

# Bradford and Dales Green Fund

At last! A chance to do something about carbon emissions and to help the Diocese become more green! Bradford Diocese has set up its own Green Fund, to help churches reduce their carbon footprint.

If you fly anywhere, or travel by car instead of using public transport, now you have the opportunity to help offset your carbon emissions, by contributing to the Bradford and Dales Green Fund. Grants will then be made from the fund to churches who want to reduce their carbon footprint, for example by buying low-energy lightbulbs, improving the insulation of church-owned buildings, or investing in renewable energy sources. (For further suggestions see overleaf). The fund will be managed by a small team, with oversight from the Bradford Diocese Earth Care group.

How will the fund work?

The fund will accumulate from the carbon offset contributions and the energy efficiency light bulb ordering scheme.

Initial grants will be moderate until the scheme is fully developed.

Remember that the success of the fund is dependant on an enthusiastic response!

Applications should be primarily for schemes that result in a reduction in energy use and the associated carbon dioxide, such as:

- Loft insulation
- Cavity wall insulation
- Double (or treble !) glazing
- Draught proofing
- Passive solar heating
- Thermal solar panels for hot water
- Solar panels for electricity production
- Small scale wind turbines
- Replacement boilers
- Microgeneration boiler systems

The list is not exclusive and schemes that improve the biodiversity of external areas, or reduce the surface run off of rain water, by collecting it from the roof or through permeable surfaces for example, will be considered as will other ideas that have an environmental benefit.

Voluntary contributions of 1p per mile travelled are suggested, either for individual journeys, or you may wish to cover a year's car travel all in one go, e.g. £100 for 10,000 miles per annum.

Cheques should be made payable to B.D.B.F (Green Fund) and sent to B.D.B.F., Kadugli House, Elmsley Street, Steeton, Keighley, BD20 6SE. Alternatively, you can telephone for account details and pay by internet transfer, Tel 01535 650555. If you can also Gift Aid your contribution, please fill in and send the form below.

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**Bradford and Dales Green Fund**

I wish to contribute £\_\_\_\_\_ to the Bradford and Dales Green Fund. I am a UK taxpayer

I, (First and other Names): \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address and Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Wish to declare that all donations I have made to BDBF(Green Fund) and that I will make to this fund shall be treated as Gift Aid donations. Please reclaim tax on my donations.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Sustainable Transport throughout the year**

As Christians we should be concerned about the rightness of our actions and about the effect of these on the quality of life for other people. Our concerns must include those 30% of households in Britain which do not have access to a car for whatever reason.

Our decisions about transport ARE part of our Christian responsibility to simplify our lifestyles as good stewards of God's creation, standing against

- the wasting of resources
- the dire effects of pollution, including aeroplane pollution
- the disruption of people's lives

How, throughout the year, can we show our Christian responsibility in our travelling? Consider implementing as many of these suggestions as you can.

- Whenever you think of making a journey, ask yourself whether it is really necessary.
- Walk or cycle all journeys of less than a mile, if you can.
- For longer journeys, use the bus or train, and if you need a car, hire it at the other end.
- Organize a car-sharing scheme.
- Check if your church has a cycle-rack as well as a car park.
- Put pressure on your local Council to give priority to people rather than vehicles, through traffic calming schemes, cycle facilities, pedestrian crossings, and lorry restrictions.
- Continue to press the government to give higher priority to an integrated public transport system with simplified ticketing and easily accessible information, and to take firm measures to reduce car and lorry journeys.
- If purchasing a parish or community bus choose one which is fuel efficient. In the future it may be possible to consider buying a gas powered bus which is less polluting.
- If organizing a pilgrimage for a church group use public transport but try to avoid ecologically damaging jet travel.
- When organizing a local church outing also avoid ecologically damaging travel.
- Roll back a piece of asphalt from the church car park and let living trees and plants flourish.
- Find out whether in your denomination the church leader gets an allowance for cycle mileage as well as car mileage.