



HUNGERFORD ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTION TEAM

# HUNGERFORD ENERGY

*Bringing the Latest Home Energy Stories to You*

# NEWS

## SOUTH SPECIFIC?

A due-south facing, 30+ degree pitched roof, clear of chimneys, dormer windows or other shading, is the holy grail of renewable solar energy. South is the optimum for direct sunshine all year round, and the 30°+ angle gives the best balance between the sun's high summer and low winter paths.

So, when Edward Marshall and his family set about the complete rebuilding of their 4-bedroom detached Hungerford home with just such a perfect roof slope, they made full use of it with 14 PV solar panels to generate electricity and 2 thermal solar panels to provide most of their hot water.

*"We wanted as much of our generated electricity as possible to be used in the house or for charging our electric car so we added a Powerwall battery to keep things running after sunset."*

*"We were clear from the start of our project that we wanted to 'do our bit' for the environment whilst keeping our energy bills as low as possible. At the same time, we also made sure we incorporated all the necessary insulation and good quality double-glazing to minimise our heat losses."*

Edward's expectation was that the cost of their renewable



energy systems would be recouped over 10

years and after 5 years this is well on track. Rapidly increasing electricity and gas tariffs will speed up their return though. Edward suggests "Particularly with a solar thermal system regular checks and maintenance is advised, and make sure you get good documentation from the installer."