging on our multi-use site. Our aspirations are hampered by Westminster's limited waste collection services. The Crown Estate set up a new service recently which was more expensive but offered collection of food waste. We planned to trial this, but in the end decided to wait and see how the system develops. One of the main issues with waste collection in central London is the number of vehicles driving the same route and as Westminster City Council collect the majority of waste in our area it makes sense to stay with them until we can find a very clear and reliable alternative.

#### *24. Consideration of renewable energy*

St James's was an early adopter in installing a solar PV system on the church in 2005 <http://www.simondawson.com/sjpenv/sjppv1.htm> and received a Church Times award in 2007.

Although the system generates a relatively small proportion of our consumption, it has high value as a demonstration of what can be achieved on a grade 1 listed building.

#### *25. Renewable energy generation*

Our solar PV system currently generates about 10% of the electricity we use. We plan to upgrade, and aspire to generate 25% or more of usage.

### **3. Land**

The courtyard and Southwood Garden are integral to the life and mission of St. James's, and so to our Eco Church efforts. A celebration of the life of the garden is shared in a monthly blog by our gardener here <http://www.sjp.org.uk/southwood-garden.html>

#### *2. Management for wildlife*

See garden management plan with a specific focus on sustainability and biodiversity [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_garden\\_management\\_plan\\_2017-1.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_garden_management_plan_2017-1.pdf)

Details and examples are in the sections below.

#### *3. Provision of habitat for wildlife*

- Ongoing development of the garden's planting scheme continually encourages a greater level of biodiversity, including extending the range of pollinator-friendly plants
- The wildlife friendly maintenance regime supports the creation of mini habitats – piles of leaves, wood stacks etc. and a healthy soil ecosystem rich in microorganisms. Materials for nest building are provided from February until August (dependent on weather) using old grass etc. gathered from the garden
- The garden was awarded Green Flag status last year <http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk/park-summary/?park=3179> From the Green Flag website:  
'The Church is keen to encourage biodiversity and sees its garden as a vital habitat for wildlife. The Southwood Garden is made up of paving, lawns and flower beds containing a mix of evergreen and deciduous shrubs, perennials, spring bulbs and mature trees. On a warm day, bees arrive to enjoy the pollinator-friendly planting. The soil is riddled with juicy worms for the resident blackbirds and each March a pair of mallard ducks set up home and, if lucky, visitors can spot their ducklings paddling in the fountain.'
- Wild West End <http://www.wildwestend.london/> We work with the Crown Estate to support their Wild West End campaign i.e. growth of green corridors in this ultra-urban area, where corridor is defined as 100 square metres of multi-functional green space every 100m. The Southwood Garden forms a vital stepping-stone in this corridor. Surveys of our site show it is a haven for an increasing number of birds, including a visiting kestrel, and Leisler's bats have been recorded.
- Making a B-Line for London Partnership <http://www.gigl.org.uk/making-a-b-line/#comment-8482>  
An initiative to increase the diversity and abundance of pollinators in London. As you can see from the link above, St James's sits right on the B-Line.

#### 4. Feeding stations

- Bird feeders are installed and water provided
- Bats have been detected flying over. We hope that increasing our insect numbers and diversity will encourage bats to spend more time in the garden
- Our visiting mallards present us with a dilemma. Should we feed them, and if so how can we manage this so they get the right amount of the right food?
- Much as we'd love to have them, we don't think hedgehogs are likely to establish in Piccadilly at the moment so we don't provide food

#### 5. Pond

Installation and establishment of mini pond and wetland habitats are underway. We will follow their development closely as a mini research project. The nearest body of water other than a fountain is in St James's Park 0.5 miles away. Will aquatic wildlife travel to our pond?

#### 6. Birds, bees and butterflies, and 7. Native wildflowers

See Q3 and Garden management plan.

#### 8. Mowing regime

See Garden management plan. Our grass areas are planted with hard-wearing amenity grass. It is a very difficult site to keep grass in good condition – poor drainage and very shady in most years. The main purpose of the grassed areas is for recreation and events so a wildflower mowing regime is not practical or appropriate. However, other areas of the site are used creatively for wildflowers e.g. deadnettle grows in cracks in the paving  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_garden\\_update\\_aug18\\_final.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_garden_update_aug18_final.pdf)

#### 9. Pesticides and herbicides

Integrated pest management is practised according to the horticultural industry's best practice and the disease and pest management approach adopted by the RHS <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=1023> This includes use of a range of non-chemical strategies to promote healthy plants including:

- selecting the right plant for the conditions
- choosing disease resistant varieties
- following an appropriate watering and feeding regime
- buying plants from reliable sources and checking them for pests and diseases on their arrival.

Should pests and diseases occur, we use a mix of:

- mechanical controls (picking off pests)
- biological controls e.g. ladybirds to tackle aphid infestations
- environmentally friendly control products.

