



The Bridge Group Parish Eco– Newsletter

NEWSLETTER November 2022

The Bridge Group Parish Eco Church Team aims to protect and care for the natural world by *Worship & Teaching * Recycling * Caring for our churchyard * Buying Fairtrade * Encouraging a greener lifestyle * Engaging with our local communities.

Recycling Update!

Good news! We are collecting soft plastics again at our Bridge Recycling Station in the church porch. These include: BREAD BAGS, FRUIT AND VEG BAGS, FROZEN FOOD BAGS, PLASTIC WRAPPERS, 'POLYTHENE' BAGS, CEREAL PACKET INNER, PLASTIC COMPOST BAGS.

If you are not sure whether your items are recyclable please check the recycling advice on the packaging and please make sure they are CLEAN before placing them in the recycling bin.



The plastics will be collected weekly by volunteers who will take them to local supermarkets when they do their shopping. If you would like to volunteer to go on the rota please contact Megan or Jean. Details below.

We are hoping to start collecting pill blister packs and will need volunteers to take them to Superdrug in Canterbury. Contact us if you can help.

On the back of this Newsletter there is a list of places in Canterbury and East Kent where you can take all kinds of used and unwanted items that can be recycled and re-used. If you know of any others – please tell us!

Inside this issue:

Eco-Team	2
Forest School Visit	2
Fairtrade	3
Repair Café	3
Recycling Collection Points	4

Eco Lifestyle Top Tips!

- Use food that is LOAF (locally grown, organic and animal friendly)
- Undertake a personal Carbon footprint calculation
- Invest savings ethically
- Undertake an environmental lifestyle audit and of course.....
- **REDUCE!**
- **REUSE!**
- **RECYCLE!**

The Bridge Group Parish

23 HighStreet
Bridge
CT4 5JZ

Phone:
01227206272
Email:
bridgeoffice23@gmail.com
Website:
bridgechurchgroup.co.uk



The Eco Church Team was formed in 2019 when the Bridge Group sought to become a Parish of eco-accredited churches. We meet bi monthly to discuss our environmental impact as a parish and ways in which we can make changes to our day-to-day lives to help care for God's Creation.

The Eco Team is looking for more like-minded individuals to join us and share ideas and knowledge.

If you would like to know more about what the Eco Team is up to please email the contacts below.

Jean Barber (scriven06@gmail.com)
Megan Shirley (bridgeoffice23@gmail.com)

VISIT TO FOREST SCHOOL

In September some of the Team went to Bridge & Patrixbourne Primary School to visit the Forest School, set up in 2021 by Teaching Assistant, Lisa Pearman, to encourage the children to learn more about the environment and how to care for it. This is available to all children in the school as part of the curriculum. They are able to develop their own ideas and have already had success with planting willow domes, flowers, vegetables, herbs and trees and making habitats to attract birds and other wildlife. The Team was impressed



by what has already been achieved and hopes to establish stronger ties with the Forest School.

An example of the facility on offer at Bridge and Patrixbourne CEP School

FAIR TRADE NEWS



Rosy Atkinson is now a registered 'Fairtrader' and would love to take your orders for tea, coffee, biscuits, cards, gifts etc. There is a wide range of goods in the Traidcraft catalogues in the church porch. Sign the order form there or contact Rosy direct (rosy.atkinson@btinternet.com)



Did you know.....

As FairTrade registered Churches The Bridge Group Parish aim to serve only Fairtrade tea, coffee and biscuits after our services!

REPAIR CAFES

The Canterbury Repair Cafe is open on the second Saturday of each month 10am to 12.30pm at the Hub Café next to the Baptist Church in St George's Place (opposite Waitrose). Next one is Saturday 10th December when there will be a Children's toys, games and books Swap Shop. Bring things to repair or to swap. Everything free!



What is a Repair Café?

'Repair Cafés are free meeting places and they're all about repairing things (together). In the place where a Repair Café is located, you'll find tools and materials to help you make any repairs you need. On clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, appliances, toys, et cetera. You'll also find expert volunteers, with repair skills in all kinds of fields.

Visitors bring their broken items from home. Together with the specialists they start making their repairs in the Repair Café. It's an ongoing learning process. If you have nothing to repair, you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Or you can lend a hand with someone else's repair job. You can also get inspired at the reading table – by leafing through books on repairs and DIY.'

(Source: <https://www.repaircafe.org/en/about/>)

COLLECTION POINTS FOR RECYCLED ITEMS

Marks and Spencer food departments & food stores

Crisp packets. Plastic film and film from ready-meals. Plastic packaging including items not taken in other places. Details of what is accepted are on collecting bins near tills.

Tesco (Whitfield) car park

Cartons (Tetrapaks) - juice, milk, soup, tomatoes etc., Pringles packs, all card containers with metal ends (no lids).

Tesco (in store)

Water filters, inkjet cartridges, batteries, energy saving light bulbs.

Dunelm

Clean duvets, pillows and bedding. Curtains, towels, cushions and other household textiles. Bin near entrance door.

Specsavers

Spectacles

Vision Express and Boots

Spectacles and contact lenses

(Lions Club will collect unwanted and damaged spectacles)

Superdrug

Empty medical blister packs

Boots

Make-up and beauty products. (Not nail varnish, medicines, perfume, aerosols, hair dye).

Necessary Furniture, Hersden

Opened paint cans if paint still viable (sold for £1 litre)

Plant pots and troughs. Wood for resale as firewood.

Furniture and household goods (call 01227 712680 to book free collection).

British Heart Foundation

Furniture, household goods and electrical items (call 0300 330 3322 to book free collection).

B&Q

Spent light bulbs. Plant pots.

Lidl and many other supermarkets

Spent batteries.

Morrisons

Coffee pods. Collect free Podback bags from Customer Services desk.

car.co.uk and giveacar.co.uk

Old cars beyond repair or write-offs. Part of money raised goes to charity.

Also

The Refillable Van (Sue Bates 07495 916088/www.refillablevan.com) visits Aerodrome Rd, Bekesbourne (by memorials) on the 1st Sunday of the month 3.0-3.30pm and High St, Bridge (next to the Fish & Chip van) on the last Thursday of month 5.0-6.30pm (times and dates subject to change)..

It provides refillable, plastic free, environmentally and vegan friendly household, self-care and beauty products, as well as dried food, herbs & spices. Take your own containers or get refillable containers when you buy.

Look out for the Van at the Bridge Farmers Market in the New Year!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HEAR OF ANY OTHER RECYCLING SITES OR CHANGES TO THIS INFORMATION

Contact details inside.