

Solar Panels at St. Aldhelm's, Edmonton

My name is David Bolster, I am the vicar of St. Aldhelm's Church in Edmonton. We are a majority African, Caribbean and migrant workers in our church. We installed solar panels in our three south facing church hall roofs, hoping it will be a lead to the local community here. When they go into the church hall they will see educational displays which say why we have put up solar panels and which will encourage everybody to actually think about what they can do for the environment.

I am very in to recycling. I think about it every day and I am sure that at times I overdo things because I put things in that the council doesn't want to collect, but I am learning and I am very very keen to learn more about how we can save the environment.

I think the church must take a lead and not be waiting for government to make initiatives. After all the world as we believe has been created by God and is sustained by God and we know that God must be concerned about what we are doing with the world that He has created.

Good morning, David. As you can see we are not producing too much this morning, it is not sunny. The idea was born out of the fact that the hall itself was actually far too hot. We had glass lights on either side of the hall and during the summer it would heat up like a greenhouse. I was looking for a way to air-condition the place or cool it down to make it more comfortable. With just a bit of 'out of the box thinking', I thought why don't we try to harness this energy in some way, shape or form.

There are many churches who are probably right now thinking 'we need to re-roof the church' and why not re-roof it with solar panels. In God's terms, it has got to be a winner.