

# ARDINGLY SOLAR

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF THE NEW ARDINGLY SOLAR NEWSLETTER. WE HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT BOTH INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE!

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## WHO ARE WE, WHAT DO WE DO?

Ardingly Solar is a collaborative project between two colleges, Ardingly College and Ifield Community College (ICC). The project initially started in 2009, with Ifield Community College joining the project later in early 2019. This collaboration has created 2 solar-powered cars, which have traveled and raced across the globe, most nobly at the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge. The project is under the patronage of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and has assistance from 24 companies & institutions including: Autodesk, Andy Robinson, Antalya, Blue Lizard, Brighton University, Cirius Laser, Cobra, Cordek, Curely Mouldings, E. J. Owen, Frogstar Batteries, Ilovemeetandgreet, IMI, Lincoln Binns, McLaren, Qualitetch, Solbian, Surrey University, Tracmaster, Time24, VISA, Warwick Manufacturing Group and White Ellerton.

As this is our first issue, we thought we should introduce ourselves!

- We are based in a small shed on Ardingly grounds!
- In 2015, Ardingly College was the first school in Europe to take part in the 3000km Bridgestone World Solar Challenge across Australia and were joined by BBC Newsbeat. The team then returned to the event in 2019 with a new and improved car, this time accompanied by ICC.
- Ardingly Solar (Ardingly College and ICC) was shortlisted for Science, Technology and Engineering Team of the Year 2019 at the TES Awards.
- The founder of Ardingly Solar is Dr Andrew Spiers. Dr Spiers was awarded an MBE in 2018 for his services to education. His award was presented to by Prince Charles.

### WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

*Brief introduction to the team, our plans and how we are battling lockdown!*





## LATEST NEWS - CURRENT AND CONTINUING WORK

Throughout lockdown members of Ardingly Solar have stayed in contact and we've been hard at work. We are not letting the pandemic put the team down and not let it affect the project too much! Zoom has helped us a lot through lockdown. Every Saturday and Wednesday we meet virtually to share our progress and receive more work. There are many emails sent between members too. The pandemic has obviously affected us as we can't physically work on the car, but we have been doing work online. We've been conducting online research and using programs such as Fusion 360 to design parts for the car.

## AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TEAM

As young people, the issue of climate change and global warming is incredibly worrying. This is why being at the forefront of environmentally friendly innovation is incredibly important to us. Whilst the outbreak of COVID-19 has put a temporary stop in the construction of our new flat-pack car, it has really made clear just how essential it is to develop alternative methods of powering transport, as without our detrimental habits, such as fossil fuel usage, we've been able to see how the world could flourish without our harmful actions. We've been able to have a glimpse at what the world could be like without our harmful actions so why would we want to go back to how it was before?

## FOCUS ON...

Before school had to take an unexpected break, students presented to The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) and to Gatwick Diamond. One of the students, Molly Morgan, had this to say about her experience with the talks.

"It's quite nerve wracking doing any sort of public speaking, but especially when it's to people in an industry like this where they're frequently given talks, as you have to live up to a sort of standard, even as a teenager. I feel we did this quite well though, as the team covered all bases in the speech, as we spoke about previous and future projects, the body of the car, the Albi Eco Race, which Josh and I spoke about, and more. Overall, I think we gave them a well-rounded insight into what we can achieve as a team in such a short time partnered together."

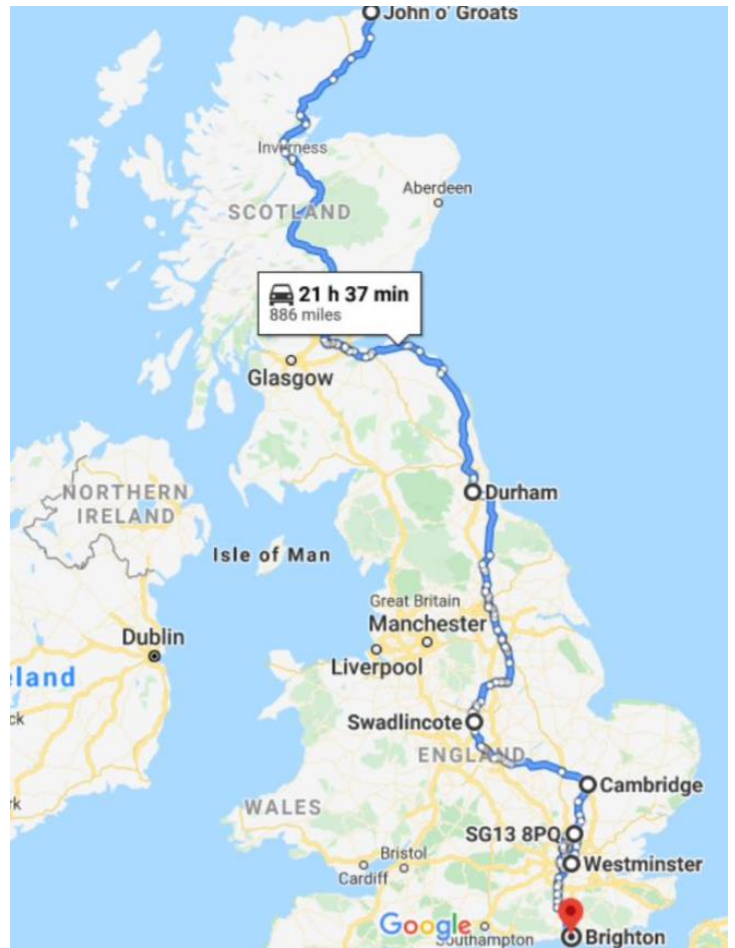


## FUTURE PLANS

In the immediate future, we hope to complete our planned trip across the length of the country, in collaboration with the IMI and on behalf of their charity BEN.

The coast-to-coast journey is all about raising awareness for environmentally friendly transport, and from recent worldly events we have seen what a huge impact fossil fuels have on the environment, so to highlight these issues in our trip, we may provoke a change.

The current dates are 9th – 19th August, but please stay tuned for more information.



## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

We are always looking for more support. If you are interested in getting involved, get in contact.



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