

Carbon Literacy Project in Harrogate Deanery

Four members of the Clergy, the Deanery Secretary and six Parish Environment Officers, all from Harrogate Deanery, recently took part in the Carbon Literacy Course at St Mark's Church, Harrogate. The teaching was given by Rosalind Cooper, Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Programme Manager, over two very full and interesting mornings.

The [Carbon Literacy Project](#) offers teaching on climate change, carbon footprints, and on why the subject of carbon emissions is relevant to each of us and to our workplaces - in this case to our church congregations. Thousands of citizens in 47 countries have now gone through this training and become 'Certified Carbon Literate'; and it is estimated that through the two pledges required at the end of the course, and the resulting behaviour change and influence on the person's entourage, 560,000 tons of carbon have been saved to date.

"I didn't realise, until doing the course, that our climate was in such dire straits...Yet at the same time, the course was fun and engaging. I feel hugely empowered to go out and tackle the climate crisis," commented one participant. *"Writing out my two pledges after the course has helped me apply what I've learned and think creatively and positively about carbon reduction,"* added another. The course certainly makes you think carefully about day-to-day life in its various details, as demonstrated by Rosalind in her transport choice: train and low carbon shuttle service between her home, workplace, and St Mark's Church.

