

Chaddesley cares about Planet Earth

We have discovered that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds sells used stamps to fund its programme to help save albatrosses from long line fishing, and Gillian Finch collects stamps for a horse charity. So that is a good use for all those used stamps. Please take them to Richard in the Post Office where he has set up collection boxes.

Keep sharing your ideas, please.

Now, I have been doing some research , to see if I could resolve the “plastic versus paper” bag confusion.; If you take everything into account – from cradle to grave, so to speak – you have to consider the sourcing costs, the production costs, subsequent usage and the cost of recycling or dumping, or whatever at the end of the cycle. Costs should include energy used in manufacture, transport, storage, as well as, in the case of paper, the loss of tree stock and the impact that has on the environment.

Outcome? – Well it seems that there is general agreement that a paper bag actually costs more than plastic one! However, all of the research that I have seen assumes that both go into landfill at the end of their lives and that they do not degrade much when there. No account is taken of the plastic waste in the sea or our food chain. No account is taken of the fact that paper does break down if composted.

Everyone agrees that the right message is “Re-usability” – that is, get or make a decent bag (string, jute, or natural fibre) and use it time and time again, to avoid needing a plastic or paper bag.

The butcher has jute bags for sale and there is a variety of string bags available mail order (ask Richard to find the source on his PO computer for you).

So it's re-use, re-use, and re-use!!

Martin J Kenrick

for the Parish working group