



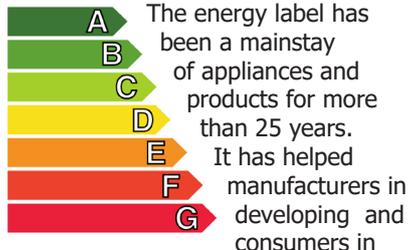
# MESS news

## Marple, Mellor & Marple Bridge Energy Saving Strategy

An opportunity to face and plan, together as a community, the challenges that Climate Change brings

May 2021

### New Energy Labels



The energy label has been a mainstay of appliances and products for more than 25 years. It has helped manufacturers in developing and consumers in choosing energy efficient products. Due to increased demand for more environmentally friendly options, the energy that products use has gradually been reducing. This means that the labelling scheme - ranging from A+++ to G - has become confused with most modern products in multiple A '+' categories. The label has therefore been revised and simplified using A to G and a QR code to access useful, up to date product information. From March 2021, the new labels will be on the following five product groups: household refrigerators and freezers, washing machines and wash-dryers, dishwashers, TVs and electronic displays, light sources. Other product groups like air conditioners, tumble dryers, space and water heaters etc. will have the new labels as soon as new or revised UK regulations come into force.

<https://energylabel.org.uk/the-new-label/in-a-nutshell/>

### MESS Meetings



MESS meets every 2nd Monday of the month on Zoom. Please contact [marplemess@gmail.com](mailto:marplemess@gmail.com) for details of how to join our next meeting.

**Upcoming meetings:**  
10th May, 14th June, 12th July

### Contact Us

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### Invest in the Future - Invest in a Pioneering Farm

Would you like to invest in a farm pioneering the most ecological farming methods? The Kindling Trust is establishing a farm just west of Manchester based on agroforestry principles. See <http://marplemess.org.uk/articles>.

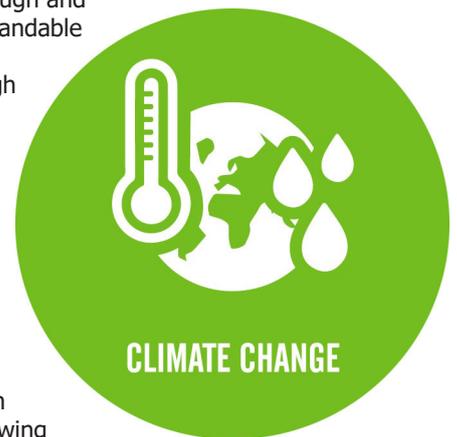


This will be a place to support a new generation of farmers, to increase access to organic veg for all and to encourage and support others to create social change in their own communities. Between 3rd April and 3rd July 2021 you can buy a share in the Kindling Farm by investing in the community share offer. Whether you are new to community shares or a seasoned investor, this community share offer is a unique opportunity to invest in the future of food and farming. You can invest from £200. You can request up to 3% return p.a. on your investment. You must invest before Saturday 3rd July 2021.

<https://kindling.org.uk/InvestFarm>

### You, Me and Climate Change

You'll agree that we are going through a tough and testing time right now. It would be understandable to think that we have never experienced anything like this before. The truth is though that the human race has been through multiple devastating episodes in our existence going back at least 300,000 years. Going back just 11,000 years, humans had to cope with an ice age. But please note that the difference in average, annual global temperature between then and the turn of the 21st century was only about 5 degrees C. So a difference of only 5°C can have an immense effect on the planet. The European Earth observation programme, Copernicus, released data showing that 2020 was the joint hottest year on record when the average temperature for that year rose by 0.6°C above the 1981 – 2010 average. The plain truth behind these changes is that the world will experience effects at least and probably more catastrophic than the current pandemic.



We must not be complacent about climate change. It WILL affect us all. But how will climate change affect us here in Marple, you may ask? An article released onto the MESS website describes a number of ways in which climate change will affect us here including effects on our weather, wildlife, agriculture, health, homes and lifestyle, infrastructure, human migration and the relevance of personal equity. Please read the article to find out more.

