



Eco-Congregation Scotland Newsletter

Issue 16

Winter / Spring 2010

Helping you to care for God's creation

Editorial

The Challenge of Copenhagen

Can the failure of world leaders to reach a binding agreement on climate change at the Copenhagen summit spur us into further action in our churches and communities? If governments cannot lead, and it seems they can't, then churches, faith groups, and others must step forward to do so. Eco-congregations cannot alone change the world but we can show, community by community, that where politicians have failed, people can succeed. We believe it is in our hands to choose the way we treat the planet. We



recognise the power we have as consumers, as activists, as members of churches and global organisations, as digital citizens and as believers in hope over adversity, to change the way we live on earth. Can we lead our leaders and show them the way?

Eco-Congregation Scotland supporters and banner at the Wave March, Glasgow, *Photo: Matthew Aitken*

The theme of our 2010 Annual Gathering helps us consider this challenge – come and join us! Full details below:

News

Annual Gathering - 20th March 2010

We are delighted to welcome **Alastair McIntosh**, author of *Hell and High Water*, to give the keynote address at this year's Gathering. Alastair has written extensively on the profound spiritual challenge that our consumer lifestyle has on the earth and he will challenge eco-congregations to consider why and how

we must change the way we live in the twenty first century.

The Gathering at Stirling Baptist Church, 67 Murray Place, Stirling, FK8 1AU will run from 10.00 – 15.30 and a light lunch will be served. To book a place contact: aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk

Becoming a Charitable Company

In the last newsletter we explained the challenges involved in becoming a charitable company. A charitable company will give Eco-Congregation Scotland proper legal status, define its objectives, and give it powers to raise funds, work with others; and the tax advantages of being a charity. Becoming a charitable company is not a quick task and there have been a series of hurdles to overcome.

With help from Burness Solicitors the Eco-Congregation Steering Group agreed a draft set of articles for the company. The draft was worded to ensure that the charity will be accountable to all member congregations who will be entitled to vote on any major decisions at AGMs of the company.

The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) has scrutinised the draft articles of the company and has accepted that they pass the charity test. At the time of writing the draft articles have been submitted to Companies House who will incorporate Eco-Congregation Scotland as a company. An intriguing point of company law is that any proposal to set up a company with the word 'Scotland' in the title needs the approval of a Scottish Government minister. Stewart Stevenson, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change in the Scottish Government has given his backing to our use of 'Scotland' in the title and has provided written assurance to Companies House that the Scottish Government has no objection!

Learning more about the new company

This is a major milestone in the story of Eco-Congregation Scotland and an opportunity to celebrate its coming of age. In a little over ten years it has grown from a few dedicated congregations to the largest movement of community based environment groups in Scotland. This is an achievement of which all member congregations and supporting partners can be proud.

You are invited to join us to celebrate this in worship when we meet at the Annual Gathering in Stirling on 20 March. The Gathering will also give an opportunity to learn more about becoming a charity and what it means for congregations, with workshop sessions for congregations to discuss how they can be involved in running the company.

Support from the United Reformed Church

We gratefully acknowledge a grant for £1,000 from the United Reformed Church Scottish Synod. Over and above this the URC has committed to each of their Scottish congregations having an environmental contact which will allow them to move forward to registration.

Celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity – at your church?

Is your congregation concerned about protecting Scotland's nature?

If so, you may wish to take part in Scottish Biodiversity Week from May 15 to 23 this year. Any events which touch on biodiversity – from making your church garden wildlife-friendly to getting more people involved in recycling to taking a country walk and learning more about birds – may be part of this important national week.

This is a significant year for biodiversity, with the United Nations declaring 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). International Year of Biodiversity can bring us all together, by doing ONE thing we can unite and be part of a global effort to protect our planet and our biodiversity.



Scotland may be small, but our country has up to 90,000 native species. Our seas are among the most biologically productive in the world, we have diverse and stunning wildlife, and beautiful lochs and rivers. We are all part of Scotland's incredible variety of living things – this is our biodiversity. It is fragile and shrinking, but we can all help to protect it.

