

# Website Reflections

## Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Sue Wale



### Where is the Climate Crisis now?

Back in January, the headlines on the TV and radio were all about the Climate Crisis, not climate change or global warming, but a full scale Climate Crisis. 2020 was to be the year of climate action, with the UK hosting the UN Climate Conference, to encourage world governments, business organisations, civil society groups, plus creative and cultural organisations to take action to tackle the crisis.

At a national level, the UK became the first country in the world to pass a law to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. At a local level, AFC voted unanimously to become an Eco Church, to encourage us all to care for God's Earth because "The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it" (Psalm 24).

But our priorities are different now. It started with illness and fear, but we are now facing a very difficult financial future as redundancies become more widespread. Is it right to ask people to act now to stop the Climate Crisis when their main focus is on keeping healthy and on having enough money to put food on the table? Even Greta Thunberg has gone back to school.

Well the Climate Crisis hasn't gone away. Although 5 months of reduced industrial output, not driving a car and not flying anywhere has resulted in a dramatic fall in greenhouse gas emissions and in air pollution, the long term impact is "negligible", according to research carried out by Forster et al (2020). This tells me that we should not give up, as every little helps, as they say. Have a look at the Eco Church section of the church website, or the church notice board, as there are lots of things that we can do as individuals to play our part in caring for God's creation. This is the link:

<https://amershamfreechurch.org.uk/ecochurch/>

You can read about how to reduce the waste in our lives and how to save energy (and money too). You can also see pictures of what the Wild Christians at AFC are doing to play their part, so that we can move from a Climate Crisis that looks like this:



To a more balanced world that looks like this:



The Chiltern Society

## References

Forster et al, (7th August 2020), “Current and future global climate impacts resulting from COVID-19”, online at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-020-0883-0>

The Chiltern Society online at  
[https://chilternsociety.org.uk/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIofjcp83H6wIVzOvtCh0fmQSEEAAYASAAEgIydvD\\_BwE](https://chilternsociety.org.uk/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIofjcp83H6wIVzOvtCh0fmQSEEAAYASAAEgIydvD_BwE)