**Something for the weekend....Action #27: What to do about white goods**

It's not uncommon to see an old washing machine nestled among other items in a fly tipping spot...dumped, or otherwise, waiting to be disposed of outside someone's house.

*"The average UK household spends £800 a year on household electrical items, and as a country, annually, we throw away 1.4 million tonnes of waste electrical and electronic equipment". (WEEE, 2018)*

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Locally, Millhams Community Recycling Centre accept old domestic appliances. If you can't make it there, there are plenty of local, licensed businesses to contact for assistance; or arrange collection via [BCP Council](https://www.facebook.com/MyBCPCouncil/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAQpyovQMHZRlAWK3j9tEfyusCgp6hccdJyN76xEF8Fq9OWPwEWSACm2tvm9057GASh1wSP0HNex0xc&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) ([https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/BinsRecycling/BinCollections/WhiteGoodsTVsAndFurniture.aspx](https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/BinsRecycling/BinCollections/WhiteGoodsTVsAndFurniture.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1AS9WfHOYyrk4CJ5yVUmvZAMGAlF7-Jwcok8Wx2eC0Wfh1zLCEkeKhFyY)).

But if your white goods - washing machine, fridge, freezer - appear faulty at any point; consider whether they are at the end of their life; or can they be fixed up? Because there are also a lot of local engineers who may well be able to assist (you only need to do a search on [SoBO](https://www.facebook.com/groups/southbourne/?ref=gs&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) to find one!).

EZ Appliances on Holdenhurst Road inspired this post; with extensive staff knowledge, they source, fix up and sell on refurbished washing machines and tumble driers.

Disappointed my machine was beyond help after about 6 years, they happily took it away and replaced it with my chosen refurbished machine that should last me just the same as a new one (excluding top of the range machines perhaps....but the budget just isn't there!). My old machine will be stripped down of any useful parts and disposed of responsibly.

White goods just haven't been built to last for a decade or more, as I seem to hope for. They are also priced in a way that often make it cheaper to buy brand new replacement if they break.

But whilst this may benefit financially, the environmental impact has been overlooked for too long; yet more unnecessary waste is being created to serve our culturally embedded need for cheap convenience.

This comes at a high cost, as the carbon emissions created from the manufacture of new machines contribute to global warming. As will the disposal of dumped items.

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The good news is new standards are being introduced by the EU to change this. From 2021, firms will have to make appliances longer-lasting, and they will have to supply spare parts for machines for up to 10 years.

The 'Right to repair' rules apply to lighting, washing machines, dishwashers and fridges. This article offers more details. [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-49884827](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-49884827?fbclid=IwAR2bzdkqdUf_A44nyLBqJmq9ebL2gWeUtIOjiEui8dyT1MIFQnfKEnXFnJI)

So along with furniture, bags, clothes and other household items - can you make do and mend your white goods? Or make use of second hand or refurbished ones when a replacement is needed?

And if you need expert assistance - think local; to support small, independent repair businesses like EZ Appliances. Don't let the repair trade die out; let's help it grow; and together, reduce our waste.

N.B.

These maybe useful websites to note in your quest to repair:

[https://www.espares.co.uk](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.espares.co.uk%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0WqimXsQTREpudqfIBGaIIxyAsscsEdXTqUTx8gAQj3QgxTmKP_MnboGM&h=AT1V7uMi9jDDLmpopJzbaabzOkaz14bGR7pCY_FACmOpKWFNb77CTOLFdi0XThNd01p1C5cebQUlIOBGHSicdEGlczlpcWLvVlq0gr9NLswDrPES-06ikiu2LHicbsRAU21iFGFO-3FIefYg0kS9knqY)

[https://www.ifixit.com/](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ifixit.com%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3YdAHg3exOaiWax9Ke3PCxiM5vI9Tem_Pz5qeGbXPBFIM0PXTHFhvtQYs&h=AT3beicmbalD8MIRMGwtytq_ODN9ZGVNgtHvk7vofL7snrlWSu8-1cNzv3YdUGyqJpZ9HDJzgfULtYLiqk2YXk1wZXRsp2c7SLJ6IqO6JlSpgPjq-VjMuXkD_dg_qsCRINSxg6-jHGIQXtmQ_V3jaDXF)

...as recommended by [Recycle Now](https://www.facebook.com/recyclenow/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAZUEfhb7u3HyDPaGratYF2qd_pRUH3BDhzurfwOih-JFa5IDZEQAtUBTuubmKyXurF_aNgimu-tkne&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group)