Why should my church take part in Biodiversity Week?

Your church will be part of a national and international effort to bring important issues to the public's attention – and to try and get people more involved with nature, biodiversity and the environment. Your event will also be promoted on the Biodiversity Week web-site. For more information, e-mail bit@snh.gov.uk or see www.snh.org.uk/biodiversityweek to add your event

and request free Biodiversity Week cotton bags, bookmarks and postcards.

What can we do to help individually?

There's plenty we can do to help biodiversity thrive. Take the IYB pledge to do one thing for biodiversity!

- buy seasonal
- experience nature on your doorstep
- garden for life
- help with a wildlife survey
- tell someone about it
- get others involved: encourage businesses, schools and Councils to do more



Waxwings Photo: Derek McGinn (Winner of 2009 SNH Biodiversity Week photo competition)

Scottish Biodiversity Week is promoted by Scottish Natural Heritage and its partners in the Scottish Biodiversity Forum (SBF).

Vicki Mowat SNH PR and Media Officer

Save the Trees!

Trees hold an eternal fascination. As individuals, they can grow to the most enormous proportions, yet a single storm can lay them down forever. They support entire ecosystems in their own right, evolving through their lives as they grow, rest and die across perhaps millennial life spans. As groups, in woods and forests, they play host to the most complex, diverse terrestrial assemblages of life on the planet, with such presence as to be capable of influencing the weather itself. So why do we now value them so cheaply?

Roughly one quarter of a tree's live weight is carbon, hence their much vaunted role as one of the planet's greatest carbon stores. Global deforestation accounts for a significant chunk of human mediated greenhouse gas emissions, somewhere between 10 and 20 per cent, more than the sum of every form of motorised transport. Forest loss incurs a double whammy, in that emissions arise from the act of felling (and often burning) the trees themselves, and their subsequent absence limits global capacity to soak up further carbon dioxide.

Continuing loss of old growth forest is not just an equatorial problem. More than half of the UK's ancient woodland present in 1930 has been lost or damaged. The Woodland Trust currently identifies nearly 400 ancient woods, representing 16,000 hectares or 3% of the UK's total woodland cover, as being under threat

of loss to development. Once they're gone, they're gone for ever.

The Woodland Trust aspires to double the area of native woodland cover in the UK. Doing so will do far more than lock up carbon. Woodland creation is essential for increasing the resilience of our natural environment, to give our wildlife the best chance of adapting to the uncertain changes in climate that lie ahead. New blocks of woodland are important, but so too are smaller stands, hedgerow trees and even single parkland specimens: all help increase habitat connectivity and enable species to move more easily between favourable patches.

Planting trees is symbolic of hope for the future and connects people inescapably with the earth itself. In reducing atmospheric carbon dioxide new woods provide a global benefit, but by planting them here and now there is an unquantifiable, yet far greater, local reach. Doubling native woodland cover requires not just money but also land. We cannot achieve our aims through purchasing land outright, so are appealing to landowners, large and small alike, to help do their part in preparing our wonderful islands for whatever the future climate throws at them.

For further information please visit www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
Nick Atkinson, Woodland Trust

Switch off and support WWF's Earth Hour – 27 March 2010, 8.30pm



Join the world's biggest event in support of strong action on climate change. On 27 March 2010 at 8.30pm, all round the world, lights will go off for one hour in homes, businesses, buildings and landmarks in a graphic demonstration of support for determined international action on climate change.

Because of the disappointing outcome of the international climate talks in Copenhagen last December, it is more important than ever that during 2010 the world continues to press for a strong international action. Climate change has not gone away. The world still needs a strong global climate deal if we are going to avoid irreversible and devastating changes in the planet's natural systems. WWF's Earth Hour is a fun and positive global event, but one with a serious message. That message is simple: that people around the world care about climate change and continue to support action by

global leaders to get greenhouse gas emissions under control.

