

Overview of progress on the Church of England Environment Programme

A briefing for the joint DAC/DEO conferences, Sep 2020



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Rt Rev Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury

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Mission and Public Affairs

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Cathedral and Church Buildings Division



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The context for
everything we're
discussing today:
the climate crisis

Underpinning all our work: the 5th Mark of Mission

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
To respond to human need by loving service
To transform unjust structures of society,
to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
**To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation,
and sustain and renew the life of the earth**

Proclaim

Nurture

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Environment Programme

Transform

We aim to support, encourage, and enable the whole Church to pray, speak and act prophetically on environmental issues, which threaten the flourishing of the whole of creation

Love

Renew

www.churchofengland.org/environment

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Looking back: progress since the last conference

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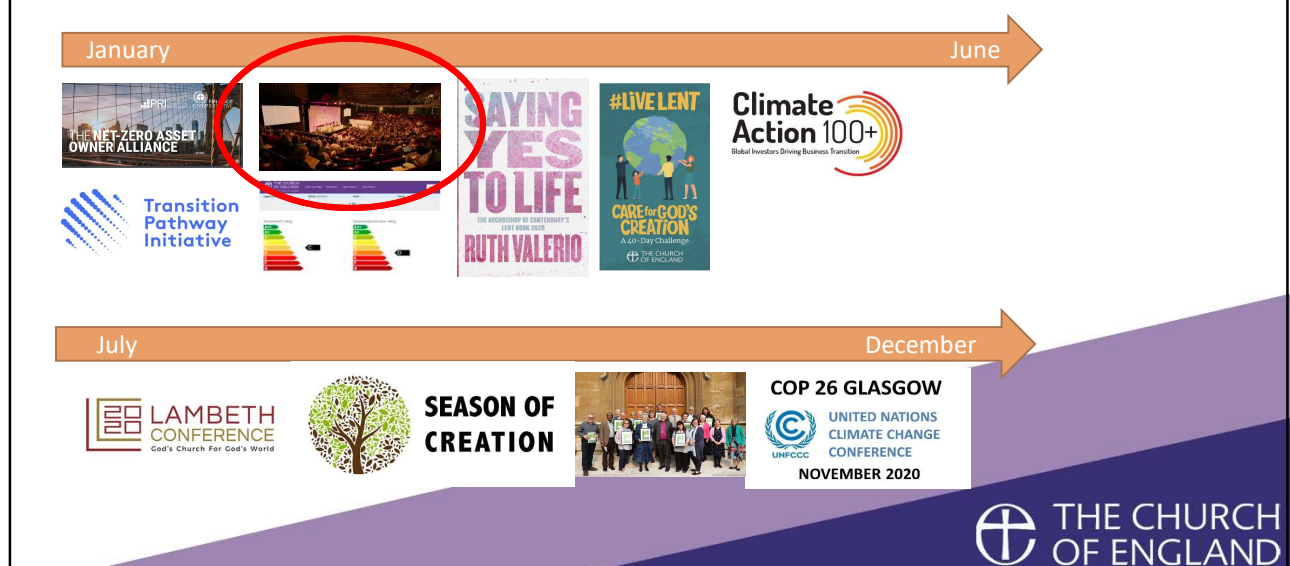
Back in February, this is how we saw the year ahead



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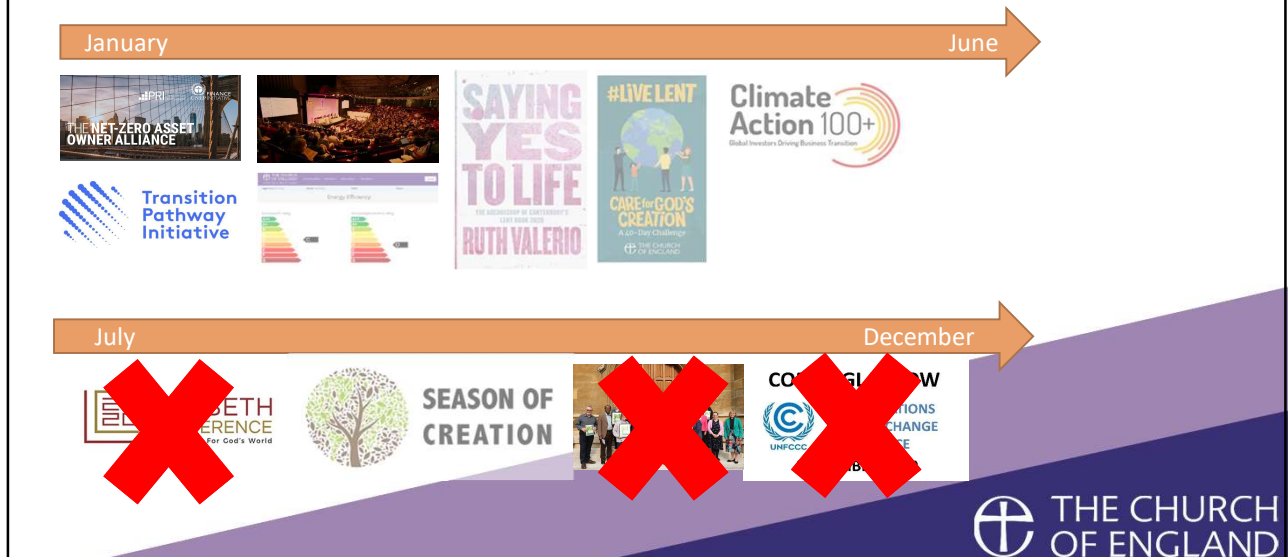
But then.....