As a last resort we would consider a chemical solution for pests for which there are no natural predators in the UK. However, where this situation arises we would explore the feasibility of replacing the affected species with a resistant one.

#### 10. Tree planting schemes

- We support the Heart of England Forest initiative <https://www.heartofenglandforest.com/about-us/> including an event in our courtyard in 2015.
- Our carbon offsetting payments (under negotiation) will support Forest Carbon projects [www.forestcarbon.co.uk](http://www.forestcarbon.co.uk)

#### 11. Wildlife surveys

In recent years we have conducted regular volunteer citizen-science surveys of invertebrates including bees in the Southwood Garden to support data gathering and encourage participation and learning in the garden. About 30 volunteers have contributed, ranging in age from 5 to 85.

We regularly collect and log data for OPAL (Open Air Laboratories) <https://www.opalexplornature.org/surveys> and the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>. Just as importantly, these sessions provide opportunities for teamwork and new learning.

#### 12. Churchyard conservation

We are signed up to the Beautiful Burial Grounds project <https://www.hlf.org.uk/about-us/news-features/hidden-heritage-burial-grounds-be-revealed>, a new initiative of Caring for God's Acre <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/our-work/>. Plans are developing for a comprehensive 'bio-blitz' of our site.

#### 13. Fruit and veg

We have some herbs! This is something to consider for the future.

#### 14. Compost

See garden management plan. Composting is integral to management of the garden, including bins and leaf-shredding. We aspire to compost all green waste on site – quite a challenge with 7 large plane trees in a relatively small area.

#### 15. Recreation, contemplation

Many activities catering for a wide range of people are hosted in the garden Our gardener says *'My interest in gardening is simple – how can you use it to lift people's spirits, create a sense of place and give visitors the opportunity to engage in the natural world in the heart of the city?'* For example:

- Clergy-led liturgies in the garden, especially the Easter dawn Eucharist round an open fire and our patronal festival in July
- A monthly contemplative liturgy led by members of the Eco Church team <http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/earth-day-22-april-2018-our-hopes-and-prayers>
- Get-togethers for the diverse groups which use our site (church staff, market traders, caravan counsellors, PCC, concert staff) to spend time together in beautiful surroundings. This builds 'social capital' and a sense of belonging

- Exhibitions – currently Emily Young’s sculpture <https://www.bowmansculpture.com/exhibitions/emily-young-at-st-james-piccadilly>
- Biodiversity surveys and learning events mentioned above

#### 16. Local community use

Large numbers of people use the garden, including tourists, people visiting the courtyard market and local workers on their lunch break. We calculate an average weekly footfall on site of about 12,000 people  
<http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/st-jamess-garden-wins-green-flag-award>

#### 17. Management plan

A comprehensive annual plan is produced for the garden. For example  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp\\_garden\\_management\\_plan\\_2017-1.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/sjp_garden_management_plan_2017-1.pdf)

### 4. Community and global engagement

The survey rightly has a strong emphasis on local initiatives in this section. At St James’s, as well as focussing on our immediate neighbourhood, we interpret ‘local’ quite widely – because our community and visitors come from far afield, and our site is very public.

#### 1. Organise events to engage with local leaders on environmental issues

For example, we have an active relationship with West London Citizens [http://www.citizensuk.org/west\\_london](http://www.citizensuk.org/west_london) and have previously hosted Just Share events <http://www.justshare.org.uk/>

#### 2. Engage with local leaders

Links with Westminster Faith Exchange <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/faith-exchange> give us a voice with local leaders.

#### 3. Local environmentalists to speak in services

This is where we interpret ‘local’ very widely. We have a wide-ranging programme of visitors (see Worship and Teaching section), as well as engaging with initiatives such as Wild West End and London Bee Line.

#### 4. Link with local sustainability movements

We have not yet engaged with Transition Towns or similar, but SJP representatives regularly attend the Diocesan Environmental Consultative Forum and Faith Exchange events related to environment. This is an area for us to develop further.

#### 5. Awareness raising events

Recent examples which have attracted significant numbers of people from outside our regular community include:

- Our Eco Fun Palaces  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco\\_fun\\_palace\\_2017\\_public\\_programme.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco_fun_palace_2017_public_programme.pdf)
- film screening of Naomi Klein’s ‘This Changes Everything’ <https://thischangeseverything.org/>
- visit from Nicola Peel <http://eyesofgaia.com/>

SJP community members are encouraged via eco mailings and announcements in church to attend other events and demonstrations focusing on green issues. This weekend (22 September) a group from SJP will take part in the ‘People’s Walk for Wildlife’ in Hyde Park. <https://www.chrispackham.co.uk/the-peoples-walk-for-wildlife>

#### 6. Local conservation work

Wild West End and London Bee Line participation. This is an area for us to develop further.