Find out more and sign up online at www.wwfscotland.org.uk/earthhour
Lorna Dingwall WWF Scotland

Award Winning Churches

Hope Park, St Andrews

Here the minister regularly preaches on caring for creation as a central aspect of Christian commitment, leading to growing awareness and greater involvement, not only in church but also at home and in the wider community. Through the involvement of young people, reminders about switching off lights and taps and saving energy, articles in the magazine and a mission statement setting out the congregation's commitment, everyone is aware of sustainability issues.

The successful cafe attached to the church sources fair-trade and local produce wherever possible and cleaning products here, as elsewhere in the church, are environmentally friendly.

Carlops – Second Award!

Carlops has a small but very active congregation that has achieved much in gaining their second award. They have an excellent understanding of our environmental impacts and members of the Eco Group, which includes the majority of the congregation, has led services on eco themes in all three of their linked churches. Major projects have been undertaken such as the refurbishment of the church building, which is both aesthetically pleasing and effective in heat generation and retention. The biodiversity project also shows great commitment in securing a grant and involving many in both the congregation and the local community. Very strong links to and communication with the community have been demonstrated by involvement in the community carbon reduction Wood and Wool project, Faith and Science evenings and the Drop in Coffee events. These all give the church influence and an opportunity to get creation care messages out to non-church goers, as well as the congregation

St Columba's Episcopal Church, Crieff



Has involved the whole congregation across all ages and achieved a lot in a number of different areas, including major projects such as Improving the heating system. This, in turn, improves energy efficiency and reduces the carbon footprint of the buildings. The church garden has many

The Most Rev. David Chillingworth planting a tree in St Columba's garden

attractive features such as the prayer garden, the garden of remembrance and using plants named in the Bible. Fair Trade is promoted with a monthly stall in the church.

St Mary's, Episcopal Church, Dunblane

Environmental issues are kept on the agenda across the broad range of church activities and all age groups. In achieving their award the congregation has used a number of services to involve the congregation in caring for creation, including an outdoor Rogation service, at Easter and a special service themed on "Birds". They have worked with the local school and young people, carrying out plastic bottle and car use surveys and a special Lenten project. The grounds maintenance team seeks to find a balance between appearance and conservation aims. In their hall their environmental care is effectively communicated to user groups through signs and the use of a log book/checklist to ensure energy and water are not being wasted.



An outdoor Rogation Service Photo: Kate Nash

Radnor Park, Clydebank

In an extremely innovative and exciting project, the church took the initiative to use excess heat from a neighbouring generator creating power for the local community as the basis for its heating system (a combined heat and power system). **The switch from an oil-based system has been extremely cost-effective. The installation of the system cost £11,000 two years ago and has already saved the congregation £16,000!** More over it has led to a substantial reduction in the carbon footprint of the congregation. As an added bonus, the community heating station also generates power to charge electric cars which are available for hire and some members of the congregation use these. An Eco month of worship, support for fair trade recycling and contact with their local Eco School all form part of their eco-congregation work.

Birse and Feughside

The caring for creation message has been well integrated into services at Birse and Feughside. The Eco-Congregation programme is actively promoted both within the church through the colourful banners and to the wider community through the church newsletter. There are many further links to the local community through work with the school, local shop and community council. Children are fully involved in

many aspects of the eco-congregation work. On a practical note, a large proportion of the congregation is involved in caring for and increasing the biodiversity of the church garden and there is a range of provision for recycling. The congregation is also looking at further ways of reducing carbon emissions eg through the assessment of the impacts of the congregation's travel.

Dunbarney and Forgandenny

For this eco-congregation it is the Green Teens who are leading the way for the whole congregation, raising awareness and being 'the conscience of the church'. They produce an impressive newsletter which goes out to the whole congregation with the church newsletter. In addition, they have a comprehensive Wildlife Garden and encourage recycling, using containers in a convenient position as people enter the church. Fair Trade activities include a Fair Trade Coffee Evening, and gaining support from local supermarkets.

