Double Glaze Matters

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The Virus

There are a lot of bad outcomes from the virus. Tonight on TV it was swimming schools closing and the long term risk of children drowning because they couldn't learn to swim. But there are some silver linings.

The world is seeing the reduction in city pollution now that car travel is reduced. People are finding that a slower life style has its benefits and the pursuit of money and growth is not everything.

Araluen Solar Panels

Energy This Month = 2.0 Mwh = $300

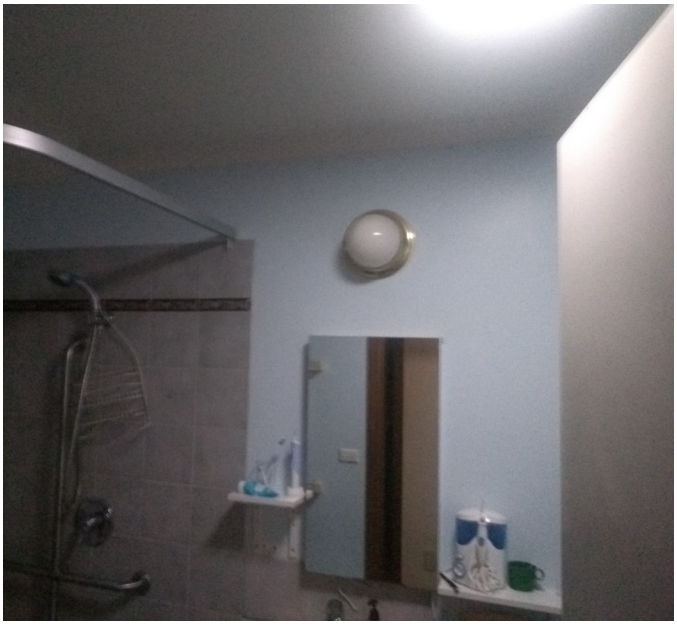
Total Energy =83 Mwh = $12,600

We can hope that it is not quickly forgotten after we come out of lockdown but I am sceptical.

It would be great if we learn from the experience and rather than "Bounce Back" from the virus, lets "Bounce Forward"

Franciscus Henri's contribution

Skylights



Bathroom, even when overcast

I have long thought that skylights are no longer worthwhile. When you needed a 60 watt light globe to light an area, a skylight seemed a good idea. Now that you only need a 10 watt LED, it needs to be rethought.

Also, when you look at the heat loss through a skylight it is around 30 watts compared to 10 watts for an insulated ceiling. Heat gain in summer is even higher. Of course if you place a sheet of glass (or a double glazed unit) at the ceiling level, performance is improved.

I have an internal bathroom that had two skylights. I had problems with them leaking in the rain so I decided to take them out and install a solar panel and light. I first just used a 20 watt solar panel and a string of LEDS. It worked well, but didn't look very good, so I bought a pinnacle solar light for $200.

I have installed it and it seems to do a pretty good job. And it is far cheaper than a skylight.

Of course if you looking at a cheap option you would just install a 9 watt LED and drive it from the mains. Total cost to run it would be $25 a year. If you had it on a timer and only used it during the day, the cost would come down to $10 a year. If you are worried by the environmental impact, you just install an extra 100 watts of solar panels (approx. $100) and that will provide more than enough power for the light