

May 2023



St Vincent's Chaplaincy

ECO NEWS

WE HAVE A WELL!



Amazingly we have raised around 1,400€ for WaterAid. This is sufficient to provide a working well to serve a community. WaterAid trains local people to maintain and repair the wells so they work for the long-term. See <https://us.wateraid.org/campaign/the-wateraid-shop-gifts-that-give-back/c217991>

Your generosity in responding to our recent church appeal, sales of Change for the World water bottles (still some available at 5€), and saving your small change will change the lives of people without clean water. We will endeavour to find out from WaterAid where exactly our donation has been placed. See page 2 for our next charity project.

Silver award

Our application was successful and St Vincent's Chaplaincy has been awarded the A Rocha EcoChurch silver award! Subsequently we heard that Madeira has also been awarded silver so this makes us one of only two chaplaincies in the Archdeaconry to reach silver status. The Algarve is featured in the Spring edition of the European Anglican on-line magazine [European Anglicans: Spring edition - Latest News](#)

Well done everybody. Onwards to gold!



Our next Change the World project

Toilet Twinning



Twinning is an initiative which invites people to 'twin' their own toilet with latrines in poor communities. This is a way of raising funds to enable people in the poorest nations to have clean water and a proper toilet, and to learn about hygiene. Toilet Twinners receive a certificate, containing a photo of the twinned latrine, its location and GPS coordinates.

Toilet Twinning is a charity under Tearfund and was formed in 2010 in response to the global sanitation crisis.

In stable communities, Toilet Twinning works through a model of community mobilisation to create locally owned and locally delivered water and sanitation programmes. Hygiene education is a key focus of Toilet Twinning work.

Without proper toilets and clean water, people are trapped in a vicious cycle:

- They're likely to become sick through sanitation-related diseases
- Illness means they cannot work or farm their land, so they earn less or grow less food
- Children often miss school, because they are sick or because they're busy collecting water
- Girls often drop out of school altogether when they start their periods if there are no toilets or changing rooms
- Parents have to pay for medicines or food, so they may fall into debt
- Women and girls risk being attacked or bitten by snakes as they go to the toilet in the open, especially if the culture dictates that they have to go out at night

Water and sanitation projects enable families to build a toilet, have access to clean water, and to learn about handwashing and other hygiene principles.



Luz Committee have agreed to back Toilet Twinning and it will be proposed at the next Chaplaincy Council meeting that it is adopted as a chaplaincy-wide campaign. For more information: www.toilettwinning.org

*To learn how to use less water in your home toilet, etc.
check out [Toilets - Eco Church \(arocha.org.uk\)](http://Toilets - Eco Church (arocha.org.uk))*

To date we have donated 1,000€ to A Rocha's Reforestation in Peru project and 1,400€ to WaterAid. Keep those jam jars with your small change coming!

Updates

St Vincent's Reforestation project

A Rocha approached Chris and Tricia Wells with the idea of a reforestation project on part of their land. Indigenous trees to be planted and flora and fauna to be monitored over time to assess changes.

A Rocha have conducted an initial survey and set up cameras to monitor existing wildlife.

Watch this space for further information.

Low carbon cookery book



As a chaplaincy we are looking at ways to encourage a reduced carbon lifestyle as part of Christian witness, including eating less meat and choosing more sustainable options. With this in mind we are compiling a Low Carbon Cookery Book (delicious recipes without red meat and dairy free). Recipes are coming in but we still need more! Please send your recipes for inclusion to tricia.d.wells@gmail.com

This idea has been approved by the Archdeacon and is being promoted across the archdeaconry.

Events

Community Walk 11th April

A community nature and dog walk was held on tracks around the village of Pincho. The idea being a time of fellowship and being out in the countryside appreciating the beauty of God's creation. The day was gloriously bright and sunny and 15 people of all ages, including children, and four dogs. Wildflowers were in abundance, the sun shone and the occasion was rounded off with a picnic by the lake at Feiterinha.

It proved so popular that we have already received requests for another walk so watch this space!



Hot off the press...

Funding pours in for plastic cups that self-destruct

A UK is company has been given a further £20 million to develop technology that allows some plastics to break down.

The hope is that it can be used by manufacturing companies so the supply chain remains the same but the end product does not pollute the oceans



Read more: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/f2ab1a30-f104-11ed-aa00-f221246813e4?shareToken=b3f2731dc313abda367e2f035fa990b3>

This company has come up with a cutting-edge way to recycle EV batteries

As the whole of Europe moves towards the energy transition, French mining group Eramet is developing techniques to recycle critical metals used in **electric cars**.

The aim is to reuse metals such as nickel, cobalt and lithium to make new batteries.

It is all part of the effort to stick to The European Parliament's new law **banning the sale of petrol and diesel cars from 2035**.

[This company has come up with a cutting-edge way to recycle EV batteries | Euronews](#)



Tricia Wells
Chaplaincy Environmental Officer (LEO)
969 475 158 tricia.d.wells@gmail.com