South Leith Parish Church

Have a very committed Green Team and a Youth Links group which has been very effective in raising the awareness in the congregation of environmental matters. They have constructed a list of 10 Eco Commandments, designed a short questionnaire to gauge the level of awareness and written a Christmas sketch called "Santa Goes Green". The church has also been responsible for a number of environmental activities for young people in the local community. In their own church buildings and halls they have put in place a number of "eco procedures". In addition, they have had a major project with Chipembi girls' secondary school in Zambia, spanning the last 12 years. The main aim of the project, which has been a



South Leith visitors meet children from Chipembi

great success, was to help the school become self sustaining in food and water supplies.

News from the Networks

Aberdeen / Aberdeenshire An Awards Workshop will be held on 7.30pm, Monday 22nd February at St Andrews Cathedral. This workshop will have something to offer everyone, no matter what stage you are at with your eco-congregation work.

Sadly, Ken Knight has stepped down as the network convener. Over the last few years Ken has done sterling work, keeping everyone in touch and organising meetings. We thank Ken for all his efforts.

We are now looking for volunteers to help out with running the network.

Edinburgh now has a team organising network events and a full programme planned through the year (see Diary pages). The programme includes a look at the aftermath of the Copenhagen Summit and the Year of Biodiversity and begins with a talk from about Waste Management on 16th February.

Glasgow began the year with a talk about Glasgow University's research into Sustainable Communities. The next meeting on March 15th is open to all - come along and hear Ron Gilchrist's story of how one eco-congregation, Fairlie Parish Church, turned a nightmare derelict site into a beautiful, peaceful community mini allotment garden which converts their kitchen scraps into the most delicious and nutritious herbs, salads, fruit and vegetables.

Helensburgh and Lomond is a newly established network. They have already started planning an Eco Day event for the area in June.

Perth at their February meeting the film "The End of Suburbia" was shown about our dependence on oil and the issues this raises with our life-style. The next meeting is on 20th April in North Church.

South Lanarkshire Following the pattern of moving around different network churches to share experiences, the next network meeting will be at St John's Hamilton on 24th February. St John's has been an active eco-congregation for many years and is a third award winner.

George Baird – A Tribute

The death of George Baird on the 18th November, 2009, greatly saddened his Church community, the South Lanarkshire network and also the wider community. He had borne his illness with much courage which brought the admiration of all. George was a key person in encouraging and sustaining the work at St John's, in South Lanarkshire and an able and enthusiastic supporter of Eco-Congregation Scotland nationally.

A son of the Manse, George had been a distinguished Session Clerk of St John's for six years during which time he was instrumental in encouraging the formation church's first eco-congregation committee in 2002, which was also one of the first in Scotland. In later years he was himself an enthusiastic leader in the church's eco work, culminating in the achievement of our third award in August, 2009.

George was very involved in the wider work of the Church, serving with great energy and commitment on Presbytery committees and the World Mission Council of the General Assembly. He was appointed by the World Mission Council as their representative on the Climate Change Project.

In addition, he was closely connected with the Hamilton Churches Drop-in Centre for the homeless and, as a result, became involved in the work of the Scottish Churches Housing Action organisation. We thank God for George and his many gifts, his remarkable organisational skills, his inspiring leadership and distinct talent for making contact with and encouraging people. He was a caring Christian gentleman whose deep faith and devoted service touched the lives of many.

John and Valerie Weir, St Johns, Hamilton

Stirling members of the network have been invited to join the Stirling Presbytery's Carbon Neutral Conference on 20th February. The conference will take place at Bridge of Allan Church and will be an opportunity to see their new church halls that are heated by renewable geothermic energy sources.



Bridge of Allan Church Halls

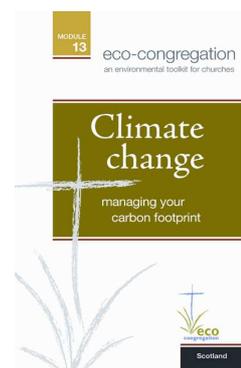
West Lothian and Falkirk met in January to hear Diane Green, Campaigns Officer of Christian Aid Scotland speak about the UN Climate Conference – experience of Copenhagen and thoughts on the outcome. Their next meeting will be on April 20th.