### *7. Community clean-up*

We have not engaged with this as a church community, but many individuals in the congregation have supported this kind of work.

### *8. Green Fair*

We find ways of interpreting this concept for our very urban context. In recent years our 'Green Fair' has been an Eco Fun Palace, engaging local organisations (including scientific learned societies) to celebrate learning about the earth. For example, the Geological Society and Linnaean Society based in Piccadilly have led events on our site.

This harvest festival we will highlight food waste by providing a community lunch prepared from food that would otherwise be thrown away in central London. We are partnering with City Harvest for this initiative

<http://www.cityharvest.org.uk/>

### *9. Outdoor activity*

There are regular Walking Boots and Walking Sticks outings, and occasional eco-pilgrimages to sites such as RSPB Rainham Marshes.

We use the Southwood Garden extensively. Through the garden we have 'a shared vision of working to improve the wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors by increasing connections to green space and nature; contributing to improvements in local air quality; enhancing biodiversity and ecological connectivity; and raising awareness and promoting the benefits of green infrastructure in order to inspire others to participate and create similar initiatives' (Garden management plan).

### *10. Car share*

Because of our location, cars are rarely used for travelling to church. We ensure that those with temporary or longer-term mobility issues have access to car-sharing for journeys to church. We car-share for our Christmas Eve midnight service when there is no public transport. Looking at use of cars by members of our community where they live is an area of work for the future.

### *11. Encouragement to reduce resource use by those who use our building*

For example, room hire agreements now include a copy of our Procurement Policy.

### *12. Active promotion of Eco Church*

Activities include:

- hosting the first Eco Church southern national conference <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/eco-church-conference/>
- promotion through Churches Together in Westminster including leading an eco-themed CTiW AGM [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco\\_article\\_for\\_ctiw\\_newsletter\\_june\\_2017.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/eco_article_for_ctiw_newsletter_june_2017.pdf) , [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/ctiw\\_agm\\_2018\\_creation\\_care\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/ctiw_agm_2018_creation_care_flyer.pdf)
- sermons and talks at other churches [http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/st\\_marys\\_islington\\_sermon\\_06-05-18.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/st_marys_islington_sermon_06-05-18.pdf)

### *13. Prayer for international Environment project*

Not regularly for a particular one - yet!

### *14. Participate in regular sustainability initiatives*

For example:

- maintaining a presence in Piccadilly Circus during Earth Hour
- Fasting for the Climate during our 'Pilgrimage to Paris' programme in 2015 <http://www.sjp.org.uk/news/fasting-to-show-concern-about-climate-change>

### *15. and 16. Campaigns for national and global environmental issues*

For example our 'Pilgrimage to Paris' programme running up to COP21 in Paris in 2015, culminating on Advent Sunday 2015 <http://www.sjp.org.uk/ice-melt-2015.html>

### *17. Toilet twinning*

All our public toilets are twinned. Information is here

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/toilet\\_twinning\\_details.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/toilet_twinning_details.pdf)

### *18. Information about impact of climate change*

A member of our congregation researches the Church Times and other publications and provides a very helpful digest of environmental news in a Christian context

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar\\_eco-group\\_mailing\\_aug-18.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar_eco-group_mailing_aug-18.pdf)

As described above, we run a series of eco-pilgrimages to events and places which inform and educate. For example, Rainham Marshes RSPB; the Royal Society Summer exhibition, and public lectures on climate change. We have held a workshop on 'Communicating Climate Change', and had public screenings of films including Katharine Hayhoe's recent lecture in London 'Climate and Faith in the Public Arena'; and Naomi Klein's 'This Changes Everything'.

### *19. Financial support for environmental charity.*

This might be double-counting, but our carbon offsetting supports Forest Carbon projects (under negotiation).

### *20. to 26. Fair Trade, LOAF, animal friendly, vegetarian/vegan*

In 2016 we were the 11<sup>th</sup> biggest Traidcraft operation in the UK. We now have a smaller but regular twice monthly stall on a Sunday.

Establishing these initiatives is an ongoing programme of awareness-raising, policy development, and embedding of practice. Our policies on sustainability and procurement are now established, and staff training has taken place

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/procurement\\_staff\\_training\\_nov\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/procurement_staff_training_nov_2016.pdf)

All our community meals have at least some ingredients from each of the LOAF categories. Sharing a meal provides a good opportunity to share information about the source of the food eaten

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/patronal\\_bbq\\_2016\\_loaf\\_data.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/patronal_bbq_2016_loaf_data.pdf)

We have an active Animal Welfare group and hope to achieve ASWA animal friendly church status in the near future

<https://www.aswa.org.uk/our-work/animal-friendly/>

Most community meals are vegetarian/vegan, either prepared ourselves or by vegan caterers. 'Alternatives' which uses the church on Mondays provides only vegetarian food. High protein meals which may include meat are provided for our guests at the Winter Shelter and International Breakfast.

