

FROM ROOFERS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PIONEERS



This is a guest post by [Ploughcroft Renewables](#). Ploughcroft is a multi-award winning renewable energy company established in 1997.

Being the leading renewable energy company in the United Kingdom is no easy task; despite this, Ploughcroft Renewables have recently stretched forth their charitable hand and have been pledging aid and support to local charities in the Yorkshire area.

Established in 1996, [Ploughcroft](#) began as a roofing company with father and son, Bill and Chris Hopkins. Before long, they duo began looking into renewable energy and training new roofers and electricians into the industry.

By 2004, ownership became solely in the hands of Chris Hopkins as he set up the Ploughcroft Renewable Training Centre which is a place of learning not only for Ploughcroft employees, but also of those who work for their closest competitors.

Since then the company has gone from strength to strength, even appearing (and winning) Dragons Den in 2011, where the company received a £120,000 cash sum from Deborah Meaden and Theo Paphitis.

Thanks to their success, the company are now in a position where they are able to help out those in need and work with the local area into creating a better environment for everyone.

This care giving started back in Easter when MD, Chris Hopkins, donated over one hundred Easter eggs to [children's charity, Forget Me Not](#). After pledging to members of staff one morning, Chris was inundated with easter eggs from the Ploughcroft team, visitors, and even customers; some of whom brought in over twenty eggs each.

Forget Me Not is a children's hospice that supports children with life limiting medical conditions throughout the Huddersfield area. With less than 4% funding from the government, more than £2.5million is needed over the next year in order to keep the hospice open.

Ploughcroft have therefore recently released their own 'care bear' cuddly friends, which they sell at every conference and show in aid of the charity.

Besides helping poorly children, Ploughcroft have also recently [teamed up with Zero Carbon World](#), a charity that aims to totally decarbonise the environment in which we live. To help bring this to fruition, the charity are giving away 1000 electric vehicle ports to businesses within the hotel and leisure industry. As part of this brilliant idea, Ploughcroft have pledged to install them for the businesses, helping give away at least 20-40 EV ports every week. Upon working with Ploughcroft, Charles Roberts of Zero Carbon world had this to say:

“Large organisations have been making the same mistakes for decades and we are using this opportunity to do something different. We want to change the way we do business.”

If that wasn't enough, Ploughcroft have also offered a **renewable energy system to Leeds Community Foundation**, who work to improve the homes and communities of people living in Leeds. Currently, there are 27,000 families living in Leeds without a place to call 'home'. In recognition of this cause, Ploughcroft have offered the system on behalf of the charity. If accepted, the system could not only make that little bit of difference to the Leeds area, but also the global environment as a whole.

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