Resources

A Brand New Module 2

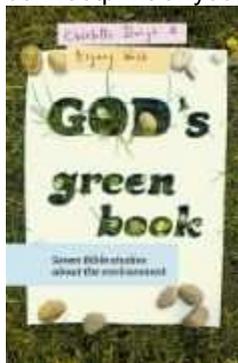
As part of our programme of rewriting all the Eco-Congregation Modules, we are pleased to announce that a completely new version of Module 2 - Celebrating Creation is now available.

Edited by a former Eco-Congregation Co-ordinator, Eleanor Harris, with ideas and resources for worship gathered from many different sources and traditions, you can download it from the website at <http://www.ecocongregation.org/scotland/module2.html>



God's Green Book - Seven Bible Studies About the Environment (99 pp). By Charlotte Sleigh and Bryony Webb. Price £8.99 (paperback). Publisher: SPCK ISBN 978-0-281-06206-5

Do you feel guilty about your carbon footprint or your failure to recycle? Charlotte Sleight and Bryony Webb compare 'Green Guilt' to that guilt which many people expect to be part of our religious life. As Christians, however, we find that experiencing God's love leads us naturally to the desire to lead a better life; in the same way, a deeper appreciation of how God is revealed in creation will bring about changes in how we care for it. The authors also point out that by following the teaching of Jesus and placing less importance on wealth and possessions, we not only reduce consumption of the planet's resources but also free ourselves to focus on the things that really matter. This premise is outlined in the book's Introduction and provides an inspiring reason to read on.



The book is divided into 7 chapters, each with a Bible passage to study, 6 questions for discussion and pointers for prayers. These should be sufficient to keep lively groups busy for an hour. For a more rewarding study, it would be better to continue by exploring the activities suggested in 'Taking it Further' at the end of each chapter. These include ideas for practical action, creative reflection, and further Bible study. There are facts and figures (Q. - how many people in the world are classed as 'chronically hungry'? A. = 1 billion). There is also a section called 'Knotty Questions' which attempts to cover those inevitable difficult areas such as 'Is climate change real?' and 'Surely my contribution is insignificant?' These are followed up with useful (mostly web-based) resources.

For new Eco-Congregations, especially, the practical activities would provide an exciting introduction to creation care. Included in these are guerrilla gardening, litter picking, measuring your carbon footprint, 'What Would Jesus Eat?' and a 'Buy Nothing' period.

The book could be used with groups of all ages and adapted according to time and facilities available. There is more than enough material to spread a chapter over two separate studies.

It is not a book for those who want to rest on their laurels. The authors aim 'not just to change your actions but to change your whole understanding of the Gospel in relation to the environment'. Buy it for your church, find someone to lead the studies, and prepare to be challenged!

Alison Boyes, Dunscore Parish Church

Don't forget the Eco-Congregation library! You can borrow this and many other books from the Eco-Congregation library for the cost of the postage. If you are interested in finding out more about the library or would like to borrow a book, please contact: aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk

Tearfund's Carbon Fast 2010

The Carbon Fast takes place during Lent – from 17 Feb. It provides simple prayers and practical actions to help people respond to climate change by reducing their emissions and focusing on poor people hit hardest by the changing climate. It's a great way for people to start responding to the issue of climate change as many of the actions are very simple and may well be things they are already doing.

www.tearfund.org/

Species of the Day

This website: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/species-of-the-day> has been launched to coincide with the International Year of Biodiversity. For each day of 2010 a different species will be featured. The 365 species selected will represent the entire range of groups and cover all regions, with each daily factsheet providing information on the threats to their existence. It will start by featuring some better known species, including Polar Bear, Hawksbill Turtle and Great White Shark, before moving to cover plants, fungi, invertebrates and more – both charismatic and obscure species will be highlighted, providing an insight into the astonishing level of biodiversity on Earth.