### *27. Steps to reduce food waste*

Our Winter Shelter collects from Pret a Manger on Tuesday evenings – this is distributed to Shelter guests on Wednesday mornings for their lunches, and also to those who sleep on our pews and local street-based homeless people, so nothing is wasted. Other offers of food donations are directed to the West London Mission.

Bulk buying for both the Shelter and our International Breakfast reduces costs and waste.

Our experience over the years is that redistribution of food for particular projects is hard work. There is plenty of food available, but the supply can be unreliable, timing is difficult, and collection is usually required.

We have recently partnered with City Harvest <http://www.cityharvest.org.uk/> on a trial basis to see how we might 'give food another home' in our community setting. Our first venture is to make a community harvest meal from 'gleaned' and foraged foods.

## 5. Lifestyle

Consulting more formally with our community about perceptions and needs has been helpful in formulating next steps. For example, we discovered quite a lot of anxiety in the community about the effects of consumerism including plastic waste, and so were able to invite Nicola Peel to speak to try and address this, and encourage people to make individual lifestyle pledges.

### *1. Community champion*

We have had a Sustainability Champion role for many years. More recently, we have developed an Eco Steering Group to lead our Eco Church programme with the aims of increasing community engagement, diversifying responsibility and developing more differentiated roles. Our Lifestyle Champion has taken responsibility for many parts of this section.

### *2. Promotion of walking and cycling*

There are regular cyclists among the staff, congregation, PCC, and clergy. Our cycling hero is market trader Antonio who cycles in from Heathrow every day.

Information on how to reach us on foot or cycle is provided on our website <http://www.sjp.org.uk/find-us.html>

We have an annual blessing for cyclists (see above).

Our site is used as a pit-stop for the annual Cancer Research big bike ride.

### *3. Reduction of car use encouraged*

As above, very few car journeys are made to Piccadilly. Reduction in car use more generally is part of our wider messaging about reducing carbon footprints.

### *4. Personal carbon footprints*

We ran a trial of an online system with PCC and eco-group members. Comments are here

[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/carbon\\_footprint\\_feedback\\_from\\_pcc\\_and\\_eco\\_group.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/carbon_footprint_feedback_from_pcc_and_eco_group.pdf)

Overall we need to find better ways of raising awareness and getting lifestyle commitments as many carbon calculators don't show the gains that can be made by small changes in behaviour.

### *5. Reduction of personal energy consumption encouraged*

As for Q3, reduction in energy use is part of our wider messaging about reducing carbon footprints.

### *6. Reduce, reuse, recycle encouraged*

As for Q3 and 5

### *7. Recycling and reuse schemes*

Clothes are donated as part of our Night Shelter

### *9. Promotion of Fair Trade / ethically sourced goods and 10. Encouragement of LOAF principles*

See notes for Q20 – 26 in Community and Global section.

### *11. Bulk-buying ethically sourced goods*

This has been under discussion for some time. Generally, it is not realistic to bulk buy as our congregation come from far afield and don't want to shop on a Sunday. However, our Fair Trade stall does good business twice a month, and bulk buying Ecoffee keep cups was very successful, with the whole first order rapidly sold at close to wholesale price.

### *12. Ethical investment encouraged*

We support the Big Shift campaign <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/climate-change/the-big-shift>  
Representatives have had a stall at our Eco Fun Palaces.

### *13. Church funds ethically invested*

We have recently reviewed our operational banking arrangements with requests for proposals invited from approximately 12 banks. The response received from banks was generally very disappointing, with many of them referring to their standard terms and conditions and clearly not focused on our specific requirements. CAF Bank stood out as meeting our needs and ethical requirements, as well as having a specific focus on servicing charities and we are in the process of shifting our banking to them.

The church is currently conducting a similar review of investment opportunities and priorities.

### *14. Practical lifestyle tips provided*

Frequently, through many channels. An example of our fortnightly newsletter is here  
[http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar\\_eco-group\\_mailing\\_aug-18.pdf](http://www.sjp.org.uk/uploads/1/6/5/7/16572376/exemplar_eco-group_mailing_aug-18.pdf)

Our most recent speaker, Nicola Peel provided 4 practical areas of action which members of the audience pledged to engage with <http://eyesofgaia.com/>

### *15. Environmental lifestyle audit for church members*

Aspects of this are done informally through our other activities. For example, awareness-raising events such as the recent talk by Nicola Peel enable people to assess their current behaviour and make changes.

As part of our work on preparing for death we provide information on eco coffins and funerals  
<http://www.sjp.org.uk/eco-funerals>