(1) The Synod motion to “Plan for Net Zero by 2030”



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(2) A global pandemic postponed key events and overshadowed others



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CHURCH TIMES

Home UK World Comment Features Faith Books & Arts Regulars

February General Synod motion: net zero by 2045 2030

Ten years to be net-zero, after Synod rips up original target

by ADAM BECKET
12 FEBRUARY 2020

Item 010
GENERAL SYNOD

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GEORGE CRAWFORD/CHURCH TIMES

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National progress on 'net zero' since then:

- Definition of “net zero” has been written, and national consultation carried out.
- Energy Footprint Tool launched and used by 3000 churches.
- Analysis of our energy audit programme carried out.
- Guidance issued on “Practical Path to Net Zero”, energy efficiency, and heating principles.
- Growing clarity over prioritisation on **heating** and on **highest energy-use buildings**.
- Net Zero Carbon webinar programme created.



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[cont.] National progress on 'net zero' since then:

- CCB and CFCE issued a joint statement on sustainability.
- QI inspection framework updated.
- Engagement meetings with Historic England and Amenity Societies.
- Discussion begun with the Dean of Arches about faculty rules.
- Energy Audit programme for 2020/21 open.



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National progress on the broader Env. Programme:

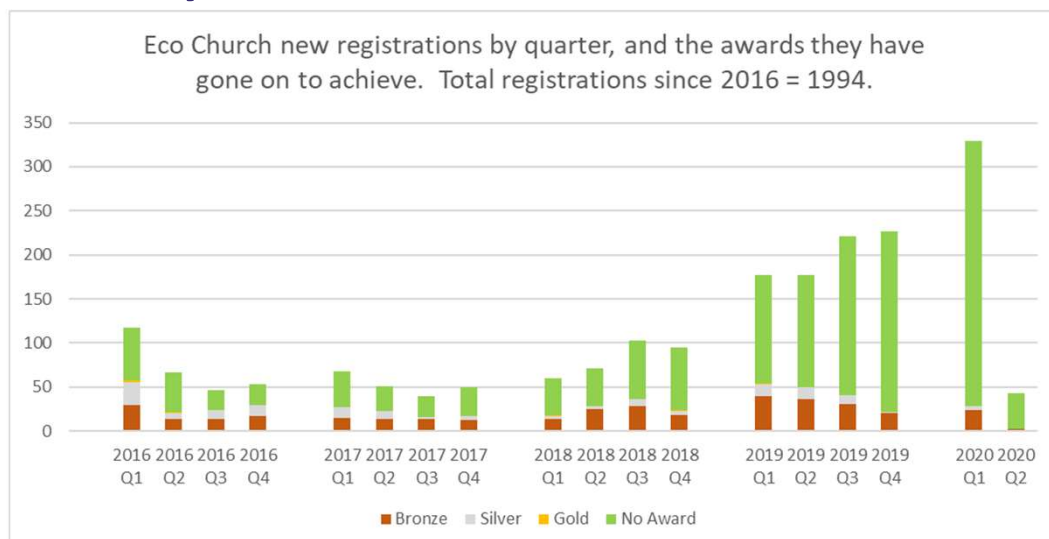
- (Although somewhat overshadowed) the national Lent campaign.
- Climate Sunday, Season of Creation, and Letters for Creation supported.
- Biodiversity fields being built into the Church Heritage Record.
- Contributed to government consultations on a “Green Post-COVID Recovery” and Environmental Land Management Scheme.
- CCLA launched a fossil-fuel-free fund.
- ‘A Time for Creation’ liturgical resource published.



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Now nearly 2000 Eco Churches and 24 Eco Dioceses.



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Looking : forward

Looking ahead. Just some of the priorities

- A clear and engaging theology linking emissions and creation care.
- Ensuring a strong faith voice at the international climate conference COP26.
- Developing measures of net zero and the whole-life carbon of building projects.
- Identifying sources of funding
- National guidance on heating, renewables, offsetting, and more.
- The 2020/21 energy audit programme
- Better understanding how to manage our land for climate & nature.
- Inputting to the consultation on Planning Reform.
- Lobbying on the Environment Bill.
- Engagement of all kinds
- EcoChurch

Thank you to *everyone* – DEOs, DAC colleagues, and all others - who have contributed to our progress in the last year.



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