Composting

God made Heaven and Earth then *The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it :Genesis Ch2 V15.*

A growing problem for all of us is the amount of waste we produce, and the amount being sent to landfill. Organic waste rots down in landfills to form methane which is a powerful climate change gas, the effects of which are twenty three times more potent than carbon dioxide. Luckily you can play your part in reducing waste in your own back garden.

WRAP (the Waste & Resources Action Programme) Scotland and the Scottish Government are in



partnership to provide a range of subsidised home compost bins to every household in Scotland. Composting at home diverts waste and produces a wonderful, healthy and free material that you can use all round your garden. You can feed your bin uncooked vegetable and fruit scraps including potato, carrot and sprout peelings, orange peel, banana skins, tea bags and

even the contents of your vacuum cleaner. Garden weeds, grass clippings and paper items such as egg boxes, toilet roll tubes and shredded letters go in too. This will soon turn into rich, healthy compost you can use all round your garden as a mulch and soil improver.

WRAP Scotland in partnership with the Scottish Government offers compost bins for as little as £8, and this includes delivery, full instructions on how to compost and a free kitchen caddy. For more details, and to order your bin visit www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk or ring the order line on 0845 076 0223.

Miriam Adcock WRAP

Eco-Justice



Eco-Justice (www.nccecojustice.org) offers a Lenten Resource for exploring Climate Justice and how it relates to each one of us in our daily lives and communities. Weekly studies focus on how climate change relates to different aspects of society such as Health, Economics, Development, Disaster/Migration, and Food Security and ends with some Holy week reflections on climate justice. If you would like to receive these Lenten reflections and explorations on climate change please email Tyler at tedgar@nccecojustice.org with the subject "Lenten reflections" and your name will be added to the list.

Sustainable Scotland

The Open University is launching a new short course on sustainability and sustainable development in Scotland, starting in May 2010. *Sustainable Scotland* looks into key themes of the sustainability agenda, including how we manage waste, produce and use food, our choice of energy sources, use information technology, and transport issues. The course also considers some less well explored areas including cultural and community sustainability.

This course is taught entirely online. It will appeal to anyone seeking to play a more active and informed role in a sustainable future as well as those who are interested in contemporary Scottish society. No previous qualifications are required to study. For further information visit:

www.openuniversity.co.uk/sustainablesotland

Help needed to Spring Clean Scotland

In April 2009, nearly 60,000 volunteers across the length and breadth of Scotland took part in National Spring Clean. Between us, we gathered enough litter to fill 28,819 standard wheelie bins! But Keep Scotland Beautiful needs your help to recruit even more volunteers for 2010!

If your congregation would like to join in visit www.keepsotlandtidy.org/springclean for full details about how to organise your own event or join with others.

New Operation Noah website

www.operationnoah.org

Updated regularly this site has with news and the resources to make the case for de-carbonising our world – at home, at work, in your church and community. Resources pages include useful [recommended reading](#) ideas, resources for children and a range of [scientific](#) and [church resources](#).

Prayer

How should we then live

God in all and over all and of all,
your creation is a fountain of life
leaping up to the skies,
splashing over the mountains,
running down the valleys to the sea
blessing and nourishing all
Give us wisdom to make good choices
about what we eat and drink
and how we live,
that you may continue to take joy in the land
as a community takes joy in a bride and groom

Other sources of prayers and information for prayers: **Christian Ecology Link prayer guide:** www.christian-ecology.org.uk and follow the links for prayer guide. **Climate Stewards prayer blog** <http://climatestewards.wordpress.com>

Quote

"We are to be bearers of good news for the world that God has made. Not for any one little bit of it, not any one community at the expense of others, not even for humanity at the expense of everything else in the universe. Good news for all of creation. The health of the world around us and our own long-term health are not two things but one. Let us not lose sight of that."
Dr Rowan Williams, speaking at The Wave in London