<http://marplemess.org.uk/articles>

## Air Pollution

Poor air quality is one of the biggest public health issues facing this



country, and air pollution particularly affects children, as their lungs are still developing. Research shows that around 60% of pollution that children breathe, is during the school run, and part of this problem is due to cars being left with their engines running, or 'idling', at drop off or pick up times.

Engine idling:

- increases the amount of polluting emissions (more than a moving car )
- increases risks of heart and lung diseases (160,000 deaths a year)
- increases noise & air pollution
- wastes fuel & wastes money!
- damages engine components
- is illegal (drivers can be fined!)

Here at MESS, we are keen to tackle the problem of air pollution, by creating 'Clean Air Zones' around all the schools in our area. We have asked local children to design posters encouraging parents to turn off their engines, when picking up or dropping off, on the school run. We will be asking schools, and those living nearby, to re-enforce this message, and display these posters, and ultimately improve the air quality for everyone both visiting and living in the area.

## 10 Common Myths

### Stopping & starting my engine causes more pollution than idling!

Fact: Keeping your engine idling for more than one minute causes more pollution and uses more fuel. An idling engine produces up to twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion, and an idling car can fill up 150 balloons with harmful emissions every minute.

### My engine needs to stay on to keep the battery fully charged!

Fact: Modern batteries need less engine running time to work and don't need the engine on constantly to keep them charged.

### Turning my engine off and on wears it out!

Fact: Idling dirties your engine with incomplete combustion increases wear and tear on your engine.

### Catalytic converters need to be hot to work properly.

Fact: Yes, but an idling engine does not keep a catalytic convertor warm. They retain their heat for about 25 minutes after an engine is switched off.

### I need to keep me and my car warm!

Fact: It can take up to an hour for an engine to cool down. Turning off your engine but keeping the ignition on and the fan blowing, will provide warm air for some time.

### It's cheaper to keep my car running than turning it off and on again!

Fact: - Keeping an engine running costs more than you think – 5-8% of fuel use occurs while idling.

### It's better to be inside the car than out of it - it protects me from fumes

Fact: - Air quality inside cars can be up to twice as worse than outside ( even worse in winter).

### It's not illegal to idle

Fact: - It is, and you can be fined up to £80!

### Idling doesn't damage people's health

Fact: - It does! Vehicles idling emit up to twice as much pollutants those in motion. Reducing air pollution can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent asthma cases.

## Finding and Buying Environmentally Friendly Stuff



In our local shops, and when buying on the internet, it can be difficult to find food, clothes, household goods etc that are environmentally friendly. So if you want to browse and buy stuff that is all environmentally friendly, have a look at an article written by Judith Shiel, a MESS member. In it she provides numerous links to websites providing such goods, there is actually a lot of environmentally based shops out there.

<http://marplemess.org.uk/articles>

## Green Homes Grant Scheme Scrapped

Just over six months after its launch last September. £1.5bn programme, which offered households grants of up to £5,000 or £10,000 to put in insulation or low-carbon heating has struggled since launch. Builders complained of excessive red tape in registering for the scheme, while households found it difficult to access. A US company was awarded the contract to administer the grants, but a Guardian newspaper investigation found numerous people unable to get a response. Many people were given conflicting advice, while builders have complained that heat pump installations in particular have been stymied by the rules. People who have had their applications for vouchers under the scheme accepted will receive any money owed, but no new applications will now be accepted.



The UK is now without a plan for tackling one of the biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions. Heating the UK's draughty homes makes up about 14% of the country's carbon emissions, according to the Committee on Climate Change, and successive efforts to tackle the problem have run into problems. The failure of the green homes grant follows the abandonment in 2015 of the previous scheme, the green deal loan scheme. Scrapping the green homes grants leaves the 20m households on moderate incomes without any government help to undertake the improvements necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



## Thermal Imaging

Due to the pandemic, we are currently unable to undertake thermal imaging surveys. However, if you would like to add your name to our waiting list, then please contact us on: [marplemess@gmail.com](mailto:marplemess@gmail.com)