

Going for Silver

A small group from St Mary's and St Nicholas are hoping to build on the work done to achieve the A Rocha Bronze Eco Award in 2024.

We are looking at changes we can make as churches and individuals to be more environmentally aware in these areas:

- ▶ Worship and Teaching
- ▶ Buildings and Energy
- ▶ Lane and Nature
- ▶ Community and Global engagement
- ▶ Lifestyle

The aim is to gain the Silver A Rocha award for both churches.

Look out for:

Easy lifestyle - change tips to live more sustainably. We'll be providing more suggestions in future newsletters.

Events to get involved with.

Eco news on church notice boards

Our benefice website for more information about A Rocha and links to sustainability resources.

We welcome any feedback, comments and suggestions about our newly launched Ecomatters newsletter

Bev Crapper - St. Mary's

Gill Cozens - St. Nicholas

Save our trees

Target 25 is A Rocha UK's project to help a range of declining species, taxonomic groups, and threatened habitats. Each newsletter will hope to shine a light on one aspect of this project and what we can do to help. To kick off we are focusing on the mighty oak tree.



Photo A Rocha UK Target 25

Richard Thornbury, Hans Pixabay

"Oak trees are one of the most important native trees in the UK. A single oak can contain as many as 300 different species of wildlife from insects to fungi, birds, small mammals and more. Oak trees do not adapt to very extended periods of drought and heat, or extreme rains and storms. Sadly, these climate events are becoming more common. A changing climate also increases the risk of more disease which has the potential to wipe out whole oak forest areas. This has already been seen in mainland Europe, with oak trees struggling to survive.

Source Target 25 A Rocha UK

Clearly climate change poses a very real threat to the long-term existence of our oaks so any changes we can make in our everyday lives to reduce our carbon footprint and to slow down the effect of climate change, must be a positive move. Striving for the silver A Rocha award will hopefully help us to consider some of the ways we as a church community, as well as our individual actions, can make a difference.

Isaiah 55.12

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.