Dates for your diary

February

- 8 **North West Edinburgh Eco Club: Renewable Energy Foundation talk** by Euan Robson. For further details contact Robin White: rikcon@blueyonder.co.uk
- 12-14 **Christian Ecology Link weekend: 'On the verge of chaos - transitional living in a time of collapse'**. Scarborough, www.christian-ecology.org.uk/scarborough-2010.htm
- 16 **Edinburgh Network: Waste Management** Anita Duffy (Edinburgh City Council, Waste Education Officer). 7.30pm, St Andrew's and St George's Church. Contact: Aniko Schuetz aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk
- 17 **Helensburgh and Lomond Network meeting**, 10.00, St Columba Manse. Contact: Steve Alexander sjmsalex@talktalk.net
- 17 - **Carbon Fast**

- 3 Apr www.tearfund.org/
 20 **Stirling Network: Carbon Neutral Conference**, by kind invitation of Stirling Presbytery, 9.45 – 16.00, Bridge of Allan Church Halls. Contact Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton sallyfulton01@gmail.com
- 22 – Fair Trade Fortnight
 7 Mar <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>
 March
- 15 **Glasgow Network: Fairlie Community Garden** Ron Gilchrist, Wellington Church, 7.30pm. Contact:
 20 **ANNUAL GATHERING**
 10 – 15.30, A light lunch will be served. Stirling Baptist Church, 67 Murray Place, Stirling, FK8 1AU. To book a place contact: aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk
 22 **World Water Day**
<http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday/flashingdex.html>
 27 **830pm WWF's Earth Hour** see www.wwfscotland.org.uk/earthhour
- April
- 20 **Perth Network meeting**, 7.30pm, North Church. Contact morag_green@yahoo.co.uk
 20 **West Lothian and Falkirk Network meeting** venue and topic tbc . Contact marjmcghie@blueyonder.co.uk
 22 **Earth Day**
<http://ww2.earthday.net/earthday2010>
 26 - **Real Nappy Week**
 2 May <http://www.goreal.org.uk/events/real-nappy-week>
 27 **Edinburgh Network: Climate Change & Carbon Footprint after Copenhagen** - Adrian Shaw (Church of Scotland, Climate Change Officer), 19.30, Morningside United Church. Contact aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk
- May
- 2 **International Dawn Chorus Day**
www.idcd.info
 12 **tbc Stirling Network meeting**, 7.30pm, Balfour Church Hall
 17 – 21 **Summer Walk to School Week**
<http://www.walktoschool.org.uk/>
 15 **A Rocha the International Year of Biodiversity Workshop** 10.30 to 16.00, Riverside Church, Perth. Come and find out how to take action. Admission free. For more information please contact Victoria.Deschampsneufs@arocha.org.
 15 -23 **Scottish Biodiversity Week**
<http://www.snh.org.uk/scottish/2010yearofbiodiversity.asp>
- June
- 5 **World Environment Day**
www.unep.org/wed/2009/english
 20 **Helensburgh and Lomond Network: Eco Day** Contact: Steve Alexander sjmsalex@talktalk.net

- 21 **Edinburgh Network: The Year of Biodiversity**, 7.30pm at the Botanic Gardens. Contact aschuetz@cofscotland.org.uk

- July
- 23 - **Big Tent Festival, Falkland, Fife**
 25 www.bigtentfestival.co.uk

Keep in touch!

For environmental and financial reasons the main circulation of the newsletter is now by email. Please ensure you keep us informed of any changes to your email address. Registered churches still receive a copy by post but let us know if you would prefer email – it's in colour, and you can forward it on to your green team. We welcome new recipients of the newsletter. If it has been forwarded to you, email ecocongregation@srtf.org.uk to receive future issues.

Register your church

Registering on the Eco-Congregation programme is easy and free. It gives your church access to free resources, the chance to be part of a local network, and to work towards an Eco-Congregation Award. It's easy to register, contact us for a form or visit www.ecocongregation.org/scotland

To enquire about the programme and request an introduction pack contact:

Anikó Schuetz

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Adrian Shaw

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 Email: ashaw@cofscotland.org.uk
 Address as above for Anikó Schuetz

Website: www.ecocongregation.org/scotland

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