

Green Shoots and Lots to Do...

– Small steps to help alleviate climate change.



‘What can we do?’ we said to each other. We had already switched to Green Energy and put solar panels on the part of our roof that best caught the sun. Every small step helps; ‘what more?’ we asked. We decided to find out by arranging an eco-audit.

The audit covered energy use, heating, gas and electricity water, waste management, car use and

there were even a few suggestions for the garden. Donnachadh McCarthy lived what he was trying to help others to live. ‘Be the change you want to see’ he advised, when I started to complain about government cuts to renewables.



Anyhow as a result of his visit, which lasted a good 2 hours, we have a long list of small things that could be done in the house and outside. We could get a water meter and install water butts for at least some of the downpipes outside. Inside we need to sort our heating use so we are not heating unoccupied spaces, we could install reflectors behind the radiators so heat does not escape through the walls of the house, we could cover

keyholes and put draught strip insulation on outside doors to lessen draughts, we could put a balloon up the chimney in the community room as a lot of the heating goes up the chimney.... and there were other ideas too, on modes of transport, waste management, diet and even ethical investments.

It is a great challenge for our time. Change needs to happen at all levels, governmental, local and town councils, all organisations and groups, but it can start with us! Now we just have to set out and do all these small steps.

Sr Jess



We used 3 Acorns Eco-audits. Donnachadh is now spending most of his time on education and auditing charities and bigger groups rather than private houses. www.3acorns.co.uk

The City Bridge Trust provides free eco-audits to London based charities and churches’ Click on the link for details: [Eco-audit](#)