

Chaddesley cares about Planet Earth

Sadly the UK has one of the worst records for recycling, and yet 81% believe we ought to recycle. Only 7% of our plastic and 27% of our household waste is recycled. Compare that latter figure with 65% in Austria and the Netherlands.

Here's another ghastly figure – it is estimated that over 17 billion plastic bags are given away by supermarkets each year. That is nearly one a day for each of us! But look at who has banned their use – Bangladesh, Ireland, India, Papua New Guinea, and South Africa to name but a few.

The least we can do is to start by recycling the plastic bags we have already, while we think of ways of doing without altogether.

Some more simple tips, which are obvious when you see them written down but are not things of which we necessarily think!

- Leaving the room? – turn off the lights
- Fill the kettle with only as much water as you need, or buy an Eco Kettle which measures for you
- Try to do as much shopping as you can in one trip to cut out unnecessary extra journeys
- Hang out the washing, rather than automatically using the tumble dryer (in the summer at least)
- Check the central heating timer, so that you are not heating the house for long periods when no one is there

Martin Kenrick

For the Working Group set up by the Parish Council